

**How to structure an 8 mark DBQ:**  
**How useful are documents A and B to the historian examining.....**

**Section of work arguing a document is *useful***

Document A/B is a cartoon/text/memoir from...

This is useful to the historian examining ..... firstly because it offers ...[an overview of the context at the time].

The document shows ...

The provenance of the document is also useful. It was written by....and although written from one point of view it provides essential information about...

This is useful for understanding....because....

The purpose of the document would be highly significant to an historian because...

The document was written in (date), this would enhance an historian's understanding because...

**Section of work arguing document is limited in its usefulness**

However, this document possesses clear limitations. Firstly, the date when it was written gives us only a snapshot of the period, rather than the big picture.

Secondly, the provenance of the document (explain why might this limit its usefulness – i.e. it only gives one perspective)

For a broader picture, an historian would need to explore (give examples)

The purpose of the document likewise limits its usefulness (explain why)

We must also recognise that the content of the document itself is limited in its usefulness. For example the document does not refer to other factors/ causes/ reasons/ viewpoints ( list them from own knowledge) which would be necessary to provide us with a bigger picture.