**APUSH – Transcontinental Railroad DBQ Assignment**

**Objective**: Using the topic, “The Transcontinental Railroad,” create a document-based question (DBQ) from the provided documents that can be argued and developed into an essay.

Your question must be broad enough that it enables the writer to develop an argument that can include at least three assertions or claims. Your question must focus on one of these four historical thinking skills: comparison, causation, periodization or continuity and change over time.

* **Historical causation**
	+ Historical thinking involves the ability to identify, analyze, and evaluate multiple cause-and-effect relationships in a historical context, distinguishing between the long-term and proximate.
* **Patterns of continuity and change over time**
	+ Historical thinking involves the ability to recognize, analyze, and evaluate the dynamics of historical continuity and change over periods of varying lengths, as well as relating these patterns to larger historical processes or themes.
* **Periodization**
	+ Historical thinking involves the ability to describe, analyze, evaluate, and construct models of historical periodization that historians use to categorize events into discrete blocks and to identify turning points, recognizing that the choice of specific dates favors one narrative, region or group over another narrative, region or group; therefore, changing the periodization can change a historical narrative. Moreover, the particular circumstances and contexts in which individual historians work and write shape their interpretations and models of past events.
* **Comparison**
	+ Historical thinking involves the ability to describe, compare, and evaluate, in various chronological and geographical contexts, multiple historical developments within one society and one or more development across or between different societies.
	+ Historical thinking also involves the ability to identify, compare, and evaluate multiple perspectives on a given historical experience.

Your DBQ must be based upon 7 of the provided documents.

For each of the 7 documents you choose to use, you must complete a document analysis worksheet.

This project is worth 100 points: (20 for a question that is arguable and focused on a particular historical thinking skill, 10 for appropriate choice of supporting documents and 10 points for each of the seven document analysis worksheets)

The project is due: Tuesday, January 24th