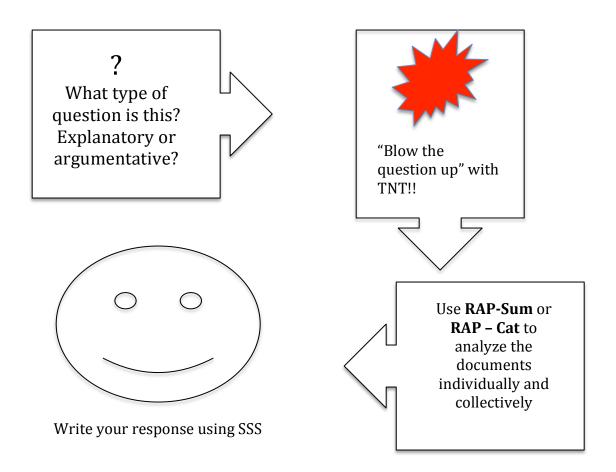# Procedure for responding to DBQs

1. Determine the type of DBQ question – is it <u>explanatory</u> (asking you to explain some event or phenomena presented in through the documents) or <u>argumentative</u> (asking you to take and defend a position based on the documents).
2. Read the question prompt carefully and break the question down ("blow it up") using the TNT strategy. This will help search purposefully for certain things in the DBQ.
3. Read the documents for the DBQ and analyze them using either RAP-Sum (for explanatory DBQs) or the RAP-Cat (for argumentative). Be sure your analysis is related to the question prompt.
4. Write your response using the SSS strategy. Be sure to address all areas of the question as identified in the TNT analysis of the question prompt.

For my visual folks:

?
What type of question is this? Explanatory or argumentative?

"Blow the question up" with TNT!!

Use **RAP-Sum** or **RAP – Cat** to analyze the documents individually and collectively

Write your response using SSS

Dr. Allen Guidry - East Carolina University