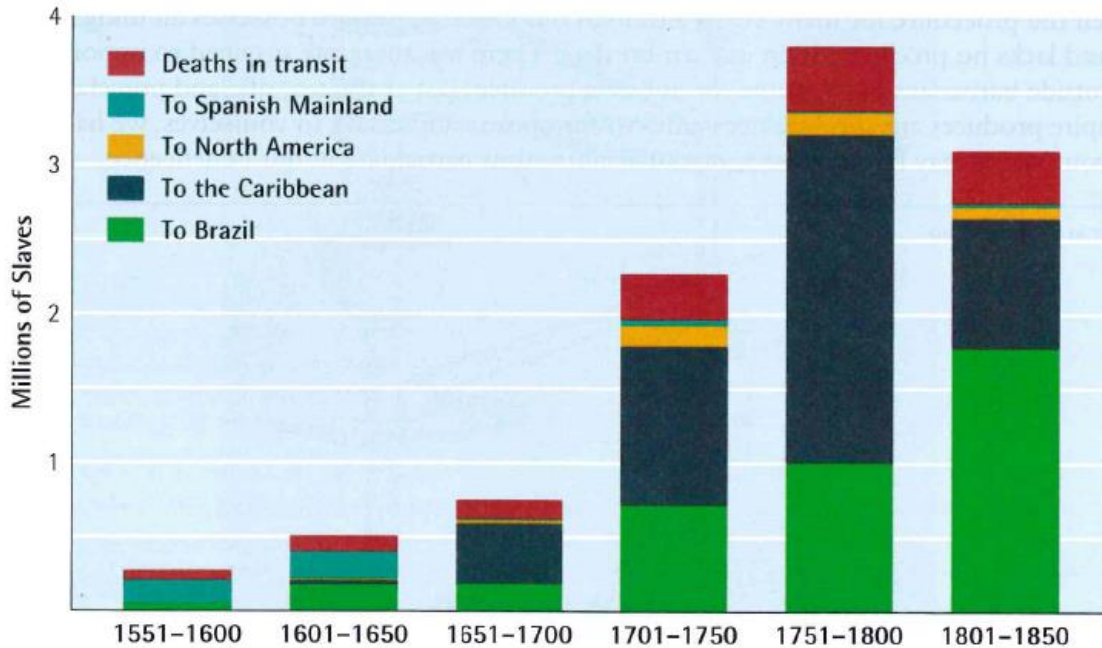


HP 5 DBQ Practice 1: Political, Economic and Social Revolutions

Question: How did the political and economic changes from 1750 to 1914 influence the social order in Europe and the Americas? What additional kind(s) of document(s) would help historians analyze the cause-effect relationship among these developments?

Document 1

Source: Transatlantic slave trade from Africa, 1551–1850.



Data from David Eltis, "The Volume and Structure of the Transatlantic Slave Trade: A Reassessment," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 3rd Series, 58 (2001), tables I and III.

Document 2

Source: Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, 1762.

It follows from what precedes, that the general will is always right and always tends to the public advantage; but it does not follow that the resolutions of the people have always the same [virtue]. Men always desire their own good, but they do not always discern it; the people are never corrupted, though often deceived, and it is only then that they seem to will what is evil. . . .

The public . . . then, requires a suitable agent to concentrate it and put it in action according to the directions of the general will. . . . This is . . . the function of government.

Document 3

Source: *United States Constitution*, Article 1, Section 2, 1787.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons.

Document 4

Source: *Declaration of the Rights of Woman and the Female Citizen*, by Olympe De Gouges, 1791.

Man, are you capable of being just? It is a woman who poses the question; you will not deprive her of that right at least. Tell me, what gives you sovereign empire to oppress my sex? Your strength? Your talents? Observe the Creator in his wisdom; survey in all her grandeur that nature with whom you seem to want to be in harmony, and give me, if you dare, an example of this tyrannical empire. Go back to animals, consult the elements, study plants. . . . Everywhere you will find the [sexes] mingled; everywhere they cooperate in harmonious togetherness in this immortal masterpiece.

Man alone has raised his exceptional circumstances to a principle. Bizarre, blind, bloated with science and degenerated—in a century of enlightenment and wisdom—into the crassest ignorance, he wants to command as a despot a sex which is in full possession of its intellectual faculties; he pretends to enjoy the Revolution and to claim his rights to equality in order to say nothing more about it.

Document 5

Source: Simón Bolívar, leader of South American independence movement in the 1820s,
The Jamaica Letter, 1815.

I look upon the present state of America as similar to that of Rome after its fall. . . . [W]e scarcely retain a vestige of what once was; we are, moreover, neither Indian nor European, but a species midway between the legitimate proprietors of this country and the Spanish usurpers. In short, though Americans by birth we derive our rights from Europe, and we have to assert these rights against the rights of the natives, and at the same time we must defend ourselves against the [European] invaders.

Americans today, and perhaps to a greater extent than ever before, who live within the Spanish system occupy a position in society no better than that of serfs destined for labor. . . . So negative [is] our existence that I can find nothing comparable in any other civilized society. . . .

Document 6

Source: Excerpt from a proclamation during the Boxer Rebellion, 1900.

When all the military accomplishments or tactics
Are fully learned,
It will not be difficult to exterminate the "Foreign Devils" then.
Push aside the railway tracks,
Pull out the telephone poles,
Immediately after this destroy the steam[ships].
The great France
Will grow cold and downhearted.
The English and the Russians will certainly disperse.
Let the various "Foreign Devils" all be killed.
May the whole Elegant Empire of the great Qing Dynasty be ever prosperous!

Document 7

Source: South African diamond mine, early 20th century.



Gardiner F. Williams/NGS Image Collection.

Document 8

Source: Expansion and modernization of Japan, 1868–1918.

