Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 *DBQ Topic Selection Worksheet*

Keep in mind the following when selecting a general topic and when narrowing your topic.

* The topic should be of interest to you.
* The topic should be significant and important enough that everyone should know about it.
* The topic should be in-depth and narrow in scope. It is better to focus on one issue in detail than to cover many issues superficially.

**INTEREST**

Think about the factors listed above when determining a topic to research. Your areas of interest will narrow your choices automatically.

1. My personal interests include: (circle 5 interest subjects)

Adventure Culture Famous People Labor Issues Social Groups

Agriculture Dance Film Literature Social Issues

Architecture Ecology Food Migration Sports

Arts Economy Gender Issues Music Travel

Children Education Geography Nature Technology

Cities Environment Governments Political Issues Theatre

Conflicts Exile Human Interest Oral History War & Peace

Constitutions Explorers Human Rights Religion Women’s Issues

Controversy Experimental Indigenous People Science

1. Historical events or periods of most interest to me include? Why? (List 3)
2. Family connections to any topics:

**TOPIC**

1. Topic ideas of interest to me include: (List 4 topics of personal interest)
2. My preliminary topic idea is:
3. A textbook description of the topic states:
4. The key person, event, or movement I plan to focus on is… because…

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Developing an Analytical Question & Working Thesis*

What is your answer to the essential question listed above? This should be a one-sentence statement. This will become your working thesis.

Example: It was justifiable for the United States to use atomic bombs on Japan, because it saved American soldiers’ lives and prevented further destruction.

Working Thesis:

Take one of the points listed above and turn it into a question. This will become your working essential question.

Example: Was it justifiable for the United States to use atomic bombs on Japan?

Working Analytical Question:

List controversial or debatable points in your topic.

Example: the use of atomic bombs was justifiable

1.

2.

3.

4.

What is your topic?

**Example: WWII & atomic bomb**