Document #1:

Excerpt of Article 3 of the Constitution of 1917:

I. Freedom of religious beliefs being guaranteed by Article 24, the standard which shall guide such education shall be maintained entirely apart from any religious doctrine and, based on the results of scientific progress, shall strive against ignorance and its effects, servitudes, fanaticism, and prejudices. . . .

III. Private institutions devoted to education of the kinds and grades specified in the preceding section must be without exception in conformity with the provisions of sections I and II of the first paragraph of this article and must also be in harmony with official plans and programs.

IV. Religious corporations, ministers of religion, stock companies which exclusively or predominantly engage in educational activities, and associations or companies devoted to propagation of any religious creed shall not in any way participate in institutions giving elementary, secondary and normal education and education for laborers or field workers.

1. What specific activities does Article 3 of the Constitution of 1917 outlawing?

2. How might this new law be viewed as something that created more justice for the poor and working class?

Document #2:

Excerpt of Article 27 of the Constitution of 1917:

Ownership of the lands and waters within the boundaries of the national territory is vested originally in the Nation, which has had, and has, the right to transmit title thereof to private persons, thereby constituting private property. . . .
Only Mexicans by birth or naturalization and Mexican companies have the right to acquire ownership of lands, waters, and their appurtenances, or to obtain concessions for the exploitation of mines or of waters...

Religious institutions known as churches, regardless of creed, may in no case acquire, hold, or administer real property or hold mortgages thereon; such property held at present either directly or through an intermediary shall revert to the Nation....

3. In what way is Article 27 and Article 3 of the Mexican Constitution of 1917 connected?

4. Which of the unit terms (choose at least 3) could be used in a paragraph discussing Article 27? Explain each of your answers.

Document #3:

Excerpt of Article 130 of the Constitution of 1917:

The federal powers shall exercise the supervision required by law in matters relating to religious worship and outward ecclesiastical forms. Other authorities shall act as auxiliaries of the Federation.

Congress cannot enact laws establishing or prohibiting any religion.

Marriage is a civil contract. This and other acts of a civil nature concerning persons are within the exclusive competence of civil officials and authorities, in the manner prescribed by law, and shall have the force and validity defined by said law. . . . .

Ministers of denominations shall be considered as persons who practice a profession and shall be directly subject to the laws enacted on such matters.

Ministers of denominations may never, in a public or private meeting constituting an assembly, or in acts of worship or religious propaganda, criticize the fundamental laws of the country or
the authorities of the Government, specifically or generally. They shall not have an active or passive vote nor the right to form associations for religious purposes.

A minister of any denomination may not himself or through an intermediary inherit or receive any real property occupied by any association for religious propaganda or for religious or charitable purposes. Ministers of denominations are legally incapacitated as testamentary heirs of ministers of the same denomination or of any private person who is not related to them within the fourth degree.

5. **What specifically is this limiting priests and ministers from doing?**

6. **Which of the unit terms (choose at least 2) could be used in a paragraph discussing Article 130? Explain each of your answers.**

**Document #4:**

Excerpt of Article 123 of the Constitution of 1917:

A. Workers, day laborers, domestic servants, artisans (obreros, jornaleros, empleados domésticos, artesanos) and in a general way to all labor contracts:
   I. The maximum duration of work for one day shall be eight hours.
   II. The maximum duration of nightwork shall be seven hours. The following are prohibited: unhealthful or dangerous work by women and by minors under sixteen years of age; industrial nightwork by either of these classes; work by women in commercial establishments after ten o'clock at night and work (of any kind) by persons under sixteen after ten o'clock at night.
   III. The use of labor of minors under fourteen years of age is prohibited. Persons above that age and less than sixteen shall have a maximum work day of six hours.
   IV. For every six days of work a worker must have at least one day of rest.
   V. During the three months prior to childbirth, women shall not perform physical labor that requires excessive material effort. In the month following childbirth they shall necessarily enjoy the benefit of rest and shall receive their full wages and retain their
employment and the rights acquired under their labor contract. During the nursing period they shall have two special rest periods each day, of a half hour each, for nursing their infants.

VI. The minimum wage to be received by a worker shall be general or according to occupation. The former shall govern in one or more economic zones; the latter shall be applicable to specified branches of industry or commerce or to special occupations, trades, or labor.

7. *What three specific actions does Article 123 take that you believe secures the most justice for the poor and working class?*

8. *Based off of prior knowledge during the Gilded Age unit last year (or if you do not remember that far back discuss with others at your table group), did workers in the United States have most of these rights by 1917? Why do you think this was true?*

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**Document #5:**

Article 6 of the Plan of Ayala, issued by Emiliano Zapata, 1911:

As an additional part of the plan we invoke, we give notice: that [regarding] the fields, timber, and water which the landlords, científicos, or bosses have usurped, the pueblos or citizens who have the titles corresponding to those properties will immediately enter into possession of that real estate of which they have been despoiled by the bad faith of our oppressors, maintaining at any cost with arms in hand the mentioned possession; and the usurpers who consider themselves with a right to them [those properties] will deduce it before the special tribunals which will be established on the triumph of the revolution.

9. *What is the definition of “usurped”?*
10. Compare this document to that of Article 27 of the Mexican Constitution of 1917.

How are they similar?  

How are they different?

11. Define radical. Would you consider this to be a radical document?

Radical:

12. Is it a socialist document?
Document #7:

A corridor sung in the street after the expropriation of oil by the Cardenas Administration, 1938

On the eighteenth of March, the day of the great sensation!
He nationalized the oil then! The Chief of our Nation! . . .
And so Mexico is giving the world its great lesson!
History is being redeemed through our Revolution!
They wanted to make a joke of the laws of our free nation
without noting how they were born from the roar of cannon!

13. Hundreds of corridors were written and sung by the people throughout all of Mexican history. Why is this important for many of the poor and working class?

14. In what ways might corridors be valuable resources to historians?

Document #8:

Excerpt of The Plan of San Luis Potosi, issued by Francisco I. Madero, 1910

Peoples, in their constant efforts for the triumph of the ideal of liberty and justice, are forced, at precise historical moments, to make their greatest sacrifices.

Our beloved country has reached one of those moments. A force of tyranny which we Mexicans were not accustomed to suffer after we won our independence oppresses us in such a manner that it has become intolerable. In exchange for that tyranny we are offered peace, but peace full of shame for the Mexican nation, because its basis is not law, but force; because its object is not the aggrandizement and prosperity of the country, but to enrich a small group who, abusing their influence, have converted the public charges into fountains of exclusively personal benefit, unscrupulously exploiting the manner of lucrative concessions and contracts.
15. What exactly is Madero calling for in his Plan of San Luis Potosi?

16. Why does Madero speak in general terms... speaking of “tyranny” and “oppression” while the other documents avoid these general terms and speak of specifics?

Document #9:

From Mexico: Biography of Power by historian Enrique Krauze

“The ejido was to be not only a means toward justice—after centuries of exploitation—but a method of economic improvement. The institution would not only surpass the hacienda morally, it would leap past it in production. And—at a deeper level of Cardenas’s agenda—agrarian reform would destroy the hacienda and the political power of the hacendados.”

17. What was the two-fold purpose of the ejido system?

18. What other document in this DBQ does the concept of the ejido most correlate with? Explain your answer.
March 18th, 1938, President Cardenas announced in a speech to the nation via radio:

“. . . the far-reaching decision of the Government of Mexico to recover the oil wealth that foreign enterprises have been exploiting. . .” And he requested “the support of the people not only for the recovery of the oil. . . but also for the dignity of Mexico, that foreigners think they can ridicule after having obtained great benefits from our natural resources. . . With will and a small amount of sacrifice from the people to resist the assaults of the interests affected, Mexico will come through gracefully.”

19. What two reasons does Cardenas give for nationalizing Mexico’s oil?

20. In what ways does nationalization = Communism?

Which three quotes from three different documents do you plan to use in your essay?