

4. Respond to parts A, B, C, and D.

- A.** Describe one aspect of a specific religious, spiritual, or faith tradition that was practiced in Africa before 1800.
- B.** Describe an adaptation of an African religious, spiritual, or faith tradition by Afrodescendants in the Americas.
- C.** Using a specific example from before 1865, explain how African Americans used religious, spiritual, or faith practices to resist oppression.
- D.** Using a specific example from after 1865, explain how religious, spiritual, or faith practices contributed to activism during freedom movements.

STOP
END OF EXAM

Question 4: Non-Stimulus/Source**4 points**

- (A) **Describe one aspect of a specific religious, spiritual, or faith tradition that was practiced in Africa before 1800.** **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- A spiritual tradition that traces its roots to West Africa is the veneration of ancestors.
- Islam was brought to Mali through the trans-Saharan trade with North African merchants and scholars.
- Roman Catholicism was practiced in the Kingdom of Kongo after King Nzinga's conversion. Subjects of the kingdom blended indigenous practices with Christianity.
- King Ezana and the Kingdom of Askum converted to Christianity early on, and wide practice of Christianity followed.
- Polytheism, the belief in multiple deities, was widely practiced throughout Africa by peoples such as the Yoruba and Ashanti.
- Religious syncretism of African and Christian faith practices produced Vodun in its early form in West Africa during the Portuguese expeditions to Africa in the fifteenth century.
- Griots and Jelis served specific religious functions within their African tribes by preserving faith and tribal history through songs and storytelling.

- (B) **Describe an adaptation of an African religious, spiritual, or faith tradition by Afro-descendants in the Americas.** **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Afro-descended people adapted Christian hymns with their spiritual and cultural practices like divination and collective singing and dancing.
- West African spiritual practices, such as veneration of ancestors and divination, were adapted and practiced across the African diaspora through religions such as Voodoo in Louisiana and Vodun in Haiti.
- Candomblé is a religion practiced in Brazil that combines spiritual practices of veneration from West Africa with Christianity.
- The practice of Santeria or Regla de Ochalfa in the western hemisphere blends West African religions with Roman Catholicism.

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| (C) | Using a specific example from before 1865, explain how African Americans used religious, spiritual, or faith practices to resist oppression. | 1 point |
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Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Nat Turner, an enslaved African American, led a rebellion against slavery. He was inspired by his religious belief that he should deliver African Americans from slavery.
- Many enslaved African Americans were inspired by resistance stories found in religious texts. For many their faith served spiritual and political purposes.
- Harriet Tubman, a well-known conductor of the Underground Railroad, helped free many African Americans from enslavement and oppression by using spirituals to alert people of escape plans.
- African Americans used spirituals as a way to resist oppression. Spirituals were sung to articulate their hardships and hopes for deliverance. They held double meanings of redemption and deliverance while also being used to help enslaved people escape north to free states and to Canada.
- Frederick Douglass escaped enslavement to become a leading abolitionist. He used the bible as evidence in his abolitionist speeches and writings to strongly argue that slavery was amoral and violated the core of Christian principles.
- African Americans used the practice of Christian conversion and baptism to gain freedom and resist oppression in parts of colonial America, particularly the settlement of Spanish Florida.

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| (D) | Using a specific example from after 1865, explain how religious, spiritual, or faith practices contributed to activism during freedom movements. | 1 point |
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Examples that earn this point include the following:

- During the Civil Rights era, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) organized churches to launch major protests for equality. The SCLC was involved with the Selma Voting Rights March of 1965 and inspired the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee to organize using nonviolent strategies.
- During the Civil Rights movement, faith and music were important elements of mobilization. Freedom songs, adapted from spirituals and gospel songs, were used by organizers to inspire, and organize participants as they risked their lives in pursuit of freedom and equality.
- Malcolm X and other ministers of the Nation of Islam founded *Muhammed Speaks*, the official newspaper of the organization. It was used to spread the teachings of Elijah Muhammad and to inspire people within Black American communities to embrace the Nation's religious and Black nationalist ideologies.

- Christian missionary organizations drew upon their religious principles and social activism to help found HBCUs with a goal of social uplift for African Americans through formal education.
- Many Black churches established after the Civil War became places where activists gathered to organize and plan protests and demonstrations to push for equal treatment in society.
- Martin Luther King Jr. used biblical passages and Christian principles during the Civil Rights movement to galvanize African Americans and white Christians in the fight against racism and oppression.

Total for question 4 4 points