

**2013 AP® EUROPEAN HISTORY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

**EUROPEAN HISTORY  
SECTION II**

**Part B**

**(Suggested planning and writing time—35 minutes)**

**Percent of Section II score—27 1/2**

**Directions:** You are to answer ONE question from the three questions below. Make your selection carefully, choosing the question that you are best prepared to answer thoroughly in the time permitted. You should spend 5 minutes organizing or outlining your answer. Write your answer to the question on the lined pages of the Section II free-response booklet, making sure to indicate the question you are answering by writing the appropriate question number at the top of each page.

Write an essay that:

- Has a relevant thesis.
  - Addresses all parts of the question.
  - Supports thesis with specific evidence.
  - Is well organized.
2. Analyze the differences between the political ideals expressed in the visual arts of the Renaissance (fifteenth–sixteenth centuries) and the political ideals expressed in the visual arts of the Neoclassical/Romantic period (eighteenth–nineteenth centuries).
3. Analyze the differences between the motives that shaped European colonial expansion in the period 1450–1750 and the motives that shaped European colonial expansion in the period 1850–1914.
4. Analyze the differences between the impact of Newtonian physics on European culture and the impact of Darwinian biology on European culture.

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## **Question 3**

**Analyze the differences between the motives that shaped European colonial expansion in the period 1450 – 1750 and the motives that shaped European colonial expansion in the period 1850 – 1914.**

### **9-8 Points**

- Thesis is explicit and addresses more than two motives for European expansion in both time periods.
- Organization is clear, consistent, and the essay offers strong analysis of differences in motives.
- Essay is well balanced and effectively analyzes motives and differences for both periods.
- Analysis of motives is well supported by relevant evidence (i.e., specific countries, well developed ideas, or both).
- May contain errors that do not detract from the argument; may also contain minimal extraneous information that does not detract from the argument. For example, “Cotton was produced in North America in the 1450 – 1750 period”; mentioning this is not erroneous.

### **7-6 Points**

- Thesis is explicit and addresses more than one motive.
- Organization is clear, consistent, and the essay offers analysis of differences in motives.
- Essay is balanced; analyzes motives and differences for both periods.
- Analysis of motives is supported by relevant evidence (i.e., specific countries, well developed ideas, or both).
- May contain an error that detracts from the argument; may contain some extraneous information that does not detract from the argument.

### **5-4 Points**

- Thesis is explicit but not fully responsive to the question.
- Organization is clear and effective. Time periods may be treated in a more parallel fashion, with analytical connection between the two provided solely at the beginning or the end of the essay.
- Essay shows some imbalance; may discuss one period in greater depth than the other.
- Motives may be analyzed with general evidential support (i.e., “Europeans in Africa”).
- May contain a few errors that detract from the argument; may contain extraneous information that does not detract from the argument. For example, slavery did exist in Africa in the 1850 – 1914 period, but enslavement by Europeans should specify Leopold, Belgium, Congo Free State, or even Belgian Congo.

### **3-2 Points**

- No explicit thesis or a thesis that merely repeats or paraphrases the prompt.
- Organization may be unclear and ineffective.
- Essay shows serious imbalance, motives identified but discussed sparingly.
- Motives may be mentioned but not explained.
- May contain several errors that detract from the argument.

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2013 SCORING GUIDELINES**

**Question 3 (continued)**

**1-0 Points**

- No discernible attempt at a thesis.
- No discernible organization.
- Motives may not be mentioned or not be explained.
- Little or no supporting evidence used.
- May contain numerous errors that detract from the argument.

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## **Question 3 (continued)**

### **Historical Background**

- Western Europeans seeking spices, slaves, and gold wanted to bypass Ottoman and Venetian “middlemen” controlling trade with the East. Portugal sought an overseas route to India. The Portuguese established settlements in Madeira and the Azores in the 1420s and from there launched trade with Africa. They settled at Arguin in the 1440s, and within 60 years Portugal controlled Europe’s trade in African gold. Prince Henry the Navigator’s school for sailing and navigation promoted voyages of exploration. Bartholomew Dias rounded the Cape of Good Hope in 1487, and in 1498 Vasco da Gama reached India, allowing Portuguese traders to establish settlements at Goa and Calcutta.
- Spain sent Columbus to find a water route to China in 1492, and he discovered the West Indies. Ferdinand Magellan and Amerigo Vespucci verified that Columbus had discovered a New World, which spurred desire to conquer and control that region. Hernan Cortes arrived in Mexico in 1519, and by 1521 he had defeated the Aztec Empire for Spain. In 1532, Francisco Pizarro attacked the Inca Empire. Settlements were established and gold, riches, and produce sent back to Spain. Adventure and opportunity attracted sailors and soldiers, while the practice of primogeniture left many second sons open to lives in the New World.
- Catholic missionaries followed the conquistadors. The Jesuits and the Franciscans were active in the Caribbean and throughout South and Central America during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Catholic agents established churches and missions in Portuguese settlements in Madeira, Goa, Japan, and China. Missionaries brought faith, European languages and cultural customs, and spread imperial influence. English Puritans settled in Plymouth in 1620. Dissenters from the Church of England established colonies and communities in North America: Puritan dissenters in Rhode Island (1636), the Quakers in Pennsylvania (1682), and English Catholics in Maryland (1634). French Huguenots settled in New Amsterdam and New Rochelle following the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685.
- Aside from gold and silver profits (especially from Potosi), mercantilists sought other raw materials. Sugar became a source of wealth, especially for England and France. Tens of millions of pounds of sugar were shipped from the Caribbean to other colonies in North America and also back to Europe. Production was enabled by the introduction of large-scale slave labor. After indigenous populations were depleted by disease and violence, colonial planters turned to African slaves for labor. Slaves were exported to the sugar cane plantations and to southern colonies in North America, where they produced tobacco, rice, and, eventually, cotton. Triangular trade developed in response to these demands for colonial labor.

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## **Question 3 (continued)**

- International competition became an important motive. The Treaty of Tordesillas (1494) divided unclaimed lands between Spain and Portugal. Facing the fact that Portugal had found a water route to India, Spain sent Magellan to find a passage to Asia in 1517. England was concerned about losing ground to competitor nations and chartered the East India Company (1600) to compete with the Dutch. British colonies in Virginia were established to promote England's economic power: Roanoke (1585) to serve as a base for attacking Spanish treasure ships and Jamestown (1607) to find gold and a water passage to the Orient. British desires to consolidate holdings along the Eastern Seaboard required French and Dutch holdings to be controlled or conquered. New Amsterdam was conquered in 1664 and its ownership finalized in 1674. British and French rivalry over key areas in North America, the Saint Lawrence and Ohio River valleys and northern New England, continued until the end of the Seven Years' War (1763). The same was true in India, where both increasingly allowed the *Compagnie des Indes* and the British East India Company to assume government functions. The War of Jenkins' Ear (1739–1743) was fought intermittently over British goods being shipped to Spanish holdings in the Caribbean.
- The New Imperialism was characterized by European assumption of direct control over indigenous peoples rather than indirect control over emigrant settlers. The differences in religion, technology, and cultural practices were often exacerbated by European ideas about racial superiority, cultural superiority, and social Darwinism. Many European powers assumed a civilizing mission, illustrated in Rudyard Kipling's poem, "The White Man's Burden" (1899).
- Imperialism of free trade, or the right of a European country to sell its goods without tariffs or restrictions from the target market, emerged. The Opium Wars with China and the Treaty of Nanking in 1842 granted the British control of Hong Kong, rights of extraterritoriality, and access for British missionaries. After 1860, Britain and France forced China to open more ports and to accept additional foreign influences. At the same time, European governments used tariffs and restrictions to protect their home markets. These stifled competition from India and other Asian markets. In India, British protectionist measures reduced Indian cotton exports from finished products to raw materials, which were then finished in Britain and sold back to Indians.
- Investments in infrastructure were made to ensure easier passage to areas under European control, which also motivated Europeans to acquire more territory. The Suez Canal (1869) was built by the French, but a controlling interest was purchased by the British in 1875 to protect their holdings in India. The Panama Canal was begun in 1881 by the French, although they were forced to sell their interests. Cecil Rhodes envisioned a grand African railway in the 1880s and 1890s connecting South Africa to the Nile, a "Cape to Cairo" connection. Germany financed the construction of a Baghdad Railway in the early 1900s connecting the Mediterranean (and ultimately Berlin) to the Persian Gulf.

**AP® EUROPEAN HISTORY  
2013 SCORING GUIDELINES**

**Question 3 (continued)**

- Concerned about the balance of power following defeats in the Napoleonic Wars, France invaded Algeria in 1830 and acquired control of Ivory Coast in 1843. After the loss of Alsace-Lorraine in the Franco-Prussian War, France expanded its overseas empire in 1875 by acquiring the French Congo, establishing a protectorate in Tunisia (1881), and acquiring French Sudan (1883). Rules for establishing European territorial claims in Africa were formalized at the Berlin Conference (1884–1885). The French went on to acquire Niger (1890), Guinea (1891), and Chad (1900). Their drive eastward and the British drive southward down the Nile culminated in a standoff at Fashoda (in modern-day Sudan) in 1898. France eventually yielded all claims to the Nile River basin, leaving the area in British control.
- Britain's involvement was largely to protect India and its own economy. The British government assumed control of India following the Sepoy Rebellion in 1857. Queen Victoria was named Empress of India in 1877. Control over the Suez Canal came about in 1875, and concerns over the Nile and its source (discovered in Sudan in 1862) led the British to conquer Sudan in 1899. Britain also had colonies in East Africa, Uganda, and Somalia. British presence in South Africa originated in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, but under the influence of Cecil Rhodes British interests expanded north. The discovery of diamonds and gold in the region increased the British presence, causing conflicts with the Boers living in the adjoining Transvaal Republik and eventually leading to the Boer War in 1899.
- Leopold II of Belgium sought African possessions to bolster his country's economy and international prestige. Leopold sent explorer David Livingston into the Congo region in the 1870s; later he lobbied for control of the Congo River basin and was granted recognition of his control of Congo Free State. Leopold's control over the Congolese people was brutal and harsh. He amassed a tremendous fortune in rubber and ivory.
- German popular pressure to expand in Africa conflicted with Bismarck's reluctance to do so, but Germany did establish protectorates in Cameroon, Southwest Africa, and East Africa in 1884 and 1885. Italy established Assab in Eritrea, resulting in the 1894 Abyssinian War, an Italian loss both in terms of money and prestige. Italy also acquired control of Italian Somaliland.