

2000 AP® EUROPEAN HISTORY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

EUROPEAN HISTORY

SECTION II

Part B

(Suggested planning and writing time—70 minutes)

Percent of Section II score—55

Directions: You are to answer TWO questions, one from each group of three questions below. Make your selections carefully, choosing the questions that you are best prepared to answer thoroughly in the time permitted. You should spend 5 minutes organizing or outlining each essay. In writing your essays, use specific examples to support your answer. Write your answers to the questions on the lined pages of the pink essay booklet. If time permits when you finish writing, check your work. Be certain to number your answers as the questions are numbered below.

Group 1

Choose ONE question from this group. The suggested writing time for this question is 30 minutes.

You are advised to spend 5 minutes planning your answer in the area below.

2. Compare and contrast the political and economic policies of Joseph Stalin in the period before the Second World War and those of Mikhail Gorbachev (1985-1991).
3. “Leadership determines the fate of a country.” Evaluate this quotation in terms of Spain’s experience under Philip II.
4. Discuss three developments that enabled Great Britain to achieve a dominant economic position between 1700 and 1830 ?

SCRATCHWORK

2000 European History Scoring Guidelines

Question 2

9 - 8 - 7 - 6: STRONGER ESSAYS

These essays will illustrate the following qualities with varying degrees of effectiveness:

1. Has a clear, well-developed thesis.
2. Is well-organized.
3. Supports the thesis with specific evidence.
4. May contain minor errors; even a "9" need not be flawless.

Indicators

An 8/9 essay

- Provides a developed, balanced treatment of Stalin's and Gorbachev's political and economic policies; should discuss similarities as well as differences (may have more emphasis on the latter).
- Analyzes motives for and/or results of these policies.

A 6/7 essay

- Discusses the contrasts between Stalin's and Gorbachev's political and economic policies, but the similarities may be implicit.
- Recognizes motives for and/or results of these policies.

5 - 4: MIXED ESSAYS

1. Contains a thesis, perhaps superficial or simplistic.
2. Responds to terms of question unevenly: task(s), evidence, chronology.
3. May contain errors, factual and/or interpretive.

Indicators

- May discuss Stalin's and Gorbachev's political and economic policies unevenly.
- May mention similarities, but focuses primarily on differences.
- Provides a mere narrative with limited recognition of motives or results of policies.
- Contains little factual evidence.

3 - 2 - 1 - 0: WEAKER ESSAYS

These essays demonstrate the following qualities to varying degrees. Essays scored "0" or "1" may attempt to address the question but fail to do so:

1. Thesis confused, unfocused, or absent, or simply restates the question.