

2012 AP[®] EUROPEAN HISTORY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

EUROPEAN HISTORY SECTION II

Part C

(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.
5. Analyze the ways in which the rise of the middle class affected family structure and gender roles in Europe in the 1800s.
6. Analyze various ways in which ideology shaped the foreign policy of Nazi Germany in the period 1933 through 1945.
7. Analyze various factors that contributed to the process of decolonization in the period 1914 to 1975.

STOP

END OF EXAM

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Question 6

Analyze various ways in which ideology shaped foreign policy in Nazi Germany in the period 1933 through 1945.

9–8 points

- Thesis is explicit and fully responsive to the question. Thesis may appear in the beginning or in the closing paragraph.
- Analyzes multiple examples of ideology and foreign policy actions/initiatives in some detail.
- Organization is clear, consistently followed, and effective in support of the argument.
- Essay is well balanced, discussing both ideology and foreign policy with specificity.
- All major assertions are supported by multiple pieces of relevant evidence.
- Contains strong linkage between ideology and foreign policy.
- May contain errors that do not detract from the argument.

7–6 points

- Thesis is explicit and responsive to the question.
- Analyzes multiple examples of ideology and foreign policy actions/initiatives.
- Organization is clear, is effective in support of the argument, but may not be consistently followed.
- Essay is balanced, discussing both ideology and foreign policies with some specificity.
- Contains clear linkage between ideology and foreign policy.
- All major assertions are supported by at least one piece of relevant evidence.
- May contain an error that detracts from the argument.

5–4 points

- Thesis is explicit but not fully responsive to the question.
- Analysis may mention both ideology and foreign policy but discuss one with more specificity.
- Organization is clear, effective in support of the argument, but not consistently followed.
- Essay shows some imbalance; neglects some major topics suggested by the prompt.
- Linkage may not be clearly articulated or developed.
- Most major assertions are supported by least one piece of relevant evidence.
- May contain a few errors that detract from the argument.

3–2 points

- Thesis is not explicit or merely repeats or paraphrases the prompt.
- Analysis may mention an ideology or foreign policy.
- Organization is unclear and ineffective; essay lacks specificity and may restrict itself to generalities.
- Essay shows serious imbalance, neglecting most major topics suggested by the prompt; only one aspect of ideology or foreign policy may be covered.
- Linkage is merely suggested or altogether absent.
- Only one or two major assertions are supported by relevant evidence.
- May contain several errors that detract from the argument.

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Question 6 (continued)

1–0 points

- There is no discernible attempt at a thesis.
- There is no discernible organization.
- One or none of the major topics suggested by the prompt is mentioned.
- Little or no supporting evidence is used.
- May contain numerous errors that detract from the argument.
- May contain information entirely unconnected to the question.

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Question 6 (continued)

- 1938 — March: Hitler sent the army to occupy Austria (*Anschluss*); in September held Munich Conference (including England's Neville Chamberlain, France's Edouard Daladier, Italy's Benito Mussolini). The Munich Compromise authorized Germany's occupation of the Sudetenland. Czechoslovakia and the USSR were excluded. The following year Germany occupied the rest of Czechoslovakia.

Anticommunism (anti-Bolshevism, anti-Judeo-Bolshevism) was central to Nazi ideology; thus Hitler saw eventual conflict with the Soviet Union as inevitable.

- 1939 — Nazi-Soviet Pact was signed in August. Molotov for the USSR and von Ribbentrop for Germany agreed that each country would remain neutral if the other was involved in a war.
- 1941 — Operation Barbarossa: Nazi invasion of the Soviet Union included the “commissar order” to shoot Communist Party agents in the army, communist agitators, Bolshevik rebels, and Jews. The *Einsatzgruppen* (SS) was given specific orders to isolate, terrorize, and murder Jewish populations.

Fascist Italy was seen as a natural partner and ally because of ideological similarities. Pact of Steel in 1939 committed Italy to supporting Germany in the event of a war and made the agreement that neither would negotiate a peace without the consent of the other.

Support of the Nationalists in the Spanish Civil War is also an example of ideology driving foreign policy.

- 1936 — Germany signed a nonintervention agreement with regard to Spain but formed the Condor Legion (a combined air-army force), which aided the Nationalists from 1936 to 1939.
- 1937 — Guernica was bombed by the Condor Legion.

Support of quasi-fascist regimes in Eastern Europe and the Balkans (Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria) and for ethnic Germans in the Balkan countries (*Volksdeutsche*) led to formation of *Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle* (VoMi), or Ethnic German Aid Office, in 1935.

Nazi racial ideology of Aryan superiority over non-Aryan *Untermenschen* encouraged Polish and Balkan conquests and the invasion of Russia, expulsions of non-Aryan populations in Eastern Europe, destruction of Polish intelligentsia, etc. The treatment of occupied countries in Western Europe was significantly less harsh, in part because of the ideological perception that Western European “races” were more akin to the Aryans.

Anti-Semitism of Nazi ideology led to extermination of Jews in occupied countries (Holocaust).

- 1935 — Nuremberg Laws deprived German Jews of citizenship, civil rights, and civil liberties (domestic).
- 1937–1938 — Labor and concentration camps set up in Germany (Buchenwald, Flossenbürg) (domestic).
- 1939 — *Einsatzgruppen* (SS) sent to Poland and USSR to find and murder Jews; ghettos for Jews established in Poland; camps for detention, slave labor (e.g., Chelmno or Kulmhof) established.
- 1941 — “Final Solution” adopted, camps created or adapted for use as extermination sites (e.g., Auschwitz-Birkenau, Belzec, Poznan in Poland); transit and detention camps established in France, the Netherlands, Italy, Ukraine, Croatia, and other occupied areas.