

**Question 2, 3, or 4 (Long Essay)**  
**Suggested writing time: 40 minutes**

**Directions:** Answer Question 2 or Question 3 or Question 4.

In your response you should do the following.

- Respond to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis or claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
- Describe a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.
- Support an argument in response to the prompt using at least two pieces of specific and relevant evidence.
- Use historical reasoning (e.g., comparison, causation, continuity or change over time) to frame or structure an argument that addresses the prompt.
- Demonstrate a complex understanding of a historical development related to the prompt through sophisticated argumentation and/or effective use of evidence.

2. Evaluate the most significant effect of European overseas expansion on the European economy in the period 1450 to 1700.

3. Evaluate the most significant effect of the centralization of state power in the period 1650 to 1815.

4. Evaluate the most significant effect of the spread of democratic ideas on European politics in the 1800s.

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**Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.**

WHEN YOU FINISH WRITING, CHECK YOUR WORK ON SECTION II IF TIME PERMITS.

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
<b>Row A</b> <b>Thesis/Claim</b>  <b>[0-1 points]</b>	<b>0 points</b> Does not meet the criteria for one point.	<b>1 point</b> Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
<b>Decision Rules and Scoring Notes</b>		
	<b>Responses that do not earn this point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are not historically defensible.</li> <li>Only restate or rephrase the prompt.</li> <li>Do not respond to the prompt.</li> <li>Do not establish a line of reasoning.</li> <li>Are overgeneralized.</li> </ul>	<b>Responses that earn this point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a historically defensible thesis or claim about the most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy in the period 1450 to 1700. The thesis or claim must either provide some indication of the reason for making that claim OR establish categories of the argument.</li> </ul>
	<b>Examples that do not earn this point:</b>  <b>Provide a restatement of the prompt</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Overseas expansion significantly altered European economies.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Provide a historically defensible claim, but do not establish a line of reasoning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Overseas expansion raised standards of living in Europe</i></li> </ul> <b>Are not historically defensible</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“European overseas expansion only benefited the economies of Spain and Portugal.”</i></li> </ul>	<b>Examples that earn this point:</b>  <b>Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Europe’s overseas expansion in the period 1450-1700 shifted the worldwide power balance and established European economic dominance.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt with analytic categories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“The most significant effect of the European overseas expansion was the shift of the European economic center from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic states, which profited from the worldwide trade, while at the same time employing innovative commercial and financial practices.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Establish a line of reasoning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Establishment of the overseas colonies allowed Spain to become a leading European power.”</i></li> <li><i>“The most significant effect of the expansion of European Economy from 1450 to 1700 was the increase in trade and agricultural goods produced in the Americas.”</i> [Minimally acceptable thesis/claim]</li> </ul>
	<b>Additional Notes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The thesis or claim must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, either in the introduction or the conclusion [which may not be limited to the first or last paragraphs].</li> <li>The thesis or claim must identify a relevant development[s] in the period, although it is not required to encompass the entire period.</li> </ul>	

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria		
<b>Row C Evidence</b>  <b>[0-2 points]</b>	<b>0 points</b> Does not meet the criteria for one point.	<b>1 point</b> Provides specific examples of at least <b>two</b> pieces of evidence relevant to the <b>topic</b> of the prompt.	<b>2 points</b> Supports an <b>argument</b> in response to the prompt using at least <b>two</b> pieces of specific and relevant evidence.
<b>Decision Rules and Scoring Notes</b>			
	<b>Responses that do not earn points:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify a single piece of evidence.</li> <li>Provide evidence that is not relevant to the topic of the prompt.</li> <li>Provide evidence that is outside the time period or region specified in the prompt.</li> <li>Repeat information that is specified in the prompt.</li> </ul> <b>Examples that do not earn points:</b> <b>Provide evidence that is outside the time period or region</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Exports of cotton from the Americas facilitated the industrialization of Great Britain.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Provide evidence that is not relevant to the topic of prompt</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“European powers used religion as a justification for subjugation of indigenous populations.”</i></li> </ul>	<b>Responses that earn 1 point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify at least two specific historical examples relevant to economic effects of overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1700.</li> </ul> <b>Examples of evidence that are specific and relevant include the following [two examples required]:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spanish colonies in most of South America, Central America, and the Caribbean [Cuba, Hispaniola, Trinidad]</li> <li>The African slave trade generated major profits for Europeans</li> <li>The establishment of a plantation economy in the Americas</li> <li>Mentions of specific European colonies and trading posts</li> <li>Exports of food and crops from the Americas, such as potatoes, sugar, coffee, corn, turkeys, squash</li> <li>Exports of other commodities from the Americas, such as tobacco, silver, gold, rum, furs</li> <li>Spice and luxury goods trade in Asia, The Dutch East India Company, and the British East India Company</li> <li>The Commercial Revolution, the emergence of the banking center in the Netherlands</li> <li>Financial innovations, such as double-entry bookkeeping</li> <li>Inflation caused by the influx of Spanish silver, high demand and low supply of goods</li> <li>The development of mercantilist theory</li> <li>Economic competition caused increased warfare between European powers</li> <li>Piracy and privateering</li> </ul> <b>Example of a statement that earns one point for evidence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Spain exported gold and silver from the Americas and participated in the Atlantic slave trade from the beginning of the colonial expansion.”</i></li> </ul>	<b>Responses that earn 2 points:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use at least two specific historical examples to support an argument regarding economic effects of overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1700.</li> </ul> <b>Examples that successfully support an argument with evidence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Despite the power that the Spanish crown achieved due to its colonial dominance in the Americas, the Spanish economy was damaged by fighting wars and high inflation.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about the economic benefits and costs of overseas expansion]</li> <li><i>“Overseas expansion and worldwide trade, including the Atlantic slave trade, caused an increase in population and the standards of living in Europe, which in turn increased the demand for luxury goods from Asia.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about the economic consequences of overseas expansion]</li> <li><i>“As Europeans were generating major profits from the overseas colonies, they established new ways of preserving wealth, prompting the Commercial Revolution and innovations in banking. The Dutch became leaders in the banking industry.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about changes in economic institutions]</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Additional Notes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Typically, statements credited as evidence will be more specific than statements credited as contextualization.</li><li>• If a response has a multipart argument, then it can meet the threshold of two pieces of evidence by giving one example for one part of the argument and another example for a different part of the argument, but the total number of examples must still be at least two.</li></ul>
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### Question 3: Long Essay Question, Effect of Centralization of State Power

6 points

#### General Scoring Notes

- Except where otherwise noted, each point of these rubrics is earned independently; for example, a student could earn a point for evidence without earning a point for thesis/claim.
- **Accuracy:** The components of these rubrics require that students demonstrate historically defensible content knowledge. Given the timed nature of the exam, essays may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.
- **Clarity:** Exam essays should be considered first drafts and thus may contain grammatical errors. Those errors will not be counted against a student unless they obscure the successful demonstration of the content knowledge, skills, and practices described below.

Evaluate the most significant effect of centralization of state power in the period 1650 to 1815.

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
<b>Row A</b> <b>Thesis/Claim</b>  <b>[0-1 points]</b>	<b>0 points</b> Does not meet the criteria for one point.	<b>1 point</b> Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
<b>Decision Rules and Scoring Notes</b>		
	<b>Responses that do not earn this point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are not historically defensible.</li> <li>Only restate or rephrase the prompt.</li> <li>Do not respond to the prompt.</li> <li>Do not establish a line of reasoning.</li> <li>Are overgeneralized.</li> </ul>	<b>Responses that earn this point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide a historically defensible thesis or claim about the most significant effect of centralization of state power in the period 1650 to 1815. The thesis or claim must either provide some indication of the reason for making that claim OR establish categories of the argument.</li> </ul>
	<b>Examples that do not earn this point:</b>  <b>Provide a restatement of the prompt</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“The trend of centralization of state power had overarching effects on all Europe.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Provide a historically defensible claim, but do not establish a line of reasoning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“The most significant effect of the centralization of state power was the creation of absolutism in monarchies.”</i></li> <li><i>“Rulers wanted to bring all the people of their lands under centralized rule.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Are not historically defensible</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“By the end of the 1700s only Prussia and Sweden appeared to have a strong state.”</i></li> </ul>	<b>Examples that earn this point:</b>  <b>Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“The most significant effect of the centralization of state power was the emergence of the Enlightenment that occurred as a reaction to the limitations on individual rights and unequal treatment among people under absolutism.”</i></li> <li><i>“The most significant effects of centralization of state power were greater control over the nobility and the establishment of a strong bureaucracy.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt with analytic categories</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“The most significant effect of centralization of state power throughout Europe was the ability of the kings and queens to create state-controlled modernized armies without being dependent on the nobles, which allowed them to expand their territories by taking possessions of smaller princedoms and weaker neighbors.”</i></li> </ul> <b>Establish a line of reasoning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“The most significant effect of the centralization of state power from 1650 to 1815 was the creation and spread of nationalism.”</i></li> <li><i>“The effects of the centralization of power resulted in forms of government that were more free.”</i> [Minimally acceptable thesis/claim]</li> </ul>
	<b>Additional Notes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The thesis or claim must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, either in the introduction or the conclusion [which may not be limited to the first or last paragraphs].</li> <li>The thesis or claim must identify a relevant development[s] in the period, although it is not required to encompass the entire period.</li> </ul>	