

2015 AP® US HISTORY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

4. Answer (a), (b), and (c).
- a) Briefly explain why ONE of the following best marks the beginning of industrialization in the United States.
- The market revolution in the first half of the 1800s
 - The Civil War era in the middle of the 1800s
 - The rise of big business in the second half of the 1800s
- b) Provide ONE example of an event or development that supports your explanation in (a).
- c) Provide specific historical evidence that explains why ONE of the other options is less convincing as the possible beginning of industrialization in the United States.

END OF SECTION I

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UNITED STATES HISTORY

SECTION II

Total Time—1 hour, 30 minutes

Question 1 (Document-Based Question)

Suggested reading period: 15 minutes

Suggested writing time: 40 minutes

Directions: Question 1 is based on the accompanying documents. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise.

In your response you should do the following.

- State a relevant thesis that directly addresses all parts of the question.
- Support the thesis or a relevant argument with evidence from all, or all but one, of the documents.
- Incorporate analysis of all, or all but one, of the documents into your argument.
- Focus your analysis of each document on at least one of the following: intended audience, purpose, historical context, and/or point of view.
- Support your argument with analysis of historical examples outside the documents.
- Connect historical phenomena relevant to your argument to broader events or processes.
- Synthesize the elements above into a persuasive essay that extends your argument, connects it to a different historical context, or accounts for contradictory evidence on the topic.

1. Explain the reasons why a new conservatism rose to prominence in the United States between 1960 and 1989.

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Short Answer Question 4

0–3 points

Score 3

Response accomplishes **all three** tasks set by the question.

Score 2

Response accomplishes **two** of the tasks set by the question.

Score 1

Response accomplishes **one** of the tasks set by the question.

Score 0

Response accomplishes **none** of the tasks set by the question.

Score —

Is completely blank.

SCORING NOTES

a) Response briefly explains why ONE of the following best marks the beginning of industrialization in the United States.

- The market revolution in the first half of the 1800s
- The Civil War era in the middle of the 1800s
- The rise of big business in the second half of the 1800s

b) Response provides ONE example of an event or development that supports the explanation in (a).

The market revolution in the first half of the 1800s

- Market revolution separated the home from the commercial world.
- Separate spheres by gender; cult of domesticity.
- Transition to a wage-based economy.
- Expansion of infrastructure and national economic network through national roads and canals (e.g., Erie Canal).
- Early textile manufacturing; Lowell Mills; republican industrialization.
- Innovations in interchangeable parts (e.g., Eli Whitney, gun manufacturing).
- Fewer people worked in subsistence agriculture.
- More manufacturing of goods occurred in factories rather than the home, but combined with ongoing significance of putting out system/cottage industries.
- Use of early steamboats to transport people and goods.

Civil War era in the middle of the 1800s

- The Civil War ended slavery and set the nation on the course to become an industrial society.
- Shift from the dominance of cotton and agrarianism to dominance of industry.
- Transportation innovations (especially railroads) during and after the war linked markets together by making the movement of goods and people easier and quicker.
- Manufacturing of weapons and armaments during the war advanced interchangeable parts.

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Short Answer Question 4 (continued)

- Use of telegraph during and after the war; building of national telegraph network that followed the rail lines.
- Steam engines, interchangeable parts made large scale manufacturing more efficient.
- Increased foreign investment in capital projects, infrastructure, and manufacturing as a result of the war, continued after the war.

Rise of big business in the second half of the 1800s

- Combinations allowed for exponential growth of capital and investment, purchase of equipment needed for large-scale industrial enterprise.
- Horizontal and vertical integration and economies of scale allowed for mass production.
- Technological innovations such as more efficient use of coal and steam engines, Bessemer process (steel), application of electricity as an energy and power source.
- Large factories and corporations provided more semiskilled and unskilled work.
- More Americans became wage-earners in the industrial economy and consumers in the industrial and consumer capital marketplace.
- Growth of national consumer market, catalogs, mail order, advertising.
- Calls for regulation of monopolies and trusts in response to the growing influence of corporations.
- Rise of the People's Party (Populist Party).
- Rise of the labor movement.
- Industrialization impacted the economic livelihood of farmers and transformed farming.
- Demands for a stronger government role in the economic system.

c) Response provides specific historical evidence that explains why ONE of the other options is less convincing as the possible beginning of industrialization in the United States.

The market revolution

- The market revolution was not a real revolution. Instead, it continued trends in the rise of industry from the late 1700s and from Europe; the United States already had a market economy.

Civil War era

- The real transition was the market revolution, while the Civil War era represented continuation of trends from earlier in the 1800s; interchangeable parts and railroads were put into more widespread use, but were not new.
- The United States still had not become truly industrial without the rise of heavy industries such as steel manufacturing, which would happen after the Civil War.

Rise of big business

- The real transition was earlier, and the rise of big business mainly continued this; key elements such as organizational innovation existed earlier.