

2008 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 methods and degrees of success of Russian political and social reform from the period of Peter the Great (1689–1725) through Catherine the Great (1762–1796).
3. Describe and analyze the changes that led to Europe’s rapid population growth in the eighteenth century.
4. Analyze the economic and social challenges faced by Western Europe in the period from 1945 to 1989.

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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. European women's lives changed in the course of the nineteenth century politically, economically, and socially. Identify and explain the reasons for those changes.
6. Analyze the major factors responsible for the rise of anti-Semitism in nineteenth-century Europe.
7. Analyze the ways in which the events of the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic period (1789–1815) led people to challenge Enlightenment views of society, politics, and human nature.

STOP

END OF EXAM

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Question 4

Analyze the economic and social challenges faced by Western Europe in the period from 1945 to 1989.

9–8 Points

- Thesis is explicit and fully responsive to the question; addresses both the economic and social challenges faced by Western Europe during the time period.
- Organization is clear and consistent; all major assertions (“challenges”) are developed with substantial evidence and well-developed examples (a score of 9 demonstrates a more sophisticated analysis).
- Major topics suggested by the prompt are all covered at some length
- Essay is well balanced; analyzes both the economic and social challenges faced by Western European nations firmly in the context of the time period (essays that discuss the Cold War must provide linkage with the economic and/or social challenges faced by Western Europe during the time period).
- May contain errors that do not detract from the argument.

7–6 Points

- Thesis is explicit and responsive to the question; addresses both the economic and social challenges faced by Western Europe in less sophisticated, more general language.
- Organization is clear and effective in support of the argument but with less sophisticated development (a score of 7 will demonstrate more cohesiveness than a score of 6).
- All major topics suggested by the prompt are at least briefly covered.
- Essay is balanced and contains a discussion of both the social and economic challenges faced by Western Europe within the context of the time period (essays that discuss the Cold War must provide linkage with the economic and/or social challenges faced by Western Europe during the time period).
- Each major assertion (“challenge”) is 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 in that it may only address one of the challenges (either economic or social).
- Essay is organized but may not address the requirements of the question.
- Essay shows imbalance by developing one task (either economic or social) thoroughly but addressing the other inadequately (score of 5); OR omitting one task while developing the other (score of 4); OR addressing both tasks but with basic understanding (score of 4) (essays that discuss the Cold War must provide linkage with the economic and/or social challenges faced by Western Europe during the time period).
- Most of the assertions (“challenges”) in the essay are supported by at least one piece of relevant evidence.
- May contain errors that detract from the argument.

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Question 4 (continued)

3–2 Points

- Thesis is not explicit or acceptable.
- Organization is unclear and ineffective.
- Essay shows serious imbalance; most major topics suggested in the prompt are neglected.
- Offers very limited specific evidence concerning the challenges faced by Western Europe during the time period.
- May contain several errors that detract from the argument.

1–0 Points

- No discernable attempt at a thesis.
- No discernable organization appropriate to the prompt.
- One or none of the major topics suggested in the prompt is mentioned.
- Little or no appropriate evidence used.
- May contain numerous errors that detract from the argument.