

Essay Questions for AP American History

1st Essays

- 1. Columbus made several voyages from Europe to the Americas, discuss why he made this choice when many others did not.**
- 2. Columbus was disappointed with his discoveries why did he feel his discoveries were a failure. Explain.**
- 3. The British came to America as families unlike the Spanish. Why?**
- 4. The Native American and European cultures clashed discuss why.**

2nd essay

- 1. Describe how slavery developed and entrenched itself in the British Colonies in North America**
- 2. Puritanism was as much a set of political and social values as a religious one. Explain.**
- 3. Compare and contrast Winthrop's "city on a hill" with Penn's "holy experiment".**
- 4. Discuss the importance of triangular trade to the development of the British Americas.**
- 5. American Native Americans are a diverse and complex group. Assess this statement.**
- 6. The distinct geographic differences in the British colonies affected their development and character. Assess this statement.**
- 7. The British colonies in America developed in diverse ways. Why did they become so different?**

3rd essay

1. The American Revolution was spearheaded by many diverse individuals. Explain through the tactics and roles of Patrick Henry, George Washington, and Thomas Jefferson how this was accomplished.
2. The American Revolution came about through “spits and starts, explain this process in the time period 1700 through 1775. Support this essay with laws, actions, and philosophies to explain how the groundwork of revolution was laid in the Colonies.
3. The British colonies in America developed in diverse ways. Why did they become so different?
4. “The American Revolution was the culmination of an unavoidable mistakes and misunderstandings in England and America from 1763 to 1776.” Why did the Colonies grow disconnected from Great Britain?
5. Abigail Adams reminded her husband “to not forget us” Assess this statement.
6. There were many reasons the Colonies grew disaffected from the Mother Country. Discuss the major reasons for this disaffection and support your essay with acts and actions.
7. The French and Indian Wars were a prelude to the Revolution. Explain.