

2023



AP® United States History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 1

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Short-Answer Question 3

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Question 3: Short Answer No Stimulus**3 points****General Scoring Notes**

- Each point is earned independently.
- **Accuracy:** These scoring guidelines require that students demonstrate historically defensible content knowledge. Given the timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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 responses 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.
- **Describe:** Provide the relevant characteristics of a specified topic. Description requires more than simply mentioning an isolated term.
- **Explain:** Provide information about how or why a historical development or process occurs or how or why a relationship exists.

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- (A)** Briefly describe one way that agriculture influenced migration to North America from 1607 to 1776. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- The need for labor on plantations led to Europeans forcing the migration of enslaved Africans.
- Profits from tobacco motivated Europeans to migrate to the colonies.
- Profits from sugar encouraged European migration to Caribbean colonies.
- The demand for labor on tobacco plantations led to the migration of indentured servants.
- The desire for farmland, which was in short supply in Europe, led to increased migration to North America.

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- (B)** Briefly explain one similarity in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America from 1607 to 1776. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Both the southern colonies and the Chesapeake had farming which led to the extensive use of enslaved labor.
- The labor-intensive cultivation of rice in the southern colonies and sugar in the Caribbean resulted in the forced migration of larger numbers of enslaved Africans.
- Tobacco, grown in the Chesapeake, and rice, grown in the southern colonies, could both be sold profitably outside of the colonies, so both regions developed export economies.

Examples that earn this point might include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:

- The impact of grain cultivation in both New York and Pennsylvania
- Similarities in the impact of Indigenous farming practices

(C)	Briefly explain one difference in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America from 1607 to 1776.	1 point
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Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Cash crops grown in southern colonies needed more labor than the family farms in the North, so there were more enslaved people in southern colonies.
- The crops grown in the South were very profitable, so the economy mainly focused on exporting crops, but in the North, they mostly had family farms, so the economy was more diverse.
- The demand for labor on plantations led to more males migrating from Europe to the Chesapeake Colonies, while smaller family farms in New England generally had a more equal balance of males and females.
- Whereas the Southern economy was greatly influenced by agriculture resulting in the development of cash crops and the extensive use of slavery, the land in the North was not as conducive to this and thus resulted in an economy more reliant on trade, shipbuilding, and manufacturing.

Examples that earn this point might include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:

- The impact of agriculture on population distribution in New England vs. the Chesapeake
- How agricultural practices impacted the distribution of indentured servants

Total for question 3 3 points

A. Agriculture influenced migration in North America from 1607 to 1776 as it offered many opportunities for workers to come to the colonies as Yeoman Farmers. Many came to the colonies, specifically the New England colonies to start a life of Yeoman farming and self reliance.

B. The south, the Chesapeake region both relied on agricultural cash crops to survive, meaning the development of using cheaper and more reliable African imported slaves. These two regions originally relied on Indentured servants to run their plantations, but after Bacon's rebellion, they realized that indentured servants could not keep up with the cash crops demands, and thus transitioned to rely on slave labor in order to run massive plantations that churned out massive amounts of cash crops to be sold back to Europe.

C. Agriculture caused a difference in developments between the New England Colonies and the southern colonies. In the south, large slave run plantations covered large swaths of rural areas and no sense of a town or community. New England Yeoman subsistence farmers on the other hand lived in religious communities instead of large rural areas.

- a. One way that agriculture influenced migration to North America from 1607 to 1776 was through the growing of cash crops. Farmers moved to America where they could grow cash crops such as sugar and tobacco which were traded with Europe. Many of these farms were in the south, where the land was fertile, and allowed these farms to grow into major plantations with a lot of workers, many of which were slaves.
- b. One similarity in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America is the crops. Many of the most popular crops to grow were cash crops, such as tobacco, and vegetables, such as maize. Both regions could grow these crops, allowing workers and slaves to work in both areas. This led to more farmers developing farms and plantations.
- c. One difference in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America is the difference in climate. In the south, the climate was much warmer the soil was fertile, making it suitable for farming while in the north, it was much colder and the soil was not as fertile, making only easy crops such as potatoes grow there. This forced the north to become more industrial while the south was more agricultural.

- a) One way that agriculture influenced migration to North America from 1607 to 1776 is that there was a lot of usable land to farm. North America had a lot of very good land that was fertile and perfect for farming. So many came to North America between 1607 and 1776 to use this land for that and hopefully get money from it. This is how one way that agriculture influenced migration to North America from 1607 to 1776 is that there was a lot of usable land to farm.
- b) One similarity in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America from 1607 to 1776 is that people began trading the crops they grew. Because land is different in the two regions, crops that are grown are different. So people traded their crops which led to two regions being formed. This is how one similarity in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America from 1607 to 1776 is that people began trading the crops they grew
- c) One difference in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America from 1607 to 1776 is the growing of different plants. Land is very different in the two regions so only certain crops can be grown in each one. Because of this, two regions were formed where certain crops could only grow in each one. This is how one difference in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in North America from 1607 to 1776 is the growing of different plants.

Short Answer Question 3

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

- Responses were expected to describe how agriculture influenced migration to North America between 1607 and 1776.
- Responses were expected to explain a similarity and a difference in how agriculture influenced the development of two distinct regions.
- This question primarily addressed Topics 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, and 2.6.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

The response to part (a) earned 1 point by successfully describing “many opportunities for workers to come to the colonies as Yeoman Farmers” as a way that agriculture influenced migration to North America.

The response to part (b) earned 1 point by successfully explaining that both the southern colonies and the Chesapeake colonies had cash crops and slavery.

The response to part (c) earned 1 point by explaining the difference between southern plantations using enslaved laborers and yeoman farmers and subsistence farming of the North.

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

The response to part (a) earned 1 point by successfully describing European migration to the New World because farmers wished to profit from growing cash crops.

The response to part (b) did not earn a point because it does not define two specific regions when explaining the influence of agriculture.

The response to part (c) earned 1 point because it successfully explains how climate differences between the South and the North made agriculture a more profitable venture in Southern colonies than in Northern ones, which were less conducive to large-scale agriculture for profit.

Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

The response to part (a) earned 1 point by accurately describing migration to North America between 1607–1776 as a way for migrants to take advantage of fertile farmland and to “hopefully get money from it.”

The response to part (b) did not earn a point because it does not successfully explain how agriculture influenced the development of two distinct regions in North America.

The response to part (c) does not earn a point because, while it is true that “certain crops could only grow in each one,” the response does not specify which regions or crops.