

2021

AP®

 CollegeBoard

AP® United States History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Question 4: 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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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.

(A) Briefly describe ONE specific historical continuity in industrial work in the period from 1865 to 1898. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Laborers largely worked for employers and were paid wages rather than owning their own businesses.
- The bulk of industrial work throughout the period involved repetitive tasks and limited skills.
- Labor and management battled over wages and working conditions, with workers organizing local and national unions and/or directly confronting business leaders.
- Federal and state governments generally created laws and policies that supported businesses and business owners rather than workers.
- The labor force of the time period was consistently composed of unskilled immigrant labor.
- Women and immigrant workers earned less pay for industrial jobs.

(B) Briefly describe ONE specific historical change in industrial work in the period from 1865 to 1898. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Industrial work became increasingly large-scale and routinized.
- The use of assembly lines by the end of the 19th century increased the pace of industrial production, as well as creating new demands for natural resources and labor.
- As the price of many goods decreased, workers' real wages increased, providing new access to a variety of goods and services.
- Many Americans' standards of living improved, while the gap between rich and poor grew.

- The industrial workforce expanded, and child labor increased.
- Many new workers joining the workforce were immigrants, particularly from Southern and Eastern Europe.
- Chinese laborers became common in the railroad industry.
- Labor union membership fluctuated/increased during the time period as a result of poor working conditions and pay.

(C)	Briefly explain how ONE specific historical development between 1865 and 1920 was a response to the change in industrial work.	1 point
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Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Concerns over worsening working conditions and the treatment of workers saw increasing numbers of strikes and violent outbursts by workers against employers like the Pullman Strike.
- Responding to the increasing hardship for industrial workers, social reformers worked to effect social changes in cities and among immigrant populations who worked in industries.
- Labor unions advocated for changes in the workplace as a result of the changing nature of industrial work. They advocated for the eight-hour workday, increased safety measures, and better pay.
- As the working conditions became worse, the federal government became involved in settling labor disputes and passed legislation, which worked toward protecting industrial workers.
- Changes in industrial work fostered the mass production of goods, which resulted in the increase in consumerism.
- New industrial jobs drew workers to cities and resulted in the development of large urban centers.

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

- Journalists during the Progressive Era attacked what they saw as political corruption, social injustice, and economic inequality related to industrial work.

Total for question 4 3 points

4A

Question 3 Question 4

Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.
Do not skip lines.

- A) One historical continuity in industrial work from 1865 to 1898 was that factory workers were largely unskilled laborers and immigrants, women, and children.
- B) One specific historical change in industrial work in the period from 1865 to 1898 was the rise of labor unions. Although unions existed prior to this ~~era~~ period, they did not gain much influence until the late 19th century. One of the most prominent unions was the Knights of Labor, which worked to reform injustices such as poor working environments and low wages.
- C) Theodore Roosevelt's implementation of the Square Deal ~~and the Sherman Anti-Trust~~ Act was a response to the labor unions as he worked through both projects in order to allow unionists' voices to be heard and for them to enjoy better work place environments, wages, and work hours.

Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box. □
Do not skip lines. ●

- A) One specific historical continuity would be in the extremely low wages and poor conditions in the industrialization. Kids and men in factories were ~~were~~ dangerously exposed to deadly machinery for long hours just to make an unlivable wage.
- B) A specific historical change would be the immigration at this time. Due to the immigrants leaders in the factories were giving more work for extremely low incomes.
- C) A historical development of this era is the rise of labor unions. Labor unions stuck up and demanded better conditions/wages for their workers. These organizations manifested laws to protect ~~them~~ around the country, like minimum wage, ^{as well} ~~and~~ a minimum wage into work.

Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.
Do not skip lines.

- a) Industrial work was offered to immigrants who were in ~~the~~ need of making a living and this helped growing in industries. There will be more and more competition which was a reasoning for industries to move immigrants ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ in the work to benefit themselves and those who needed jobs.
- b) Although there was a positive feedback from immigrant workers, there were also fallbacks. Many workers were upset by the fact, immigrants were being given ~~the~~ jobs, this was because soon after people would receive less pay or even less hours to help immigrants feel equal to those who had jobs prior to the new change.
- c) Many of the men attacked or threatened immigrants who worked along side them. The men weren't able to adjust so many decided to participate in boy-wotts.

Short Answer Question 4

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

Overview

- This question asked students to describe industrial work in the United States from 1865 to 1898.
- The question focused on students presenting a continuity and change in industrial work, and then students were to present a historical development that occurred between 1865 and 1920 as a result of a change that occurred.
- This question primarily addressed Topic 6.7.

Sample: 4A

Score: 3

The response to part (a) earned 1 point by describing how industrial workers during the time period were unskilled laborers and immigrants.

The response to part (b) earned 1 point by describing how the Knights of Labor became a prominent union during the time period that worked to improve working conditions.

The response to part (c) earned 1 point by explaining the historical development of governmental involvement through the Square Deal as a result of the poor working conditions in industries and advocacy from labor unions.

Sample: 4B

Score: 2

The response to part (a) earned 1 point by describing the continuity of low wages and poor working conditions in industrial work.

The response to part (b) did not earn a point because it does not qualify the description of the source of new immigrant labor to industries during the time period. Additionally, low wages for immigrant labor is a continuity for the time period rather than a change.

The response to part (c) earned 1 point by explaining the developing role of labor unions and their efforts to improve working conditions and pay for industrial workers. Additionally, the response explains unions' efforts to advocate for legislation to protect industrial workers.

Sample: 4C

Score: 1

The response to part (a) earned 1 point by describing immigrants as a source of industrial labor during the time period.

The response to part (b) did not earn a point because it attempts to describe the greater inclusion of immigrant labor as a change in industrial work. Additionally, the response notes that immigrants received less pay for their work in industries, which is not a change for the time period.

The response to part (c) did not earn a point because it does not explain a specific historical development but rather discusses nativism and labor boycotts too broadly.