

2024



AP® United States History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 2

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Short-Answer Question 2

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Question 2: Short Answer Primary Source**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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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 historical context that might explain the creation of the image. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Social reformers advocated against alcohol consumption.
- The Second Great Awakening influenced moral and social reforms.
- During the Age of Reform, Americans formed new voluntary organizations, such as the Temperance League, to change individual behaviors and improve society.
- The growth of definitions of domestic ideals that emphasized the separation of public and private spheres promoted women as moral leaders of society.
- Temperance activists used religious and moral arguments in opposing the consumption of alcohol.

[b] Briefly explain how the image reflected one continuity in ideas about reform from 1800 to 1874. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Beginning with the Second Great Awakening, religious ideas influenced efforts to reform society.
- Beginning during the market revolution, concerns about Americans' consumption of alcohol continued throughout this period.
- Women believed they had a special role as leaders of reform movements throughout this period.
- The idea of separate spheres helped justify women's moral role in leading reform efforts.
- The growth of the women's rights movement beginning in the 1840s led to concern about the effect of alcohol abuse on women and families.

[c] Briefly explain how one previous belief about reform continued from 1875 to 1940. 1 point

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- The temperance movement culminated with the passage of the Eighteenth Amendment, beginning Prohibition.
- Progressive women believed that they could create a more moral society and took a major role in reform movements, such as those to help immigrant populations.
- Jane Addams and other women reformers believed they could improve society, so they founded settlement houses.
- Women continued to advocate for greater rights through the suffrage movement and secured the passage of Nineteenth Amendment.

Total for question 2 3 points

A. This image was created to show how women were fiercely fighting against the widespread consumption of alcohol in America. Women across the nation advocated against alcohol consumption through the Temperance Movement. This is shown in the image with the woman destroying barrels labeled with different types of alcohol as well as the Temperance League banner in the background.

B. One continuity that the image reflects is how women throughout the 19th century pushed for various reforms in society. This can be seen in the Temperance movement as well as the push for African American and women suffrage. This is shown in the image as women are the forefront of the movement as they have been for many other pushes for reform throughout history.

C. One belief about reform that continued was the push for the ban of alcohol. This is shown with the passing of the 18th Amendment in the 1900s that banned the creation, sale, and consumption of alcohol in America. This was a continuation of the Temperance movement that was started by women in the 1800s.

- a. Historical context that might explain the creation of the image is the mass consumption of alcohol by men. Alcohol was being consumed by immigrants, working men, and fathers at a mass amount. This caused the family to lose money and kinship due to spending on alcohol and cause accidents and death at work due to intoxication while at their job. This prompted the women to partake in movements such as the WCTU to try and halt the selling and consumption of alcohol to save their families.
- b. The image reflects a continuity in ideas about reform because it displays women rising up to demand their needs be met just as they did in events like the Seneca Falls Convention. In the Seneca Falls Convention women expressed their desire for equality and the right to vote by banning together and using their voices to express their wants. This shows a continuity because in the image it shows women expressing their wants to end drinking in America, where they created organizations, just like they did to form the NWP, to fight for their wants.
- c. One previous belief about reform such as equal rights for African Americans continued from 1875 to 1940 with the desegregation of the military with Executive Order 9908. This continued to help the civil rights movement by giving African Americans equal opportunity to serve in the military.

- A) A historical context that helps explain the creation of this image is the Act banning alcohol. Alcohol was making lives of the wives in the house holds a living mess. An example, the men in the house would spend all their money on alcohol and not stuff that are needed in the house.
- B) The image reflects an idea about reforms from the 1800s to 1874 by showing the rising of ideas in standing up to problems. Such as Alcohol and unfair treatments. Also the problems children and women were facing due to the unfair treatments.
- C) A previous belief about reform that was continued from 1875 to 1940 was by influencing the power of reforms. The ban on Alcohol had a major influence which led to many other reforms being made in response to its effect.

Short Answer Question 2

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

Overview

- The question asked students to describe the historical context of the creation of the image and then explain the continuity in ideas about reform from 1800 to 1940. Responses were confined to 1800 to 1874 for part (b) and 1875 to 1940 for part (c).
- Responses could utilize a wide range of content knowledge, including events, documents, people, and developments related to the reform movements of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
- This response focused on analyzing a primary source and using appropriate evidence to support continuity of reform movements over time periods.
- The question primarily addressed Topics 4.6, 4.10, 4.11, 6.11, and 7.4.

Sample: 2A

Score: 3

The response to (a) earned 1 point by accurately describing the historical context of the image as women advocating “against alcohol consumption” during the time period.

The response to (b) earned 1 point by explaining that women continually took on leadership roles in various different reform movements throughout the time period of the prompt.

The response to (c) earned 1 point by explaining that the temperance movement continued into the early 1900s, culminating with the ratification of the Eighteenth Amendment.

Sample: 2B

Score: 2

The response to (a) earned one point because it correctly describes the negative effects of alcohol on families, which motivated women to join the temperance movement.

The response to (b) earned 1 point because it explains that women reformers joined together at the Seneca Falls Convention, which demonstrated their special role as leaders of reform movements, to advocate for “their desire for equality and the right to vote.”

The response to (c) did not earn a point because the response does not explain how the desegregation of the military represented a continuation of beliefs about reform from 1875 and 1940.

Short Answer Question 2 (continued)

Sample: 2C

Score: 1

The response to (a) earned 1 point by describing that the image supported “banning alcohol” due to men spending money on drinking and not on household necessities.

The response to (b) did not earn a point because it offers a historically vague explanation about non-specific issues—alcohol and “unfair treatments”—rather than a continuity in a belief about reform from 1800 to 1874.

The response to (c) did not earn a point because the explanation that a ban on alcohol “had a major influence which led to many other reforms” is not specific enough to explain a previous belief about reform continued from 1875 to 1940.