

2024



AP® United States History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 1

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Short-Answer Question 2

- Scoring Guidelines**
- Student Samples**
- Scoring Commentary**

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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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 situation in which the image was created. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- There was mass unemployment during the Great Depression.
- The New Deal created new federal government programs to aid in recovery from the Great Depression.
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected president and passed many new government programs.

[b] Briefly explain how the image reflected a change in ideas about the role of government from 1877 to 1936. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- In 1877, government economic policy was laissez-faire, and by 1936 the government was more involved in the economy.
- During the Progressive Era many Americans argued for a more active government role in the economy.
- The stock market crash and the Great Depression convinced many Americans that government intervention was necessary.
- Herbert Hoover encouraged voluntary charitable efforts to address the Great Depression as opposed to government programs.
- The government allowed boom and bust cycles caused by the industrial economy as opposed to intervening during economic downturns.

- [c] Briefly explain how beliefs about the role of government such as the one reflected by the image continued after 1945. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Some Americans believed that the government should assist people through Great Society programs.
- After the Second World War the G.I. Bill extended benefits to aid veterans, just as earlier government provided aid to older Americans.
- Government intervention in the economy continued in the 1960s and 1970s through the enactment of new environmental regulations on businesses.

Total for question 2 3 points

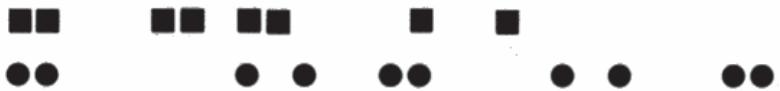
Write your answer to **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 2** on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box. Do not skip lines.

- a.) The Great Depression was a reason in the creation of the poster. The Great Depression was a time of economic depression, resulting from the crash of the stock market and the collapse of the bank. With FDR's new deal, seeking relief, reform, and recovery the Social Security Act provided a form of relief, to fix America from the Great Depression
- b.) The change in the role of government shifted from ~~to~~ laissez faire ideology to a more prominent role of the federal government in business and social affairs. Laissez Faire policies was the idea that government shouldn't interfere with business, ~~which~~ which led to the crash of the stock market, and with the entrance into an era of depression, the federal government saw more action in aiding the recovery of the economy through a series of acts/policies.
- c.) The role of government in being more included in ~~3~~ economic affairs ~~after~~ after 1945, which the image reflects, is Johnson's Great Society. The Great Society was in part in similar to the New Deal in providing security for its citizens. The Great Society did this by providing medicaid and medicare similar to the SSA and other acts of the New Deal providing aid to citizens.

End of response area for Q2

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

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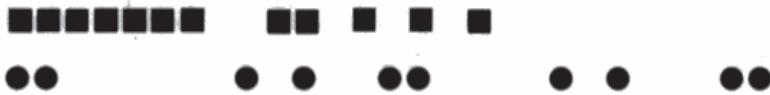
Write your answer to **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 2** on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.
Do not skip lines.

- a. The historical situation of this image is FDR's New Deal in response to the Great Depression. FDR wanted to combat the poverty that took place and support the economy & workforce, so he created his New Deal. Programs such as Social Security were a part of this & happened to combat the GD.
- b. This image reflected a change in the Govt from 1877-1936 because it shifted from Laissez Fair to being more involved. The market used to be free and open for anyone, and the Federal government had little power in the economy. However, due to the stock market crash the government became more involved to try to kick start the economy again. There is a change in ideas about the role of the government in the sense that it needed to be more involved in the economy.
- c. Beliefs about the role of the government continued and people enjoyed when the government was involved in the economy. This is seen when through Reaganomics and ~~W~~ the government getting involved in the economy. They are still involved today and Social Security exists to this day. Therefore, beliefs about the govt portrayed continued.

End of response area for Q2

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

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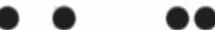
Write your answer to **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 2** on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.
Do not skip lines.

- A- One historical situation in which this image was created was the Great Depression. Poverty rates were extremely high, and tons of people were unemployed. The Social Security Act would have helped a lot of people.
- B- This image reflects a change in the role of government to being more powerful. During the 1930's people needed a strong foundation to hold onto, therefore making the federal government have more power.
- C- The more powerful role of the federal government continued after 1945. This was because of the Wars on Communism in the 50's and 60's. Such as the Cold War, Korean War, and Vietnam.

End of response area for Q2

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

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Short Answer Question 2

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

Overview

- Responses were expected to describe one historical situation in which a poster promoting the Social Security Administration was implemented.
- Responses were expected to explain how the poster reflected a change in ideas about the role of government between 1877 and 1936.
- Responses were expected to explain how beliefs about the role of government such as the one reflected by the poster continued after 1945.
- The question primarily addressed Topics 6.1, 6.6, 6.12, 6.14, 7.4, 7.8, 7.9, 7.10, 8.4, 8.9, and 8.15.
- Skills needed to respond to this question were Historical Thinking Skills 2 and 5.

Sample: 2A

Score: 3

The response to (a) earned 1 point because it accurately describes how the relief efforts of the New Deal to combat the Great Depression was a historical situation in which the Social Security Act was created.

The response to (b) earned 1 point because it explains the change in ideas about the role of government from laissez-faire policies to the direct intervention by the government during the Great Depression.

The response to (c) earned 1 point because it explains how the Great Society continued the belief about an active role for the government in the economy by providing direct relief to people through programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Sample Identifier: 2B

Score: 2

The response to (a) earned 1 point because it accurately describes how Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal in response to the Great Depression was a historical situation of the image.

The response to (b) earned 1 point because it explains the shift from the laissez-faire government policies of the nineteenth and early twentieth century to the government expanding its role and becoming "more involved" in the economy.

The response to (c) did not earn a point because it inaccurately explains Reaganomics as representing the idea of expanding the role of government in the economy. Although the response states that "social security still exists today," it does not sufficiently explain how this reflected a continuation after 1945 of beliefs about the role of government such as the one reflected by the image.

Short Answer Question 2 (continued)

Sample Identifier: 2C

Score: 1

The response to (a) earned 1 point by accurately describing that “poverty rates were extremely high” during the Great Depression, which establishes the historical situation in which the image was created.

The response to (b) did not earn a point because it provides an overly generalized discussion of the federal government seeking “more power” to explain why ideas about the role of government changed from 1877 to 1936.

The response to (c) did not earn a point because the discussion of “wars on communism” after 1945 does not provide an accurate explanation of how the beliefs about the role of government such as the one reflected by the image continued after 1945.