

2025



AP[®] European History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 1

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Short-Answer Question 4

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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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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 Describe one significant feature of industrialization in Europe in the period 1750 to 1800. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses may include the following:

- Industrialization in Europe was prompted by the new discoveries of the Scientific Revolution.
- The Industrial Revolution began in Great Britain, which became the biggest power.
- Great Britain extracted resources from the colonies in the Americas to help launch its industrialization.
- Britain had significant natural resources that promoted the Industrial Revolution [coal, waterways, iron ore, etc.].

B Describe one significant change in industrialization in the period 1800 to 1900. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses may include the following:

- The Industrial Revolution spread from Great Britain to the European continent.
 - Industrialization on the continent oftentimes required state support and investment.
 - In the 1800s, countries adopted new technologies for transportation such as locomotives and steamships.
 - The availability of factory work in cities led to rapid urbanization.
 - Women and children were increasingly employed in work outside the home, particularly in factories and coal mines.
 - The Second Industrial Revolution diversified production and expanded consumerism.
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C Explain one way that industrialization affected European politics in the period 1800 to 1900. **1 point**

Examples of acceptable responses may include the following:

- Industrialization led to the emergence of unions and political parties devoted to the interests of the working class.
 - New political ideologies, including Marxism, emerged as a response to the social problems caused by industrialization.
 - Due to a rising awareness of industrial working conditions, particularly for children, political officials launched investigations and introduced regulatory legislation to ameliorate them.
 - Relative degrees of industrialization exacerbated international tensions, as governments sought out sources of raw materials and developed new military technologies.
 - Industrialization helped Prussia to become the leader of a unified Germany through economic and military dominance over other German states.
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Sample 4A 1 of 1

One significant feature of industrialization in Europe between 1750 and 1800 was that it was primarily confined to Great Britain. The industrial revolution began in Great Britain because of its location on the Atlantic Ocean, its colonies which created markets for trade and sources of raw materials, and the massive amount of iron and coal which were found on the island. Countries in continental Europe did not have the same conditions which prevented them from industrializing during this time period, resulting in Great Britain being the first European country to industrialize.

One significant change in industrialization between 1800 and 1900 was that it focused more heavily on steel and electricity than on iron and coal. In this second phase of the Industrial Revolution, innovations like the Bessemer process allowed steel to be created with much less work than before. This provided an excess of new materials that were much scarcer during the first stage of the Industrial Revolution and led to new innovations like the automobile and telephone which improved communication and transportation technology worldwide.

One way that industrialization affected European politics between 1800 and 1900 was that it increased the number of governments, predominantly in Western Europe, who had a laissez-faire, classic liberalist, approach to the government. Liberal governments in Western Europe wanted to support industrialization and to do this they followed Adam Smith's economic advice that the government should limit its involvement with private businesses. Because of these laissez-faire politics, there was an increasingly blatant class divide between the wealthy industrialists who ran new factories without major government regulations and the workers who supplied the labor to operate these factories.

Sample 4B 1 of 1

- A. One significant feature of industrialization in Europe in the period 1750 to 1800 was the urbanization of cities and population growth as countries began getting more and more advanced, and many began to move from the countryside to more industrialized areas.
- B. One change in industrialization in the period 1800 to 1900 was the increased amounts of women and children in the work force to accommodate for increasing demand, whereas before industrializing, women were expected to stay home and take care of domestic duties and childcare.
- C. One way that industrialization affected European politics in the period 1800 to 1900 was the rise in labor unions and political parties dedicated to representing the working class. Industrialization led to poor working conditions and extreme child labor, so government groups like the labor party pushed for laws that put restrictions on child labor and improved factory life.

Sample 4C 1 of 1

One significant feature of industrialization in Europe in the period 1750 to 1800 is the printing press. The printing press heavily affected the spread of ideas and religion, political, economic, and social states of Europe during this time period. This emphasizes its significance because of the large influence it had throughout Europe and the changes this feature caused.

One significant change in industrialization in the period 1800 to 1900 was the implementation of factories and the new standards set for women and children to work in these factories due to the increase in demand of supply. The implementation of these factories caused a major shift in the labor work force and conditions were harsh. The demand of supply worsened the conditions for families working and overall negatively impacted lower social classes and drastically affected the higher social classes economically and socially.

One way that industrialization affected European politics in the period 1800 to 1900 is the worsening of labor conditions due to industrialization. The low pay to the families working in these conditions heavily impacted the lower class socially and economically, stirring this up with politics. The debate over industrialization caused disagreements between countries and states and overall affected these countries politically.

Short Answer Question 4

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

Overview

NEW for 2025: The question overviews can be found in the *Chief Reader Report on Student Responses on AP Central*.

Sample: 4A

SAQ Part A Score: 1

SAQ Part B Score: 1

SAQ Part C Score: 1

Score: 3

The response earned the point for Part A by describing Great Britain as the center of industrialization in the period 1750–1800, due to its advantageous location and its natural resources.

The response earned the point for Part B by describing how innovations like the Bessemer process diversified production and led to further improvements in transportation and communications.

The response earned the point for Part C by explaining how laissez-faire government policies accentuated the class divide between wealthy industrialists and the workers whose labor powered their factories.

Sample: 4B

SAQ Part A Score: 0

SAQ Part B Score: 1

SAQ Part C Score: 1

Score: 2

The response did not earn the point for Part A because the attempt at describing the process of urbanization is vague and not specifically rooted in the period 1750–1800.

The response earned the point for Part B because it describes the greater reliance on women and children for labor outside the home.

The response earned the point for Part C by explaining how working-class labor unions and political parties pushed for improvements to industrial working conditions.

Short Answer Question 4 (continued)

Sample: 4C

SAQ Part A Score: 0

SAQ Part B Score: 1

SAQ Part C Score: 0

Score: 1

The response did not earn the point for Part A because the example of the printing press is outside the time frame of the question.

The response earned the point for Part B because it describes the negative impact on family life when women and children worked in factories.

The response did not earn the point for Part C because the explanation does not specify how worsening industrialized labor conditions affected European countries politically.