

2023

AP[®]



AP[®] World History: Modern

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 1

Inside:

Short-Answer Question 3

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

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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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)** Identify ONE reason for the increase in the movement of enslaved peoples across the Atlantic Ocean during the period circa 1450–1750. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- The increased demand for enslaved peoples was due to a need for more labor.
- More enslaved peoples from Africa were brought across the Atlantic because of the increased number of sugar plantations.
- The loss of indigenous peoples due to disease led to a demand for more workers.

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- (B)** Explain ONE way the increasing number of enslaved peoples resulted in social or cultural change in the Americas during the period circa 1450–1750. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Enslaved Africans brought over their own religions, which mixed with Christianity to create syncretic beliefs.
- New social classes emerged as Europeans created terms like *mestizos* and *mulattoes* to refer to the children born to African enslaved peoples, indigenous peoples, and European settlers.
- The Spanish created a racial hierarchy known as the *casta* system to classify mixed-race families, which also allowed Europeans to maintain social dominance.

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- (C)** Explain ONE way the increased demand for enslaved peoples affected African populations during the period circa 1450–1750. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- There was a demographic impact due to the increased number of people being enslaved, as most were young men, leaving many African societies with gender imbalance.

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- The increased demand for enslaved peoples resulted in an extreme loss of population in West Africa and politically weakened many kingdoms, such as Kongo.
- Increased demand for enslaved peoples led to higher levels of warfare among African states, as they sought to respond to European demand.
- Enslaved peoples from Africa often suffered high mortality rates due to poor conditions aboard ships and harsh working conditions in the Americas.

Total for question 3 3 points

- a) One reason for the increase in the movement of enslaved peoples across the Atlantic Ocean during the period circa 1450-1750 was the rise of the plantation system in the Americas. The plantation system, such as the sugar plantations in Brazil and Barbados, and the various rice, indigo and tobacco plantations in the southern colonies of North America, required grueling and intense labour in order to produce the cash crops. With the failure of the use of the indigenous peoples (Native Americans) due to their susceptibility to disease, their knowledge of the land which allowed them to escape, and moral arguments against their enslavement, such as those of Bartholome de las Casas, the Europeans switched to using the system of chattel slavery. This led to an increase in the movement of enslaved people from Africa to the Americas, across the Atlantic Ocean through the Middle Passage.
- b) One way the increasing number of enslaved people resulted in cultural change in the Americas was that they brought over African cultures and religions, which they kept alive even after being transplanted in the Americas. Religions, such as voodoo, and various tribal dances and languages were brought over by the Africans to the Americans, which led to cultural change in the Americas, which had previously been dominated (after the arrival of the Europeans and the resulting radical decrease in native populations) by European cultural traditions. Such traditions brought over to the Americas by Africans continue to influence culture today.
- c) One way the increased demand for enslaved peoples affected African populations was that it led to a decrease in the number of males, creating a gender imbalance. Most of the slaves imported to the Americas were males, since they were able to perform the grueling labour that plantations life necessitated. As a result, this led to a disproportionate amount of female Africans left in Africa. Such a demographic impact led to the practice of polygamy, in which African males took multiple African wives. Thus, the increased demand for enslaved people led to a gender imbalance in African populations, with a large number of females.

3A. One reason for the increase in movement of enslaved peoples across the Atlantic Ocean during the period circa 1450-1750 was how some people were more responded to certain diseases better. For example, Africans didn't die as often as people in the Americas responding to disease.

3B. One way the increasing number of enslaved peoples resulted in social changes were how when so many Native Americans died to disease but they just disregarded the number of how many were lost and they just replaced them with more people as if nothing happened.

3C. One way the increased demand for enslaved peoples affected African populations during the period 1450-1750 was the African population decreased dramatically. The life expectancy was already low but on top of that people were being taken to be slaves else where. While being taken on a ship to the Americas, often times many people died because of bad hygiene, the horrible treatment they went through, and some people even commit suicide because of everything that happened on the ships while they were taken to the Americas.

a. One reason for the increase in the movement of enslaved people across the Atlantic Ocean during the period circa 1450-1750 is that people in the Western Hemisphere needed workers for different types of labor going on in the West.

b. One way the increasing number of enslaved people brought about social change in America is the way people thought of slaves. They became people's property and weren't given human rights by most of their owners.

c. One way increased demand for enslaved people affected African population during the period circa 1450-1750 is by bringing the population down because of disease. When the Europeans would travel to Africa to get slaves they would have diseases that the African people would not be immune to. This would be very detrimental to communities in Africa because if one person contracts a disease it could wipe out the whole town.

Short Answer Question 3

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

Overview

The intent of this question was for students to address questions related to slavery from 1450–1750. Part A asked students to identify one reason for the increase in the movement of enslaved peoples across the Atlantic Ocean during the period circa 1450–1750. Part B asked students to identify one way the increasing number of enslaved peoples resulted in social or cultural change in the Americas during the period circa 1450–1750. Part C asked students to explain one way the increased demand for enslaved peoples affected African populations during the period circa 1450–1750.

The question was primarily focused on the reasoning process of causation.

The question tested content primarily from Topics 4.3, 4.4., and 4.5. of the course framework.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

- a) The response earned 1 point for identifying the “rise of the plantation system” as a reason for the increased movement of enslaved Africans to the Americas. The response would also have earned the point for identifying the loss of Native Americans due to disease.
- b) The response earned 1 point for explaining how African language and religious traditions such as “voodoo” led to cultural change in the Americas.
- c) The response earned 1 point for explaining how increased demand for enslaved peoples produced “a disproportionate amount of female Africans left in Africa.”

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

- a) The response earned 1 point for identifying the loss of Native Americans due to disease as a reason for the increased movement of enslaved Africans to the Americas.
- b) The response did not earn a point because the statement that “so many Native Americans died to disease” is not a social change that resulted from increasing numbers of enslaved peoples in the Americas.
- c) The response earned 1 point for explaining the high mortality rates on slave ships as an effect of the increased demand for enslaved peoples on African populations.

Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

- a) The response earned 1 point for identifying demand for labor as a reason for the increase in the movement of enslaved peoples across the Atlantic Ocean.
- b) The response did not earn the point because while it identifies the circumstances of enslaved peoples, it does not explain how a specific social change resulted from the increasing number of enslaved peoples in the Americas.
- c) The response did not earn the point because it incorrectly explains that the population decline in Africa was due to the spread of new diseases from Europe.