# AP United States History

# Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

# Inside:

**Long Essay Question 3** 

- ☑ Scoring Guideline
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## Question 3: Long Essay Question, Reform Movements in the 19th Century

6 points

#### **General Scoring Notes**

- Except where otherwise noted, each point of these rubrics is earned independently; for example, a student could earn a point for evidence without earning a point for thesis/claim.
- Accuracy: The components of these rubrics require that students demonstrate historically defensible content knowledge. Given the timed nature of the exam, essays may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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 essays 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.

Evaluate the relative importance of causes of reform activity in the United States in the period from 1800 to 1848.

AP® U.S. History 2021 Scoring Guidelines

Reporting	Scoring Criteria			
Row A Thesis/Claim	O points  Does not meet the criteria for one point.	1 point Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning.		
(0-1 points)	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes			
	Responses that do not earn this point:  Are not historically defensible.  Only restate or rephrase the prompt.  Do not respond to the prompt.  Do not establish a line of reasoning.  Are overgeneralized.	Responses that earn this point:     Provide a historically defensible thesis or claim about the causes that led to reform activity in the United States in the period from 1800 to 1848. The thesis or claim must either provide some indication of the reasoning for making that claim OR by establishing analytic categories of the argument.		
	Examples that do not earn this point:	Examples that earn this point:		
	Do not focus on the topic of the prompt  There was a big market revolution in the US between 1800 and 1848."	Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt     "The spread of slavery was the most important factor in inspiring the spread of reform movements in the mid-1800s."		
	Provide a restatement of the prompt  • "Reform movements between 1800 and 1848 had many, many causes."  - ""  - """  - ""  - ""  - ""  - """  - ""  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """  - """	Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt with analytic categories     "New religious ideas during the Second Great Awakening were more important than new political ideas in leading to reform movements in the early 1800s."		
	Provide a historically defensible claim, but do not establish a line of reasoning  • "Reform movements between 1800 and 1848 had two causes."	Establish a line of reasoning with analytic categories		
		The effects of the market revolution led to reform activity in the United States between 1800 and 1840." (Minimally acceptable thesis/claim)		
	<ul> <li>Additional Notes:</li> <li>The thesis or claim must consist of one or more sentences located in one place, either in the introduction or the conclusion (which may not be limited to the first or last paragraphs).</li> <li>The thesis or claim must identify a relevant development(s) in the period, although it is not required to encompass the entire period.</li> </ul>			

AP® U.S. History 2021 Scoring Guidelines

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria			
Row B Contextualization	O points  Does not meet the criteria for one point.	1 point Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.		
(0-1 points)	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes			
	Responses that do not earn this point:  Provide an overgeneralized statement about the time period referenced in the prompt.  Provide context that is not relevant to the prompt.  Provide a passing phrase or reference.	Responses that earn this point:  Accurately describe a context relevant to the causes that led to reform activity in the United States in the period from 1800 to 1848.		
	Examples that do not earn this point:  Do not provide context relevant to the topic of the prompt  • "Thomas Jefferson won the election of 1800 and there was a peaceful transition of power."  Provide historically inaccurate contextualization  • "During the Second Great Awakening Irish Catholics converted most of the Protestants in America to Catholicism."	Examples of relevant context that earn this point include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:  The First Great Awakening The spread of Enlightenment ideas The American Revolution The market revolution The growth of industrialization during the Gilded Age  Example of acceptable contextualization:  "The effects of the market revolution, which led many people to migrate to new places away from their homes and caused some artisans to lose their jobs, led many Americans to seek new meaning in religious reform movements."		
	<ul> <li>Additional Notes:</li> <li>The response must relate the topic of the prompt to broader historical events, developments, or processes that occur before, during, or continue after the time frame of the question.</li> <li>To earn this point, the context provided must be more than a phrase or reference.</li> </ul>			
	To earn this point, the context provided must be more than a p	hrase or reference.		

AP® U.S. History 2021 Scoring Guidelines

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria					
Row C Evidence (0-2 points)	O points  Does not meet the criteria for one point.	1 point Provides specific examples of evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt.	2 points Supports an argument in response to the prompt using specific and relevant examples of evidence.			
	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes					
	Responses that do not earn points:	Responses that earn 1 point:	Responses that earn 2 points:			
•	<ul> <li>Identify a single piece of evidence.</li> <li>Provide evidence that is not relevant to the topic of prompt.</li> <li>Provide evidence that is outside the time period or region specified in the prompt.</li> </ul>	Identify at least two specific historical examples relevant to the causes that led to reform activity in the United States in the period from 1800 to 1848.	Use at least two specific historical examples to support an argument regarding the causes that led to reform activity in the United States in the period from 1800 to 1848.			
		Examples of evidence that are specific and relevant include the following (two examples required):	Examples that successfully support an argument with evidence:			
	Repeat information that is specified in the prompt.	<ul><li>Camp revivals</li><li>Abolitionism</li><li>American Colonization Society</li></ul>	"The growth of the southern cotton economy led to the spread of slavery, which encouraged the rise of the abolitionist movement." (Uses evidence to			
	Examples that do not earn points:	·	support an argument about how the cotton			
	Provide evidence that is outside the time period  • "Jane Addams wanted to reform immigrants."  • Harriet Tubman  • William Lloyd Garrison  • Mormonism  • Charles Grandison Finney  • Grimké sisters  • Temperance movement	<ul> <li>William Lloyd Garrison</li> <li>Mormonism</li> <li>Charles Grandison Finney</li> <li>Grimké sisters</li> <li>Temperance movement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>economy contributed to abolitionist reform activity)</li> <li>"The ideas of the Second Great Awakening emphasizing human perfectibility contributed to the growth of many reform movements to improve society." (Uses evidence to support an argument about how the Second Great Awakening contributed to reform movements)</li> </ul>			
		<ul> <li>Lowell girls</li> <li>Elizabeth Cady Stanton</li> <li>Seneca Falls Convention (1848)</li> <li>Example of a statement that earns one point for evidence:</li> <li>"Drinking alcohol grew as a pastime in working class neighborhoods of new manufacturing towns."</li> </ul>	"While social ills inspired particular reform movements, the theology of the Second Great Awakening emphasizing millenarian efforts to improve US society, was the main influence on many reform movements." (Uses evidence to argue that the theology of the Second Great Awakening was more important to reform movements than the existence of particular social ills)			
	Additional Notes:  Typically, statements credited as evidence will be more specific than statements credited as contextualization.					
	• If a response has a multipart argument, then it can meet the threshold of two pieces of evidence by giving one example for one part of the argument and another example for a different part of the argument, but the total number of examples must still be at least two.  (For example, a two-part argument about the role of moral reform and social justice in reform movements using evidence about the temperance movement and the Declaration of Sentiments.)					

porting itegory	Scoring Criteria					
Row D Analysis and Reasoning (0-2 points)	O points  Does not meet the criteria for one point.	1 point Uses historical reasoning (e.g., comparison, causation, continuity and change) to frame or structure an argument that addresses the prompt.	<b>2 points</b> Demonstrates a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the question.			
- pointo,	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes					
	Responses that do not earn points:  May include evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to an argument.  May assert the use of historical reasoning but does not use it to frame or structure an argument.	Must demonstrate the use of historical reasoning to explain the causes that led to reform activity in the United States in the period from 1800 to 1848, although the reasoning may be uneven, limited or imbalanced.	<ul> <li>Responses that earn 2 points:</li> <li>May demonstrate a complex understanding in a variety of ways, such as</li> <li>Explaining the nuance of an issue by analyzing multiple variables.</li> <li>Explaining both similarity and difference, or explaining both continui and change, or explaining multiple causes, or explaining both causes and effects.</li> <li>Explaining relevant and insightful connections within and across periods.</li> <li>Confirming the validity of an argument by corroborating multiple perspectives across themes.</li> <li>Qualifying or modifying an argument by considering diverse or alternative views or evidence.</li> </ul>			
	Examples that do not earn points:  Provide evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to an argument  • "There was an abolitionist movement between 1800 and 1848."	Using a historical reasoning process to frame or structure an argument could include:  Explaining how religious ideas about human perfectibility caused the growth of reform movements.  Comparing the motivations of abolitionists to those of women's rights advocates.  Example of acceptable use of historical reasoning:  "The motivations of women's rights advocates seeking equality were similar to those of antislavery activists." (Compares the motivations of two reform movements)	<ul> <li>Demonstrating complex understanding might include any of the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:</li> <li>The response argues that ideas about equality were most important inspiring reform movements. It then uses evidence from several different segments of the population, including the spread of White male voting rights during the Jacksonian era, movements for women voting rights, and abolition to corroborate this argument.</li> <li>The response argues that evangelical religion most inspired reform movements during the 19th century. It then uses evidence of the influence of political ideas about democracy on religion to qualify the argument.</li> <li>The response argues that the market revolution most motivated reform in the early 1800s. It then uses evidence of the limited influence of antislavery and the women's rights movement at the tin to modify the argument, showing that reformers were not inspired to seek fundamental social change.</li> </ul>			

Question 2

Choose one
Question 3 Q Question 4

Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines. Q Leading up tests the period from 1800-de1848, America Was ze fighting for its independence from Britain in a the a American Revolution. dep Independence was declared in 1776, tederal the country formed a new government under the US Houton (After the articles of Confeder atron were deemed too weak). The United States tedwas a new country that was not risk of failing. George Washington, telse first president, called for teb improwing internally to strengthen as runary isolated a country tetin the United States, reform activity grew in thedep period tetrom 1800 to tell848 tetto due tebto the continuation of teb the use of slavery and ted tabeligious revival under the breat Anakerny . By The Antebellum telleform period tellin most is be traced back to the use of Slavery. States ; the United States were brought when the US was astill temposed of colonies. tellthough -emsleven atte slave trade (frans - Atlantic) was boinned telen the televis tell8003 the Institution still prospered telden abolitionist tetroverset formed. Puts was led by telman, northerners and escaped slowes who advocated for tel putting our and to the tebins titu then of slavery. teb Abolition 15ts like teb Frederick testinglass went to testhe North testind spoke to groups about the technorous ha telegred teles an enslaved telegran (he was a former blace, now escaped), selecause of the thete of the sent sent se personal experience with telescavery, take saw the horrors of test televal telescavery formed a movement to put tells and to it tel Many middle Class women a were a i spreed aby abolthoursts tellike telloughes. ~ They joined athe movement, deposit tace of tebliscomin attom technithm it. Women realized that the too televere tebstruggling. Although not enslaved, they face of the discrimination teblike tellfrican American t

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**Question 4f** 

Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines. I dente basic rights.

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Question

Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines. 

That socistively can and gShould g be gimproved. So Dix evedorked for for and this through movement. She believed that abrimings abrilliation and Should focus on rehabilitation, not only punishment, to integrate into society.

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**Question 4** 

Begin your response to each question nt the top of n new page. Do not skip lines, n

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Question Question 1 Queetion **Question 4** Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines. moral. The MA BURGETTE BARA Even though there uld have been many reasons for reform activity, the mean reason was the Second Great akening. This religious ferror helped cause reform that helped many people.

Page 8

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Question 2

Choose one Question 3

Question 4

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All in all, the relative in portoce of lower of recorn actions in the person 1800. to. 1848. included. the. and. Great. Amakeny the Screen Folis. Convention, and the Prohibition, movement, without these movements, no reform would, be brough, we about newson, woney, comey, and the 18,00) 21st. And new work. be screek from his hor.

#### Question 3 — Long Essay Question

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

#### **Overview**

- The question asked students to evaluate the relative importance of causes of reform activity in the United States in the period from 1800 to 1848. Generally, responses used the Second Great Awakening, establishing contextualization and then identified specific social issues, such as abolition, women's rights, and temperance, to build their arguments. The responses were expected to evaluate the causal relationship between societal factors and the reform movements spurred by them, in the context of perfectionism driven by the combination of Enlightenment rationalism and religious zeal.
- The responses were expected to demonstrate an ability to weigh the relative importance of reform causes and connect this analysis to the development of reform from 1800 to 1848.
- The historical reasoning skill of causation was given in the prompt.
- This question primarily addressed Topics 4.10 and 4.11. Specifically, students could connect the impact of the market revolution on society and culture (covered in Topic 4.6) and the development of an American culture focused on the ideal of perfectibility (covered in Topic 4.9) to how these developments contributed to the Age of Reform. The responses could also have placed the causal relationship in the context of the ideals of the founding of the United States, including Enlightenment concepts, propelled by the religious fervor of the Second Great Awakening.

Sample: 3A Thesis/Claim: 1 Contextualization: 1

**Evidence: 2** 

**Analysis and Reasoning: 2** 

**Total Score: 6** 

#### A. Thesis/Claim: (0-1): 1

The response earned 1 point in this category because it presents a historically defensible thesis that establishes a clear line of reasoning. The response states, "In the United States, reform activity grew in the period 1800–1848 due to a continuation of the use of slavery and a religious revival under the Great Awakening," thus identifying multiple causes of reform. The use of Great Awakening rather than Second Great Awakening is a minor error because the term is used in the correct context throughout the essay.

#### B. Contextualization: (0-1): 1

The response earned 1 point for contextualization by providing the trans-Atlantic slave trade as the historical context for the rise of abolitionism.

#### C. Evidence: (0-2): 2

The response earned 2 points for using evidence. It earned the first point by linking Frederick Douglass to the abolitionist movement in the second paragraph. It also accurately discusses Seneca Falls, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony in relation to the women's rights movement. The response earned the second point for evidence by using these facts to support a larger argument.

#### Question 3 — Long Essay Question (continued)

This response connects Frederick Douglass to the mobilization of middle-class women in support of abolitionism and the Seneca Falls convention, leading to a push for suffrage and challenging the cult of domesticity.

#### D. Analysis and Reasoning: (0-2): 2

This response earned 1 point for use of the historical reasoning skill causation. It does so by establishing the Second Great Awakening as the cause of the temperance movement in paragraph 3. Although the term "Second Great Awakening" is not used, it is clear in the response that it is referring to this religious revival.

The response earned 1 point for complex understanding by corroboration. In the final paragraph, the response extends the argument by establishing both similarity and difference, cited with specific facts, between the antebellum reform period and the Progressive Era, particularly in regard to the women's rights movements in both eras. This is a relevant and insightful connection across time periods.

Sample: 3B Thesis/Claim: 1 Contextualization: 0

**Evidence: 2** 

**Analysis and Reasoning: 1** 

**Total Score: 4** 

#### A. Thesis/Claim: (0-1): 1

The response earned 1 point in this category because it presents a historically defensible thesis that establishes a clear line of reasoning with analytic categories. This is established when the response states, "Although there were many causes for this reform activity in the United States from 1800 to 1848, such as the rising power of the common man and immigration activity, the most important cause of reform activity was religious fervor caused by the Second Great Awakening." This thesis statement provides a direct response to the prompt's focus on the causes of and the relative importance of those causes for reform activities in the time period.

#### B. Contextualization: (0-1): 0

This response did not earn the point for contextualization. In the first paragraph, the response provides only generalized phrases and references to liberty, revolutions, and the need for reforms and does not elaborate to adequately describe a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.

#### C. Evidence: (0-2): 2

The response earned 2 points for using evidence. It earned the first point for providing specific examples of evidence relevant to the topic. The response provides specific examples such as the linkage of Frederick Douglass to the abolitionist movement in the second paragraph as well as the use of the reforms of the temperance movement and Dorothea Dix in the third paragraph. The response earned the second point for evidence by using these facts to support the larger argument. It argues for the link between religious revival and social reform by pointing to the connection made by Frederick Douglass between the abolitionist movement and the religious movement instigated by the Second Great Awakening. Likewise, the response

#### **Question 3 — Long Essay Question (continued)**

notes the same link with evidence of the religious motivations behind Dorothea Dix's efforts to reform jails and asylums.

#### D. Analysis and Reasoning: (0-2): 1

The response earned 1 point for demonstrating the use of the historical reasoning skill causation. The first sentence of the second paragraph establishes causation when it states, "The Abolition movement was a reform movement caused mainly by religious fervor and rethinking of moral values." Another use of causation is provided in paragraph three where the response discusses women's "social housekeeping" role to help reform the outside world and not just their own homes, which "helped lead to more women's rights, and it was caused mainly by religious fervor brought on by the Second Great Awakening."

The response did not earn the point for demonstrating a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt. It does not attempt to explain how the evidence corroborates, qualifies, or modifies the argument.

Sample: 3C Thesis/Claim: 1 Contextualization: 0

Evidence: 1

**Analysis and Reasoning: 1** 

**Total Score: 3** 

#### A. Thesis/Claim: (0-1): 1

The response earned the thesis/claim point. The thesis is found in the last paragraph; the first sentence makes a claim that the causes were "the 2nd Great Awakening, the Seneca Falls Convention, and the Prohibition movement."

#### B. Contextualization: (0-1): 0

The response did not earn the contextualization point. It does mention some previous historical developments like the Puritans and the First Great Awakening, but it does not sufficiently make a connection between these events and the prompt.

#### C. Evidence: (0-2): 1

The response earned 1 point for identifying two specific historical examples of evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt. In the second paragraph, the response offers a discussion of the Second Great Awakening and reform causes. In the third paragraph, the response discusses the Seneca Falls Convention. The response did not earn a second point for evidence as the evidence does not support an argument in response to the prompt.

#### D. Analysis and Reasoning: (0-2): 1

The response earned 1 point as it minimally demonstrates the use of the causation historical reasoning skill. For example, it uses causation in discussing the connections between the growth of religion and efforts to reform the problem of drinking in society.

### **Question 3 — Long Essay Question (continued)**

The response did not earn the point for demonstrating a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt. It does not attempt to explain how the evidence corroborates, qualifies, or modifies the argument. The use of Prohibition was outside the time period of the prompt.