AP® World History: Modern
Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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) Identify ONE economic development in the period 1750–1900 that led to the situation represented in the map. 1 point

**Examples that earn this point include the following:**

• Industrialization in Europe led to more markets in Asia.
• The stagnation of economic or technological development in China allowed Europeans to pressure their way into the Chinese economy.
• European desire for luxury goods led to economic imperialism.

(B) Identify ONE political development in the period 1750–1900 that led to the situation represented in the map. 1 point

**Examples that earn this point include the following:**

• The Opium Wars led to the presence of European merchants in China.
• European colonial expansion in Asia contributed to the kinds of settlements shown on the map.
• The Taiping Rebellion weakened China politically during the nineteenth century.

(C) Explain ONE reason why the survey of the Canton factories was carried out by the British Royal Navy. 1 point

**Examples that earn this point include the following:**

• The British had gained control of Canton because of treaties with China.
• The British wanted to expand their revenues from the port of Canton.
• The British wanted to secure their control over maritime trade entering China.
• The British were competitive with other European powers and wanted to study their competition.

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) One economic development in the period 1750 - 1900 that led to the situation represented in the map was the treaty of Nanjing, specifically its repercussions. It allowed the British and any Western power to freely trade with the Chinese on their terms. This caused the gradual decline of China, and the appreciation of the economies of many of the Western powers.

b) One political development was the Opium Wars. They were a series of battles fought between China and Britain because Britain wanted to export opium to China, while the Chinese did not. This resulted in the aforementioned treaty of Nanjing, where Britain could freely trade with China.

c) One reason that the British Royal Navy carried out the survey of the Canton factories was that they felt entitled to conduct surveys whenever they pleased. This was due to the fact that they won the war and had rights to trade with China on their terms. Additionally, it was valuable British goods in Chinese factories in China, so they may have wanted to ensure their well-being, and that nothing was stolen.
Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 2 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box. Do not skip lines.

a) One economic development was the Industrial Revolution and with that mass production and trade began to take place in China. The use of factories led to mass production which required trade.

b) The Opium Wars between the Western countries and China eventually led to China losing and then being divided up into spheres of influence. China was supposed to let Western countries trade with their ports which led to factories being built around the trading posts and warehouses.

c) One reason why the survey was carried out by the British Royal Navy was because Britain had more of an authority than the Dutch and Swedish; in addition, had more imperial power and was looking to take advantage of underdeveloped countries.

End of response area for Q2
Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 2 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box. Do not skip lines.

a) The development of trading posts.

b) The development of joint-stock companies.

c) The survey of Canton factories was carried out by the British Royal Navy because the British had a trading post in Canton. For example, due to the British having a trading post in Canton, they had control over the land and made it possible to expand their trade. The British Royal Navy worked for the British, so they carried out the survey.
Short Answer Question 2

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

Overview

The intent of this question was for students to analyze a map that represented a plan of “Factories” in the city of Canton, Southern China, from 1856. In part A students were asked to identify one economic development in the period 1750–1900 that led to the “situation” or the factory system in Canton as represented by the map. Part B required students to identify one political development in the period 1750–1900 that led to the same “situation.” Finally, part C asked for explanation as to why the survey of the factories was carried out by the British Royal Navy.

Sample: 2A
Score: 3

a) The response earned 1 point for identifying the relationship between the Treaty of Nanjing and British access to Chinese trade on their own terms.

b) The response earned 1 point for identifying how the Opium Wars allowed Britain to trade freely with China, even though the Chinese did not want the trade.

c) The response earned 1 point for explaining that British military victories empowered the Royal Navy and that because force was necessary to open trade, it was necessary to maintain it.

Sample: 2B
Score: 2

a) The response did not earn the point because the connection between the Industrial Revolution and China trade is inaccurate for the period reflected in the prompt.

b) The response earned 1 point for identifying how the Opium Wars led to European powers dividing up China into spheres of influence and connecting that to the construction of warehouses and trading posts.

c) The response earned 1 point for explaining the British dominance over other European states and their desire to control less-developed economies.

Sample: 2C
Score: 1

a) The response did not earn the point because it merely makes passing references to “trading posts” and “joint stock companies” but does not identify an economic development related to China.

b) The response did not earn the point because the reference to “foreign exchange” is too vague and does not identify a political development related to the prompt.

c) The response earned 1 point for explaining that the British Royal Navy “had control over that land and made it possible to expand their trade” as a reason for their carrying out the survey.

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