

2024



AP[®] European History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

Set 2

Inside:

Long Essay Question 2

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

Question 2: Long Essay Question, Economic Effect of Overseas Expansion

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the timed nature of the exam, essays may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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 most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy in the period 1450 to 1700.

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
<p>Row A Thesis/Claim [0-1 points]</p>	<p>0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.</p>	<p>1 point Responds to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis/claim that establishes a line of reasoning.</p>
Decision Rules and Scoring Notes		
<p>Responses that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 		<p>Responses that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a historically defensible thesis or claim about the most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy in the period 1450 to 1700. The thesis or claim must either provide some indication of the reason for making that claim OR establish categories of the argument.
<p>Examples that do not earn this point:</p> <p>Provide a restatement of the prompt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Overseas expansion significantly altered European economies.”</i> <p>Provide a historically defensible claim, but do not establish a line of reasoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Overseas expansion raised standards of living in Europe</i> <p>Are not historically defensible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“European overseas expansion only benefited the economies of Spain and Portugal.”</i> 		<p>Examples that earn this point:</p> <p>Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Europe’s overseas expansion in the period 1450-1700 shifted the worldwide power balance and established European economic dominance.”</i> <p>Establish a line of reasoning that evaluates the topic of the prompt with analytic categories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The most significant effect of the European overseas expansion was the shift of the European economic center from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic states, which profited from the worldwide trade, while at the same time employing innovative commercial and financial practices.”</i> <p>Establish a line of reasoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Establishment of the overseas colonies allowed Spain to become a leading European power.”</i> • <i>“The most significant effect of the expansion of European Economy from 1450 to 1700 was the increase in trade and agricultural goods produced in the Americas.”</i> [Minimally acceptable thesis/claim]
<p>Additional Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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]. • The thesis or claim must identify a relevant development[s] in the period, although it is not required to encompass the entire period. 		

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
<p>Row B Contextualization</p>	<p>0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.</p>	<p>1 point Describes a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.</p>
<p>[0-1 points]</p>	<p>Decision Rules and Scoring Notes</p>	
	<p>Responses that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>Examples that do not earn this point:</p> <p>Do not provide context relevant to the topic of the prompt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The Renaissance encouraged new ways of looking at the world.”</i> <p>Provide a passing phrase or reference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Europeans profited from plantations.”</i> <p>Provide an overly generalized attempt at contextualization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Before the discovery of America, Europeans were poor.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurately describe a context relevant to economic effects of overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1700. <p>Examples of relevant context that earn this point include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Columbian Exchange • The development of new maritime and military technologies • The European desire to discover new sources of precious metals • The rise of mercantilism • Transoceanic voyaging and navigational improvements • Rivalry between European monarchs and states • Treaty of Tordesillas • Plantation economies • Joint-stock companies [VOC] • The Commercial Revolution • The growth of centralized nation-states • Ottoman Empire and the Silk Road • Columbus and other early explorers <p>Example of acceptable contextualization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The Columbian Exchange created new economic opportunities for Europeans.”</i> • <i>“European states sought direct access to gold, spices, and luxury goods to establish new sources of wealth and power.”</i> • <i>“Europeans improved their ships, enabling them to make longer voyages.”</i> [Minimally acceptable contextualization]
	<p>Additional Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response must describe broader historical events, developments, or processes that occur before, during, or continue after the time frame of the question that are relevant to the topic of the prompt. • To earn this point, the context provided must be more than a phrase or reference. 	

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria		
<p>Row C Evidence [0-2 points]</p>	<p>0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.</p>	<p>1 point Provides specific examples of at least two pieces of evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt.</p>	<p>2 points Supports an argument in response to the prompt using at least two pieces of specific and relevant evidence.</p>
Decision Rules and Scoring Notes			
<p>Responses that do not earn points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a single piece of evidence. Provide evidence that is not relevant to the topic of the prompt. Provide evidence that is outside the time period or region specified in the prompt. Repeat information that is specified in the prompt. <p>Examples that do not earn points:</p> <p>Provide evidence that is outside the time period or region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Exports of cotton from the Americas facilitated the industrialization of Great Britain.”</i> <p>Provide evidence that is not relevant to the topic of prompt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“European powers used religion as a justification for subjugation of indigenous populations.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn 1 point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify at least two specific historical examples relevant to economic effects of overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1700. <p>Examples of evidence that are specific and relevant include the following [two examples required]:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish colonies in most of South America, Central America, and the Caribbean [Cuba, Hispaniola, Trinidad] The African slave trade generated major profits for Europeans The establishment of a plantation economy in the Americas Mentions of specific European colonies and trading posts Exports of food and crops from the Americas, such as potatoes, sugar, coffee, corn, turkeys, squash Exports of other commodities from the Americas, such as tobacco, silver, gold, rum, furs Spice and luxury goods trade in Asia, The Dutch East India Company, and the British East India Company The Commercial Revolution, the emergence of the banking center in the Netherlands Financial innovations, such as double-entry bookkeeping Inflation caused by the influx of Spanish silver, high demand and low supply of goods The development of mercantilist theory Economic competition caused increased warfare between European powers Piracy and privateering <p>Example of a statement that earns one point for evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Spain exported gold and silver from the Americas and participated in the Atlantic slave trade from the beginning of the colonial expansion.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn 2 points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use at least two specific historical examples to support an argument regarding economic effects of overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1700. <p>Examples that successfully support an argument with evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Despite the power that the Spanish crown achieved due to its colonial dominance in the Americas, the Spanish economy was damaged by fighting wars and high inflation.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about the economic benefits and costs of overseas expansion] <i>“Overseas expansion and worldwide trade, including the Atlantic slave trade, caused an increase in population and the standards of living in Europe, which in turn increased the demand for luxury goods from Asia.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about the economic consequences of overseas expansion] <i>“As Europeans were generating major profits from the overseas colonies, they established new ways of preserving wealth, prompting the Commercial Revolution and innovations in banking. The Dutch became leaders in the banking industry.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about changes in economic institutions] 	

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.

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria		
<p>Row D Analysis and Reasoning [0-2 points]</p>	<p>0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.</p>	<p>1 point Uses historical reasoning [e.g., comparison, causation, continuity, and change] to frame or structure an argument that addresses the prompt.</p>	<p>2 points Demonstrates a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt through sophisticated argumentation and/or effective use of evidence.</p>
Decision Rules and Scoring Notes			
	<p>Responses that do not earn points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Examples that do not earn points:</p> <p>Provide evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to an argument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Pirates threatened European economies.”</i> <i>“Portugal colonized Brazil.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn 1 point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must demonstrate the use of historical reasoning to frame or structure an argument about economic effects of overseas expansion in the period 1450 to 1700. The reasoning might be uneven or imbalanced, or the evidence may be overly general or lacking specificity. <p>Using a historical reasoning process to frame or structure an argument could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structuring an argument thematically to highlight differences in a thematic category, such as trade and banking. Arranging an argument to recount developments over the course of the period showing change over time. Structuring an argument geographically to highlight the differences between the economic effects of the overseas expansion on different European states. 	<p>Responses that earn 2 points:</p> <p>May demonstrate a complex understanding through sophisticated argumentation that is relevant to the prompt. This may be done in a variety of ways, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explaining multiple themes or perspectives to explore complexity or nuance; OR Explaining multiple causes or effects, multiple similarities or differences, or multiple continuities or changes; OR Explaining both cause and effect, both similarity and difference, or both continuity and change; OR Explaining relevant and insightful connections within and across periods or geographical areas. These connections should clearly relate to an argument that responds to the prompt. <p>May demonstrate a complex understanding through effective use of evidence relevant to an argument that addresses the prompt. This may be done in a variety of ways that might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explaining how multiple pieces of specific and relevant evidence [at least four] support a nuanced or complex argument that responds to the prompt; OR Using evidence effectively to demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of different perspectives relevant to the prompt. <p>Demonstrating a complex understanding might include any of the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considering multiple possible most significant effects while establishing one as clearly more significant than others explicitly discussed. [Using evidence effectively to demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of different perspectives relevant to the prompt] Considering whether there is, in fact, a single most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy by acknowledging more than one effect. [Explaining multiple effects to explore complexity or nuance] Explaining how Europe’s economic relationships with the United States and formerly colonized areas both changed and remained the same in the wake of war and decolonization. [Explaining both continuity and change]

		<p>Example of acceptable use of historical reasoning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“While Spain and Portugal directly sponsored overseas expansion, France was mostly involved in the trade through privateering.”</i> [Indicates difference among European states. This statement would need to be followed up with at least a minimal elaboration of this reasoning.] • <i>“Spain was a dominant power in the earlier period of the overseas expansion in part because of its access to precious metals, but later lost its dominance to Britain.”</i> [Indicates change over time. This statement would need to be followed up with at least a minimal elaboration of this reasoning.] • <i>“European powers became dominant worldwide thanks to overseas colonies, which allowed them to expand their global commercial networks and prompted them to develop innovative banking practices.”</i> [Indicates thematic categories and change over time. This statement would need to be followed up with at least a minimal elaboration of this reasoning.] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explaining reasons for the different regional levels of economic effects of the overseas expansion across various European states. [Explaining insightful connections across geographic areas]
<p>Additional Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To earn the first point for analysis and reasoning, the response must use historical reasoning to structure a response to the prompt, although the reasoning might be uneven or imbalanced, or the evidence may be overly general or lacking in specificity. • This complex understanding must be part of the argument and may be demonstrated in any part of the response. • While it is not necessary for this complex understanding to be woven throughout the response, it must be more than merely a phrase or reference. 			

Sample 2A:

From the period of 1450-1700, Europeans would begin their age of exploration. The first man to sail around the world would be Magellan, and Portugal, Britain, and Spain would all be expanding overseas. Along with this, Prince Henry of Portugal would open a school for sailing, which greatly increased European oversea expansions, where Europeans would fight for colonies. Following this, in 1492, Christopher Columbus would accidentally discover the Americas on his intended Journey to India, which opened many more opportunities for resources. There would also be the introduction of Tobacco, Sugar, and Potatoes, which all provided economic benefits to Europe. The European economy in the period of 1450-1700 was boosted by European overseas expansion mainly due to newly introduced crops, new routes, and imperialism.

New crops such as Tobacco, Sugar(Sugar Cane), and Potatoes would all vastly effect the European economy, opening many more new markets for Europeans to explore. Potatoes would be used as an incredibly cheap crop, as they could grow almost anywhere, required little attention, and were nutritious. Potatoes were easily able to help feed Europeans, giving urban workers a greater change and getting food. Sugar helped the European economy massively grow, since the demand and cost of sugar were both extremely high, while the production of Sugar was mainly used through slave labor, costing nearly nothing while selling for great amounts. The European economy would also grow from Tobacco, an addictive plant that would also be used for certain medical properties. The demand for Tobacco and Sugar would help middle class workers such as clergymen be able to gain more Money, while import and export taxes would increase the European economy.

New trade routes would boost the European economy, since explorers would be able to easily bargain with non Europeans, taking advantage of them for a better deal or bargain. They would be able to bring back many more goods because of this, and the trade routes would make sailing overseas much more consistent, with more maps being drawn. Along with this, slave labor would also be implemented within Europe, providing upper class with cheap/unpaid workers. Because of this, Europe would be grow much farther than it had before, the introductions of mercantilism and capitalism giving Europeans more motives to gain as much money as possible. There would also be commercialism, funding explorers to find more trade routes to bring back more resources. Routes to India would also bring back expensive spices, which were highly in demand in Europe, and those would greatly expand the European economy.

Imperialism would mainly boost Spain's economy, with some exceptions. When Spain conquered the new world, they would go through El Dorado, a fabled city of gold, and the Incan Empire, which both they were easily able to conquer, bringing back vast amounts of gold to Europe, causing great amounts of inflation. This would bring Spain to become the leading nation in Europe, as they had amassed so much wealth that other nations could steal one of their ships and have enough gold and silver to pay off all their debts. Conquering and colonizing would also open up the markets outside of Europe, selling European goods to non Europeans would be another way of expanding overseas, overall contributing to the European economy.

Throughout 1450-1700, the age of exploration would greatly boost the European economy, providing growth that would not be rivalled until the Industrial Revolution. The growth in Europe from 1450-1700 would be unprecedented, giving Europe enough riches to recover from plagues.

Sample 2B:

European countries all wanted to have the most power, leading to an imbalance of power among the European countries. With this, each country did as much as they could in order to stay ahead, and they all tried new tactics in order to get ahead of each other. Eventually the countries sought to expand, in hopes of gaining more power, which ultimately began the European overseas expansion. The most significant effect of European overseas expansion on the European economy was the access to new materials, land, and people, because it allowed the wealth of Europe to increase.

The Columbian Exchange was the trade of new materials, finished goods, crops, diseases, and floras, between Europe and other continents like the Americas. The exchange opened many possibilities to Europe since they now could grow new crops and make more finished products with the new materials they received from the Americas. With the new crops and products Europe would be able to market them as valuable and sell them to other places around the world for a good profit. This allowed the wealth of Europe to increase since they now had more exports than imports.

The African Slave Trade was the act of removing Africans from Africa and bringing them to the newly discovered Americas to work in colonies. Europeans would get these Africans to work for them in colonies in which the Europeans owned, so that the Europeans didn't need to work but would still receive profit from the materials farmed on the colonies. This increased wealth in Europe since the Europeans did not have to work intense labour, but still made good profit.

Europeans had control over colonies which were located in the Americas, and each colony was filled with Africans who were forced to work hard, labourous days, in order for the Europeans to have access to special things like food which were grown in the Americas. The Africans were treated very poorly in these colonies and they didn't receive any of the profit for their hard work. Whichever European country owned the colony would receive all the profit and produce from that colony. This increased the wealth in Europe since they could now sell the produce that the colonies provided, which increased Europe's wealth.

This ultimately improved the European economy because of the intense increase in wealth that Europe is receiving.

Sample 2C:

The cause of European expansion was the rush to gain greater resources than other European countries. Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand sent Columbus on a trip to find India for spices but he found the Americas instead. Vasco da Gama also went sailing and landed on the Americas and they both in their own time found good, new resources. The most significant effect of European overseas expansion in 1450 to 1700 is the slave trade as seen by the Americas and Africa.

The slave trade in the Americas is the most significant effect of the European overseas expansion. When explorers, such as Henry the Navigator, came to the Americas, they had plans they wanted to happen but not enough man power for them. The Europeans needed people to help harvest crops for food and gather items for trading. The Europeans enlisted the help of the native people, but did not treat them properly. The natives did not get paid or the food they needed. They were being beaten and starved essentially. The Europeans brought over various diseases, like smallpox, that started killing off the population of native people. The Native Americans were not used to such illnesses and had not been able to fight against it. The Spanish conquistadors in South America killed Tenochtitlan, the leader of a native culture. Eventually the natives started dying and could no longer work for the Europeans. Most native people fought against the Europeans but since they had guns and the native did not, it was not a very fruitful effort.

After the Europeans killed off a good majority of the native people, they decided to look elsewhere for slave laborers. Using the Triangle Trade, which went from Africa to the Americas to Europe, the Europeans brought slaves from Africa to the Americas for labor. The slaves from Africa were usually sold by tribe leaders who overthrew the other tribe. The leader who overthrew the tribe originally would use the slaves but then they started selling the slaves to the Europeans. The slaves from Africa were also treated very badly and the diseases also affected them but the Europeans could go buy more slaves if they needed to. The African slaves were not easily able to fight back since they were treated and held as prisoners. Many slaves would die on the ship voyage to the Americas and the living slaves would have to stay with the dead bodies of the other slaves that they might have known. It was very harsh treatment and some of the slaves were young children.

The slaves would not have had to experience such poor treatment if the expansion of overseas trade had not happened so rapidly. Such rapid expansion left much that was needed and the number of Europeans in the Americas were not enough for what needed to be done. The most significant effect of this rapid overseas expansion was the slave trade.

Long Essay Question 2

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

Overview

The Long Essay Question (LEQ) asked students to formulate a thesis/claim in response to a prompt about a particular historical development or episode in European History. In the 2024 digital LEQ 2, the question asked students to evaluate the most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy between 1450 and 1700).

Responses were expected to relate effects of overseas expansion on European economics to the broader historical events, developments, or processes that occurred before, during, or continued after the period 1450 to 1700. Responses were expected to provide specific examples of evidence relevant to the effects of overseas expansion on the European economy from 1450 to 1700 and to use this historical evidence (at least two pieces) to support an argument about how overseas expansion affected European economics. Responses were expected to demonstrate the use of historical reasoning to frame or to structure an argument that addressed the prompt and, although the prompt directed students toward the historical reasoning process of causation, responses could also frame their arguments around other types of historical reasoning (comparison, continuity, and change over time).

Responses were assessed on the extent to which they performed in the following four categories: thesis and/or claim, contextualization, evidence, and analysis and reasoning.

Sample: 2A

Thesis Score: 1

Contextualization Score: 1

Evidence Score: 2

Analysis and Reasoning Score: 2

Total Score: 6

A: Thesis/Claim (0–1 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for thesis. In the first paragraph, it claims that the most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy was a boost in the European economy, and it then provides a clear line of reasoning by stating that this boost was due to newly introduced crops and trade routes.

B: Contextualization (0–1 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for contextualization. In the first paragraph, it explains the historical process of the early explorers (Magellan, Columbus) and monarchs (Henry the Navigator) seeking a new route to Asia and “discovering” the Americas from which they gained new resources and economic opportunities. These economic resources and opportunities would in turn affect the European economy.

Long Essay Question 2 (continued)

C: Evidence (0–2 points): 2

Providing Specific Examples of Evidence

The response earned 1 point for specific evidence by using two relevant pieces of evidence. In the second paragraph, it cites potatoes, sugar, and tobacco, and in the third paragraph the response points to mercantilism and commercialism.

Using Specific Evidence in Support of a Relevant Argument

The response earned 1 point for using evidence in support of an argument by providing evidence in both the second and third paragraphs to support arguments. In the first line of the second paragraph, it argues that new crops from the Americas opened new markets for the European economy. It supports this argument by demonstrating that overseas expansion created new sugar and tobacco markets. At the beginning of the third paragraph, the response supports the argument that overseas expansion created new and expanded trade routes with the slave trade, rising mercantilism, and commercialism.

D: Analysis and Reasoning (0–2 points): 2

Using Historical Reasoning

The response earned 1 point for using historical reasoning. It uses two thematic categories to structure the argument. In the second paragraph the response focuses on how new crops open new markets, and in the third paragraph it focuses on how trade routes expanded with both categories then contributing to the boost in the European economy.

Demonstrating Complex Understanding

The response earned 1 point for complex understanding. The response explains how multiple pieces of specific and relevant evidence (at least four) supports multiple effects of overseas expansion on the European economy. The response does not merely list at least four pieces of evidence but demonstrates how each piece of evidence independently and specifically explains an economic effect on the European economy. In the second paragraph, the response argues how each new crop individually and specifically either led to a new market or a unique effect on the European economy: potatoes enhancing the European workforce, sugar creating using slave labor to maximize profit, and tobacco for medicinal purposes. It ends the paragraph by arguing that all three crops then increased the demand for these products and benefited a growing merchant class.

Long Essay Question 2 (continued)

Sample: 2B

Thesis Score: 1

Contextualization Score: 0

Evidence Score: 2

Analysis and Reasoning Score: 1

Total Score: 4

A: Thesis/Claim (0–1 point): 1

The response earned 1 point for thesis. In the first paragraph, the response states that the most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy was gaining access to new land, resources, and people, and it develops a clear line of reasoning by arguing that this caused European wealth to increase.

B: Contextualization (0–1 point): 0

The response did not earn the point for contextualization. Even though the response attempts to contextualize in the first paragraph by showing how “each country” tried to “stay ahead” by using “new tactics,” in order to increase power, these are overly generalized and lack sufficient elaboration.

C: Evidence (0–2 points): 2

Providing Specific Examples of Evidence

The response earned 1 point for specific evidence by using two relevant pieces of evidence. In the second paragraph, the response cites the Columbian Exchange, and in the third paragraph it mentions the African slave trade.

Using Specific Evidence in Support of a Relevant Argument

The response earned 1 point for using evidence in support of an argument by providing evidence in both the second and third paragraphs. In the second paragraph, the response uses the Columbian Exchange to argue that the Europeans would use new crops and materials to sell as exports and makes a “good profit.” In the third paragraph, it supports the argument that the Europeans started the African slave trade to gain cheap labor in order to work on farms which would make more profit and wealth.

D: Analysis and Reasoning (0–2 points): 1

Using Historical Reasoning

The response earned 1 point for using historical reasoning. The response uses two thematic categories to structure the argument. In the second paragraph it focuses on how overseas expansion led to new crops to make profit, and in the third paragraph the response focuses on how the African slave trade also led to more exports and wealth.

Long Essay Question 2 (continued)

Demonstrating Complex Understanding

The response did not earn the point for complex understanding, since it does not explain multiple themes, perspectives, or nuance, nor does it demonstrate effective use of evidence to support a nuanced or complex argument that responds to the prompt.

Sample: 2C

Thesis Score: 0

Contextualization Score: 1

Evidence Score: 1

Analysis and Reasoning Score: 0

Total Score: 2

A: Thesis/Claim (0–1 point): 0

The response did not earn the point for thesis. The response attempts a thesis in the first paragraph, but it does not include a clear line of reasoning and does not address the prompt, as the slave trade is not connected here to the European economy.

B: Contextualization (0-1 point): 1

The response earned 1 point for contextualization. In the first paragraph, the response explains the historical process of European monarchs (Ferdinand and Isabella) sending explorers (Columbus) to gain spices and inadvertently finding the Americas.

C: Evidence (0–2 points): 1

Providing Specific Examples of Evidence

The response earned 1 point for specific evidence by using two relevant pieces of evidence. In the second paragraph, the response provides smallpox as evidence and in the third paragraph the Triangular trade is cited.

Using Specific Evidence in Support of a Relevant Argument

The response did not earn the point for using specific evidence in support of a relevant argument. The response attempts to make the argument that the slave trade is the most important economic change on the European economy, but it instead describes the effects of the slave trade without arguing for an economic effect on the European economy.

D: Analysis and Reasoning (0–2 points): 0

Using Historical Reasoning

The response did not earn the point for using historical reasoning. It does not address the most significant effect of overseas expansion on the European economy.

Long Essay Question 2 (continued)

Demonstrating Complex Understanding

The response did not earn the point for complex understanding, since it does not explain multiple themes, perspectives, or nuance, nor does it demonstrate effective use of evidence to support a nuanced or complex argument that responds to the prompt. The response attempts to make insightful connections within and across geographical areas by describing the slave trade's effects on Africa, but it does not connect this to the most significant economic effect on the European economy.