

2024



AP[®] United States History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 2

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Long Essay Question 3

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Question 3: Long Essay Question, Internal Migration and the Economy 1820 to 1898

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the timed nature of the exam, essays may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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 extent to which migration influenced the western United States from 1820 to 1898.

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 extent to which migration influenced the western United States from 1820 to 1898. 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>“Migration influenced the western United States from 1820 to 1898.”</i> <p>Provide a historically defensible claim, but do not establish a line of reasoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Large numbers of Americans moved westward between 1820 and 1898.”</i> <p>Are overgeneralized</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The migration of Americans to the West from 1820 to 1898 led to the region’s population growing.”</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>“While migration to the West led to the expansion of agriculture in the region, what was more influential was the vast expansion of mining and resource extraction that helped supply the expansion of industry during the Gilded Age.”</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 forced relocation of Native Americans and debates over slavery influenced society in the West by leading the growth of White settlement and the rise of wage labor throughout the region after 1865.”</i> <p>Establish a line of reasoning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Western migration led to more states being added to the United States.”</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	
Row B Contextualization	0 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	
	<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 First Great Awakening was a major religious revival during the 1700s.”</i> <p>Provide an overgeneralized statement about the time period referenced in the prompt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Westward expansion of the United States occurred during a period of great change.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurately describe a context relevant to migration to the western United States from 1820 to 1898. <p>Examples of relevant context that earn this point include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Westward settlement during the colonial era Warfare with Native Americans during the colonial era Royal Proclamation of 1763 Northwest Ordinance of 1787 Southwest Ordinance of 1790 Louisiana Purchase Lewis and Clark expedition Expansion of the mission system in the American Southwest Era of Good Feelings “Closing of the frontier” United States imperialism overseas Manifest Destiny <p>Example of acceptable contextualization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“During the colonial period the British government tried to restrict westward migration of the colonists through the Proclamation Line.”</i> <i>“The Northwest Ordinance established the process for making territories new states.”</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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“The United States bought the Louisiana Purchase from France for \$15 million.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn 1 point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify at least two specific historical examples relevant to how migration influenced the western United States from 1820 to 1898. <p>Examples of evidence that are specific and relevant include the following (two examples required):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> United States wars with Native American nations Chinese railroad workers Missouri Compromise Transcontinental railroads Trail of Tears Compromise of 1850 Dawes-Severalty Act [1887] Domestic slave trade [Second Middle Passage] Mexican-American War Mormon migration Oregon Trail California Gold rush Homestead Act Populism Exodusters Conservation / federal park system Spanish-American War <p>Example of a statement that earns one point for evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“The completion of the Erie Canal and the construction of railroads connected the Northeast and Midwest.”</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 migration to the western United States from 1820 to 1898. <p>Examples that successfully support an argument with evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Henry Clay’s American System proposed using federal funds to encourage building internal improvements to improve trade with the interior.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about the relationship between federal support for economic development and westward migration] <i>“The Missouri Compromise established limits to where slavery would be allowed to expand in the West, and then as the cotton economy expanded, Southerners sought to undo these limits through laws such as the Kansas-Nebraska Act to allow for the westward expansions of slavery.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about the effect of migration on the issue of slavery in the West] <i>“Migration to the West occurred at such a pace that national parks like Yellowstone and Yosemite were founded to preserve some areas from United States settlement.”</i> [Uses evidence to support an argument about the rise of conservationism and preservationism in reaction to migration to the West] 	
<p>Additional Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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						
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <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>May include evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to an argument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Many Americans moved to the West using the Oregon Trail.”</i> </td> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <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 how migration influenced the western United States from 1820 to 1898. 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"> • Explaining how changing economic conditions in the United States such as industrialization shaped the economic activity of people who migrated to the West. • Comparing how different groups like plantation owners, merchants, and/or industrialists, and/or abolitionists sought to take advantage of westward migration. <p>Example of acceptable use of historical reasoning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The Kansas-Nebraska Act caused proslavery and antislavery settlers to clash in Kansas over the issue</i> </td> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <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"> • A response may argue that migration to the West contributed to significant conflict during the nineteenth century. It supports that argument with evidence of how migration contributed to the ongoing conflict with Native Americans during the Jacksonian Era, how it contributed to the Mexican-American War in the 1840s, and how it contributed to the Civil War in the 1860s. [Explains relevant and insightful connections across periods] • A response may argue that migration to the West resulted in the federal government initially establishing clear laws limiting where slavery could and could not expand. 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<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>May include evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to an argument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Many Americans moved to the West using the Oregon Trail.”</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 how migration influenced the western United States from 1820 to 1898. 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"> • Explaining how changing economic conditions in the United States such as industrialization shaped the economic activity of people who migrated to the West. • Comparing how different groups like plantation owners, merchants, and/or industrialists, and/or abolitionists sought to take advantage of westward migration. <p>Example of acceptable use of historical reasoning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The Kansas-Nebraska Act caused proslavery and antislavery settlers to clash in Kansas over the issue</i> 	<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"> • A response may argue that migration to the West contributed to significant conflict during the nineteenth century. It supports that argument with evidence of how migration contributed to the ongoing conflict with Native Americans during the Jacksonian Era, how it contributed to the Mexican-American War in the 1840s, and how it contributed to the Civil War in the 1860s. [Explains relevant and insightful connections across periods] • A response may argue that migration to the West resulted in the federal government initially establishing clear laws limiting where slavery could and could not expand. It extends that argument by examining how those laws changed in different places, and how conflicts over slavery in the West exacerbated conflicts between the 				

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		<p><i>of popular sovereignty.</i>" [Indicates an effect of attempts by the federal government to resolve the issue of slavery in the West]</p>	<p>North and the South. [Explains relevant and insightful connections across geographical areas]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A response may argue that migrants to the West mainly sought to claim agricultural land for their own economic gain. It then modifies the argument with evidence of how, besides agriculture, the gold rush, resource extraction, and railroad construction were also significant economic drivers in the West. [Explains multiple causes]
<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. 			

From the very beginning of the European exploration of the Americas, the desire to discover new lands for resources, glory, and competition against foreign nations was strong. Businesses like the Hudson Bay Company broke frontiers in Canada the Northwest Territory, and explorers like Lewis and Clark mapped the American frontier. Compromises like the Louisiana Purchase, the Adams-Onis Treaty, and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo had granted the fledgling United States a massive untapped land of resources. However, these expeditions and endeavors were not solitary events; their occurrence allowed for tens of millions of Americans and immigrants to follow in their footsteps west and irreversibly change the course of the western United States. Migration was the greatest influence on the western United States from 1820 to the beginning of the Spanish-American War, as it directly led to an increasing spirit of imperialism and Manifest Destiny, the construction of infrastructure projects such as the Transcontinental Railroad, and increased conflict with Native American groups.

As more and more Americans began to migrate westward via routes such as the Oregon Trail and the Sante Fe Trail, the concept of Manifest Destiny grew significantly, fostered the early signs of imperialist ambition, and most importantly introduced millions of Americans into the west who would go on to populate places like California. Beginning in the 1840s, Americans east of the Mississippi River were continuously drawn by the promise of land and liberty afforded by the west, and an escape from the now crowded urban areas of the east coast. Additionally, events like the California Gold Rush in 1849 and the Klondike Gold Rush in the late 1890s drew millions seeking riches and fame. Thus, it was the migration itself that massively grew the population of the American West and led to the prominence of states like California today. The very demographics of the United States and the density of our urban population centers today is largely owed to the initial migration of millions during the 1800s. Additionally, this migration fostered the spirit known as Manifest Destiny, which posited that it was the God granted right of the American people to claim the land of the American continent from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. Indeed, it can be argued that the imperialist endeavors pursued by the United States in the form of claiming Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines during the Spanish-American War were a direct result of the general mood of Manifest Destiny pioneered in the American West in the decades prior.

Another important impact of the migration of millions of Americans westward was the building of the Transcontinental Railroad and other infrastructure projects that helped the United States connect, communicate, and grow economically. The Transcontinental Railroad began under the administration of Abraham Lincoln, who was one of many to realize the need to link the eastern United States with the relatively new and growing state of California, and allowed for the rapid transportation of people and goods between both coasts. This construction even had the unintended effect of attracting many migrants, largely from China, into the American west to build the tracks, roads, and telegraph lines needed to continue expanding into the West. Without westward migration, these infrastructure projects may have never been realized, as the need for rapid communication and transportation with a large segment of the American population would not have existed. Furthermore, it was these very infrastructure projects that allowed for massive industrialization across the United States and boosted the American economy massively during the Gilded Age.

The most significant development brought about by westward migration was that of increased conflict with Native American groups across the west. As millions traveled westward to claim land offered under Abraham Lincoln, white and immigrant settlers came into increasing contact with native tribes on the Plains and elsewhere. This competition for space and resources led to a long series of wars that included Black Hawk's War in 1832 and eventually the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876. This crusade against the Native Americans largely concluded with the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890, and the reservation system was implemented in full force. These developments in

the American West would not have been occurred without the mass migration of tens of millions of settlers to the west, as the competition for the land would have never occurred. Furthermore, the continuing effects of the reservation system and the oppression of Native Americans is reflected by events like the occupation of Alcatraz Island and the continuing controversiality of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

In conclusion, westward migration had a significant effect on the American West. The migration of tens of millions westward was the impetus for the founding of numerous states, and saw the early seeds of imperialism be sewn through the concept of Manifest Destiny. Furthermore, the migration of many to California after the Gold Rush in 1849 led to an increased infrastructure system via the Transcontinental Railroad and significant telgraph operations. Finally, the conflict of settlers with Native American groups led to the implementation of the reservation system, the Trail of Tears, and countless battles in the West. Without the settlement and migration of so many individuals in the American West, the United States would be very different today, and the development of the nation into a global superpower would have lagged behind tremendously.

Migration from 1820 to 1898 influenced the western US greatly, by completing the goal of Manifest Destiny and leading to a large divide through out the US. During this time, the US had a goal to stretch the country from "sea to shining sea" so that the nation extended from coast to coast. During this time there was also a debate over slavery and which states would be free states or slave states. There was also a formation of trusts and monopolies during this time, which controlled the prices created a large gap between economic classes.

The goal of Manifest Destiny was completed during this time. Things such as The Louisiana Purchase, the Northwest Ordinance, and the Mexican-American war helped to complete this. All of these events led to the gaining of territory across the continent. This territory was later developed through the construction of railroads, telegraph lines, and things such as the Homestead Act, which gave people land in the west as long as they developed in within the next five years by building on it and farming on it.

The formation of trust also led to a greater gap between the economic classes in America. People like Carnegie and Rockefeller held most of the money while charging farmers excessively high prices and choosing people they liked to charge less money to. This later led to revolts from farmers and the formation of the Populist party which advocated for the use of paper money and direct election of senators.

Eventually, this led to a questioning of the Laissez-Faire economic system and encouraged the goverment to work to break up trusts and monopolies. It also led to an increased industrialization, and eventual urbaization of the US as a whole.

Migration had a large influence on the western US due to industrialism and the rise of jobs causing indirect effects to many things such as regulations businesses have to follow and the formation of agencies to benefit workers and the poor. Within the years of 1820 to 1898 the US was going through a Gilded Age. The economy during this time was booming which made lots of jobs for people but while everything seemed good in the US the people working these jobs were suffering at the hands of robber barons.

As many people began migrating to the west for these job opportunities the development of the slums and ghettos began to house all these working people. While working for these robber barons such as Rockefeller and Carnegie many of the workers weren't making a livable wage and had to live in tenement houses. These houses would house an abnormal amount of people in one room. These circumstances caused the US to have a large gap between the rich and the poor. After the horrible conditions of the poor working class were revealed to the public and government by muckrakers, the US began making changes in benefit of them. One of these changes was settlement houses by Jane Adams who wanted to help these people and in the settlement houses people were educated in many different things. Without migration the creation of settlement houses probably wouldn't have happened due to migration being an indirect cause of it.

The large number of migrant workers helped boost the US economy due to the fast pace in manufacturing goods. There were many factories filled with migrant workers who worked long hours to quickly produce large amounts of goods. While this did help the economic growth of the US it came with some negatives. While the workers were producing goods at a fast pace the qualities of some of the goods weren't good such as meat. It was later revealed that while the work was fast the quality of the meats being produced weren't good. The meat factories and the workers were unsanitary. This led to the creation of the FDA and sanitary laws that companies need to follow. Because so many people migrated for work, businesses began to take advantage of that and began to not care for the workers or the quality of the goods because they were making money, which led to them being exposed therefore creating rules that all businesses have to follow in favor of workers and consumers that are still in effect till this day.

Overall migration had a large influence on the western US with many indirect causes that resulted in many positive things for the economy and people.

Long Essay Question 3

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

Overview

- This question asked students to evaluate the extent to which migration transformed the western United States across a broad time period in the mid- to late-nineteenth century.
- Responses could:
 - Describe the expansion and economic development of the evolving West.
 - Describe internal and external migration into the region and the motivations for migration into the region.
 - Describe the ways incoming United States settlers competed with each other and transformed the region, displacing Indigenous peoples in the process.
- This question primarily addressed Topics 4.2, 4.4, 4.8, 4.10, 4.13, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 6.2, 6.3, and 7.2.

Sample: 3A

Thesis: 1

Contextualization: 1

Evidence: 2

Analysis and Reasoning: 2

Total Score: 6

A. Thesis/Claim (0–1 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for thesis because the last sentence in the first paragraph establishes a historically defensible claim: “Migration was the greatest influence on the western United States from 1820 to the beginning of the Spanish-American War, as it directly led to an increasing spirit of imperialism and Manifest Destiny” and a line of reasoning that includes “the construction of infrastructure projects such as the Transcontinental Railroad, and increased conflict with Native American groups.”

B. Contextualization (0–1 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for contextualization because in the first four sentences of the introductory paragraph it discusses the exploration of Hudson Bay, explorers such as Lewis and Clark, the Louisiana Purchase, and the Adams-Onís Treaty.

C. Evidence (0–2 points): 2

The response earned 1 point for using evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt. For example, the response describes the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails, the California and Klondike gold rush, the transcontinental railroad and attracting immigrants, especially Chinese, conflicts with Native Americans (including the Black Hawk Wars, Battle of Little Bighorn, and the Wounded Knee Massacre), the reservation system, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Long Essay Question 3 (continued)

The response earned the second point for using the evidence to support an argument. The argument that migration was the greatest influence on the western United States is supported by the discussion of how the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails brought more and more American settlers to the West in support of early imperialist ambition. Additionally, in the first half of the second paragraph, the response argues that events such as the California gold rush in 1849 and the Klondike gold rush in the late 1890s drew millions more migrants who significantly influenced the West. In the third paragraph, the response claims that westward migration led to the construction of the first transcontinental railroad and other infrastructure projects that also brought Chinese workers to the West. And in paragraph four, the response argues that the most significant development brought about by westward migration was that of increased conflict with Native American groups across the West, which led to a long series of wars that included the Black Hawk War, the Battle of Little Bighorn, and Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890.

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

The response earned 1 point for using historical reasoning by establishing a strong causation argument. The second, third, and fourth paragraphs explain how the trails, gold rushes, transcontinental railroad, and the conflict with Native Americans over the competition for the land caused various changes throughout the West.

The response earned the point for demonstrating a complex understanding in a variety of ways. The response uses at least four pieces of specific and relevant evidence in support of nuanced and complex argument. Also, the response uses multiple perspectives, explaining the viewpoint of pioneers along the trail and during the gold rush in paragraph two and the perspective of those seeking economic and technological development in paragraph four. In paragraph four, the response also explains the perspective of Native Americans who resisted White settler encroachment. Finally, the response explains multiple causes, differentiating between the causes of settler expansion motivated by Manifest Destiny (e.g., expansion into Oregon, California, and Native American lands) and the causes motivated by the spirit of imperialism (e.g., the claiming Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines).

Sample: 3B**Thesis: 1****Contextualization: 1****Evidence: 1****Analysis and Reasoning: 1****Total Score: 4****A. Thesis/Claim (0–1 points): 1**

The response earned 1 point for the thesis because the first paragraph establishes a historically defensible claim with a line of reasoning: “Migration from 1820 to 1898 influenced the western US greatly, by completing the goal of Manifest Destiny and leading to a large divide throughout the US.”

Long Essay Question 3 (continued)

B. Contextualization (0–1 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for contextualization. The introductory paragraph of the response describes the debate over the expansion of slavery during the period.

C. Evidence (0–2 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for using evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt. In the second paragraph the response describes territorial expansion and “the construction of railroads, telegraph lines.” A second example of evidence is provided in the second and third paragraphs with descriptions of the Homestead Act and farming.

Although the response contains at least two specific examples of evidence relevant to the prompt, they are not sufficiently used to support an argument in response to the prompt to earn the second point. For example, the response discusses trusts and monopolies, but it does not make clear how these support an argument about the influence of migration on Manifest Destiny or economic division.

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

The response earned 1 point for using historical reasoning. The response uses the historical reasoning skill of causation to structure an argument that addresses the prompt. The second paragraph successfully explains how the acquisition of territory led to developments and changes in the West.

The response did not earn the point for demonstrating a complex understanding. The attempt in the concluding paragraph to connect the argument to a later time period is not sufficiently developed and falls short of using sophisticated argumentation relevant to the prompt.

Sample: 3C

Thesis: 1

Contextualization: 1

Evidence: 0

Analysis and Reasoning: 0

Total Score: 2

A. Thesis/Claim (0–1 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for thesis because it provides a historically defensible claim that establishes a line of reasoning and two categories of analysis in the opening sentence of the first paragraph: “Migration had a large influence on the western US due to industrialism and the rise of jobscausing indirect effects to many things such as regulations businesses have to follow and the formation agencies to benefit workers and the poor.”

Long Essay Question 3 (continued)

B. Contextualization (0–1 points): 1

The response earned 1 point for contextualization. In the first paragraph the response minimally but accurately describes industrialization and class conflict: “Within the years of 1820 to 1898 the US was going through a Gilded Age. The economy during this time was booming which made lost of jobs for people but while everything seemed good in the US the peole workingthses jobs were suffering at the hands of robber barons.”

C. Evidence (0–2 points): 0

The response did not earn 1 point for describing at least two pieces of evidence relevant to the topic of the prompt. In the second and third paragraphs, the response describes specific evidence that falls outside the specified region or time period with the discussion of issues in the meat packing industry and the foundation of the Food and Drug Administration.

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

The response did not attempt or earn the point for using historical reasoning to frame or structure an argument that addresses the prompt.

The response did not earn the point for demonstrating a complex understanding because it makes no attempt at sophisticated argumentation or effective use of evidence.