AP® World History
Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Short Answer Question 3

Answer all parts of the question that follows.

a) Identify ONE way in which subsistence patterns pre-dating the Neolithic Revolution continued among some Eurasian societies in the period circa 10,000 B.C.E. to 3,000 B.C.E.

b) Identify ONE way in which the Neolithic Revolution changed Eurasian societies’ subsistence patterns in the period circa 10,000 B.C.E. to 3,000 B.C.E.

c) Explain ONE way in which changes in Eurasian societies’ subsistence patterns altered their political or social structures in the period circa 10,000 B.C.E. to 600 B.C.E.

0–3 points

Score 3
Response accomplishes all three tasks set by the question.

Score 2
Response accomplishes two of the tasks set by the question.

Score 1
Response accomplishes one of the tasks set by the question.

Score 0
Response accomplishes none of the tasks set by the question.

Score NR
No response. Response is completely blank.

Scoring Guide

0–3 points

- ONE point for identifying one way in which subsistence patterns pre-dating the Neolithic Revolution continued among some Eurasian societies in the period circa 10,000 B.C.E. to 3,000 B.C.E.
- ONE point for identifying one way in which the Neolithic Revolution changed Eurasian societies’ subsistence patterns in the period circa 10,000 B.C.E. to 3,000 B.C.E.
- ONE point for explaining one way in which changes in Eurasian societies’ subsistence patterns altered their political or social structures in the period circa 10,000 B.C.E. to 600 B.C.E.

Scoring Notes

Examples of responses to part (a) that would earn credit:

- People in Eurasian societies continued to hunt, fish, and gather.
- People continued to select certain plants and animals for human use.
- Seasonal migrations in search of food continued among some Eurasian peoples after the Neolithic Revolution.
Examples of responses to part (b) that would earn credit:

- After the Neolithic Revolution people began to practice agriculture.
- Some Eurasian societies began to practice nomadic pastoralism following the Neolithic Revolution.
- The Neolithic Revolution provided Eurasian societies with better tools with which to cultivate the land, harvest crops, and hunt.

Examples of responses to part (c) that would earn credit:

- Eurasian social structures changed in the Neolithic era as social hierarchies became more complex or patriarchal because of agriculture.
- The development of agriculture in Eurasia led to the creation of states, public works, or law codes because agriculture allowed societies to acquire surpluses that needed to be managed and protected.
- The emergence of agriculture following the Neolithic Revolution led to great increases in human populations because people could stay in one place, generate surpluses, and create more complex hierarchies based on social class or political power.
Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box. Do not skip lines.

a) One way subsistence patterns pre-dating the Neolithic Revolution continued among some Eurasian societies during 10,000–3,000 BCE was that some societies continued to be hunter-gatherers.

b) One way the Neolithic Revolution changed Eurasian societies' subsistence patterns was that people were able to domesticate plants and animals for the first time. This resulted in the first permanent settlements, which were usually centered around a river. An example would be the Egyptian civilization centered around the Nile River.

c) Changes in subsistence patterns resulted in more patriarchal societies. Before the Neolithic Revolution, societies were mostly egalitarian because men and women played somewhat equal roles in finding food. After the development of agricultural societies, men used the heavy tools and grew food while women stayed home. The Neolithic Revolution also resulted in the first empires with one leader/monarch. Before, during the Paleolithic era leaders would only arise when there was a specific task needed to complete.
Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box. Do not skip lines.

A) The patriarchal system developed before the Neolithic Revolution continued among most Eurasian societies between 10,000 B.C.E. & 3,000 B.C.E. Men continued to lead societies throughout the Neolithic Revolution.

B) The development of agriculture resulted in changes during the Neolithic Revolution as societies became sedentary & a food stockpile began to form. Societies stayed put & were able to develop during the Neolithic Revolution.

C) The development of agriculture altered societies social structure as social stratification became possible. As societies were able to produce food more efficiently, people started to take on new jobs & a hierarchy began to develop.
Important: After you have completed your response to either Question 3 or Question 4, completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you answered.

Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box. Do not skip lines.

One way in which subsistence patterns pre-dating the Neolithic Revolution continued among some Eurasian societies in the period circa 10,000 BCE to 3,000 BCE is the Indus Valley River civilizations such as Tigris, Euphrates, Yellow. One way in which the Neolithic Revolution changed Eurasian societies' subsistence patterns in the period circa 10,000 BCE to 3,000 BCE was because they started to grow new crops and different diseases started to build up. One way in which changes in Eurasian societies' subsistence patterns altered their political or social structures in the period circa 10,000 BCE to 600 BCE was because of the establishment of a new type of government in Eurasia.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

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Overview

For this short-answer question, students were expected to identify changes and continuities in subsistence patterns in Eurasian societies both before and after the Neolithic Revolution. Students first had to identify a subsistence pattern pre-dating the Neolithic Revolution that continued in the period circa 10,000 B.C.E. to 3,000 B.C.E. Next, students had to identify one way in which the Neolithic Revolution changed Eurasian subsistence patterns in the same period. Lastly, students had to explain how these changes in subsistence patterns altered a political or social structure in Eurasian society. The question addressed Key Concepts 1.1 and 1.2 in the AP World History Curriculum Framework and the historical reasoning skill of Continuity and Change.

Sample: 3A
Score: 3

a) The response earned 1 point because it identifies hunting and gathering as practices that continued into the Neolithic period.

b) The response earned 1 point because it identifies the domestication of plants and animals as a change in subsistence patterns that took place during the Neolithic period.

c) The response earned 1 point because it explains how patriarchal societies developed because of the emergence of agricultural societies.

Sample: 3B
Score: 2

a) The response did not earn the point because it incorrectly identifies patriarchal social systems as a subsistence pattern.

b) The response earned 1 point because it identifies the development of agriculture as a change in subsistence patterns.

c) The response earned 1 point because it explains that agriculture promoted the development of social stratification.

Sample: 3C
Score: 1

a) The response did not earn the point because the development of the “Indus valley river civilizations” is not a continuity in subsistence patterns from before the Neolithic Revolution.

b) The response earned 1 point because it identifies growing new crops as a change in subsistence patterns that occurred because of the Neolithic Revolution.

c) The response did not earn the point because it does not sufficiently explain how the establishment of a “new type of government in Eurasia” was a result of changes in subsistence patterns.