
AP[®] European History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Short Answer Question 3

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Question 3: Short Answer No Stimulus**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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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.

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- (A) Describe one specific example of a change in the role of religion in European daily life during the period 1450–1700. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Protestant and Catholic lay people began to read more religious texts for themselves, rather than relying exclusively on the clergy for religious instruction.
 - Many traditional Catholic rituals and religious festivals were discontinued or heavily modified in Protestant countries.
 - Protestant churches discouraged the veneration of saints and other attempts to effect divine interventions in daily life.
 - Both the Catholic Church and Protestant churches encouraged greater levels of religious education and stricter adherence to orthodoxy among lay people.
 - In some areas, religious authorities, such as Catholic bishops, lost their authority to regulate civil matters and public morals.
 - In some instances, Protestant beliefs led people to question and protest the existing social order.
 - As a result of the Reformation, many people became members of religious minorities in their own countries, subject to state regulation, control, and sometimes persecution.
 - In some areas (such as Calvinist Geneva) peoples' daily lives and behavior were more closely regulated by religious authorities.
 - Responses may refer to the Scientific Revolution and/or the Enlightenment but must go beyond a mention and must provide a specific example falling within the time period and/or a tie to the role of religion in daily life.
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- (B)** Describe one specific example of a continuity in the role of religion in European daily life during the period 1450–1700. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Religious affiliation and regular participation in religious activities continued to be an important part of most Europeans' identity.
- Members of the clergy continued to be seen as the main religious authorities in most Christian churches.
- The Catholic Church and Catholic beliefs and rituals continued to have a powerful influence on daily life in large parts of Europe.
- Religious authorities generally continued to encourage people to adhere to traditional social roles and gender hierarchies.

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- (C)** Using a specific example from the period 1450 to 1700, explain how political authorities in Europe attempted to control religious beliefs or practice. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- Act of Supremacy by Henry VIII established the monarch as the head of the English church.
- The Peace of Augsburg and the Peace of Westphalia established the principle that rulers within the Holy Roman Empire had the power to determine the official religion of their states.
- Many Protestant states established state churches, supported by the government.
- English government took the lead in enacting and enforcing Protestant reforms (e.g., Book of Common Prayer, penalties for nonattendance at Anglican services).
- James I of England sponsored an authoritative translation of the Bible into English.
- Edict of Nantes by Henry IV of France gave French Protestants rights by royal decree.
- Revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV was an attempt to use royal authority.
- Government of the Dutch Republic established some degree of religious toleration while supporting the Reformed Church.
- Spanish monarchs launched the Inquisition and/or persecuted Muslim/Jewish converts in order to secure religious homogeneity and political stability.
- Catholic monarchs (such as Charles V or Philip II) put dissenters on trial or Protestant princes (such as Frederick the Wise) protected dissenters.

Total for question 3 3 points



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 Renaissance in Europe starting in the 14th and 15th centuries effectively began to limit the role of religion in people's lives until 1700. As ideas of humanism, individualism, and especially secularism began to take hold during the Renaissance, the Church began to lose power over people's daily lives. This is evidenced by the shift away from religious images in paintings and literature at the time. This continued to happen during the Protestant Reformation as reformers like Luther increasingly criticized Church abuses.

b) An example of continuity in the role of religious life from 1450 to 1700 is the participation by those in traditional religious practices. As a result of the criticism from the Protestant Reformation, the Catholic Church held the Council of Trent to reaffirm traditional practices (commonly called the Counter Reformation). There they maintained the 7 Sacraments and transubstantiation, as people had been practicing these traditions for hundreds of years.

c) A specific example of European authorities controlling religious beliefs is with Charles V's Peace of Augsburg. Although the Hapsburg ruler was anti-Protestant, he allowed princes in the Holy Roman Empire to choose between Lutheranism and Catholicism. However, this treaty was one of the long term causes of the 30 Years' War in 1618, and led to the deaths of approximately 7 million people.

SAQ3 B

Question 3

Question 4



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.) From 1450 to 1700, religion's role in the daily life of Europeans changed quite a bit. The Protestant Reformation created the biggest change. The Catholic Church no longer had supreme control of religion in Europe, as Protestant sects like the Lutherans, Calvinists, Anabaptists, and more popped up. The spread of the printing press facilitated this process.
- b.) One thing about religion that did not change from 1450 to 1700 was the central role that religion played in Europeans' lives. Protestant or Catholic, Europeans were still extremely devout, and religion still played a huge role in everything they did.
- c.) Some monarchs tried to use religion to their advantage. Henry VIII of England broke from the Catholic Church to divorce his wife, Catherine of Aragon. He created his own church, the Anglican Church, and ~~he~~ made himself the head of all religious matters in England. He soon realized that controlling religion and being free from the opinions of the Pope, would help him strengthen and expand his power. By controlling a vital part of his subjects' lives, he kept them further under his power.

SAQ3 C

Question 3

Question 4



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 religion changed from 1450 to 1700 is that it ~~was~~ more individually practiced in 1450. People ~~relied on~~ it went from being a group practice to more of an individual practice. In 1450 most people relied on the church to teach them about God because there weren't translations of the Bible, whereas in 1700 there ~~was~~ were Bibles in English and more people could read, so they could practice on their own.

The importance of ~~religion~~ did not change from 1450 and significance of religion did not change from 1450 to 1700. Throughout the time period people were still expected to be religious ~~and~~ actively practice religion.

The Catholic church tried to control religious beliefs by selling indulgences, ~~and~~ which essentially said if they gave money to the church they would go to heaven. The Catholic church was controlling their beliefs by telling them they could get to heaven by donating money.

Short Answer Question 3

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

Overview

a) Describe one specific example of a change in the role of religion in European daily life during the period 1450 to 1700.

Responses were expected to demonstrate an understanding of the consequences to European daily life as the role of religion altered after events such as the Protestant and Catholic reformations.

b) Describe one specific example of a continuity in the role of religion in European daily life during the period 1450–1700.

Responses were expected to demonstrate an understanding of a constancy in the role of religion after events such as the Protestant and Catholic reformations.

c) Using a specific example from the period 1450–1700, explain how political authorities in Europe attempted to control religious beliefs or practice.

Responses were expected to explain how or why the attempted actions of political authorities in Europe attempted to control religious beliefs or practice during the period from 1450 to 1700.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for part (a) for its minimal description of changes in themes in artwork that would have been a part of European daily life.

The response earned 1 point for part (b) for its detailed description of the decisions taken at the Council of Trent to ensure continuity of Catholic religious practices in European daily life.

The response earned 1 point for part (c). The explanation of how political authorities in the Holy Roman Empire regulated religious life after the Peace of Augsburg is minimally acceptable.

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for part (a) because, although weak, it provides evidence about the proliferation of Protestant sects and about Catholicism no longer having monolithic control over Christian practice (a change facilitated by the printing press) in support of a specific change in the role of religion in European daily life during the relevant time period.

The response did not earn the point for part (b) because it does not provide evidence in support of continuity in the role of religion in European daily life during the relevant time period.

The response earned 1 point for part (c) because its evidence (Henry VIII creating Church of England and acting as its head) is correctly used in support of political authorities in Europe attempting to control religious beliefs or practice.

Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

The response earned 1 point for part (a) because it correctly identifies the rising importance of individual religious practice such as reading the Bible during the period 1450–1700.

The response did not earn the point for part (b) because it does not provide a specific piece of evidence in support of a continuity in daily religious life.

The response did not earn the point for part (c) because it does not explain how political authorities in Europe attempted to control religious beliefs or practice.