
AP[®] World History: Modern

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Question 4: 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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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.

(A) Identify ONE continuity in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia in the period 1750–1900. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- A continuity in South and Southeast Asian politics was that many indigenous rulers continued to rule.
- One continuity in the politics of South and Southeast Asia was that Europeans continued to challenge the power of local rulers.
- One way in which there was continuity in South Asia was that the Mughal emperor remained the figurehead ruler of India until the British deposed him.
- Many rulers in India and Southeast Asia continued to rule by allying themselves with European powers.
- Through the middle of the nineteenth century, the British East India Company rather than the British government ruled many areas of India.

(B) Identify ONE change in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia in the period 1750–1900. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- One change in India was that the Mughal Empire collapsed.
 - A significant change in the political order in Southeast Asia during this period was the arrival of the French, who proceeded to colonize Indochina.
 - One major change during this period was that the British crown assumed direct rule over India following the Indian Rebellion in 1857.
 - One change was that the Marathas established an empire in India.
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- One change was that European East India companies (British, Dutch, French, etc.) expanded their political power and transitioned into developing colonial governments.
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(C) Explain ONE way in which changes in the global economy led to changes in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia in the period 1750–1900. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- One reason that the political systems of South and Southeast Asia changed was the expansion and evolution of European empires.
- Industrialization in Europe fundamentally changed the political systems of South and Southeast Asia in this period because industrialization allowed Europeans to conquer and administer much of the region through superior weapons and ships.
- Because of deeper global economic integration and the establishment of European rule, many political elites in South Asia and Southeast Asia continued to hold their traditional political titles but lost all real political power and instead became wealthy landowners whose estates often produced raw materials for industrial factories in Europe.
- European states reacted to the development of the global capitalist economy by attempting to extract resources and open up markets by force and to create monopolies over trade with certain areas, which required gaining direct or indirect political control.

Total for question 4 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) In South Asia, namely India, the caste system dictated who ruled for most of the country's existence. Those at the top, the Brahmins, dictated governmental actions, whereas untouchables at the bottom were seldomly even allowed in cities. This system, ~~was~~ dictated by birth, helped maintain political stability for India.
- b) India's government was ~~the~~ controlled by the British for much of the 1750-1900 period. Initially, India was controlled by companies based in Britain, but violent rebellions led to full British control of India. This deviation from Hindu Brahmin rule caused unrest and ~~eventually~~ ~~the~~ peaceful protests led by Mahatma Gandhi, which eventually drove the British out after a long period of Britain reshaping of India.
- c) The Industrial Revolution led to the building of factories and mass manufacturing of goods. However, the British required more raw materials, and so began establishing colonies in order to retrieve these raw goods. India was ripe with raw materials, so the British set out to take control, eventually taking over the government and altering Indian political systems.

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 continuity in the political system in South Asia was the caste system used in India. The caste system ~~se~~ separated Indian society into social groups. The higher powers had more political power. Though the use of it started to decrease, it was still used heavily towards the end of the era.

b. One change in the political system in South Asia was the separation of India and Pakistan. ~~Both~~ ~~of~~ The regions were politically divided, so they split. This caused there to be tension between the two countries as well as war.

c. Changes in the global economy caused there to be colonization in India. Once Great Britain gained more power and its ~~eco~~ economy ~~grew~~ grew, they expanded their empire and colonized India. This politically change India because ~~the~~ the ruler of the country changed ~~and~~ meaning that the lives of the Indians would negatively change.

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

4A. One continuity in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia in the period 1750-1900 is the control bigger powers had over the political systems.

4B. One change in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia in the period 1750-1900 is the importance of trade.

4C. One way in which changes in the global economy led to changes in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia in the period 1750-1900 is the introduction of trading companies becoming more important in the political realm. Trading companies over seas helped bring in influence from western countries into southern Asia with their goods and ~~ideas~~ ideas which changed many countries. An example is the Dutch Indian Ocean company and the many Indian Ocean trading companies that followed in its footsteps.

Short Answer Question 4

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

Overview

This question asked students to identify one continuity in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia in the period 1750–1900. Then students were asked to identify one change in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia during the period. Finally, they were asked to explain a way that changes in the global economy led to changes in the political systems of these regions during the period. The question primarily addressed Topics 4.5., 5.8., and 6.1. of the AP World History: Modern Course and Exam Description.

Sample: 4A

Score: 3

- a) The response earned 1 point for identifying the continued role of the Brahmin caste in the Indian government.
- b) The response earned 1 point for identifying the change in colonial rule of India from British companies to “full British control.” The information about Gandhi in the response would not have earned the point because it is outside of the time period.
- c) The response earned 1 point for explaining how the demand for raw materials during industrialization led the British to “take control” in India, altering political systems there.

Sample: 4B

Score: 2

- a) The response earned 1 point for identifying the political role of the caste system in India during the time period.
- b) The response did not earn a point because the separation of India and Pakistan occurred outside the time period.
- c) The response earned 1 point for explaining that Britain’s economy grew, and this development led to the British colonization of India and the change of political leadership there.

Sample: 4C

Score: 1

- a) The response did not earn a point because the reference to the “control bigger powers had over the political systems” is not specific enough to identify a continuity in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia.
- b) The response did not earn a point because the reference to the “importance of trade” does not identify a change in the political systems of South or Southeast Asia.
- c) The response earned 1 point for explaining the “introduction of trading companies becoming more important in the political realm” and the reference to the Dutch East India Company (“Dutch indian Ocean company”).