



AP® European History 2002 Sample Student Responses Form B

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From the late 1510s, Luther ~~start~~ began criticizing the Catholic church by representing "95 theses" on the wall of the castle church in Wittenberg. Afterwards, the Frederick the Wise protected Luther to continue Luther's Protestant Reformation movement by preaching new thoughts and translating the bible. Without Frederick's help, Luther could hardly express his idea freely against the hostile ~~Cath~~ Catholic church and the Emperor Charles V.

Evidenced by Luther's example, ~~the~~ political authorities, especially in Northern Germany, significantly affected the course of Protestant Reformation. Moreover, in the German peasants' revolt in the early 1520s, Luther accused of the peasants for breaking up the traditional ~~and his~~ order of society dominated by the kings, ~~and~~ princes, and noblemen. Because of Luther's support of ~~the~~ ruling classes, the political authorities could possibly give a certain credit for Protestantism, as a safe and useful institution for their dominant positions in society.

On the contrary, the extreme Catholic advocates such as Phillip II in Spain and Charles V

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2

CC-2

Austria banned Protestantism to spread over their territories. In such ~~most~~ countries, their governments implemented ~~had~~ harsh methods, including "inquisition", to suppress any threat to the Catholic church. Because many absolute rulers believed that the unity of religion in their nations should be achieved, ~~the~~ the governing classes made an effort to keep their nations in line with their personal faith, the way how the Peace of Augsburg in 1555 imposed.

~~France~~, the French government France, although traditionally led by the Catholics, suffered from ~~the Huguenots~~ a number of religious conflicts called "the Huguenot's Wars". The Protestant minority, the Huguenots, was often persecuted by the French monarchy, which tried to unify the French religion under the Catholicism. In the second half of the sixteenth century, Catherine de Medici affected great ~~power~~ influence to the French politics. She ~~were~~ made a ~~plot~~ plot against the Protestants on the wedding day of her daughter and Henry the Navarre, a ~~the~~ leader of the Protestants. The Bartholomew's night's massacre ~~eradicated~~

2

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greatly harmed the influence of the Protestantism in France. However, ~~the~~ Henry the Navarre, who became ~~Henry III~~ the king of France, Henry IV, pronounced the Edict of Nantes to recognize the rights of ~~Huguenots~~ Huguenots in France.

In Germany, Austria, Spain, and France, their political authorities greatly concerned the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. Considering the impact of religious thoughts on their nations, almost rulers controlled the course of Protestant movements in their countries. Finally, each country decided whether or not it accepted the Protestant Reformation on the behalf of its ruling class who firmly sticked to national unity and stability.

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Question 2

AA-1

The various political authorities, whether through action or inaction, significantly influenced the spread of the Protestant Reformation. Whether from Charles II's preoccupation, Henry VIII's desire for an heir, or the new universal desire to lessen Rome's influence, political authorities used the Reformation to further their political goals.

Charles II could have stamped out ~~the~~ Protestantism before it became a major force. While it was still developing and before it became deeply rooted in the Holy Roman Empire, he could have crushed it. However, he did nothing until it was an unstoppable force. His diversion with various outside wars, especially with the Turks, allowed the Reformation to spread and take hold in his empire. His actions occurred too late - the Protestant Reformation had garnered enough strength to oppose him and remain intact.

Henry VIII furthered the ~~the~~ Protestant Reformation's influence in England. Because the pope would not grant him a divorce, he had parliament separate England from Rome and the Pope while still remaining mostly Catholic in belief and practice, his heirs and their advisors brought the full Reformation to England. Under Elizabeth, Protestantism took full hold in the form of Anglicanism.

Question **2**

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AA-2

A general feeling among monarchs and heads of state was on the desire to separate from Rome and the Pope's influence. The Reformation provided an opportunity to escape and still maintain a form of religion. Within the Holy Roman Empire, the same action occurred. The leaders of German states, especially from the North, wanted to end both Rome's influence and the Holy Roman Emperor's influence. Thus a religious dispute supplied the pretext for greater political autonomy. Many political leaders took up the banner of the Protestant Reformation only to further their own ambitions, but also led to the spread of the Reformation.

Political authorities to a great extent influenced the spread of the Reformation and its course. Without the diverted attention of Charles V, the Reformation may never have occurred on the enormous scale that it did. Without political leaders to take up its banner, it would not have spread and become a threat to Lutheranism. The political authorities used the Reformation as a basis for them to accomplish their desires, and in so doing drastically changed the outcome of the Reformation. The Reformation went from reform to a new religion.