



AP[®] European History (Operational) 2004 Sample Student Responses

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Part C.

During ~~the~~ the middle ages, one authority could never be questioned: the Church. The Church, by controlling ideas of fundamental truths of the afterlife also controlled what people thought of this world, such that science best supported the Church's authority and the validity of their statements. These postulates on science remained unchallenged until ~~1650~~ about 1550-1750, a period known ~~best~~ as the Scientific Revolution. Although the Scientific Revolution itself only created new ideas on science, the same connectedness between religion/philosophy (which were one and the same during the Middle Ages) that allowed the Church to propose or support scientific ideas resulted in the Sci. Revolution impacting religion and philosophy.

One of the most influential developments of the scientific revolution was a greater awareness of astronomy. Since Earth received the Christ, God's attention must be on Earth making it only logical the Church support Ptolemy's geocentric model of the universe (everything ~~is the center~~ orbits around the earth.) Copernicus (later supported by Kepler) ~~theoretically~~ advocated a heliocentric model however (sun is the center around which the earth orbits). An Italian scientist, Galileo, arrived at the same conclusion and was branded a heretic and was forced to take back his statement (he had the unfortunate circumstance of living in

Part C

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Italy, under strong influence of the Roman (Catholic Church). After sometime and support from various other scientists (such as Newton) the heliocentric model of the universe was accepted. This proved that the Church could be wrong about some things, which led others to question why it necessarily wasn't wrong about other things.

Furthermore, the Newtonian World Machine, as Newton's universe with universal gravitation was known, provided for a system wherein God didn't have to be actively involved beyond creation. This led to the creation of a form of religious philosophy known as Deism, wherein a "clockmaker" God creates the universe and leaves it to work on its own based on the Newtonian World Machine. Such a thought could not include Christianity, as the Christ represented God interfering with the world.

A more general philosophical trend of Reason (the Enlightenment) was also strongly influenced by the use of Reason in science. The scientific method of empiricism (outlined in detail through the works of Francis Bacon) employed reason to arrive at fundamental scientific truths from the results of experimentation. This led people to believe the fundamental truths about philosophy could be obtained through the use of Reason.

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Part C

- The importance of The scientific Revolution was very significant in the development of history. Challenges on Church assertions led to many people doubting the credibility of the Church, ~~At the same time~~ while notions of the Newtonian world machine and the scientific method led to such new philosophies as Deism and The Enlightenment. It is crucial to note however that most of these events did not reach (therefore did not ^{influence} ~~influence~~ the religious/philosophical notions) of the common man. These new movements affected ~~people~~ almost exclusively the upper class, as they were the only ones with time and money enough that they had the free time to keep up with the Scientific Revolution.

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S-1
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Y-1

The impact of the Scientific Revolution was vital to the thoughts and ideals in the following centuries, mainly referring to the Enlightenment. During the Scientific Revolution, major concepts were derived and many facts were discovered ~~and~~ and the influence of this movement spread ~~to~~ not just towards other scientific revelations but also in ~~the~~ social and political issues. The effects of the revolution were extensive in social, religious, and political platforms.

As the Scientific Revolution spread, the thought process in science infiltrated society as a whole. Logical thinking was a key concept. Inductive and deductive thinking were introduced by Frances Bacon and Rene Decartes; this ~~type~~^{type} of thinking was influenced by the application in science, the empirical method of thinking. As people used reason in life, the Scientific Revolution found itself as the father of the later movement of Enlightenment with

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thinkers like Voltaire + Rousseau. The Enlightenment gave way to a time of criminal reform and religious toleration because people were thinking practically. People also exchanged their ideas in the Enlightenment with Diderot's Encyclopedie. The Scientific Revolution's impact on society revolutionized thinking across Europe.

With the revolution came the thought process to think logically; many chose to apply this to religion. Some people reasoned that God created the earth and ~~the~~ left it to run. The people that believed that were called Deists. Blaise Pascal however took the opposite approach with a reason towards faith. He had logically concluded that man's worth could not be accounted for without the existence of God and with that approach, he called for ^{Before} continued faith in religion. ~~the~~ / Pascal

~~beginning of~~ [When Galileo came forth with his conclusions in the science world, he was condemned by the

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5-3
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Y-3

Church for agreeing with Copernicus's heliocentric theory.] ~~This~~ This conflict with religion often occurred between science and religion, due to the ~~the~~ weakening of faith (like in Deists). A positive thing to note is the slackening of witch trials and less belief in superstitions within the scientific revolution. The effect of the scientific revolution on religion was a harsh one due to deists + reasoning of God's existence. The ~~thought~~ thought process that circulated indeed weakened church response.

Political figures, too, felt the effects of the Science Revolution and Enlightenment

Enlightened absolutist

Catherine II Russia

Joseph II Austria

Frederick II Prussia ghost govt

~~Enlightened~~