

**AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY**  
**2006 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)**

**Question 3**

Describe and analyze economic policies in Eastern and Western Europe after 1945.

**9–6: Stronger**

These essays will illustrate the following qualities with varying degrees of effectiveness.

- Has a clear, well-developed thesis.
- Is well organized.
- Supports the thesis with specific evidence.
- May contain minor errors; even a 9 need not be flawless.

*Indicators for 9–8*

- Correctly describes BOTH Eastern and Western European economic policies after 1945/World War II.
- Has a balanced analysis to both regions with several examples.

*Indicators for 7–6*

- Has a less balanced approach (more on one region than the other).
- Eastern economics may stress U.S.S.R. over other Eastern regions.

**5–4: Mixed**

- Contains a thesis, perhaps superficial or simplistic.
- Responds to the question unevenly: task(s), evidence, chronology.
- May contain errors, factual and/or interpretive.

*Indicators:*

- Mentions both European areas but may develop only one sufficiently.
- Offers little analysis in relation to the two policies.
- May be very generalized with weak supporting evidence.

**3–0: Weaker**

These essays demonstrate the following qualities to varying degrees.

- Thesis is confused, unfocused, or absent, or simply restates the question.
- Misconstrues the question, or omits major tasks.
- May contain major errors.

*Indicators for 3–2*

- May completely ignore either one of the two regions' economic policies.
- May focus on political aspects of the Cold War or factors other than economics.

*Indicators for 1–0*

- May attempt to answer the question but fails to do so.
- Provides minimal or no evidence; may contain serious errors.

After 1945, when World War II ended, the once-Allies began to break into two distinct factions. Those supporting democracy, which were led by the United States and included western Europe, supported capitalism as their main economic policy. On the other hand, the communist countries, led by the Soviet Union and which included eastern Europe, preferred to run their economy by central planning. ~~These two~~ This separation would act as the keys to the economic policies run in eastern and western Europe after 1945.

In western Europe and Europe as far east as Greece and Albania, democracy and capitalism prevailed after the end of World War II. The United States, fearing the spread of communism, came up with the Marshall Plan to help the countries in western Europe grow and recover economically. The Marshall Plan helped the investors in the countries lend money without interest, stimulating the growth of the economy all over Europe. Individual policies, such as nationalization of some industries in England, also helped to develop the economies in these areas. Western Europe also decided to come together to help in the growth of the economy, starting with the coal and steel treaty. This treaty eventually grew into the EEC (European Economic Community), which was established with the Treaty of Rome. The prospering economy took a hit in the late 1960s with the oil crisis, but soon recovered. Presently, many countries in Europe have joined as the European Union (EU) and used the same currency throughout the countries.

In eastern Europe, where communism was the dominant power, the economy did not prosper as much as in the West. The Soviet Union tried to keep pace with the policies of the West, even establishing the COMECON, the eastern version of the EEC, but the central planning system

proved to have its limits. Trade was mostly a direct trade with the Soviet Union, and with specialization of areas, some areas were appressed from having heavy industry. Using the Five-year plans, the Soviet government tried to catch up with the heavily industrialized West, even succeeding in outgrowing the West in the late 1960s ~ early 1990s. However, the central planning system and lack of efficiency all became reasons for an economic downfall, and with the fall of communism in 1991, the eastern European countries all turned to a more liberal economic policy.

Both capitalistic and communist economic policies have their advantages in theory, but the capitalistic policies proved to be the more realistic in practice. Even with the relative success story of the Five-year plans in 1960s and 1990s, the Soviet Union and the Eastern bloc were unable to overcome the economic inefficiencies of their system. On the other hand, capitalism grew with the boost from the Marshall Plan in the beginning and overcame the stagnation in the late 1960s to establish itself as the main economic policy of today. Today, many countries, such as China and Russia, which had been communist, have turned to more liberal economic policies. However, with capitalistic policies also having problems of their own, we should not forget the good points of the socialist (communist) policies, and try to intertwine both policies to create the best possible world today.

From 1939-1944, the world was rocked by war, and before that, an international depression. So naturally, after coming out of the war, the world leaders wanted peace and stability to plan their economic policies.

The first, and most important, economic step was an end to imperialism. Beginning with British India, all colonies eventually broke away from their mother country. It is possible that this happened because mercantilism had failed to boost the economy before the war, so the huge need for raw materials and foreign markets decreased. The Soviet Union, however, expanded its influence of its neighboring countries, and used them to keep trade amongst itself.

Also, most states became much more involved in the lives of its citizens. They improved social services, like the NHS in England, to provide better care and protection of its citizens. The German state, which had had the best program before the war, kept this basically intact, especially in western Germany. The governments also said or tried to revive national industries enough to improve the economy.

Also, Europe began the Common Market, originally just six countries, but expanded to include most nations in Europe. It started as a tariff-free area for trading steel, but eventually every nation became so dependent on it that war between them became almost impossible. The USSR realised the need to have a port city on the Mediterranean, so it attempted to intimidate Turkey, but the United

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

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States managed to keep them out.

In 1945, the most important thing seemed to be to avoid another war - leading to the Cold War. But countries also needed to recover from WWII, so they changed their economic policies accordingly. Economic policies were very different in Eastern and Western Europe after 1945.

### Question 3

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

3-01

After 1945, Eastern and Western Europe's economic policy was to gain a stable continent after a damaging war. ~~The~~ The second world war was not as damaging as the first one however Germany was ruined economically ~~and~~

Germany was ruined ~~is~~ due to the reparation they need to pay as they started the war. Europe tried to stabilise the continent through the Marshall plan. The Marshall Plan was to stabilise every European country.

France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, and Germany became part of a community of coal which would enhance the economy as a whole. Later on, ~~the~~ Europe is going to form a union to ~~also~~ stabilize ~~the~~ Europe economy as a whole.

Russia left the war earlier. Its doctrine was <sup>the spread</sup> communism, Europe was afraid of this spread. ~~and~~

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

Question 3-12

Therefore, Europe's economic policies such as Marshall plan tried to stabilize Europe's Economy as a whole and were afraid of communism spread therefore tried to gain stability and balance economically.

**AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY**  
**2006 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)**

**Question 3**

**Sample: 3A**

**Score: 9**

The thesis in this question is based on the culmination of facts mentioned in the first paragraph. Western Europe's economic policies are developed from 1945 to the creation of the European Union using good, specific evidence. Analysis of Eastern Europe shows the effects of Soviet domination over other nations. Successes and failures of the policies are analyzed, and the final paragraph compares and contrasts the two regions.

**Sample: 3B**

**Score: 4**

This essay contains a minimal thesis in the last sentence. The information provided refers almost entirely to Western Europe's economic policies: colonies, socialism, and the Common Market. Discussion of Eastern Europe's economy consists of two ambiguous sentences referring to the Soviet Union.

**Sample: 3C**

**Score: 2**

This student has a thesis but makes minimal attempts (with sketchy evidence) at handling the economic policies of Western Europe. Discussion of Eastern Europe's economy briefly refers to erroneous information on the Soviet Union.