

AP[®] EUROPEAN HISTORY
2007 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

Question 2

Evaluate the influence of Renaissance humanism on Catholic reforms and the Protestant Reformation.

8–9 Points

- Explicit thesis responds fully to all prompts: humanism, Catholic reforms, and the Protestant Reformation.
- Consistently clear organization supports the argument.
- Discusses Catholic reforms and the Protestant Reformation with multiple supporting details.
- Clearly links Renaissance humanism to both Catholic reforms and the Protestant Reformation.
- Well-balanced discussion among all prompts.
- Errors do not distract from the argument.

6–7 Points

- Explicit thesis is responsive to the question, perhaps less fully than the 8–9 category.
- Organization is clear but may not be consistently followed.
- Essay is balanced, with humanism, Catholic reforms, and the Protestant Reformation all covered at least briefly.
- All assertions are supported by at least one piece of specific information.
- Linkage of humanism to Catholic and Protestant reforms is attempted.
- Errors may detract from the overall essay.

4–5 Points

- Thesis is explicit but may not respond fully to the entire question.
- Organization is less effective than in essays scored higher.
- Essay shows some imbalance. Some major topics (humanism, Catholic reforms, or the Protestant Reformation) may be seriously neglected or have minimal specificity.
- Most of the major topics are supported by at least one relevant piece of evidence.
- Suggests linkage between humanism and Catholic/Protestant reforms.

2–3 Points

- Thesis is not explicit or merely rephrases/repeats the question.
- Unclear, ineffective organization.
- Serious imbalance—major topics are neglected (e.g., discussion of the Protestant Reformation but no information on Catholic reforms).
- No clear linkage between humanism and both reform movements.
- Several distracting errors.

0–1 Point

- No discernable attempt at a thesis.
- No discernable organization.
- One or none of the prompts (humanism, Catholic reforms, or the Protestant Reformation) is mentioned.
- No understanding of humanism or any linkage to Catholic/Protestant reforms.
- Little or no supporting evidence.
- Numerous errors that distract from the thesis.

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

2

Renaissance humanism greatly influenced the course of European history, notably the ~~Renaissance~~ Reformation. Humanism glorified the individual and focused on the study of human nature. It also urged a return to the classics and the importance of education. Renaissance humanism also gave rise to secularization and a movement away from traditional religious institutions. Characteristic of humanism is a break from traditional modes of thinking and ways of life, with a movement towards a focus on the self. ~~Humanism~~ The influence of humanism greatly influenced Catholic reforms and the Protestant Reformation in Europe.

Amidst the confusion of the Reformation in Europe, the Catholic church sought to combat Protestantism, which was a direct threat to the order of the church. Emerging from the Renaissance and the popularized thought of humanism, many Europeans began to focus their attention inward and therefore saw government and church as a reflection of themselves. Many were dissatisfied with what they saw and sought to reform it. Fearing the secular influence of humanism, the church turned inward and examined their practices. At the Council of Trent, the church focused on ending corruption and scandal within.

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themselves. They recognized that due to society's constant questioning due to humanism, the church was losing much support. At Trent, the church focused on maintaining purity and order within the church, they forbade the sale of indulgences and ecclesiastical positions and combatted heresy. Renaissance humanism and secularization ~~was a~~ influenced a movement away from traditional religion toward a faith that would better satisfy their needs. Dissatisfied with the lack of change within the church, many turned toward protestantism.

Renaissance humanism manifests itself the most in the Protestant Reformation. Humanism urged for a return to the classics, for Martin Luther, this meant a return to focusing on the Scriptures. The scriptures should be the sole means of religious faith and anyone should be able to interpret them for him or herself. This sense of individual right appealed greatly to supporters of the humanist glorification of the self. Luther also stressed salvation by faith alone, not based on good works. Humanists were concerned about human nature and the material world and Luther provided them with an acceptable means of salvation. Calvinism, another branch of protestantism, spoke of predestination. The fate of each individual was already determined by God and they could do nothing to alter their fates. All facets

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of protestantism urged for the education of all people, a distinctly humanist mode of thinking. Protestantism broke from state sanctioned churches and focused more on ~~the~~ satisfying the needs of a ~~the~~ Renaissance society.

The Renaissance's three main-ideologies were individualism, humanism, and secularism. All were increasingly influential throughout history and were major beliefs in political, social, and economic reformation. Humanism was manifested throughout the Reformation in Europe, having the greatest influence on the rising Protestants. The church failed to adequately address the voice of the people emerging from the Renaissance and a split within the church was inevitable.

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Renaissance humanism can be thought of as almost the direct cause of the Protestant Reformation and Catholic reforms, with its emphasis on individualism and critical thinking, both of which were scarce in the Middle Ages.

~~The most important~~

An important aspect of Renaissance humanism that led to reforms was ~~an emphasis on the classes~~, the concept of individualism. Individualism means that the individual was important as well as the organization that he or she belonged to. This is seen in the style of paintings of the day. While many did focus on religious themes, many also pictured ordinary people doing ordinary things in quiet dignity. They also did not use hierarchical scaling, which was the practice of drawing important figures like kings or popes physically larger than their social inferiors. Artists would also sign their own works, not merely giving them to the glory of ~~the~~ the Lord. This individualism had an impact on the questioning of authority. One of the "radical" ideas of the Reformers was that a person could interpret and read the Bible for his/herself, without the mediation of a priest, cardinal, or pope. It also emphasized that every person was a member of the congregation of the Lord, and was individually important.

Another ~~the other~~ aspect of the Renaissance humanism, the Reformation and the Catholic Reforms that was influenced by ~~Renaissance~~ the Reformers and the Catholic Reforms was ~~the questioning~~ critical thinking. People could decide

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to a certain extent for themselves, and they did not have to accept indulgences, simony, and other corrupt church practices as right. Critical thinking was exhibited by numerous writers in criticism of the church. Lorenzo Valla, in On the Dignity of Constantine, declared Constantine the Great's "donation" of the Papal States to the Pope a forgery, by examining the ~~historical~~ original document, not blindly accepting the word of the Pope, and by discovering and investigating linguistic anomalies in the document. Erasmus, in In Praise of Folly, also critically examined church practices, and satirized them. The philosophy of critical thinking finally allowed the ^{widespread} translation of the Bible into common language, and most importantly, the ability for people to interpret the Bible without the assistance of the clergy. ~~This had an incalculable impact on the Reformation, as Christians realized that~~

All this had an incalculable impact on the Reformation. Christians from around Europe no longer thought they had to blindly accept papal bulls and decrees, and they also critically examined the church and Catholicism, and found it to contradict their personal interpretations of the scriptures.

Part B Question 2

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

Renaissance ~~has~~ has changed the world in more ways than one. It brought up new ideas and views that would be appreciated in years to come. Renaissance has influenced majority of things and issues throughout the world. ~~the~~ Overall, "Renaissance humanism had a significant influence on Catholic and Protestant reformations."

Renaissance is often known as the rebirth. The ideas of ancient Romans and Greeks have come back. People were excited to find new knowledge and understandings for things they did not get. Thinkers and poets had the most impact on ideas and humanism. Such ideas for instance reflected events like Scientific revolution and other significant happenings.

Catholic reforms looked at Renaissance for guidance. People have become much more open minded and requested greater freedoms. People liked to express their ideas learned from the Renaissance but they often conflicted with the church. The church had to let go or lose support. People seeking knowledge such as Copernicus or Newton were also controlled by the church which was bad for the society. The church had to further accept their beliefs because more and more people did. Newton for instance, said that there is a direct connection between science and religion.

Protestants were the first ones seeking changes.

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Part B Question 2

The control of the church was so great that the ideas and views could not be spread and were stopped by the control of the church. Luther, for example, believed in justification by faith alone. The humanist ideas made him realize that no person should be directly in charge of what God says, it should be up to each person to determine ~~the~~ the interpretation of the bible. Another idea derived from humanism was Deism, Religion where God had no impact on human life but only was there in spirit. Therefore nature and God existed together with no significant connection.

Renaissance humanism had a big impact on Catholic reforms and Protestant Reformation but also on everything else throughout time. ~~write~~ The ideas ~~to~~ from that time changed the ~~course~~ course of history and influence its outcome.

AP[®] EUROPEAN HISTORY
2007 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)

Question 2

Sample: 2A

Score: 8

This essay has a solid thesis that includes relevant supporting details for both the Roman Catholic and the Protestant reformers. The student establishes links between the Reformation and humanism, and the discussion of humanism includes references to both secularism and individualism.

Sample: 2B

Score: 5

This essay's acceptable thesis ties the Reformation to humanism by emphasizing the questioning that went on within the Roman Catholic Church, with specific references to Valla and Erasmus. The response is somewhat uneven, with much less information on the Protestant Reformation. It is also weakened by a conflation of the Reformation and the Roman Catholic reform movements.

Sample: 2C

Score: 2

The very simplistic thesis in this essay makes no clear distinctions between the Renaissance and humanism. The response lacks specificity, especially with regard to the Catholic Reformation, and makes almost no relevant connections.