

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

Question 4

Using the two Dutch paintings above and your historical knowledge of the period, discuss how the paintings reflect the economy and culture of the Netherlands in the seventeenth century.

8–9 Points

- Explicit thesis responds fully to both prompts: Dutch economy and culture.
- Consistently clear organization supports the argument.
- Shows clear understanding of *both* Dutch economy and culture.
- Clearly links *both* topics with the two paintings.
- Uses specific and relevant examples about *both* Dutch economy and culture.
- 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 in the 8–9 category.
- Dutch economy and culture may be conflated as concepts or within the details.
- Organization is clear but may not be consistently followed.
- Essay includes discussion of both Dutch economy and culture, though perhaps far more on one than the other.
- All assertions are supported by at least one piece of specific information.
- Linkage between the paintings and Dutch economy and culture is suggested.
- 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 (economy and/or culture) may be seriously neglected or have minimal specificity.
- Makes some reference to the paintings and Dutch economy or culture.
- May demonstrate some confusion chronologically or geographically.

2–3 Points

- Thesis is not explicit or merely rephrases/repeats the question.
- Unclear, ineffective organization.
- Serious imbalance—weak attempts at discussing either the economy or culture.
- No clear linkage between the paintings and the topics.
- Overly generalized information; may rely exclusively on description of paintings.
- Several distracting errors.

0–1 Point

- No discernable attempt at a thesis.
- No discernable organization.
- Only one or none of the prompts (Dutch economy or culture) is mentioned correctly.
- No understanding of the connection between the paintings and the topics.
- 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.

Part B #4

During the seventeenth century the Netherlands grew to be an important cultural and economic power in Europe. The painting by Aelbert Cuyp shows the economic prosperity of the Netherlands especially with shipping. Johannes Vermeer's painting embodies the individual prosperity and the diverse culture existing in the Netherlands.

Following the Thirty Years War in 1648 the Netherlands emerged as a major world power. This was also enabled because their independence was ~~recong~~ recognized by Spain. The Netherlands established an advanced government with a loose republic and religious tolerance. Their religious tolerance allowed them to accept numerous people with many skills. Many of the skill people rejected in France, such as the Huguenots, moved to the Netherlands to work. This

Part B #4.

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allowed their economy to boom and their shipping industry to grow. In The Maas River at Dordrecht it is evident of the extensive Dutch fleet. The Netherlands was placed right at the sea which was ideal for trade and having many ports. The Dutch also surpassed Florence as being the center of European banking. The prosperity and elegance of the Netherlands is clearly depicted in The Aelbert Cuyp painting.

Along with the economy the culture of the Netherlands grew. The religious tolerance allowed for many different people and cultures to be blended into the Dutch culture. This added to the ~~over~~ artistic diversity of the nation. The painting Young Woman with a Water Pitcher shows a more wealthy and classy aspect of culture. The classically decorated

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Part B #4

room and the attire of the ~~to~~ woman illustrates the ~~availability~~ availability of goods and economic advantages in the Netherlands. The large shipping market in the Netherlands allowed for the growth and prosperity of middle class merchants and skilled workers. The two paintings also represent the diversity of Dutch artwork.

The paintings of Albert Cuyp and Johannes Vermeer exemplify the Dutch prosperity of the seventeenth century. The paintings show the growth of the ~~sp~~ shipping and trade industries. The diverse culture of the Netherlands is also displayed in the paintings. The wealth of the nation allowed for the boom in culture and ~~economic~~ economics.

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

IV

The seventeenth century gave way to a "golden era" of the Dutch nation-state. Although it possessed relatively few colonies of its own, thanks to increased trade with other empires, the Dutch economy was able to become quite prosperous. Additionally, the traditional acceptance in Dutch culture gave way to religious tolerance, making the Netherlands a haven for religious minorities. This is exemplified in two paintings, Cuyper's "The Maas river at Dordrecht," and Vermeer's "Young woman with a Water Pitcher."

Perhaps one of the most important (and distinctive) things to note about the Dutch economy is that it is almost entirely based upon sea travel. As such, ~~most~~ Dutch life centers around the sea, as is clearly evident in Cuyper's painting. The ~~Maas~~ Dordrecht harbor is filled with masts, nearly blocking out the shoreline, as is evident in the painting. The sheer numbers of ships easily tell that

IV

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the Dutch economy is booming, and historical records support the ~~above~~ observation made by Cuyper. In the 1600's, the Netherlands had one of the largest economies in Europe, and, indeed, most of the whole world.

With an ~~and~~ influx of cultural influences arising from international trade, the Netherlands, in order to remain stable, was essentially forced to become accepting of other cultures and, perhaps more importantly, other religions. It is a well-known fact ~~that~~ that the Netherlands then, as today, had one of the most accepting societies in Europe. The Puritan dress of the woman in Vermeer's painting reinforces this notion. First, no evidence is given to hint at the possibility of her being in hiding. The window is even being opened by the woman, and she makes no attempt to hide her manner of dress. Clearly, the fact that a painter

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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would paint such a scene alone lends
credence to the Netherlands reputation
~~as~~ of being religiously tolerant

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4

The Paintings reflect the economy and the cultures of the Netherlands in the most descriptive way.

In the painting, "The Maas River at Dordrecht," the painting captures the exploration time period of the seventeenth century. It explains the Netherlands exploring for new colonies and other raw materials and food. At the time of the seventeenth century the Netherlands were doing significantly well and were looking to profit off of the colonies and the items they found. It demonstrates the trip for the sailors of the Netherlands that they have ahead. The painting, "Young Woman with a Water Pitcher," demonstrates the role of the woman in the Netherlands. As the picture depicts, the role of the woman at that time was staying at home. Only being the seventeenth century, the role of the women hadn't changed any. A woman at that time was still expected to stay at home. It clearly depicts the society and the culture of the Netherlands at the time of the seventeenth century.

4

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

Futhermore, the paintings illustrated give the perfect demonstration of how the economy and the culture of the Netherlands truly was.

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

Question 4

Sample: 4A

Score: 9

This student's fully developed thesis is bolstered by good examples. The discussion of government is linked to economic prosperity, thus making it relevant. The discussion of culture is nicely integrated throughout the essay.

Sample: 4B

Score: 5

This essay has a minimally adequate thesis. The response contains references to paintings and attempts to provide relevant information about both the Dutch economy and culture; however, the essay lacks sufficient breadth, especially when the student discusses culture.

Sample: 4C

Score: 2

This essay's weak thesis merely paraphrases the question. Only two points about Dutch economics are mentioned, but neither is developed. The treatment of culture is very cursory, and the handling of the paintings is inadequate.