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# AP European History

## Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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# AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY 2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Short Answer Question 4

### Generic Scoring Guide

0–3 points

Score 3

Response accomplishes **all three** tasks set by the question.

Score 2

Response accomplishes **two** of the tasks set by the question.

Score 1

Response accomplishes **one** of the tasks set by the question.

Score 0

Response accomplishes **none** of the tasks set by the question.

Score NR

Is completely blank

### Question-Specific Scoring Guide

- One point for describing one of Lenin’s critiques of the Russian monarchy
- One point for describing one effect of Lenin’s critique on Russian politics
- One point for explaining how Stalin’s policies departed from Lenin’s policies

### Scoring Notes

Acceptable responses to part (a) (not exhaustive):

To meet the minimal standard of “describe,” the response must accurately recount a feature of the Russian monarchy under the Romanovs that Lenin critiqued. The response does not have to offer an explicit explanation linking Lenin’s Marxist beliefs to aspects of the Russian monarchy that he criticized, but it must do more than name-drop.

- Oppressive nature of the Russian monarchy (censorship, secret police, political prosecutions)
- Political and economic ineptitude of the Russian government under the monarchy (it is backward, “Asian”)
- Involvement of the Russian monarchy in a disastrous war with Germany
- Extreme economic inequality under the Russian monarchy
- Mistreatment of workers and peasants under the Russian monarchy
- Use of government force to support the interests of landowners and capitalists in Russia
- Use of religious authority and symbolism to support the Russian monarchy
- Colossal bureaucratic apparatus of the Russian state
- Discrimination against non-Russian nationalities

Additional note: The response must describe a criticism Lenin makes of the Russian monarchy. Simply discussing Lenin’s political positions and goals will not earn the response a point.

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## 2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Short Answer Question 4 (continued)

Acceptable responses to part (b) (not exhaustive):

To meet the minimal standard of “describe,” the response must accurately recount a political effect of Lenin’s critiques on Russian politics. The response does not have to offer an explicit linkage between a specific critique by Lenin and a particular political effect, but it must do more than name-drop. The response can deal with effects in the period before the Bolshevik Revolution (October Revolution) or afterward.

- Growth of a Marxist-oriented socialist revolutionary movement in Russia in the period before 1917 (the Bolsheviks)
- Weakening of the Russian war effort during World War I through Bolshevik (and other dissenters’) agitation and propaganda
- Continued discontent with the Provisional Government’s policies after the February Revolution of 1917
- Overthrow of the Provisional Government and the establishment of a communist government in the Bolshevik Revolution of October 1917
- Withdrawal of Soviet Russia from World War I
- Establishment of socialist policies, such as land redistribution, government ownership of industry, and control of the economy (also includes the New Economic Policy or NEP)
- Encouragement of national independence movements (in Poland, Ukraine, etc.)

Additional note: While Lenin’s criticisms of the Russian monarchy did lead to his being exiled, stating this alone will not earn a response for part (b). To earn a point the response needs to describe the effect of Lenin’s critique on the Russian political situation, and not just the consequences for Lenin personally.

Acceptable responses to part (c) (not exhaustive):

To meet the minimal standard of “explain,” the response must accurately recount at least one way in which political, economic, social, diplomatic, or cultural policies of the Soviet Union under Stalin departed from policies under Lenin’s regime. It is not necessary for the response to deal with multiple, distinct policies, but the response should not be limited only to a description of either Lenin’s or Stalin’s policies.

- Stalin abandoned Lenin’s New Economic Policy (NEP), which had allowed for limited free markets, and reimposed strict state control over most of the economy.
- Stalin gave up Lenin’s foreign policy of trying to encourage Bolshevik-style revolutions in other countries, concentrating instead on developing “socialism in one country” and trading and cooperating to a limited extent with noncommunist countries.
- Stalin more actively fostered a cult of personality centered on himself as opposed to Lenin’s more ideological style of leadership.
- Stalin encouraged the bureaucratization of the Soviet state and communist party, whereas Lenin had sought to limit the bureaucracy and its importance.
- Stalin made the “politics of fear” (use of terror, secret police, GULAG, purges) a normative part of governance, whereas Lenin resorted to such measures primarily in exceptional situations (notably civil war).

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## Short Answer Question 4 (continued)

- Stalin discouraged experimentation and innovation in the arts and culture — such as Soviet Expressionism, which had flourished under Lenin — and instead encouraged Socialist Realism as a more effective form of pro-Soviet propaganda

### Additional notes:

- It will not be acceptable to distinguish between Lenin’s and Stalin’s policies simply by saying that Lenin promoted socialism/Marxism and Stalin promoted communism.
- Care needs to be taken with assertions that Stalin pushed the Soviet Union in a more totalitarian direction than had Lenin. In fact, Lenin had championed many developments that came to be associated with the Stalinist “police” state, most importantly the Communist party’s presence and a leading role in every aspect of state and society.
- Generally the response will need to explain both Lenin’s and Stalin’s policies. However, if the response to part (c) clearly reads as a follow-up to the response to part (b) (e.g., in the discussion of economic policies), a point may be awarded for part (c) for this more implicit comparison.

Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.

- a) Lenin felt that the Russian Tsardom ~~was~~ was oppressive towards the working class. He believed that ~~the monarchy~~ ~~was~~ ~~still~~ ~~very~~ ~~much~~ ~~alive~~ ~~and~~ ~~well~~ ~~in~~ ~~spirit~~, as peasants were still tied to the land they worked on. Lenin believed the continuation of a system supported by the Tsars of agricultural work with no individual freedoms or rights for workers was a horrid one.
- b) Thanks to Lenin's charisma and open criticism of the Russian monarchy, many young workers began to join the Bolshevik party and plan to reform Russia, culminating in the October and February revolutions that saw the overthrow of the Tsar and the establishment of a Bolshevik lead Russia. A more immediate effect was the fact that Lenin was exiled from Russia for his dissenting opinions.
- c) Stalin, unlike Lenin, believed in an isolationist foreign policy, or "Socialism in One Country", compared to Lenin's view of a "Permanent Revolution"; Lenin believed all countries must become socialist before any ~~country~~ ~~state~~ state could truly be a communist; a stateless communist world utopia. Stalin, however, believed that Socialism should be protected in Russia first and other nations would naturally follow <sup>example</sup>.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.

Lenin's largest critique of the Russian monarchy was that it was doing nothing for its people and that Russia ~~needed~~ needed a new government to provide food and jobs since the country was exponentially ~~poorer~~ <sup>undeveloped</sup> than the rest of Europe. A side effect of this was the rise of the Bolshevik party and spread of communism in Russia. Stalin's policies differed in his five-year plans, and rule based on terror and indoctrination. Stalin also ~~wanted~~ did not want to use the concept of "war communism" unless necessary.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

Write your answer to **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3** or **4** on this page only. Do **NOT** write outside the box.

A) One of Lenin's critiques of the Russian monarchy was

B) One of effect of Lenin's critique on Russian politics was that a Russian communist government was formed.



C) Stalin's policies departed from Lenin's policies by being more dictatorial. Instead of giving people more freedom, he took many of them away.

**End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4**

# AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY 2018 SCORING COMMENTARY

## Short Answer Question 4

### Overview

a) Describe one of Lenin's critiques of the Russian monarchy.

Responses were expected to demonstrate an understanding of some of Lenin's critiques of the Russian monarchy, highlighting one in particular. Responses ranged widely and included a number of different points and pieces of evidence. These included the consequences of widespread economic inequality in Russia; individual, group, and state responses to economic developments at the turn of the century; the nature of the Russian monarchy and its resistance to change; and the evolution of tension between Russians and the Tsar between, roughly, 1900 and 1917. These points are addressed in Key Concept 4.2. and the following Thematic Learning Objectives: PP-3, 4, and 5; IS-2; and SP-7.

b) Describe one effect of Lenin's critique on Russian politics.

Responses were expected to illustrate causation by describing one effect of the critiques that Lenin developed. In answering this part of the prompt, responses frequently focused on the political and economic roles of the Russian government and how that government changed (in 1917 and immediately thereafter). Many responses focused on how the Russian state's economic roles shifted following the Revolution, partially in response to Lenin's critiques. Other responses discussed how the Russian state tried to deal with social tensions that were partially rooted in earlier policies of the monarchy. Finally, some responses were able to link developments in Russian politics (partially as responses to Lenin's critique) to discussions of national, regional, and social identities. These points are addressed in Key Concept 4.2 and Thematic Learning Objectives, SP-1, 2, 3 and 7; IS-2, 3 and 4; and NI-1, 2, and 4.

c) Explain how Stalin's policies departed from Lenin's policies.

Responses were expected to engage in some historical comparison by examining how Stalin's approaches departed from those of Lenin. In particular, this question asked students to think about the roles played by Stalin and Lenin in the creation of a new Russian/Soviet state. Most students chose to focus on the economic policies of these two leaders and discussed the evolution of the Russian state's role in the period between 1917 and 1930. Again, here some responses explored the status of different social groups in Russia and examined aspects of national, regional, and social identities. These points are addressed in Key Concept 4.2 and Thematic Learning Objectives PP-3, 4, and 5; SP-1, 2, 3, and 7; and IS-2, 3, and 4.

### Sample: 4A

#### Score: 3

The response to part a) earned 1 point because it notes that Lenin characterized the Tsarist system as oppressive and that the peasants still lived in a quasi-feudal state.

The response to part b) earned 1 point for linking Lenin's criticisms of the monarchy to the growth of the Bolshevik movement and, ultimately, to the twin revolutions of 1917.

The response to part c) earned 1 point for highlighting the shift from Lenin's advocacy of worldwide, permanent revolution to Stalin's preference for "Socialism in One Country."



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**Short Answer Question 4 (continued)**

**Sample: 4B**

**Score: 2**

The response to part a) earned 1 point because Lenin did criticize the Russian government's ineffectiveness and its lack of development (especially compared to Western Europe).

The response to part b) earned 1 point by asserting that, given this state of affairs and Lenin's criticisms, support for the Bolshevik party increased.

The response to part c) did not earn a point. Although the remarks on Stalin's policies are accurate, the response does not explain how they differed from Lenin's policies.

**Sample: 4C**

**Score: 1**

The response to part a) did not earn a point because the response is unfinished.

The response to part b) earned 1 point because it correctly notes that one effect of Lenin's critique was the creation of a communist government.

The response to part c) did not earn a point. The assertion that Stalin's policies were more dictatorial than Lenin's policies is not explained or supported.