AP® Human Geography
2001 Sample Student Responses

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Rostow's model is one that predicts that all Countries can eventually ~~become the~~ become developed. However, their are many reasons that this is not necessarily true for all countries. Economically, Less developed countries depend On more developed ones. Rostow believed that this was a "helping hand" that could help pull less developed Countries to a higher level of development, but they become dependent on that assitance so they cannot help themselves. For example Nafta has created many new jobs in Mexico. These new jobs will help the Mexican economy, but they will never be able to get away from this help to become an independent economic power. Colonial transportation networks also show flaws in Rostow's model. In Sub-Saharan Africa, the Colonial powers, mainly Great Britain, built many railroads to help with transportation. Rostow would again ~~see this~~ see this as a way to help less developed countries develop. In reality the railroads cause more problems then they solve. That is because they were designed to transport over the whole of Africa. Now Africa is many smaller countries. This means that in order to transport goods many landlocked African Countries, ~~have~~ like Zimbabwe, have to travel through unstable states to get to an ocean port. Also, 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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the railroad System wasdesighed for extraction. The railroads generally go from areas with many resources to ocean ports. This means that the railroads are virtually useless when it coms to transporting goods between cities. Thus Rostow's model is again not useful in ~~p~~predicting development. Finally, local social and class structures can slow development. Rostow assumes that all countries can develop, but he doesn't take into account taboos that can make it ~~even~~ very difficult to change socially and economically. In India, the caste system prevents many qualifiedpeople from contributing their full potential. People on the lower steps of the castes can not necessarily do whatis best for the country. This inefficiency makes it hard for countries like India to develop, because they have such a disadvantage. Rostow's model is a poor one because it fails to take into account the many variables that can come into play.

3WC1of2 Score 9

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The liberal model of development, asserting that inevitable economic change occurs in each area, does not factor in very important aspects of human society. Because of the relationship between "developed" and "developing" nations, the Rostow model is not very useful in predicting development.

Colonial transportation networks, the by-product of mercantilism, gave character to the economic face of the world. Some places, like the Carribean, became heavily dependent on export crops (coffee and sugar) because of their role in colonial trade. Since being cut from the motherland, however, these countries are unable to support themselves, because they had long been a spoke in the wheel of mercantilism and never were given the resources nor the social conditions for development.

The emerging global ~~econ~~ economy serves to perpetuate underdevelopment. As supra-national organizations such as the World Trade Organization, European Union, and proposed North American Free Trade zone take hold, demands are made for absence of tariffs in order to receive international aid. Therefore, not only are countries reliant ~~on~~ on more developed countries for aid, but also have no import barriers to protect their weak and growing industries. Furthermore, the desire of countries to trade with underdeveloped countries can lead to ~~instability~~ instability ~~&~~ or dependence. The African nation of Sierra Leone, for example, 3

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is torn by conflict over possesion of the diamond mines because of the Western demand for jewelry. This conflict has caused mass murder and ~~st~~ chaos, certainly preventing progress.

Finally, cultural differences exist that provide barriers to liberal economic development. For example, Nigeria in Sub-Saharan Africa is a nation of almost innumerable languages. Therefore, centralized economic development is near impossible because of communication barriers. In addition, cultural and social divisions, such as those seen in India, can hinder economic cooperation and the opening up of an economy. This is the foundation of the Core-Periphery model: ~~[illegible]~~ the differences between the have-and have-nots are far too great and well-entrenched for nations to overcome their dependency

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The 5 stages of economic development correlate directly with the country's role in world economy. The United States, undoubtedly identified within the fifth and highest stage, is also undoubtedly a major world economic power. On the contrary, Sub-Saharan Africa is mired in the first stage, that of the traditional model, and also, correspondingly, is not a major economic power.

Because of the fact that this is Rowstow's model for economic development, not many parallels can be drawn between it and cultural differences associated with the model. One thing that may occur as a country ascends through the five stages may be an increasing amount of cultural assymilation. As a country becomes more involved in wordly business matters cultural ideas from established fifth stage regions may begin to diffuse. As latin america begins it's takeoff the affect of the United States presence in economic matter is show in Americanization.

As Japan and other South Asian countries like Singapore realized as they climbed the ladder to the fifth stage of Rostow's model they realized the necessity for efficient infrastructure. The loading docks of harbors are ready-made to put freight directly on to trains where it can then be distributed with utmost efficiency. This planning must be a part of the earlier stages to facilitate full growth into a stage five society. An identification as a member of the fifth stage certifies that these specifications have been met.