
AP[®] United States History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY

2019 SCORING GUIDELINES

Short Answer Question 3

Answer (a), (b), and (c). Confine your response to the period from 1607 to 1754.

- a) Briefly describe one difference between the economy of British North American colonies in the Chesapeake region (such as Virginia and Maryland) and the economy of the middle colonies (such as Pennsylvania and New York).
- b) Briefly describe one similarity between the economy of the Chesapeake colonies and the economy of the middle colonies.
- c) Briefly explain one reason for a difference between the economy of the Chesapeake colonies and the economy of the middle colonies.

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 difference between the economy of British North American colonies in the Chesapeake region (such as Virginia and Maryland) and the economy of the middle colonies (such as Pennsylvania and New York)
- ONE point for describing one similarity between the economy of the Chesapeake colonies and the economy of the middle colonies
- ONE point for explaining one reason for a difference between the economy of the Chesapeake colonies and the economy of the middle colonies

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2019 SCORING GUIDELINES

Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Scoring Notes

Introductory notes:

- Each point is earned independently.
- **Accuracy:** These rubrics require that students demonstrate historically defensible content knowledge. Given the timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.
- **Clarity:** Exam responses should be considered first drafts and thus may contain grammatical errors. Those errors will not be counted against a student unless they obscure the successful demonstration of the content knowledge, skills, and practices described below.

Examples of responses to (a) that would earn credit:

- Cash crops from the Chesapeake (such as tobacco) were typically shipped to England, while staple crops from the middle colonies (such as wheat) were typically shipped to the Caribbean.
- The fur trade more extensive in the middle colonies and less extensive in the Chesapeake.
- There was more diversity of trade in middle colonies (e.g., furs, various agricultural products), while trade was more narrowly focused on cash crops such as tobacco in the Chesapeake.
- The Chesapeake was more dependent upon slave plantation agriculture than the middle colonies.
- The middle colonies were more urban and had more port cities, while the Chesapeake was more rural and had fewer and smaller urban centers.
- The middle colonies were societies with slaves (i.e., not socially dominated by slavery), versus the Chesapeake, which was a slave society (i.e., socially organized around the principles of chattel slavery).
- Shipbuilding and lumbering were more prevalent industries in the middle colonies than they were in the Chesapeake region, which focused on cash crop agriculture.

NOTE: *Credited responses for (a) must address explicit differences between the Chesapeake and middle colonies. (e.g., A response like “The Chesapeake colonies had fertile soil and the middle colonies did not” is not sufficient to address the prompt.)*

NOTE: *In the Chesapeake colonies, the use of cotton as the only cash crop will not be accepted; however, tobacco with cotton will be considered as a minor error and can be considered for credit.*

NOTE: *The concepts of industrialization and the textile industry should not be accepted. The use of the term manufacturing must be used in conjunction with other activities that colonies were engaged in economically (e.g., farming, shipbuilding, lumbering, and fishing).*

NOTE: *The use of the geographical terms “the North” and “the South” can be used as long as additional specific information is given in the response to reference the middle or Chesapeake colonies.*

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2019 SCORING GUIDELINES

Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Examples of responses to (b) that would earn credit:

- Both the middle colonies and the Chesapeake engaged in export trade/the triangular trade.
- Both the middle colonies and the Chesapeake were part of a mercantilist system centered on Great Britain.
- Both the middle colonies and the Chesapeake exported raw goods to/imported finished goods from Great Britain.
- Both the economies of the middle colonies and Chesapeake were based on agricultural production for export.
- Both the middle and Chesapeake colonies had to pay taxes to England (the response must mention either the Navigation Acts or the mercantilist system).

Examples of responses to (c) that would earn credit:

- Waterways in the Chesapeake were suitable for transport of cash crops produced closer to the coast, while waterways in the middle colonies (e.g., the Hudson, Susquehanna, and Delaware Rivers), which included New Netherlands, were more readily navigable and went deeper into the interior of North American, facilitating regional commerce and the fur trade with Native Americans.
- The climate of the Chesapeake region was suitable for valuable cash crops that required a longer growing season as opposed to the cooler climate of the middle colonies that allowed for grain crops to be grown.
- Development of large-scale slavery in the Chesapeake facilitated cash crop production, as opposed to the smaller scale of slavery and a greater dependency on indentured servants and immigrant labor in the middle colonies.
- Virginia was founded by joint-stock company investors seeking profit on investments, while the middle colonies were founded by more diverse European settlers, including religious refugees and individuals seeking improved economic autonomy and opportunities.

NOTE: *Earning the point for (c) is not contingent on earning the point for (a).*

NOTE: *A credited response to (c) could be a reason for a difference established in (a). If the response in (c) is a continuation that addresses the same explicit difference established in (a), the response can earn credit if it only addresses one region.*

Important: After you have completed your response to either Question 3 or Question 4, completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you answered.

Question 3

Question 4



3A

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

a) One difference between the economy of the British colonies in the Chesapeake region and the economy of the middle colonies is that ~~the~~ ~~Chesapeake~~ the Chesapeake heavily based its economy on cash crops such as tobacco and therefore also required slavery for their labor-intensive ~~economy~~ economy. The middle colonies, on the other hand, were not as heavily reliant on slavery and had much less slavery existent in their region because their grain-based economy was not labor-intensive and also their economy was more industrialized with major cities like New York City & Philadelphia.

b) One similarity between the economy of the Chesapeake and the economy of the middle colonies is that ~~they~~ they were mostly dependent on agriculture. The Chesapeake focused on tobacco, ^{exporting & growing} the middle colonies focused on grain, ^{growing and exporting}

c) One reason for a difference between the economy of the Chesapeake and the economy of the Middle Colonies ~~was~~ were the regions' climates. The fertile land suitable for growing wheat and the middle colonies moderate climate and soil ^{allowed for it to have} a grain-based agricultural economy while the ^{hotter and more intense} climate of the Chesapeake supported plantations and the growing of tobacco and a tobacco-based agricultural economy.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

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Important: After you have completed your response to either Question 3 or Question 4, completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you answered.

Question 3

Question 4



3B

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

- a) One difference between the economy of ^{the} British North American colonies in the Chesapeake region and the economy of the middle colonies is that the Chesapeake colonies economy flourished more than the middle colonies. Chesapeake colonies were making more money from their crops.
- b) One similarity between the economy of the Chesapeake colonies and the economy of the middle colonies is that both their economies were based on agriculture and growing crops.
- c) One reason for the difference between the Chesapeake colonies and the ~~economy~~ economy of the middle colonies is that their terrains were different. It was more difficult to farm in the middle colonies because it was mountainous and the soil was not very good. In the Chesapeake colonies their cash crops flourished with the rich soil and flatter land.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

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Important: After you have completed your response to either Question 3 or Question 4, completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you answered.

Question 3

Question 4



3C

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

One difference between the economy of British North American colonies in the Chesapeake Region and the economy of the middle colonies was that the middle colonies didn't have as much land, farmers, and resources as the Chesapeake region. They had lots of land, crops, resources, and farmers. But one thing they both have in common is that both Chesapeake colonies and the economy of the middle colonies both trade to get any extra resources that they need. The difference between the Chesapeake colonies is that they're the wealthy ones because of their land. While the Middle ~~Colonies~~ colonies are with gold and resources that can't really help them. The reason is because Chesapeake colonies are with fertile land and the Middle colonies don't have that.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

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2019 SCORING COMMENTARY

Short Answer Question 3

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

- This question asked students to describe one difference between the economy of the middle colonies and the economy of the Chesapeake colonies from 1607 to 1754. Next, the responses were expected to describe a similarity between the middle and Chesapeake colonies' economies from 1607 to 1754. Finally, the responses were expected to explain one specific example of a difference between the economy of the middle colonies and the economy of the Chesapeake colonies from 1607 to 1754.
- This question focused on comparison and causation.
- This question mainly addressed Key Concept 2.3.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

The response for (a) earned 1 point because it identifies specific economic factors for the Chesapeake and middle colonies. The response demonstrates the Chesapeake's dependence on slave labor growing cash crops such as tobacco for the economy, and it demonstrates the middle colonies' dependence on grain-based agriculture and states that they relied less on slavery than the Chesapeake colonies.

The response for (b) earned 1 point because it identifies both the Chesapeake and middle colonies' reliance on exporting agriculture.

The response for (c) earned 1 point because it identifies specific environmental factors that influenced each colonial region's economic choices.

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

The response to (a) did not earn a point because it does not address the economy of the middle colonies. The response does accurately address the economy of the Chesapeake colonies.

The response to (b) earned 1 point because it accurately identifies the economic dependence of both the middle and Chesapeake colonies on agriculture.

The response to (c) earned 1 point because the response accurately identifies the differences in the environments and their influence on the economies of the middle and Chesapeake colonies.

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

The response to (a) did not earn a point because it incorrectly describes the middle colonies.

The response to (b) earned 1 point because the response identifies as a similarity that both the Chesapeake and middle colonies were dependent on trade.

The response to (c) did not earn a point because the difference between the Chesapeake and the middle colonies described in the response is inaccurate.