
AP[®] World History: Modern

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 2

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Short-Answer Question 3

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Question 3: Short Answer No Stimulus**3 points****General Scoring Notes**

- Each point is earned independently.
- **Accuracy:** These scoring guidelines 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timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.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.
- **Describe:** Provide the relevant characteristics of a specified topic. Description requires more than simply mentioning an isolated term.
- **Explain:** Provide information about how or why a historical development or process occurs or how or why a relationship exists.

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- (A)** Identify ONE **technological** development that contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- The development of new ships, such as the caravel, contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750.
- The printing press is a technological development that helped spread European religious ideas.
- Improved cartography and transoceanic travel contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas.

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- (B)** Explain ONE way that religion contributed to the process of state expansion and/or exploration in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

- European missionaries often supported colonialism in order to spread Christianity.
- Spanish monarchs and conquistadors used religion to justify their colonization of the Americas.
- The creation of new religious orders, such as the Jesuits, contributed to Catholic attempts to control and enforce religious orthodoxy in Spanish and Portuguese colonies in the Americas.

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- (C)** Explain ONE reason why syncretic belief systems developed in the Americas during the period 1450 to 1750. **1 point**

Examples that earn this point include the following:

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- Indigenous American peoples often created new syncretic religious traditions by incorporating some of their own religious beliefs and practices with Christianity.
- The forced mixing of different African peoples led to the blending of religious practices and the creation of new religious traditions based on traditional African religious practices, as well as the blending of African religious traditions with Christianity.
- Ethnic and racial intermixing of various groups in the Americas created diverse colonial populations whose culture (including inherited religious traditions) combined elements of both Christian and pre-Christian religions.

Total for question 3 3 points

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



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 technological development that contributed to Europeans' ability to spread religious ideas was the Caravel Ship.
- b) The Europeans were motivated substantially by the need to spread Christianity to The Americas and to people they believed to be barbaric. This civilizing mission meant that through spreading Christianity to indigenous populations of America, peoples' souls could be saved with the showing of Jesus Christ and Christianity to them. Spaniards (and other European colonizers) felt a great need to expand their power and 'superior' religion across all peoples and civilizations across the globe. They expanded and legitimized their rule largely through monumental architecture related to Christianity such as statues & churches.
- c) Syncretic belief systems developed in this time period much for the same reasons. Missionaries spread their beliefs to indigenous populations, and they accepted some of it as they were indoctrinated, but also clung on to their personal beliefs and traditions. Through this process religious syncretism took place as some began to look for hope among religious figures such as the Virgin Mary of Christianity. This led to examples of syncretism such as the Lady of Guadalupe, and many people adore the ideals she represented!

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



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 technological development that contributed to Europeans ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas is Maritime technology. Maritime technology like advanced boats and compass helped the Europeans to travel all around the world to spread religious ideas. Such as missionaries and or scholars were sent to spread Christianity all around the world

B) religion contributed to the process of state expansion and or exploration because religion spreading helped many people unite making a bigger community for the state and overall causing an expansion of not only the religion but also the state. Religion also helped exploration because many scholars and missionaries were sent to explore to spread their religion like Christianity

C) This caused syncretic belief systems to occur because many people had the idea of going along trade routes to other places to spread their religions and on the way many of the missionaries/scholars would bump into each other sharing their ideas, language, culture and religion causing a blend since they picked up ideas from one another

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

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



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 technological development that helped spread religious ideas was the magnetic compass. This helped with transportation of goods through trade.
- B) A way that religion contributed to exploration was with slave trade. When other states saw this system, they believed it could be beneficial and started exploring.
- C) syncretic belief systems developed from social hierarchies. The people of lower class received little to nothing and those born into a title were of fortune.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

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Short Answer Question 3

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

Overview

The intent of this question was for students to address the spread of religion in the Americas from 1450–1750. Part A asked students to identify one technological development that contributed to Europeans’ ability to spread religious ideas in the Americas during the period 1450–1750. Part B asked students to explain one way that religion contributed to the process of state expansion and/or exploration in the Americas during the period 1450–1750. Part C asked students to explain one reason why syncretic belief systems developed in the Americas during the period 1450–1750.

The question was primarily focused on the reasoning process of causation.

The question tested content primarily from Topics 4.1, 4.4, and 4.5 of the course framework.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

- a) The response earned 1 point for identifying the “caravel ship” as a technological development that contributed to the spread of religious ideas in the Americas.
- b) The response earned 1 point for explaining that “monumental architecture related to Christianity” contributed to the process of state expansion in the Americas.
- c) The response earned 1 point for explaining the reason that syncretic belief systems developed in the Americas by stating that Indigenous populations “clung on to their personal beliefs and traditions.”

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

- a) The response earned 1 point for identifying “maritime technology like advanced boats and compass” as technological developments that contributed to the spread of religious ideas in the Americas.
- b) The response earned 1 point for explaining that “many scholars and missionarie were sent to explore to spread their religion,” which contributed to the process of state expansion.
- c) The response did not earn the point for explaining a reason for the development of syncretic beliefs. “Missionaires/scholars would bump into each other sharing their ideas, language, culture and religion” does not discuss the merging, or creation, of belief systems among the various groups of people in the Americas.

Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

- a) Response earned 1 point for identifying the “magnetic compass” as a technological development that contributed to the spread of religious ideas in the Americas.
- b) Response did not earn the point for the “slave trade.” The response did not explain how religion contributed to the process of state expansion or development.
- c) Response did not earn the point for the explanation that syncretic beliefs developed “social hierarchies.” The response did not offer an adequate reason for the development of syncretic belief systems in the Americas.