

Practice Essay Questions Organized by AP Unit

(Please realize that the questions listed below represent only a small fraction of the available questions to help you prepare for the AP exam. This is my no means an exhaustive list. Please also feel free to consult the **Albert webpage, AP Exam Review Books, or any other sources you feel comfortable reviewing**)

Unit 1: Renaissance and Exploration: 1450 to 1648

1. Analyze various ways in which technological developments contributed to the expansion of state power in the period 1450 – 1600.
2. Discuss how Renaissance ideas are expressed in the Italian art of the period, referring to specific works and artists.

Unit 2: Age of Reformation: 1450 to 1648

1. Compare and contrast the Lutheran Reformation and the Catholic Reformation of the sixteenth century regarding the reform of both religious doctrines and religious practices?
2. Analyze various ways in which technological developments contributed to the expansion of state power in the period 1450 – 1600.
3. Answer all 3 parts:
 - a. Describe one cause of the Protestant Reformation in England during the reign of Henry VIII (1509–1547).
 - b. Describe one political effect of the Protestant Reformation in England in the period 1500–1600.
 - c. Explain one difference between political effects of the Protestant Reformation in England and political effects of the Protestant Reformation in France in the period 1500–1600
4. Evaluate the most significant effect of state centralization by European monarchs during the period 1450–1648.
5. Answer all 3 parts:
 - a. Describe one reason for Martin Luther’s critique of the catholic Church in the early 1500s.
 - b. Describe one Catholic response in the 1500s to Luther’s critique.
 - c. Explain how Luther’s protest contributed to social change in Europe in the period 1517 to 1600.
6. Analyze various ways in which the Thirty Years War (1618 – 1648) represented a turning point in European History.
7. Analyze various ways in which religious reform in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries influenced the arts.

Unit 3: Absolutism and Constitutionalism: 1648 to 1815

1. Analyze the ways in which both *the theory and the practice* of monarchy evolved in England from 1603 (the death of Elizabeth) to 1688-89 (The Glorious Revolution.)
2. In what ways and to what extent did absolutism affect the power and the status of the European nobility in the period 1650 – 1750? Use examples from at least TWO countries.

Unit 4: Scientific, Philosophical, and Political Developments: 1648 to 1815

1. Evaluate the most significant effect of population growth in Europe from 1700–1800
2. To what extent did the enlightenment express optimistic ideas in eighteenth-century Europe? Illustrate your answer with references to specific individuals and their works.
3. Analyze the extent to which Frederick the Great of Prussia and Joseph II of Austria advanced and did not advance Enlightened ideals during their reigns.

Unit 5: Conflict, Crisis, and Reaction in the Late 18th Century: 1648 to 1815

1. At the end of the 1700s two great revolutionary forces enormously increased the intensity of the events.

Those two forces were these: “On the one hand the French nation had reached intellectual maturity, and on the other hand the French Bourgeoisie had reached social maturity. French thought desired to apply its methods of analysis and deduction to all reality, to society as well as nature. The French Bourgeoisie had become conscious of its power, its wealth, its rights, and of its near-infinite possibilities of development. In a word, the bourgeoisie had attained class consciousness.”

 - Describe one prior intellectual change that influenced the events described in the passage?
 - Explain why the pattern of social changes as described led to the French Revolution.
 - Explain how an ideology of the 1800s influenced the above interpretation of the causes of the French Revolution.
2. Evaluate the extent to which political consequences of Britain’s Glorious Revolution differed from the political consequences of the French Revolution.
3. Britain and France were engaged in a geopolitical and economic rivalry during the 18th Century. Identify the factors that contributed to this rivalry, and assess the results for both countries over the period 1689 to 1789.
4. Analyze various ways in which government policies during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic era contributed to a greater sense of French national identity from 1789 – 1815.

Unit 6: Industrialization and Its Effects: 1815 to 1914

1. Answer all 3 parts
 - a. Describe one cause of Great Britain's early industrialization in the period 1800–1900.
 - b. Describe one effect of Great Britain's industrialization on the European balance of power in the period 1800–1900.
 - c. Explain one political reaction to industrialization within Great Britain in the period 1800–1900.
2. Compare and contrast the roles of the British working women in the preindustrial economy (before 1750) with their roles in the era 1850 to 1920.
3. How and in what ways did the writings of Karl Marx draw on the Enlightenment concepts of progress, natural law, and reason?
4. Analyze the ways in which the rise of the middle class affected family structure and gender roles in Europe in the 1800s.

Unit 7: 19th Century Perspectives and Political Developments: 1815 to 1914

1. To what extent and in what ways did nationalist tensions in the Balkans between 1870 and 1914 contribute to the outbreak of World War I?
2. In the period 1815 – 1900, political liberalization progressed much further in western Europe than in Russia. Analyze the social and economic reasons for this difference.

Cross-Over Questions that Relate to More than One Unit in Terms of Time Period

1. Evaluate the extent to which Europe's interactions with its overseas colonies in the period 1500 to 1650 differed from its interactions with overseas colonies in the period 1815 to 1914.
2. Describe and explain a significant similarity and a significant difference between the ways European states waged war in the period circa 1500 – 1648 and in the period circa 1750 – 1871.
3. Describe and explain a significant similarity and a significant difference between European governments' role in the economy in the period circa 1650 – 1750 and in the period circa 1850 – 1950.
4. Analyze the various effects of the expansion of the Atlantic trade on the economy of Western Europe in the period 1450 – 1700.
5. Answer all 3 parts:
 - a. Identify and explain **ONE** continuity in European family life from 1700 through 1900.
 - b. Identify and explain **ONE** change in European family life from 1700 through 1900.
 - c. Identify and explain a **SECOND** change in European family life from 1700 through 1900.