

Appendix

Thematic Course Outline

(Pre-1450 material is denoted with an asterisk.)

I. Later Middle Ages*

- A. Hundred Years' War (1337–1453)*
- B. Black Death (1347)*
- C. Peasant revolts*
- D. Vernacular literature*
- E. Crisis in the Catholic Church*
- F. Life in the later Middle Ages*

II. The Renaissance

Note: The number of significant Renaissance artists and writers is great. Artists like Brunelleschi, Donatello, Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli, Holbein, and Dürer are only a small sample of possible examples. You are encouraged to select several major artists and their works and demonstrate how these works reflect Renaissance ideals and society.

- A. Contrast with the later Middle Ages
- B. Italian Renaissance
 - 1. Rise of the Italian city-states: Florence and selected other city-states
 - 2. Decline of the Italian city-states
 - 3. Machiavelli, *The Prince* (1513)
- C. Italian humanism: revival of Classical learning and civic humanism (e.g., Boccaccio, Castiglione, Mirandola)
- D. Northern Renaissance: Christian humanism (e.g., Erasmus and Sir Thomas More)
- E. Women in the Renaissance
- F. Italian Renaissance art
 - 1. Architecture
 - 2. Sculpture
 - 3. Painting
 - 4. Quattrocento in Florence
 - 5. High Renaissance in Rome: sixteenth century (cinquecento)
 - 6. Patronage and the arts
- G. Northern Renaissance
 - 1. Art in the Low Countries
 - 2. Writers (e.g., Rabelais, Cervantes, Shakespeare)
 - 3. Patronage and the arts

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

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|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2006 | Compare and contrast the relationship between the artist and society in the Renaissance/Reformation period to the relationship between the artist and society in the late nineteenth century. |
| 2004 | Analyze the influence of humanism on the visual arts in the Italian Renaissance. Use at least THREE specific works to support your analysis. |
| 2003B | To what extent and in what ways did women participate in the Renaissance? |
| 1998 | Discuss how Renaissance ideas are expressed in the Italian art of the period, referring to specific works and artists. |

III. New Monarchs

- A. Characteristics and methods
- B. France
- C. England
- D. Spain
 - 1. Ferdinand of Aragon (1479–1516) and Isabella of Castile (1474–1504)
 - 2. Hapsburg Empire

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

2005 Using examples from at least two different states, analyze the key features of the “new monarchies” and the factors responsible for their rise in the period 1450 to 1550.

IV. Age of Exploration

Note: It is not necessary for students to master an exhaustive list of explorers and technologies. For a thematic essay question on exploration, for example, students would be expected to analyze the significance of a few major explorers (e.g., Columbus, Vasco da Gama, Magellan) and technological developments. The multiple-choice section of the AP Exam does not emphasize minute details regarding exploration.

- A. Advances in learning
- B. Advances in technology
- C. Portuguese exploration
- D. Spanish exploration
- E. “Old Imperialism”
 - 1. Portuguese outposts in Africa, India, and Asia
 - 2. Spain and Portugal in the New World
 - 3. Dutch East Indies
 - 4. French colonies in North America
 - 5. English colonies in North America

V. Commercial Revolution

- A. Causes
- B. Impact
 - 1. “Price Revolution”
 - 2. Rise in capitalism
 - 3. New industries: cloth production, mining, printing, shipbuilding, cannons and muskets
 - 4. New consumer goods: sugar, tea, rice, tobacco, cocoa
 - 5. Mercantilism
 - 6. Enclosure movement in England

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2004B Explain the reasons for the rise of the Netherlands as a leading commercial power in the period 1550–1650.
- 2003 Explain how advances in learning and technology influenced fifteenth- and sixteenth-century European exploration and trade.
- 2001 Describe and analyze how overseas expansion by European states affected global trade and international relations from 1600 to 1715.
- 1992 Analyze the changes in the European economy from about 1450 to 1700 brought about by the voyages of exploration and by colonization. Give specific examples.

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VI. Life in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries

- A. Hierarchy in the countryside and in the cities
- B. Demographics
- C. Family
- D. Slavery introduced by the Portuguese (plantation economy)
- E. Witch hunts

Sample Past Thematic Essay Question

2002 Analyze at least TWO factors that account for the rise and at least TWO factors that explain the decline of witchcraft persecution and trials in Europe in the period from 1580 to 1750.

VII. Protestant Reformation

- A. Causes of the Protestant Reformation
 - 1. Declining prestige of the papacy*
 - 2. Early critics of the Church*
 - 3. Corrupt church practices (e.g., simony, pluralism, absenteeism, clerical ignorance)
 - 4. Renaissance humanism (e.g., Erasmus)
- B. Martin Luther (1483–1546)
 - 1. 95 Theses (1517)
 - 2. Impact of Lutheranism on women
 - 3. Luther's views on new sects and peasantry
- C. Calvinism
 - 1. John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (1536)
 - 2. Tenets: predestination, the elect, Protestant work ethic
 - 3. Strict theocracy in Geneva
 - 4. Spread of Calvinism
- D. Anabaptists (the "left wing" of the Protestant Reformation)
- E. Reformation in England
 - 1. John Wycliffe, the Lollards*
 - 2. Henry VIII and the creation of the Church of England
 - 3. Mary Tudor ("Bloody Mary") (1553–58)
 - 4. Elizabeth I (1558–1603)

VIII. Catholic Reformation

- A. Causes
- B. Council of Trent (1545–63)
- C. New religious orders
- D. Peace of Augsburg (1555)

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2006 Analyze the aims, methods, and degree of success of the Catholic Reformation (Counter-Reformation) in the sixteenth century.
- 2002B To what extent did political authorities influence the course of the Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth century?
- 2001 Discuss the political and social consequences of the Protestant Reformation in the first half of the sixteenth century.
- 1998 Compare and contrast the Lutheran Reformation and Catholic Reformation of the 16th century regarding the reform of both religious doctrines and religious practices.

1996	Assess the extent to which the Protestant Reformation promoted new expectations. Refer to at least two social groups in your assessment.
1995	Compare and contrast the attitudes of Martin Luther and John Calvin toward political authority and social order.
1991	Describe and analyze the ways in which sixteenth-century Roman Catholics defended their faith against the Protestant Reformation.
1990	In 1519 Charles of Hapsburg became Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor. Discuss and analyze the political, social, and religious problems he faced over the course of his imperial reign (1519–1556).

IX. Religious Wars

- A. Catholic crusade against Protestantism: Philip II of Spain (1556-98)
- B. French civil wars of the late sixteenth century
- C. The Netherlands
- D. Spain versus England
- E. Thirty Years' War (1618-48)
 - 1. Causes
 - 2. Course of the war
 - 3. Treaty of Westphalia (1648) and results of the war

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2002 Compare and contrast the religious policies of TWO of the following:
Elizabeth I of England
Catherine de Médicis of France
Isabella I of Spain
- 2000 "Leadership determines the fate of a country." Evaluate this quotation in terms of Spain's experience under Philip II.
- 1999 Discuss the relationship between politics and religion by examining the wars of religion. Choose TWO specific examples from the following:
Dutch Revolt
French Wars of Religion
English Civil War
Thirty Years' War

X. Age of Absolutism

- A. Philosophy of absolutism
- B. England (c. 1600-60)
- C. France (c. 1600–1715) (e.g., Richelieu, Mazarin, Louis XIV)
- D. Absolutism in Eastern Europe
 - 1. Characteristics
 - 2. Contrasts with Western Europe: serfdom, powerful nobility
 - 3. Austrian Empire (c. 1650–1780) (Hapsburgs)
 - 4. Prussia (c. 1600–1740) (Hohenzollerns)
 - 5. Russia (c. 1400–1725)
 - 6. Decline of the Ottoman Empire, the Polish Kingdom, and the Holy Roman Empire

Appendix

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2004B Compare and contrast the ways that seventeenth-century monarchs and twentieth-century dictators gained and maintained power.
- 2004B Analyze the shifts in the European balance of power in the period between 1763 and 1848.
- 2003 Louis XIV declared his goal was "one king, one law, one faith." Analyze the methods the king used to achieve this objective and discuss the extent to which he was successful.
- 2002 In what ways and to what extent did absolutism affect the power and status of the European nobility in the period 1650 to 1750? Use examples from at least TWO countries.
- 1999 Machiavelli suggested that a ruler should behave both "like a lion" and "like a fox." Analyze the policies of TWO of the following European rulers, indicating the degree to which they successfully followed Machiavelli's suggestion. Choose two:
Elizabeth I of England
Henry IV of France
Catherine the Great of Russia
Frederick II of Prussia
- 1995 Analyze the influence of the theory of mercantilism on the domestic and foreign policies of France, 1600–1715.
- 1991 Analyze the military, political, and social factors that account for the rise of Prussia between 1640 and 1786.
- 1989 Analyze the major ways through which Tsar Peter the Great (1689–1725) sought to reform his society and its institutions in order to strengthen Russia and its position in Europe.

XI. The Baroque

- A. Characteristics
- B. Reflection of the age of absolutism in architecture (e.g., Versailles)
- C. Painting and sculpture (e.g., Poussin, Rembrandt, Bernini)
- D. Music

Sample Past Thematic Essay Question

- 2003B Compare and contrast the relationship between artists and society in the Baroque era and in the twentieth century. Illustrate your essay with references to at least TWO examples for each period.

XII. Constitutionalism in Western Europe, Seventeenth Century

- A. England
 - 1. Parliament versus James I and Charles I
 - 2. English Civil War (Puritan Revolution) (1642–49)
 - 3. Oliver Cromwell (1653–58)

4. The Restoration (1660-68)
5. The Glorious Revolution (1688) and its political aftermath
6. Public policy responses
- B. The United Provinces of the Netherlands (Dutch Republic)
 1. Struggle for independence against Spain
 2. Impact of the Commercial Revolution
 3. Religious toleration
 4. Lack of centralization: stadtholders
 5. Economic decline

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

2002B Compare and contrast two theories of government in the period from 1640 to 1780.

1993 Describe and analyze the changes in the role of Parliament in English politics between the succession of James I and the Glorious Revolution.

XIII. The Scientific Revolution

- A. Sixteenth century (e.g., Copernicus)
- B. Seventeenth century
 1. Astronomy
 2. Bacon, inductive method
 3. Descartes, deductive method
- C. Effects
 1. Science and religion
 2. International scientific community (e.g., the Royal Society)
 3. Practical results (e.g., improved navigation)

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

2004 Assess the impact of the Scientific Revolution on religion and philosophy in the period 1550 to 1750.

2000 Explain the development of the scientific method in the seventeenth century and the impact of scientific thinking on traditional sources of authority.

1991 Describe the new astronomy of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and analyze the ways in which it changed scientific thought and methods.

XIV. The Enlightenment

Note: As with the numerous personalities of the Renaissance, an official list of notable Enlightenment figures is too exhaustive for the purposes of this outline. The names included in the outline represent only a small number of possible examples. You are encouraged to select several major Enlightenment figures and their works and demonstrate how they reflect Enlightenment ideals and society.

- A. Secular worldview: natural science and reason
- B. Impact of the Enlightenment on European society
- C. John Locke (1632-1704)

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- D. The philosophes (e.g., Diderot, Voltaire)
- E. Economic theory (e.g., Smith)
- F. Gender -

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2003 How and to what extent did Enlightenment ideas about religion and society shape the policies of the French Revolution in the period 1789 to 1799?
- 1998 To what extent did the Enlightenment express optimistic ideas in eighteenth-century Europe? Illustrate your answer with references to specific individuals and their works.
- 1994 Analyze the ways in which Enlightenment thought addressed religious beliefs and social issues in the eighteenth century.
- 1993 Compare and contrast the attitudes toward science and technology held by Enlightenment thinkers and the various attitudes held by European artists and intellectuals in the twentieth century.
- 1990 Analyze the ways in which specific intellectual and scientific developments of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries contributed to the emergence of the religious outlook known as "Deism."

XV. Enlightened Despotism

- A. Characteristics and beliefs
- B. Frederick the Great of Prussia (1740-86)
- C. Catherine the Great of Russia (1762-96)
- D. Maria Theresa (1740-80) and Joseph II (1765-90) of Austria
- E. Napoleon of France (1799-1815)

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2002B Compare and contrast the goals and major policies of Peter the Great (ruled 1682-1725) and Frederick the Great (ruled 1740-1786).
- 1999 Machiavelli suggested that a ruler should behave both "like a lion" and "like a fox." Analyze the policies of TWO of the following European rulers, indicating the degree to which they successfully followed Machiavelli's suggestion. Choose two:
 - Elizabeth I of England
 - Henry IV of France
 - Catherine the Great of Russia
 - Frederick II of Prussia
- 1995 Compare and contrast the extent to which Catherine the Great and Joseph Stalin were "Westerners."

XVI. European Expansion and Change in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries

A. Agricultural Revolution

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2003 Identify features of the eighteenth-century Agricultural Revolution and analyze its social and economic consequences.
- 1998 Compare and contrast the roles of British working women in the pre-industrial economy (before 1750) with their roles in the era 1850 to 1920.

B. Atlantic economy in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2002B Both Jean-Baptiste Colbert (1619-1683) and Adam Smith (1723-1790) sought to increase the wealth of their respective countries. How did their recommendations differ?
- 2001 Describe and analyze how overseas expansion by European states affected global trade and international relations from 1600 to 1715.
- 1995 Analyze the influence of the theory of mercantilism on the domestic and foreign policies of France, 1600-1715.

C. Changing society in the eighteenth century

1. Causes and impact of population growth
2. Marriage, divorce, family life
3. Formal education
4. Health
5. Religious reform

XVII. The French Revolution

- A. French social hierarchy prior to the Revolution
- B. Long-term and short-term causes
- C. National Assembly (1789-91)
- D. The role of women
- E. The Revolution and the rest of Europe
- F. Legislative Assembly (1791-92)
- G. National Convention, the Terror, the Directory (1792-99)
- H. Napoleon Bonaparte (1799-1814)
- I. Congress of Vienna and the Restoration (1814-15)

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2003 How and to what extent did Enlightenment ideas about religion and society shape the policies of the French Revolution in the period 1789 to 1799?
- 2001 Compare and contrast the French Jacobins' use of state power to achieve revolutionary goals during the Terror (1793-1794) with Stalin's use of state power to achieve revolutionary goals in the Soviet Union during the period 1928 to 1939.

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- 1996 Identify the major social groups in France on the eve of the 1789 Revolution. Assess the extent to which their aspirations were achieved in the period from the meeting of the Estates-General (May 1789) to the declaration of the republic (September 1792).
- 1992 "Napoleon was a child of the Enlightenment." Assess the validity of the statement above. Use examples referring both to specific aspects of the Enlightenment and to Napoleon's policies and attitudes.
- 1989 "Political leaders committed to radical or extremist goals often exert authoritarian control in the name of higher values." Support or refute this statement with reference to the political and cultural policies of Robespierre during the French Revolution.

XVIII. The Industrial Revolution/Industrialization

- A. Roots of the Industrial Revolution
- B. Conditions favorable to the Industrial Revolution in England
- C. Important inventions
- D. Transportation Revolution
- E. Continental Europe industrializes after 1815
- F. Social implications of the Industrial Revolution
 1. Urbanization
 2. Struggle between labor and capital
 3. Working conditions
 4. Economics: the "dismal science"
 5. Liberal reforms to address the plight of industrial workers
 6. Eventual rise in the standard of living

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2005 Analyze how economic and social developments affected women in England in the period from 1700 to 1850.
- 1993 Discuss the effects of the industrial economy on Western European peasant women and working-class women from 1830 to 1914.
- 1992 Describe and analyze the issues and ideas in the debate in Europe between 1750 and 1846 over the proper role of government in the economy. Give specific examples.
- 1991 Between 1815 and 1848, the conditions of the laboring classes and the problem of political stability were critical issues in England. Describe and analyze the reforms that social critics and politicians of this period proposed to resolve these problems.
- 1989 Between 1750 and 1850, more and more Western Europeans were employed in cottage industry and factory production. Analyze how these two types of employment affected employer-employee relations, working conditions, family relations, and the standard of living during this period.

XIX. Conservatism, Nationalism, Liberalism, and Socialism in Politics

- A. Congress of Vienna (1814-15) and the Concert of Europe (1815-48)
- B. Conservatism throughout Europe (e.g., Carlsbad Decrees, Peterloo Massacre)
 1. Characteristics
 2. Responses to revolutions between 1815 and 1848

- C. Nationalism
 - 1. Nationalist philosophy
 - 2. National revolutionary movements (1815-48)
 - 3. German unification (1871)
 - 4. Italian unification (1870)
 - 5. Austria-Hungary
- D. Liberalism
 - 1. The Enlightenment: Classical liberalism (e.g., Mill)
 - 2. France (Revolutions of 1830, 1848), Louis Napoleon
 - 3. England: 1832 Reform Bill, labor reform, Corn Laws repeal, Chartists
 - 4. Italy
 - 5. Germany
 - 6. Austria
 - 7. Russia: emancipation of the serfs (1861)
- E. Socialism
 - 1. Utopian
 - 2. Marxist
 - 3. 1848

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2005 Assess the extent to which the economic and political ideals of Karl Marx were realized in postrevolutionary Russia in the period from 1917 to 1939.
- 2003B Compare and contrast political liberalism with political conservatism in the first half of the nineteenth century in Europe.
- 1993 Describe the ways in which conservative political and social views shaped the peace settlement of the Congress of Vienna. Explain the consequences of the peace settlement for the period 1815 to 1848.
- 1991 Between 1815 and 1848, the condition of the laboring classes and the problem of political stability were critical issues in England. Describe and analyze the reforms that social critics and politicians of this period proposed to resolve these problems.
- 1990 In February 1848, the middle classes and workers in France joined to overthrow the government of Louis Philippe. By June the two groups were at odds in their political, economic, and social thinking. Analyze what transpired to divide the groups and describe the consequences for French politics.
- 1989 Analyze and compare the effects of nationalism on Italian and Austro-Hungarian politics between 1815 and 1914.

XX. Romanticism

- A. Characteristics
- B. Early German Romantics (e.g., Goethe)
- C. English Romantic poetry (e.g., Wordsworth, Shelley)
- D. French literature (e.g., Hugo)
- E. Art (e.g., Delacroix)
- F. Music (e.g., Beethoven, Chopin)

Appendix

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2003 Analyze three examples of the relationship between romanticism and nationalism before 1850.
- 1997 Discuss some of the ways in which Romantic artists, musicians, and writers responded to political and socioeconomic conditions in the period from 1800 to 1850. Document your response with specific examples from discussions of at least two of the three disciplines: visual arts, music, and literature.

XXI. Urbanization and Life in the Late Nineteenth Century

- A. Living conditions
- B. Improvement in health (e.g., Pasteur)
- C. Urban planning and public transportation
- D. Social structure: classes and the changing family

Sample Past Thematic Essay Question

- 1996 Describe the physical transformation of European cities in the second half of the nineteenth century and analyze the social consequences of this transformation.

XXII. Intellectual Movements in the Late Nineteenth Century

- A. Science (e.g., Darwin, Freud)
- B. Realism (e.g., Zola, Eliot, Tolstoy, Millet)
- C. Impressionism (e.g., Monet)
- D. Postimpressionism (e.g., Van Gogh, Cézanne)
- E. Religion (e.g., *Rerum Novarum* [1891])

Sample Past Thematic Essay Question

- 1991 Describe and analyze the ways in which Marxism, Freudianism, and the women's movement challenged traditional European beliefs before the First World War.

XXIII. The Age of Mass Politics

- A. German Empire
 - 1. Prince Otto von Bismarck (1871-90)
 - 2. Wilhelm I (1871-88) and Wilhelm II (1888-1918)
 - 3. Social Democratic Party (SPD)
 - 4. First welfare state
- B. Third French Republic
 - 1. Paris Commune (1871)
 - 2. National Assembly: political parties and leaders
 - 3. Challenges to the republic (e.g., Dreyfus Affair)
- C. Great Britain
 - 1. Political parties and leaders (e.g., Disraeli, Gladstone)
 - 2. Political reforms (e.g., Reform Bill of 1867)
 - 3. The Irish Question
- D. Austrian Empire
 - 1. Dual Monarchy (Ausgleich)
 - 2. Nationalities
 - 3. Reforms

- E. The Eastern Question
 - 1. Russia versus the Ottoman Empire in the Balkans
 - 2. Pan-Slavism
 - 3. Other European rivals in the Balkans
 - 4. Congress of Berlin (1878)
- F. Russia
 - 1. Defeat in the Crimean War, impulse for modernization
 - 2. Alexander II (1855-81): emancipation of the serfs (1861)
 - 3. Slavophiles, Nihilists, Westernizers
 - 4. Economic development
 - 5. Nicholas II (1894-1917)
 - a. Russo-Japanese War (1904-5)
 - b. Revolution of 1905, "Bloody Sunday"
 - c. Duma
- G. Impact of Marxism in the age of mass politics

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2005 Historians speak of the rise of mass politics in the period from 1880 to 1914. Define this phenomenon and analyze its effects on European politics in this period.
- 2004 Contrast the impact of nationalism in Germany and the Austrian Empire between 1848 and 1914.
- 2002 Compare and contrast the foreign policy goals and achievements of Metternich (1815-1848) and Bismarck (1862-1890).
- 2002B Describe and analyze responses to industrialization by the working class between 1850 and 1914.

XXIV. Women's Suffrage

- A. Britain
- B. Russia
- C. Scandinavia

XXV. Imperialism

- A. Major causes for the imperialist impulse
- B. Mid-nineteenth-century economic penetration of non-European regions
 - 1. China
 - 2. Japan
 - 3. Egypt
- C. European emigration
- D. Causes of the new imperialism (1880-1914), contrast with the old imperialism
 - 1. New imperialism in Africa
 - 2. New imperialism in Asia
- E. Critics of imperialism (e.g., Hobson, Lenin)

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 1997 Analyze the policies of three European colonial powers regarding Africa between 1871 and 1914.
- 1990 How and in what ways were economic and political factors responsible for intensifying European imperialist activity in Africa from the mid-nineteenth century to the beginning of the First World War?

Appendix

XXVI. World War I

Note: The thematic essay question section of the AP European History Exam does not focus on military history. While students may be required to understand the significance of a few of the major battles in twentieth-century warfare for the purposes of the exam's multiple-choice section, the emphasis of the thematic essays has traditionally been on the areas of diplomacy and social consequences.

- A. Long-term causes
- B. Immediate causes
- C. Western Front
- D. Eastern Front
- E. Naval war
- F. Mobilization for "total war"
- G. Wilson's Fourteen Points (1918)
- H. Revolutions in Germany and Austria
- I. Peace settlements (1919–1923)
- J. Results

Past Sample Thematic Essay Questions

- 2004B Analyze the participation of European women in the economy and in politics from 1914 to 1939. Use examples from at least TWO countries.
- 1998 To what extent and in what ways did nationalist tensions in the Balkans between 1870 and 1914 contribute to the outbreak of the First World War?
- 1988 Analyze and assess the extent to which the First World War accelerated European social change in such areas as work, sex roles, and government involvement in everyday life.

XXVII. Russian Revolution

- A. 1905 Revolution
- B. Impact of World War I on Russian society
- C. February Revolution (1917)
- D. Bolshevik leadership: October Revolution (1917)
- E. Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (1917)
- F. Russian Civil War
- G. Role of women during and after the war
- H. Results of the Russian Revolution

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2004 Compare and contrast the extent to which the French Revolution (1789–1799) and the Russian Revolution (1917–1924) changed the status of women.
- 1994 Describe and analyze the long-term social and economic trends in the period 1880 to 1917 that prepared the ground for revolution in Russia.

XXVIII. Age of Anxiety in the Interwar Years

- A. Modern philosophy and criticism of society (e.g., Nietzsche, Eliot, the Lost Generation)
- B. Impact of science on the common mind
 - 1. "New Physics"
 - 2. Freudian psychology
- C. Modern art in the twentieth century (e.g., Picasso, Dada, surrealism)
- D. Modern music

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2002 Analyze the impact of the First World War on European culture and society in the interwar period (1919–1939).
- 2001 How did the new theories in physics and psychology in the period from 1900 to 1939 challenge existing ideas about the individual and society?
- 1993 Compare and contrast the attitudes toward science and technology held by Enlightenment thinkers with the various attitudes held by European artists and intellectuals in the twentieth century.

XXIX. Politics in the Interwar Period

- A. Weimar Republic (1919–33)
 - 1. Communist attempts to take control (e.g., Spartacists) (1919)
 - 2. Impact of Versailles Treaty
 - 3. Runaway inflation
 - 4. Rise of Hitler and the Nazis
- B. Great Britain
 - 1. Unemployment
 - 2. General Strike (1926)
 - 3. Growth of the Labour Party
- C. Great Depression
 - 1. Causes
 - 2. Impact on Europe
- D. Spanish Civil War (1936–39)

XXX. Totalitarianism

- A. Contrast totalitarianism with conservative authoritarianism
- B. Tools of dictatorship
- C. Russia
 - 1. Lenin (1917–24)
 - 2. Stalin (1924–53)
 - 3. Life in the Soviet Union
- D. Italy
 - 1. Rise of Mussolini and fascism
 - 2. Life in fascist Italy
- E. Nazi Germany
 - 1. Rise of Hitler, Nazi ideology (e.g., *Mein Kampf*)
 - 2. Impact of the Great Depression
 - 3. Nuremberg Laws (1935–38)
 - 4. Role of the SS and Gestapo
 - 5. Life in Nazi Germany
 - 6. Holocaust

Appendix

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2004 Analyze the ways in which technology and mass culture contributed to the success of dictators in the 1920s and 1930s.
- 2004B Compare and contrast the ways that seventeenth-century monarchs and twentieth-century dictators gained and maintained power.
- 2001 Compare and contrast the French Jacobins' use of state power to achieve revolutionary goals during the Terror (1793-94) with Stalin's use of state power in the USSR between 1928-1939.
- 1994 Discuss and analyze the political and economic reasons for the failure of parliamentary democracy in Germany after the First World War.
- 1983 Compare the rise to power of fascism in Italy and in Germany.

XXXI. World War II

- A. Failure of collective security
1. League of Nations
 2. Hitler's repudiation of the Versailles Treaty
 3. Spanish Civil War (1936-39)
 4. Appeasement
 5. German-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact (1939)
- B. Nazi Empire in Europe
1. Partition of Poland between Germany and the Soviet Union (1939)
 2. Conquest of Western Europe; failure to invade Great Britain
 3. Vichy France
 4. The "Final Solution"
 5. Invasion of the Soviet Union (June 1941)
- C. Turning points (e.g., Stalingrad)
- D. Diplomacy during the war (e.g., Atlantic Charter, Yalta)
- E. Results of World War II

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

- 2006 Considering the period 1933 to 1945, analyze the economic, diplomatic, and military reasons for Germany's defeat in the Second World War.
- 1999 Compare and contrast the degree of success of treaties negotiated in Vienna (1814-1815) and Versailles (1919) in achieving European stability.
- 1997 Account for the responses of the European democracies to the military aggression by Italy and Germany during the 1930s.
- 1996 Compare and contrast the relationships between the great powers and Poland in the periods 1772-1815 and 1918-1939.
- 1992 Contrast European diplomacy in the periods between 1890 and 1914 and 1918 to 1939, respectively. Include in your analysis goals, practices, and results.

XXXII. The Cold War

- A. Roots of the Cold War
- B. Containment
 - 1. Marshall Plan (1948)
 - 2. Berlin Crisis (1948-49)
 - 3. NATO
 - 4. Nuclear arms race
 - 5. Korean War (1950-53)
- C. 1950s
 - 1. Khrushchev: "peaceful coexistence"
 - 2. Warsaw Pact (1955)
 - 3. Suez Crisis (1956)
 - 4. Sputnik
 - 5. U-2 incident
- D. 1960s
 - 1. Berlin Wall (1961)
 - 2. Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)
 - 3. Vietnam War (1954-75)
- E. 1970s
 - 1. Willy Brandt, Ostpolitik
 - 2. Détente
 - 3. Helsinki Conference (1975)
 - 4. Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979)
- F. 1980s
 - 1. Gorbachev: glasnost and perestroika
 - 2. INF Treaty (1987)
 - 3. Revolutions of 1989
- G. Fall of the Soviet Union

XXXIII. Soviet Empire

- A. Stalin's final years
- B. The Iron Curtain: Soviet satellites
- C. Challenges to Soviet authority within the Eastern European Empire
- D. Khrushchev (1958-64): de-Stalinization and the thaw
- E. The Brezhnev Era (1964-81)
- F. Gorbachev (1985-91)
- G. Fall of the Soviet Union

Sample Past Thematic Essay Questions

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| 2003 | Analyze three reasons for the end of Soviet domination over Eastern Europe. |
| 2001 | Compare and contrast the political and economic effects of the Cold War (1945–1991) on Western Europe with the effects on Eastern Europe. |
| 2000 | Compare and contrast the political and economic policies of Joseph Stalin in the period before the Second World War and those of Mikhail Gorbachev (1985–1991). |
| 1991 | Describe and analyze the changing relationships between the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries from 1945 to 1970. |