

AP[®] Human Geography 2003 Scoring Commentary

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Question 1

Essay	Score	Commentary
A	3	This response earns two points by identifying Buenos Aires as a primate city to which all roads are directed. It does not, however, use core-periphery relations to explain the significance of these characteristics. The identification of the effect of distance decay on city size farther from Buenos Aires earns one point. The essay has no relevant reference to the case of Germany.
В	5	This response identifies the port function of Buenos Aires, and the fact that all roads lead to this major coastal city for two points. One point is earned for the explanation provided for the role of exporting in the regional economy. The response shifts in scale to note Argentina's place in the global periphery and its reliance on countries of the core as markets for two points. This essay lacks a clear explanation of Germany's urban system.
С	6	This response earns two points by explaining that most roads in Northern Argentina lead to Buenos Aires in support of the city's export function. The response earns two points by showing that Germany's complex urban system and integrated road network result in a more complex economic system within the global core. The role of Buenos Aires as a processing and exporting center for primary products is discussed for two points.
		Question 2
A	3	This response describes several characteristics of place uniformity for two points, but does not identify the process that is at work. The limited description of place restoration associated with enhancing landscape distinctiveness included in the essay earns one point.
В	5	This response earns three points by explaining how places have become nearly identical as a result of the widespread use of common recreational landscape elements. The essay also includes a description of unique features of particular places (Disney World, San Francisco) for two points. The process behind this pattern is not identified in this response.
С	6	This response earns three points by explaining and including examples of the uniformity and loss of unique cultures that result from tourism. The essay also identifies ecotourism, regional architecture, and historical sites as forms of tourism that promote place distinctiveness, earning three points.

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Question 3

Essay	Score	Commentary
A	3	This response earns one point by identifying crowding as a result of a rising rate of natural increase (RNI) as the reason for out-migration from Europe. Two points are earned for the discussion of Europe's weak economy and unemployment coupled with hopes for a better life in the United States as a factor for Europe's development as a source of migrants to the United States between 1800 and 1920.
В	4	This response identifies population growth in Stage 2 of the demographic transition as a cause of out-migration from Europe for one point. The non-demographic factors addressed in Part B include economic advantages and less expensive land in the United States for two points. One additional point is given for reference to rapid population growth and overpopulation in North Africa as a cause of migration to Europe for Part C.
C	6	This response earns one point for linking falling death rates and rising population to explain out-migration from Europe between 1800 and 1920. Two points are earned for the identification of famine in Ireland and new opportunities in the United States as non-demographic factors that account for out-migration from Europe. Three points are awarded for the discussion in Part C. The response explains that low birth and death rates in Europe account for near-zero population growth and a declining work force in Europe (1960-2000), while rapid population growth (stage 2 in the demographic transition) in North Africa accounts for emigration from this region to take advantage of increased job availability in Europe.