



**AP[®] European History
2004 Sample Student Responses
Form B**

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Q 3

C-1

Romanticism makes good contrast to the Enlightenment in that Romanticism emphasized the emotional facets of the human beings while Enlightenment showed increased concern for the reasoning and scientific approaches to thoughts. Although both of them are related to the character of humans — emotion or reason —, they suggested different ways to view ~~the world~~ and interpret the world, and therefore lead to the opening of different branches of thoughts: emotional emphasis of Romanticism partly contributed to ~~the~~ ~~the~~ birth of nationalism and revival of ~~interest~~ in the history or religion, while Enlightenment ~~was~~ contributed and was accompanied by the Science Revolution. In this sense, they are quite different — and, Romanticism challenged the too rational emphasis of the Enlightenment.

~~The~~ Enlightenment had strong ~~and~~ belief in, as well as emphasis on, the ~~reasoning~~ perfectability of the human being. Philosophes, the leading groups of the Enlightenment, believes generally believe that humans can solve complex problems, such as the existence of God, through reasoning, and that by natural law, as corroborated by the ~~present~~ contemporary Science Revolution, dominated the world. Hence, many of them ~~believe~~ positively view the world controlled by the natural law, although some philosophes, such as Voltaire, opposed to this view. With their commitment to the supremacy of reasoning in human affairs, the Enlightenment opposed to

Q3

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the previous ~~empty~~ ~~stimulation~~ ~~dependence~~ of religion and arts on the emotion of humans, a stimulation that paralyzed the reasoning ability of human beings. Hence, ~~they~~ ^{many of them} valued

~~In contrast, Romantics, as supporters of the Romanticism were called, didn't accept the supremacy and perfectibility of~~

science and mathematics over the emotional and supernatural approaches of the religion to the explanation of the natural world. Some of them, called deist, believed in the existence of God, but they didn't believe the intervention of God in human affairs. Further, many of ~~them~~ the "Enlightened" tried to solve political and economical — social & societal — questions with rational and scientific approaches. For instance, John Locke proposed the theory of social contract to explain the relation of the governing and the governed.

In contrast, Romantics — as the proponents of Romanticism were called — appreciated emotional aspects of human more, and to some extent distrusted the power of the human reasoning because humans are too ~~small~~ small and weak compared to the tremendous nature. Some of Romantics found relief by indulging in ~~the~~ their ~~an~~ emotional enjoyment of the world, not by finding the natural and scientific laws as the "Enlightened" tried to do. In contrast to ^{the} Enlightenment which emphasized the science, mathematics, sociology that ~~to~~ are supposed to have

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C-3

Q 3

keys to the understanding of the nature, the Romantics ~~found~~ put more emphasis on the history, art, literature, and sensuous enjoyment. Some of them glorified certain heroes, heroines of ancient or contemporary history with their pictures or books. ~~A picture~~ of An imposing picture of Napoleon I or Jesus would be an example. While the Enlightenment found a way to glorify humans in their ability to reason and think ~~scientifically~~ logically, the Romanticism glorified humans themselves, along with glorification of God and the nature, which ~~are~~ were the subjects to be explained in the Enlightenment.

~~One~~, One should also note the similarity. Both of them have great interest in humans, and the nature surrounding them, and they glorified the nature. Yet, ~~the~~ Enlightenment has more emphasis on the rationality and the future of human beings, as achieved by scientific and technological development, the Romanticism emphasizes more about the emotion and greatness of human beings. While Enlightenment led to the development of science and sociology, Romanticism contributed to that of arts, literature, and politics of nationalism and that of religion. Both of them, however, glorify the ability of humans, although Romanticism criticized the perfectability and supremacy of the reasoning ~~is~~ assumed by the Enlightenment in the natural world.

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E-1
Part B
Question 3

Romanticism is defined in terms calling it a complete break from the Enlightenment and challenging all of the Enlightenment ideals and foundations. The two movements shared extremely different views on human beings and the natural world. Romanticism challenged these Enlightenment ideals to a great extent.

← The Enlightenment stood for rationality, philosophy, science, knowledge, and other similar things, while Romanticism stood for raw human emotion. The enlightenment spawned authors with many different views on human beings, most of them contradictory to Romanticism. People of the Enlightenment attempted to analyze people and came out defining them as "blank slates", inherently good and later corrupted by society, as inherently uncivilized and later cultured, and other similar things. Romanticism authors saw everything in terms of emotions. They contradicted the Enlightenment greatly on this subject, saying that humans should be

Part B
Question 3

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E-2

in-tune and a product of their emotions, rather than rational beings.

The enlightenment saw nature as a place of discovery and exploration, whereas Romanticism saw it as the main grounds for human emotion. While Enlightenment thinkers looked to nature to make discoveries such as gravity, inertia, mathematics, and topics such as that, romantics sought only emotion. Rather than study it, they chose to absorb it with such acts as tying themselves to the mast of a ship during a storm, or going outside simply for emotional stimulation. These activities were, to a large extent, very dissimilar from Enlightenment views on nature.

The enlightenment and romanticism were two opposite movements. The first, ~~the~~ the Enlightenment, was later challenged by Romanticism - a total break from it. Their views of human beings and the natural world were very different, with Romanticism going to the extent of being nearly completely contradictory.