

**AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY**  
**2007 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)**

**Question 3**

Compare the experiences of TWO of the following groups of immigrants during the period 1830 to 1860.

English  
Irish  
German

**The 8–9 Essay**

- Articulates a clear, well-developed thesis comparing the experiences of two of the immigrant groups between 1830 and 1860.
- Supports the thesis with substantial relevant information comparing the experiences of those two immigrant groups.
- Effectively analyzes by comparison the experiences of those two immigrant groups between 1830 and 1860; coverage of the two may be somewhat uneven.
- Is well organized and well written.
- May contain minor errors.

**The 5–7 Essay**

- Contains a thesis, which may be partially developed, comparing the experiences of two of the immigrant groups between 1830 and 1860.
- Provides ample, relevant information comparing the experiences of those two immigrant groups.
- Analyzes to some degree, by comparison, the experiences of those two immigrant groups between 1830 and 1860; coverage may not be balanced between the two groups.
- Has acceptable organization and writing.
- May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the essay.

**The 2–4 Essay**

- Presents a thesis that may be confused, simplistic, or undeveloped in terms of comparing the experiences of two of the immigrant groups between 1830 and 1860; or no thesis is presented.
- Includes little relevant information comparing the experiences of those two immigrant groups.
- Has no comparison, or only a limited comparison, analyzing the experiences of those two immigrant groups; may cover only one group.
- May be poorly organized and/or poorly written.
- May contain major errors.

**The 0–1 Essay**

- Lacks a thesis or restates the question.
- Includes no relevant information concerning two of the immigrant groups.
- Contains no analysis comparing the experiences of two of the immigrant groups.
- Is poorly organized and/or poorly written.
- May contain numerous errors, both major and minor.

**The — Essay**

- Blank or completely off topic.

# AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY

## 2007 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

### Question 3 Information List

Between 1830 and 1860, 4.78 million immigrants were admitted to the United States, of whom 738,200 were British, 1.86 million were Irish, and 1.49 million were German. In 1860 three-fourths of 4.1 million foreign-born residents were Irish or German.

#### British

- Post 1815, some British relocated to work in New England factories, but numerous others sought to escape the growing urbanization, early phases of industrialization, and economic fluctuations that undercut crafts workers. They were attracted by early efforts to establish British agricultural colonies in America, especially in the Old Northwest.
- By the 1830s-40s, some farmers and agricultural laborers began to migrate with their families. Many sold off properties to accumulate capital for buying land and settling in America. However, by the 1850s general prosperity in England reduced the sense of urgency to emigrate.
- Americans saw the British as economic assets, in both urban and rural areas, and also associated them with America's cultural roots. The British were readily accepted by Americans and encountered little hostility.
- Some farm "colonies" proved to be too isolated, and many British found they were unprepared for frontier conditions. They either moved into towns or sought already cultivated lands, such as land in Ohio and Indiana. Others eventually scattered quite broadly across America.
- Few British established subgroups or ethnic communities as did the Irish and Germans. The efforts that they did make, including starting newspapers, did not long survive. However, many British in the United States were eventually regarded as being more democratized than those in England as a result of their American experience.

#### Irish

- The Irish are regarded as America's first refugee population; while some came with resources during the 1830s, by the time of the potato blight in the 1840s it was mostly the poorest and least skilled who were arriving.
- Due to limited resources, most Irish remained in port cities—New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, Charleston—and concentrated in urban enclaves.
  - Irish were heavily employed on canals, railroads, harbors, and in textile mills.
  - Many single women (especially domestics) migrated in search of jobs.
  - The Irish encountered considerable job discrimination and competition with Free Blacks.
  - Hostilities led to anti-Irish riots (especially in Philadelphia) and anti-Black riots.
- The Irish established churches, parochial schools, mutual aid societies, and other organizations, and sent remittances to bring families to America, but they did not create institutionally complete communities.
- Mostly Catholic, the Irish clashed with Americans over public schools, use of the Protestant Bible in schools, and funding for schools.
- With the Irish drawn to the Democratic Party in reaction to Whigs' Protestantism, the Free Soil anti-slavery position, and temperance efforts, nativist Americans such as Samuel Morse sought to delay Irish voting rights (until they were resident for 21 years) and organized the anti-immigrant nativist (Know Nothing) American Party; Millard Fillmore became its candidate for president in 1856.

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**2007 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)**

**Question 3 Information List (continued)**

- Irish service during the Mexican–American War somewhat improved their standing in American eyes.

**German**

- Germans concentrated on acquiring farm lands from Texas to Wisconsin and the Old Northwest, although many—especially artisans, professionals, merchants—settled in such cities as New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Milwaukee, and Cincinnati.
- Initially loyal to German principalities, they were gradually bound together by language and religion.
- However, German migrants were quite diverse, comprised of Protestants, Catholics, Jews, and Freethinkers (the '48ers).
- Many agricultural communities were established with nearly all German populations; they were more isolated and had less political influence at first than the Irish.
- Germans established schools, churches, synagogues, newspapers, theaters, gymnasiums, militia and fire companies, kindergartens, high schools, and beer gardens—in effect, complete community enclaves, including bilingual schools.
- They also opposed the Whigs for the latter's temperance campaigns and made important cultural contributions with schools, beer halls, and America's celebration of Christmas.

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### Influx of Immigration

1/2/20

The 1840's brought on an influx of immigration as hordes of Europeans boarded ships to seek opportunity in the United States. 2 major <sup>nationalities</sup> groups that immigrated to the United States, the German and the Irish. Both had completely different settlement aspects in terms of location and <sup>assimilation</sup> ~~welcoming~~ into US society, but both contributed to ~~our~~ facet of American culture ~~today~~ that still exists today.

The Irish arrived during the "Black Forties" and had approximately 3,800,000 immigrants from 1830 to 1880. Following a potato famine and associated drought, many sought refuge in the "Land of Plenty" hoping for a more prosperous life. Much to their dismay, the Irish's assimilation into American society was not a pretty picture. Forced to the bottom of society, the Irish lived in filthy, crowded slums and were forced to compete with free blacks for the lowly jobs at factories and other less-than-promising careers. ~~Because~~ Because of the social 'battie' the Irish were prone to favoring Southern Republican's <sup>opinions</sup> ~~ideas~~ against the abolitionist cause. Riots broke out as well between the Irish and African Americans causing some social unrest. In the labor force, Irish were despised by many, and even were banned from applying ~~as an assured unacceptance~~ as it was assured that they wouldn't be accepted. ~~Many~~ On the front of many buildings the sign "No Irish need apply" was hung - sometimes even abbreviated to NINA. But the Irish did manage to secure

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a stronghold in New York and Boston, as they became the most populated Irish cities. Irish also found their way into politics and introduced the "paddie-wagon" in New York City. The Germans, had a much escaping Germany and heading to the US for political refuge, were largely liberals. Moving out ~~to~~ west, especially to <sup>the</sup> Wisconsin area where they settled into farmlands. They were extremely influential in politics, contributing to many brilliant liberals, and also pushed public education. Introducing 'kindergarten', they encouraged the spread of this school for youngsters as it would benefit later generation with wise and intelligent leaders. The Germans also brought over many facets of their culture - Santa Claus, the Christmas tree, and ~~the~~ of course, beer ('bier'). Germans often Roudy congregations of Germans on weekend ~~might~~ evenings were celebrated with beer, and basically was just a relaxing way for Germans to enjoy each other's company - although many Americans were slightly skeptical, they let the Germans be. From 1830-1880 The Germans were the highest non-English immigrants with over 5 million gracing American shores.

Irish and German immigrants both immigrated to the US in hopes of a more promising life full of prosperity. ~~For~~ for the Irish, although escaping starvation in Ireland, were not welcomed very warmly into American society - while for Germans, their experiences were quite the opposite. As the two major immigrant groups from 1830 to 1860 they brought along their culture from Europe, adding more to

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3A

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3 of 3

the boiling pot of ~~culture~~<sup>ethnicities</sup> and culture, that America exists as today. But in the nineteenth century, these new immigrants severely halted the creation of many labor unions, as ~~their~~ language served a crucial barrier.

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The time period of 1830 to 1860 brought about many immigrants to the United States. Most people moving from ~~to~~ their native countries to ~~the~~ the United States saw America as a land of opportunity; they believed that they could go to the United States and live a great and successful life, unlike the "old country". However, this thinking was ~~was~~ that of wishful thinking. The reality of the situations for many immigrants was not as they expected. As they would arrive to America, they would find that it was a "land of opportunity," but most of these opportunities were not open to them. ~~Two~~ Two groups of immigrants that were hit hard by this included Irish immigrants and German immigrants. Irish immigrants came to the United States because of the economic hardships that were placed on them back in their native home of Ireland. There was a potatoe famine taking place, where most of the food they ate were made of potatoes since they were so easily grown. As they arrived in the United States, they would have to go ~~to~~ to a location which was close to relatives or friends so that they would have somewhere to stay until they got their lives together. Since a couple of immigrants were fortunate to come across opportunities that would help them "get rich quick," they would send letters home telling their families of their success. Many of these letters would inspire immigrants to come, but as they would



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2/3

arriving, they would be shocked that they were living in slums and ghettos which had apartments that housed two or even more families at a time. Not only was the living condition shocking, the working conditions were as well. Many Irish people were discriminated against, so jobs would at times be closed to them. This discrimination was so bad, even stores had signs that read "No Irish Allowed," so for this group, the "land of opportunity" was not exactly what they expected, due to all of the unequal treatments.

In comparison to the experiences of Irish immigrants, Germans had an easier time. German immigrants would arrive in America and would also share housing with relatives or friends, just as the Irish immigrants. However, German immigrants tended to live in their own little communities where there were German speaking people, foods and traditions that reminded them of home. Their school systems also were better for them. Children who lived in these communities went to school where they were taught under German ways and religions, they would keep their culture alive. Although this would happen, there were also times when German immigrants would go to American schools and get "Americanized," they would learn the language, the culture, and would even pick up American names. As the learning opportunities for Germans were better, the working was too. They did not seem to have a lot of



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discrimination towards them, unlike the Irish immigrants

The experiences for immigrants coming to the United States was far from what was expected. For many, this place was not how it seemed to be with ~~at~~ all of the empty promises that were given and all of the hope they had was extinguished, especially for Irish immigrants.

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In the period between 1830 and 1860, America experienced ~~an influx of~~ huge boom of Eastern European immigration. Through this immigration surge, the Irish and Germans profited the economy, changed politics, and had a tremendous social impact on America. The Germans were known as the hard working and were often skilled. The Irish mainly stuck to factories and the city. Together they profited America. Elections in that period were key in appealing to the votes of immigrants. Social groups and factions were made ~~actual~~ to combat the harsh social environment. The Irish and Germans both experienced similar difficulties when entering America, but were entirely different nonetheless.

The Irish immigrated largely because of famine and lack of economic production. The Germans immigrated from persecution and also poor economy. Together, the two nationalities sought the American dream, and <sup>ultimately</sup> helped the US economy. Upon landing in the big east coast port cities such as New York, the immigrants did not travel far. They both took city jobs in factories, and were taken advantage of by big businesses for being foreign. One thing in particular about the Germans is that they also possessed craftsmanship, and were economically respected a little more than the Irish.

After becoming a major part of American labor, the immigrants were disliked for providing cheap labor and taking American jobs. Both the Irish and Germans were abused as foreigners and alcoholic. The Irish stayed together where they lived relatively, often forming clans to defend themselves. This was evident in mid-nineteenth century New York. The Germans were able to live suburban a little <sup>where mob attacks and gang warfare were common.</sup>

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more ~~heads~~<sup>due</sup> to their skill as craftsmen<sup>and artisans.</sup> Although equally disliked, German immigrants had the social advantage.

Politically, the conservatives<sup>and liberals</sup> recognized the two groups as fuel for the elections. The Democrats were appealing to the Irish only because they did not ban alcohol, otherwise most Irish favored the conservatives. This is because the conservatives focused on protecting the economic interests of the overall population. Many Americans influenced their vote against the job-stealing immigrants vote. Both German and Irish were concerned in the pursuit of happiness, and both loved their liquor.

Irish and German immigrants in the nineteenth century were very close economically and socially. As the new labor force, they generally shared the same cheap labor factory jobs with the exception of German craftsmen. Both nationalities did not go far from the city point of arrival, and were greatly disliked for taking <sup>former American</sup> jobs. Working late, they also shared the same ~~good~~<sup>sinful</sup> interests, particularly in alcohol. This influenced how they were targeted politically and their stereotype upon <sup>all</sup> arrival in America.

**AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY**  
**2007 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)**

**Question 3**

**Sample: 3A**

**Score: 9**

This essay has a strong, well-developed thesis. It makes effective comparisons and contains excellent relevant information, such as the Irish economic experience in America and the entrance of the Irish into politics in East Coast cities. A solid discussion of German immigrants is also included. This well-written, well-organized essay includes a fine introduction and conclusion and is remarkably analytical. Additionally, there are no significant errors. Although the lack of reference to religion is an omission, it does not detract from the overall high quality of the essay.

**Sample: 3B**

**Score: 6**

This essay has a strong and interesting thesis and conclusion that focus on hardships in contrast to pre-immigration hopes. There is some good information as well as general comparison of both groups—for example, the Irish and the Germans faced hardships in establishing strong communities and schools. Although the essay notes that the Irish faced more discrimination than the Germans, it neglects to discuss the German work situation. While the essay is organized and well written, the lack of specificity and the general nature of the comparisons kept it in the middle score category.

**Sample: 3C**

**Score: 4**

This essay has a limited thesis. Its incorrect reference to Eastern European immigration is a major flaw. Only general distinctions are made between the Germans and the Irish. Analysis is modest, and there is some general outside information. The essay includes relevant information but does not demonstrate the level of specificity expected of a higher scoring essay.