

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY
2009 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

Question 5

Analyze the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.

The 8–9 Essay

- Contains a clear, well-developed thesis that assesses the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Supports the thesis with substantial, relevant information concerning the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Effectively analyzes the ways in which events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Provides coverage that 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, assessing the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Provides some relevant information detailing the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Analyzes to some degree the ways in which events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in them.
- Provides coverage that may be unbalanced.
- 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 assessing the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Includes little relevant information concerning the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Contains little analysis of the ways in which events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- May address only part of the question.
- May be poorly organized and/or poorly written.
- May contain major errors.

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Question 5 (continued)

The 0–1 Essay

- Lacks a thesis or restates the question.
- Includes no relevant information detailing the ways in which the events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Contains no analysis of the ways in which events and trends of the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence, and challenged Americans' confidence in both.
- Is poorly organized and/or poorly written.
- May contain numerous errors, both major and minor.

The — Essay

- Is completely off topic or blank.

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Question 5 Information List

People

Agnew, Spiro	Ho Chi Minh
Carter, Jimmy	Kissinger, Henry
Dean, John	McGovern, George
Ehrlichman, John	Mitchell, John
Ellsberg, Daniel	Nixon, Richard
Ervin, Sam	Pahlavi, Reza
Ford, Gerald	Sirica, John
Haldeman, H. R.	

Concepts/Organizations

Contras	Pentagon Papers
economic recession	prisoners of war (POWs)
executive privilege	Sandinistas
inflation	silent majority
missing in action (MIAs)	stagflation
oil embargo	unemployment
Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	wage-price freeze
	Whip Inflation Now (WIN)

Events/Legislation/Treaties

Cambodia incursion	Panama Canal transfer
Iranian hostage crisis	Paris Peace Accord
Jackson State shootings	South Vietnam's fall
Kent State shootings	Three Mile Island
Moscow Olympic Games	War Powers Act
National Energy Act	Watergate Hotel/Democratic Party National Headquarters break-in
OPEC oil embargo	

Economic Events and Trends

- Tax cuts and increased spending on public works projects temporarily lowered the unemployment rate. The Federal Reserve Board permitted the money supply to grow. These measures drove price inflation.
- In 1971 unemployment grew to 6 percent and the United States ran its first ever trade deficit. The trade deficit undermined the value of the American dollar by enabling foreign banks to exchange U.S. dollars for gold at highly favorable rates. The United States floated the dollar against the prevailing market price of gold and against other currencies.
- Facing continued high unemployment and inflation, the Nixon administration in 1973 devalued the dollar. Little impact was seen on the trade deficit, as over the next decade U.S. exports more than tripled but imports more than quadrupled.
- In 1974 President Ford introduced “Whip Inflation Now,” or WIN. Stagflation continued as both prices and inflation rose. Unemployment reached 8.5 percent, and inflation topped 9 percent.

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Question 5 Information List (continued)

- Ever-rising international oil prices triggered a series of gasoline and home heating fuel price increases that rippled through the economy. With Middle East oil prices soaring, newly elected President Carter went on national TV pitching a complicated energy proposal without having first consulted the congressional leadership. Congress quickly rejected the plan.
- New York City needed federal loan guarantees to avoid bankruptcy.
- The Carter administration had no answers for stagflation. By 1980 the economy had stopped expanding, inflation topped 13 percent, and unemployment (which had dropped below 6 percent in 1979) was rising again.
- Inflation and high interest rates choked off productivity and economic growth.

International Events and Trends

- In the spring of 1970 U.S. military incursions into ostensibly neutral Cambodia became public knowledge, and student unrest broke out on college campuses. National Guard troops fired on demonstrators, killing four students at Kent State University. Police fatally shot two students at Jackson State University.
- Daniel Ellsberg leaked the Pentagon Papers to the *New York Times*. Installments from the papers began running daily in the *Times*. The Nixon administration was unsuccessful in getting a Supreme Court injunction to stop publication of the classified documents.
- There was a break-in in June 1972 at the Democratic Party National Headquarters in the Watergate Hotel.
- In January 1973 the United States and North Vietnam signed peace accords requiring the United States to remove its forces from Vietnam, bringing agreement on the return of prisoners of war, and permitting North Vietnam to keep its forces in South Vietnam.
- In May 1973 John Dean testified before the Senate Watergate Committee and linked President Nixon to the coverup of the Watergate break-in. The Senate and the public learn that President Nixon taped his conversations in the Oval Office.
- In July 1974 the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that Nixon's claim of "executive privilege" over the release of the Watergate tapes was not justified. Nixon had to release the tapes.
- In August 1974 Nixon resigned and Gerald Ford became president.
- In April 1975 and on into the spring, North Vietnam overran South Vietnam, creating communist Vietnam.
- In May 1975 the *Mayaguez* was hijacked in the South China Sea. President Ford ordered a military action to retake the ship. More United States Marines died in the action than people were rescued.
- President Carter extended amnesty to Vietnam War draft evaders on his first day in office in 1977.
- Also in 1977, the United States initiated negotiations with Panama for the transfer of control of the Panama Canal to Panama. The negotiations resulted in a treaty that the Senate narrowly ratified.
- In 1979 Cuban-backed Sandinistas rose to power in Nicaragua after President Carter removed support for the country's dictator, a longtime friend of the United States, over the issue of human rights.
- In December 1979 the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. President Carter pulled the U.S. Olympic team out of the Moscow Olympics.
- In November 1979 Iranians overran the United States Embassy in Tehran and took 66 Americans hostage. The United States talked tough but only levied economic sanctions. A military rescue attempt in 1980 failed.

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Question 5 Information List (continued)

Time Line

Date	Event
1970	United States invades Cambodia.
May 1970	Student unrest and shootings occur at Kent State and Jackson State.
October 1970	China joins the United Nations.
August 1971	Nixon institutes a 90-day wage–price freeze to combat inflation.
1971	Daniel Ellsberg releases secret Pentagon Papers to the <i>New York Times</i> .
1971	White House “plumbers” break into office of Ellsberg’s psychiatrist.
1971	United States runs first ever trade deficit.
February 1972	Nixon visits China.
1971	United States and Soviet Union sign SALT I treaty.
June 1972	Watergate break-in takes place.
1972	OPEC oil embargo instituted.
January 1973	Watergate burglars tried; all either plead or are found guilty.
May 1973	Senate Watergate investigation reveals Nixon’s involvement and existence of tapes.
July 1974	House Judiciary Committee votes to impeach Nixon.
August 1974	Nixon obeys Supreme Court and releases Watergate tapes, revealing 18.5-minute gap.
August 1974	Nixon resigns; Ford becomes first unelected vice president to assume the presidency.
September 1974	Ford pardons Nixon.
1975	Stagflation—Ford tries Whip Inflation Now (WIN).
April 1975	South Vietnam falls to North Vietnam.
May 1975	<i>Mayaguez</i> incident takes place.

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Question 5 Information List (continued)

1975	Helsinki Accords on European security signed.
November 1976	Jimmy Carter elected president.
September 1977	Transfer of the Panama Canal to the government of Panama negotiated.
1978	Camp David Accords negotiated.
1978	Congress passes the National Energy Act.
1978	Supreme Court issues <i>Regents of the University of California v. Bakke</i> decision on affirmative action.
1979	Soviet Union invades Afghanistan.
1979	Three Mile Island incident takes place.
November 1979	Iranian hostage crisis unfolds.
April 1980	Iranian hostage rescue attempt fails.
1980	United States boycotts Moscow Summer Olympic Games.

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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5A
(1 of 3)

Series of domestic and international crisis and new social movements in the 1970s diminished the nation's economic power and international influence and challenged Americans' confidence in both.

Watergate was ~~the~~ the strongest ~~factor~~ factor in domestic events that ~~let~~ ~~let~~ let Americans down. The fact that ~~the~~ the president of the most powerful and influential nation in the world lied to the entire nation was so shocking to American citizens. This challenged Americans' confidence in international influence because America's image was polluted by lies and distrust. People started to distrust their own government. Also, pardon of Nixon ~~by~~ president Ford was ~~as~~ as ~~shocking~~ shocking as ~~Watergate~~ Watergate because Nixon was ~~convicted~~ ^{dearly} convicted of heavy crime against the whole nation. Such early pardon challenged America's confidence again with disappointment of their own government.

The most significant international event that challenged Americans' confidence in its ~~international~~ international influence was withdrawal from Vietnam. ~~It~~ It seemed like America lost the war against a small, weak country. It also ~~totally~~ totally signified that America could not stop expansion of communism with its own power. It showed that America could fail and the world ~~thought~~ thought it was a disgrace because there were ~~and~~ ^{and} Americans unnecessary casualties. Innocent Vietnamese were killed, and ~~protesters~~ protesters in America was killed. For example, Kent State protest resulted in death of four ~~innocent~~ innocent

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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5A
(2 of 3)

students.

~~The~~ Oil ~~crisis~~ crisis was the prominent factor that American economy was influenced. With the rise of price by OPEC coalition, America lost its economic power by increase in price of raw materials. Severe recession occurred, and it again showed that America was not an overwhelming nation.

Also, Iran hostage crisis showed how America was hated ~~in~~ ~~the~~ Middle East world. American embassy was attacked, and Americans were held as hostages. Jimmy Carter was not able to handle this well, and this ~~was~~ ~~an~~ ~~other~~ was another international affair that showed limit of America in 1970s.

Lastly, social movements that were unprecedented, such as counter-social movement, ~~also~~ also brought confusion of American society. Americans struggled with their ~~own~~ ~~own~~ ~~own~~ ~~own~~ pursuit of value. Environmental movement also debunked dark side of America's society. Pollution of the Great Lakes and overuse of DDT showed inability of America of preserving environment. ~~These~~ ~~these~~ these showed America's weakness despite its world power status.

In conclusion, ~~strong~~ series of international and domestic affairs and trend challenges America's ~~own~~ ~~own~~ economic and world influence. ~~Americans~~ Americans' confidence of ~~it~~ They were not created with instant event, but by gradual

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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5B
(1 of 3)

Up until the 1960s and 1970s, America was a relatively powerful nation. The country had emerged victorious from every war it had fought and had always remained fairly close to the foreign diplomacy line drawn in George Washington's farewell address. Following the second world war, however, United States policy began to change. Rather than a strict adherence to ^{an}isolationist policy and a fear of long term treaties with foreign nations, America ~~played~~ entered a full-time role as ~~power~~ world policeman and international mediator. Particularly with a fear ~~of~~ of a communistic dominon effect, the United States government worked to halt the red tide and to create a world where their ideals worked for every one. Though the Korean War and the Berlin Air Lifts were, respectively, somewhat effective and very effective, they also placed America into the role of world protector; the farthest place from where they should have been. The ^{events of the} 1970s were particularly distancing from the American ideals and ~~putted the country~~ diminished the nation's economic power and international influence.

A major blow to the nation's effectiveness in economic power was the Oil crisis that left many Americans scrambling at the pumps. For the country that ~~depended~~ ^{depended} immensely on ~~the~~ oil, this inability to attain it portrayed an unstable nation that was unable to organize ^{an economic} ~~an economic~~ treaty to take care of its citizens. ~~Another~~ ~~major~~ major blows to the nation's international influence ~~were~~ ^{were} the ~~the~~ bungled ~~in~~ international ~~affairs~~

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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53
(2 of 3)

crises that occurred during that time. The Iranian Hostage Crisis in particular was a difficult barrier for the United States, and ~~was~~ President Jimmy Carter, to overcome. When 57 American citizens were held captive by Islamic ~~students~~ protesting ~~an~~ American interference, ~~the~~ American influence was tested ~~and~~ and the country wound up losing much face to the international community. It took 444 days to procure the captives' release and that was particularly demoralizing to American Influence.

The most dramatic blow which challenged ~~the~~ the confidence ~~of~~ of American people was the Watergate scandal. Richard Nixon banished much of the faith of the American public when ~~the~~ men were arrested on charges of burglarizing the ~~the~~ headquarters of the National Democratic Committee ~~and~~ in Watergate under his orders. ~~although the people had~~ This was only beginning of his under-the-table work that would leave Americans shocked and outraged for generations. When ~~the~~ ^{his} wiretapping and political espionage became ~~crisis for the~~ known to the general public, Americans' faith in their government ~~to~~ became extremely low.

The ~~the~~ people ~~of~~ of the United States of America have always been the sort to allow ~~the~~ passionate response to certain political disturbances, ~~after all~~ after all, our country was founded on a ~~principle~~ principle of civil disobedience, but the political and economical crises

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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5 B
(3 of 3)

that were ~~handled~~ ^{marked} handled incorrectly in the
~~1970s~~ 1970s ~~the~~ the start of major political distrust
in our nation. From ~~then~~ then on, ~~the~~ the nation would see
our politicians through non-rose colored glasses and
try to ~~grab hold of the major issues at hand~~
understand the deeper motives of the American politician.
~~After all, the American people have a major dislike~~
~~of being put into a position of ignorance.~~

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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5C
(1 of 2)

Starting as one of the "Greatest Experiments", America has been tested & tested by domestic conflicts & international frictions. Nothing has changed in ~~the~~ 1970s considering you have the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, & the problems in the Middle East. These all take a hard toll on America ~~where they~~ when domestic economic power declines, international ~~the~~ influence is re-evaluated & America's confidence is needing of a miracle.

After America's support in the protection of the Jewish State of Israel, Palestinian Oil oil companies embargo sales to the U.S. causing major inflation problems back home. People are angry & businesses such as shipping & trucking are hitting dead walls after their businesses are ~~are~~ dependent upon fuel & costs. However, after viewing this problem, some officials took part in what is called "Shuttle Diplomacy" where business agreements on foreign oil were made while traveling on a plane. While this did bring hope & profit back to American businesses, it never ~~fully~~ restored the full profits prior because ~~after~~ the new partners exploited America's need for oil.

On the ~~the~~ international outlook, the Vietnam War is coming to a close & after the demoralizing defeat ~~of~~ of the ~~the~~ "Tet Offense" (It was claimed a military victory, but was seen as a defeat), many ~~of~~ foreign nations are losing confidence in American

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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5C

(2 of 2)

capabilities. With counter culture ~~to~~ ~~suppression~~ becoming a force not only in America, but Europe, many ~~view~~ view the military as "baby killers" & "war ~~who~~ manguers". To add on to the distrust of American leadership, Nixon's Watergate calls for a lot of speculation from ~~other~~ foreign ~~to~~ allies.

With ~~all~~ all the problems & roadblocks, not only is the Globe questioning their confidence in America, but she herself is questioning. ~~With~~ With the end of the Vietnam War, many are happy to be home & have life return to normalcy. With the restoration of oil suppliers, things are looking up. Last but not least, America is become completely equal & desegregated. Though things have ~~been~~ seemed to take a turn for the worst, in the end, they have progressed America to the next step.

Tensions flare once again in the U.S. in the 1970's with economic power declining & international influence swayed, her confidence in her self seems to turn for the better at the conclusion of the decade.

Some wonder how America has made it so far, even some ~~Americans~~ Americans have, but after all her trials & tribulations, she has made it through. That ~~is~~ is why she is the "land of the free & home of the brave."

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY
2009 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)

Question 5

Sample: 5A

Score: 8

This essay contains a well-developed thesis that addresses all aspects of the question. It supports the thesis with substantial, relevant information and effectively analyzes the ways in which events (Watergate, Nixon pardon, Vietnam, Kent State massacre, OPEC oil embargo, recession, Iran hostage crisis) and trends (social movements) of the 1970s diminished U.S. economic power and international influence and challenged Americans' confidence in them. The essay is balanced, well organized, and well written.

Sample: 5B

Score: 5

This essay has a partially developed thesis that contrasts American strengths with the negative effect of events in the 1970s. The essay effectively ties the OPEC oil embargo and the crisis it induced with a loss of economic power, the Iranian revolution and the hostage crisis with America's loss of international influence, and Watergate with a loss of confidence in government. It has acceptable organization and writing. While the information presented is sufficient for the 5–7 score category, it is not substantial enough to have allowed the essay to be scored higher.

Sample: 5C

Score: 3

The essay has a thesis that touches on all elements of the question, but it does so in a way that is neither clear nor precise. Specific pieces of historical evidence are offered, e.g., “Shuttle Diplomacy,” but this strategy is erroneously understood as “buisness [*sic*] agreements” designed to restore profits. Some historical events are out of the time frame, e.g., the Tet offensive. The penultimate paragraph claims that America is questioning itself, but the essay offers no evidence of such doubts. The essay suggests that all was well at the end of the 1970s, but it overlooks Carter and the Iran hostage situation. The writing could be much stronger.