Question 7

Analyze the development of the various forms of European socialism in the 1800s.

9–8 Points
- The essay provides a sophisticated thesis that addresses the question.
- The organization is clear.
- The essay is well balanced and deals with at least TWO forms of socialism.
- All major assertions are supported by at least TWO pieces of relevant evidence.
- The essay may contain some minor errors.

7–6 Points
- The essay provides a good thesis that addresses the question.
- The organization is clear.
- The essay is balanced with at least TWO forms of socialism discussed.
- All major assertions are supported by at least ONE piece of evidence.
- The essay may contain an error.

5–4 Points
- The essay provides an adequate thesis OR just restates the question.
- The organization is unbalanced and not necessarily effective. The essay feels like a Marx paper or a Louis Blanc essay.
-Assertions are supported by ONE piece of relevant evidence.
- The narrative is mostly factual, with little analysis.
- The essay may contain a few errors of fact or interpretations that detract from the argument.

3–2 Points
- There is no thesis or the thesis just restates the question.
- The essay is poorly organized and ineffective.
- The essay is off task and mostly irrelevant.
- The essay shows serious imbalance.
- Vague general statements are made with little factual support.
- There are major errors.

1–0 Points
- There is no thesis.
- The organization is poor.
- The essay is off task and nonresponsive to the question.
- The statements are general, vague and simplistic.
- There is little evidence of understanding.
- The essay contains major errors.
Question 7 — Historical Background Notes

The evolution of European socialism in the 1800s is a mainstream theme covered in all the texts. The better essays will demonstrate an understanding of the movement from utopian socialism to that of practical socialism. While Marx had a major influence on European socialism in the 19th century, the prompt is not just about radical Marxism. The essays that receive higher scores will deal with multiple aspects of the European socialist movement.

As large-scale industrialization gradually transformed the agricultural economy and society in Western Europe, the 1830s and the 1840s brought heated discussion, lively debates and startling transformations in thought. The rapid increase in wage labor influenced the emergence of new political forces that, proclaiming the equality of all people, sought dramatic social and political change. One of the most powerful results of the growing preoccupation with the condition of workers was the birth of the movement known as socialism. In Europe in the 19th century, socialism focused on worker equality, equitable pay scales and, perhaps most important, humane living and working conditions. Over time, especially after 1871, European socialism became politicized, evolving into mass party movements.

Utopian socialists, most of whom were French, provided an original critique of the changes brought by the Industrial Revolution. The name “utopian” reflects their dreams of creating a perfectly harmonious way of life. This philosophy accentuated their determination to put forward demands for political and social reform.

- Count Claude-Henri de Saint-Simon (1760–1825) proposed a “religion of humanity” dedicated to alleviating the inhumane conditions of France’s working poor. In 1820 Saint-Simon published a provocative parable, wondering what would happen if all France’s nobles, churchmen, princes and princesses drowned in a terrible shipwreck. Saint-Simon’s conclusion argued that the French proletariat was far more essential for the good of the country and their loss would be disastrous.
- Charles Fourier (1772–1837) claimed that there were 810 distinct personality types. Fourier proposed that they be organized into “phalanx” worker communities of 1,620 people, channeling the passions of each person into socially productive ways.
- Étienne Cabet (1788–1856) was the most popular and well known of the French utopian socialists. His novel *Voyage to Icaria* (1840) imagined an imaginary city of wide streets, clean urinals and social harmony, a vision of organized economic and social life so attractive that even the bourgeoisie would be converted peacefully to the principles of cooperation and association.
- Robert Owen (1771–1858) built a mill in New Lanark, Scotland. He provided decent housing for his workers and established schools for children. Owen also believed in the emancipation of women.
Practical socialists tended to have a less idealist view of the perfect socialist world and worked toward the implementation of socialism in the here and now. While utopian socialists often embraced the nonviolent transformation of European societies, practical socialists tended to be much more militant in their methods. Many practical socialists saw the bourgeoisie as a physical enemy because they possessed capital, unfairly taken from the working class.

- Flora Tristan (1801–1844) campaigned against women’s inequality within marriage and before the law. Linking feminism and socialism, she campaigned for female emancipation with passionate speeches.
- Louis Blanc (1811–1882) based his socialist model on universal suffrage where workers could increase their influence on governments. Blanc also believed the state should guarantee workers the “right to work.”
- Louis Proudhon (1809–1865) looked not to strengthen the state through worker suffrage, but rather to destroy the state. Proudhon argued the very existence of the state was due to capitalism, and therefore the state was instrumental in the exploitation of workers. In 1840 Proudhon published a fiery and provocative pamphlet that answered the question “What is property?” with the resounding reply “Theft!” Preaching the abolition of the state and destruction of all private property, Proudhon had enormous influence on Marx and future Russian socialists.
- Karl Marx (1818–1883) read the utopian and practical socialist commentaries and found them “unscientific.” Marx thus was one of the first to advocate “scientific socialism,” basing much of his theory on the dialectical stages of Friedrich Hegel (1770–1831.) Marx was an advocate of the ultraviolent proletariat revolution. Marx would befriend another German socialist, Friedrich Engels. Together they championed the need to destroy the modern capitalist state and to replace it with utopian communism.

Out of the philosophy of European socialism grew various socialist political parties, some violent, some not. With the growth of mass politics in the final quarter of the 19th century, European socialism became both radicalized and politicized.

- The British Labor Party was founded in 1893 by James Keir Hardie.
- The French Workers Party was founded in 1883.
- The German Socialist Party (SPD) was founded in 1875 as many German socialists rejected Marx’s cry for violent revolution. Eduard Bernstein (1850–1932) trumpeted the need for German socialists to reject violence and to instead work within the German political system for labor reform. His seminal work *Evolutionary Socialism* (1898) galvanized a continent, setting the precedent for democratic socialism throughout Europe well into the 20th century.
- The Italian Socialist Party was founded in 1892.
- The Russian Social Democratic Labor Party was founded in 1898 in Minsk and was the parent organization for both the Russian Bolsheviks and the Russian Mensheviks.
Throughout the 1800s, various forms of European socialism came about because of the difficult economic struggles. The first form of socialism was Utopian Socialism, which then transformed into Marx's views on communism, and then revision of communist beliefs. These socialist ideas prevailed in certain countries more than others because of differing economic situations.

Utopian socialism was the first form of socialism to come about. They got their name because of their belief in an ideal and perfect world that could be created. One of these socialists was Robert Owen who created a factory where the workers had the same wages and all shared the means of production. He later went to the U.S. and created his Utopian town of New Harmony, which was based on the same principles. Owen had a French counterpart (Fourier) who followed the same beliefs in France. Fabianism was also created in France, which was another socialist society based on the principles of anarchism, which advocated a political structure that didn't have a ruler and where everyone was
During the mid-1800s, Marx came along with his ideas on communism. He thought the working class, or proletariat, was being repressed by the richer people, or those who wanted capitalism. He believed that the only way this class struggle would disappear is through an inevitable revolution in which the proletariat would overpower capitalism. Marx and Engels wrote their views down in the pamphlet "The Communist Manifesto," which greatly affected society for the following year, as Lenin carried Marx's views into the 20th century.

Although Marx's views on communism were very convincing, people began to revise them. Communism was the most appealing form of communism because of what it promised (its claim to scientific accuracy). However, the revolution never occurred as people actually began to profit from capitalism. This led to a new movement called revisionism. Kautsky held this view that communism could take over without a revolution. He believed that since, according to Marx, the revolution was inevitable, the proletariat should for the moment focus on improving their current
States until the revolution took place. This view differed from Marx's and Lenin's, who believed that people should make the revolution their occupation. However, revisionism failed as a movement in the 1990s as it didn't gain enough followers.

Forms of popular socialism came about during the 1800s as a result of economic discontent in several countries. At first, there was utopian socialism, then Marx's communism became popular, and later in the century people began to revise communist thoughts through movements like revisionism. During the 20th century, communism became even more popular as the powerful Russia became the communist Soviet Union under Lenin and later Stalin.
In nineteenth century, many of revolutions have occurred including July Revolution and Seven of Revolution in 1848. In contrast to those violent revolutions, a lot of different forms of European socialism have created. Although, their fundamental theories of different socialism were vary, the common opinion of socialists were gradual reform. Unlike Karl Marx's Marxism, socialist believed that gradual social reform of society would truly improve the European countries and save from the chaos.

The Utopian Socialism was one of the biggest branches of socialism in 1800s. Utopian is so called because the concept of their ideas were too idealistic to realize in the real European Society. Thomas Malthus was one of Utopian socialist. He insisted the "Population theory" that the population of working class would keep growing unless the factory owners give less wages. Similar to Thomas Malthus, "Iron wage of theory" tells that the working class’s wage should be limited to the minimum. If factory owners give more wage, they would consume more food and raise more children. Thus, the labor supply would be increased, and ultimately the wage would be decreased. Therefore,
this socialism insists that there is no need to improve working class’s condition. Those two theories were unpopular because it only criticized the working class and too generalized the European Economy.

Owenism was another utopian socialism that believed the factory system stole the joy of working class’s lives. The systematized and industrialized factory system forced working class to replicate boring work for all day. As a result, artisans and laborers should find the joy of their daily lives. However, this socialism also too idealistic to realize in 1800s European Society.

Louis Blac’s universal male suffrage was the practical socialism in 1800s. Louis Blac insisted the universal male suffrage in France during the Revolution of 1789. Through the extended votes, Louis Blac believed that it will reduce the privileges of aristocrats and nobility’s abuse of power. Although the actual result of his universal male suffrage was different with his expectation in Consad Republic, it was one step forward to modern society.

The socialisms in 1800s were not entirely practical and effective. However, the concept and idea to reform the society and improve working class and peasant’s social status was great achievement for European Society.
Socialism emerged in Europe during the 1800s. However, socialism had not come to be applied into practice until long after its conception by Karl Marx. Socialism then came to be adopted by Russia, which had turned into the Soviet Union after World War I. Eventually, with the spread of Communism due to Russia's actions and influence, different types have emerged to suit the needs of the nation that have adopted it.

Socialism was a concept that Karl Marx had developed long before its application. Marx wrote the Communist Manifesto, in which he spoke mainly about the struggle between the bourgeoisie (the merchant middle class) and the proletariat, the working class. Marx argued that the bourgeoisie is to be blamed for the conditions that the proletariat suffers in—namely, poor living conditions, low pay, exploitation, and labor, and poverty. Marx also argued that the bourgeoisie was bringing itself to its own end, as the proletariat would soon overthrow it. Marx then argued that the only way to resolve this conflict is to get rid of capitalism and establish socialism specifically, communalism in which everything is owned by the people, and there will be no social classes and inequality.
After World War I, Russia, which had undergone a revolution, no longer had a tsarist government, but one that was ruled by the czar. Soon afterwards, Joseph Stalin would come into the power with the Bolshevik uprising in Russia. Stalin's socialism, however, proved to be different, as he had only used it to secure his power over Russia and the people. Russia then spread communism to other nations, but individual needs required socialism to be altered. Some nations, too, as a result, had democratic socialism, a mix of a democratic structure of government with socialism.

This change in the structure of socialism, however, angered Russia, and pursued a policy to invade another country in order to retain its government. In conclusion, socialism has drastically altered from its original form as it was once to be applied law for resolving the apparent tension between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat, and now on satisfying government leaders' consolidation of power.
Question 7

Sample: 7A
Score: 9

This essay provides a thorough and sophisticated thesis. It includes a magnificent discussion of utopian socialism, with three major examples. It also includes an insightful discussion on the development of Marxism, with at least two major examples. In addition, the treatment of revisionism and the origins of democratic socialism is impressive. The paragraph on evolutionary socialism is especially good.

Sample: 7B
Score: 4

The thesis of this essay is only partially correct. There is a major interpretive error in the discussion relating Malthus to socialism. The essay includes good discussions of Owen and Blanc. Only one form of socialism is discussed since both Owen and Blanc were utopian socialists. The thesis is too weak and the discussion of Malthus is not relevant. However, the discussion of Owen and Blanc is substantive, which is why the essay earned a score of 4.

Sample: 7C
Score: 3

This essay provides no thesis. It does contain an adequate, relevant discussion of Marx. The second paragraph is off task, providing an irrelevant discussion of Russia. Too much of the essay is off task to merit a higher score.