Question 2

BASIC CORE (competence) 0–7 Points

1. **Has acceptable thesis** 1 Point
   - The thesis accurately addresses and qualifies change and continuity in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia from circa 300 C.E. to 1450 C.E.
   - The thesis must be explicitly stated in the introduction or the specified conclusion of the essay.
   - The thesis may appear as one sentence or as multiple consecutive sentences.
   - A thesis that is split among multiple paragraphs, or merely restates the prompt, is unacceptable.
   - The thesis cannot be counted for credit in any other category.

2. **Addresses all parts of the question, though not necessarily evenly or thoroughly** 2 Points
   - **For 2 points:**
     - The essay addresses both change and continuity in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia in the relevant time period.
     - May not necessarily relate to the majority of the time period.
   - **For 1 point:**
     - The essay accurately addresses either change or continuity in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia in the relevant time period.
     - May not necessarily relate to the majority of the time period.

3. **Substantiates thesis with appropriate historical evidence** 2 Points
   - **For 2 points:**
     - The essay provides a minimum of five pieces of evidence that support discussion of change and/or continuity in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia within the time period.
     - Evidence provides supporting examples.
   - **For 1 point:**
     - The essay provides a minimum of three pieces of evidence that support discussion of change and/or continuity in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia within the time period.
     - Evidence provides supporting examples.

4. **Uses relevant world historical context effectively to explain continuity and change over time** 1 Point
   - The essay accurately describes change or continuity, or both, in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia across the majority of the time period.

5. **Analyzes the process of continuity and change over time** 1 Point
   - The essay analyzes continuity or change, or both, in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia in the time period.

Subtotal 7 Points
Question 2 (continued)

**EXPANDED CORE** (excellence)  
0–2 Points

Expands beyond basic core of 1–7 points. A student must earn 7 points in the basic core area before earning points in the expanded core area.

**Examples:**
- Has a clear, analytical, and comprehensive thesis.
- Analyzes all issues of the question (as relevant): global context, chronology, causation, change, continuity, effects, content.
- Provides ample historical evidence to substantiate thesis.
- Provides links with relevant ideas, events, and trends in an innovative way.

**Subtotal**  
2 Points

**TOTAL**  
9 Points
Between 300 B.C. and 1450 A.D., Africa became increasingly interconnected with Eurasia. In 300, trade routes were mostly between Europe and North Africa, and they expanded southward and westward until by 1450, they also encompassed Sub-Saharan Africa, West Africa, and the Indian Ocean. However, one thing stayed the same: the north coast was always involved in the trade. In 300 B.C., African-Eurasian trade was very limited. There was some interaction with Mediterranean cultures -- olives and other European goods were traded for African commodities such as spices and precious metals. This limited interaction was mostly due to the declining Roman Empire. Southern Europe was facing internal problems, and therefore was not looking outward towards trade routes with Africa. This changed as time went on -- by the 800s and 900s, Europe had become more stable and the Islamic empire had risen in the Middle East. Therefore, these regions were ready to trade. As the Islamic empire spread over the Northern African coast, so too did Islamic trade routes. As Islamic traders came in from the East, European traders came in from the north -- with new technologies that allowed them to go through or bypass the once-impenetrable Saharan Desert, which had been a barrier to trade. Due to all these factors, the African Furthermore, Indian traders arrived to West Africa.
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

gold-salt trade arose—salt from Indian Ocean and Mediterranean traders was exchanged for gold from sub-Saharan Africa. Ghana, Mali, and Songhai became major trade hubs in the Gold-Salt trade. This continued from the 800s to circa the 1300s. During this time, Mongols expanded throughout Eurasia, but they had little effect because they were mostly focused on China, Russia, and Eastern Europe. The areas involved in Eurasian-African trade—India, Western Europe, and Africa—were not conquered. By the 1450s, the gold-salt trade was at the beginning of its decline, as the global center of trade shifted away from the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean, and towards the Atlantic ocean. This was for a variety of reasons: India, under the Mughals, was in decline, and Europe began its age of exploration around this time.

Though many aspects of trade between Africa and Eurasia changed between 300 and 1450, one stayed the same. Northern Africa was always a key player. In 300, Northern Africa was the only player in African-Eurasian trade, as it traded with the Mediterranean. During the Gold-Salt trade, Northern Africa received merchants from Europe and the Islamic empire,
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

Leading towards Sub-Saharan trade hubs, Northern Africa was a key player from 300 to 1950, and remains so today; though many areas are experiencing political turmoil, northern Africa is a major exporter of oil and other resources to Europe and the US.
Between 300 C.E. & 1450 C.E., the items being traded from Africa to Eurasia stayed the same. However, the cultural interactions slowly changed over the time period. The items that were being traded between the regions never did change. Africa had vast amounts of luxury goods such as spices, salt, ivory and jewels. Eurasia had vast amounts of wealth and weapons that they were willing to trade to the Africans. They also would bring silks and Alcohols to Africa in exchange for these luxury goods. Closer to the 1400's Africa opened up in mass amounts of slave trade which did not change until way after 1450. Cultural interactions changed very much between the areas over the years. What first started off as simply business changed into the intermingling of cultures. In 300 C.E. Nobody knew what the inside of Africa looked like or how large it was. That soon changed as missionaries took place and religion spread. Ibn Batuta wrote about how Muslim culture had spread to West Africa and had mixed with their customs & beliefs. Trading posts were established along the edges as
trade grew & slaves began being exported. Even language began to mix as seen with the Swahili in East Africa.

Although the goods traded never changed from 300-1450 C.E., the way it was traded, language, religion, and culture all did. Cultural diffusion always takes place through trade. Culture between Eurasia and Africa diffused and changed religions and languages in ways never thought of before.
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

There were many changes and continuities between the trade networks between Africa and Eurasia from 300 CE to 1450 CE. A change in the trade networks was the way that things traveled and were delivered and the items traded, but why they were traded began to stay the same.

In 300 CE to 1450 CE, the way that items were traded between Africa and Eurasia changed. The trade networks and roads developed in to more advanced ways of trade and transportation. New trade routes were made and developed in this time and the allowed for trade to be more direct between areas and countries. Still, throughout the distance of traveling, new religions and items and such were picked up and brought to new countries and places. These new changes brought more cultural diffusion between areas trading on trade networks in Africa and Eurasia. These ways and routes of trade constantly changed, and this lead to the areas receiving trade to constantly change too. These areas constantly got different trade because the networks would go through new places and pick up new things to deliver to these areas. Trade networks’ routes changed during 300 CE to 1450 CE, which impacted Africa and Eurasia.

In this time, the trade networks also changed.
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

because they continued to trade different items. Between all of the trade networks, the merchants' items and ideas began to spread to other routes and networks. In the routes and networks that constantly changed, new items and beliefs would be picked up and brought along to a different area. Then when that area traded, those new items and beliefs would spread to new areas and soon all new trades would result in areas. This leads to cultural diffusion within not only Africa and Eurasia, but all areas that are trading. These trade items would constantly change and would constantly go on new routes and networks to spread to new places. The items that traded in African and Eurasian trade routes changed in 300 BCE to 1750 CE.

In this time, the reasons why items were traded was always the same. There was an on going need for new materials in all countries and areas around the world at this time. There were new ideas forming in this time, leading to new needs and new wants. With these new needs and wants, new materials and traded things are needed from other countries if you can't get them in your own area. In this same way, other countries will be needing materials that only you have an abundance of in the country and so that
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

Country must keep trading. Also, for merchants, it is a job to trade items and materials. And finally, there is always a constant need to stay relevant and get new items, materials, and beliefs in a country or from a country/area, even at this time. So, networks from Africa to Eurasia stayed the same in this time by continuing to trade for the same reasons. In 300 BCE to 1450 CE, trade between Africa and Eurasia continued to trade for similar reasons, but changed routes and the items to trade.
Overview

The intent of this question was for students to identify and analyze continuity and change in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia during the time period circa 300 C.E. to 1450 C.E. Students were also expected to provide historical evidence to support a discussion of change and continuity in trade networks between the two regions and to explain change and continuity within a world historical context.

The AP World History course is designed to support student learning of four key historical thinking skills, one of which is “the ability to recognize, analyze, and evaluate the dynamics of historical continuity and change over periods of time of varying length, as well as relating these patterns to larger historical processes or themes.” Additionally, AP World History is anchored by five course themes. Although this question aligns with many of them, it is explicitly aligned with Theme 4: Creation, Expansion, and Interaction of Economic Systems. This question provided an opportunity for students to demonstrate an understanding of historical content and the application of historical thinking skills.

Sample: 2A
Score: 8

The student introduces a valid thesis in the first paragraph (1 point), and the essay as a whole addresses continuity and change (2 points). Both are mentioned in the middle of the second paragraph: “This changed as time went on” and “This continued from the 800s to circa the late 1300s.” The essay contains seven specific, accurate pieces of evidence in the second paragraph that support the discussion of changes in trade between Africa and Eurasia (2 points). The student uses relevant world historical context to explain change over time twice in the second paragraph (1 point). The essay contains multiple analyses of change in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia in the second paragraph (1 point). Overall, it meets all the criteria for the basic core points and demonstrates, with ample evidence, understanding of the complexity of changes and continuities in trade networks between the two regions; for these reasons, the essay earned 1 expanded core point.

Sample: 2B
Score: 4

The essay contains a valid thesis in the last paragraph (1 point) and addresses continuity and change throughout (2 points). Continuity is discussed in the beginning of the second paragraph: “The items that were being traded between the regions never did change.” Change is considered in the beginning of the third paragraph: “Cultural interactions changed very much between the areas over the years.” The student offers four specific pieces of evidence: two support the discussion of changes in trade between Africa and Eurasia, and two support the discussion of continuities (1 point). The evidence of continuity is contained in the second paragraph: “Africa had vast amounts of luxury goods” and “Eurasia had vast amounts of wealth.” The evidence of change is contained in the third paragraph: “Trading posts were established,” and “[e]ven language began to mix.” The mention of Ibn Batuta in the third paragraph was not considered appropriate historical evidence in relation to this question, because it lacks any connection to trade. The student does not make effective use of relevant world historical context to explain continuity and/or change over time in the specified time period, nor does the student analyze either continuity or change in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia during that time period.
Sample: 2C
Score: 2

The essay does not contain a valid thesis, although the student does address change and continuity (2 points). Change is addressed in the beginning of the first paragraph: “A change in the trade networks was the way that things traveled and were delivered and the items traded.” Continuity is addressed in the fourth paragraph: “So, networks from Africa to Eurasia stayed the same in this time by continuing to trade for the same reasons.” The essay does not contain specific appropriate historical evidence in relation to the question, an effective use of relevant world historical context to explain continuity and/or change over time in the specified time period, nor an analysis of continuity and/or change in trade networks between Africa and Eurasia during the time.