



AP[®] United States History 2002 Sample Student Responses Form B

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The Atlantic trade established in the mid-17th century was of extreme importance to the well-being of the British colonies in North America. The colonies' economies were almost entirely dependent in this early time period on their trade with Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean islands, forming the pattern of triangular trade. These trade routes' influence on the colonies was profound, as it determined the colonies' various economies.

In the period 1650 to 1750, the colonies' economies were export based. In the North, where soil was rocky and moderately fertile, there existed many, small, diversified farms. Later, New Englanders started exporting lumber, textiles, and grains to foreign nations across the Atlantic. But New England also contained many bustling seaports, notably Boston, from which American goods were shipped to other nations. In the middle colonies, which had very fertile land, tobacco was the major cash crop, used for export. Started in Virginia, tobacco farming spread to North Carolina later in the period. Also, ~~the~~ the middle colonies capitalized on European demand for grains by diversifying their economies to produce wheat and other grains for export to Europe, consequently making their economy less vulnerable. In the deep South, namely South Carolina, rice and indigo production flourished in the semi-

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tropical climate, coinciding with the arrival of slaves from Africa, who were well-suited to the conditions of the region. These various products were taken along Atlantic trade routes to Europe, where the colonies had a demanding market for tobacco and grains, and to Africa and the West Indies, from which the colonies received slaves in return.

The slave trade steadily grew after the introduction of slavery to the colonies by the Dutch in the early 17th century, and it became vital to the colonies' economies. Slaves from West Africa were carried on ships across the horrible Middle Passage, in cruel, dismal conditions. They arrived in the colonies and were immediately sentenced to harsh work as slave laborers ~~on~~ on plantations and farms, primarily ~~in~~ in the South. The South became heavily reliant on the increasing ~~slave~~ slave population and soon ~~was~~ was entirely dependent upon it. As long as slaves continued to be shipped to the Americas, including the Caribbean, from Africa, the colonies continued to prosper. An example of this aspect of the triangular trade is the sugar boom in the 1640's of Barbados. The increased demand for sugar in Europe cause the Barbadians to import more slaves from Africa, which consequently benefit

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North American grain exporters, who now had a larger market in Barbados.

However, not all of the trade practices regarding the colonies benefited them. The British mercantilist economic policy, which called for all colonial trade to center on the mother country, hurt the American economy for the benefit of Britain. The later Navigation Acts and Board of Trade and Plantations established by the British caused huge colonial discontentment, as their economies were being hindered.

Thus, the trade routes established in the 17th and 18th centuries both benefited and hindered the British North American colonial economies, but they most certainly determined their various natures.

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The impact of the Atlantic trade was fairly strong on the British North American colonies during the period of 1650-1750. The trade had a characteristic pattern of a triangle, bringing slave labor to the colonies, raw materials to Britain, and finish goods back to the colonies or Africa.

The slave trade was important in a number of North American colonies at that period of time. A reliable and abundant labor source was needed to run the agricultural and farming industries of the young southern and middle colonies. Slaves were needed in the Chesapeake Bay Colonies of Virginia and Maryland to help run the tobacco plantations that were thriving there. This caused a need for cheap and efficient labor. Slaves were needed in the farther south colonies such as S.C. and ~~GA.~~ GA. to work on larger plantations to farm other crops and vegetables. The rocky soil of the North Eastern colonies did not demand a great need for slave labor and most of the slaves were used as house servants and small farmers.

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The ~~old~~ ~~Atlantic~~ Atlantic trade route of sending raw materials back to Britain ~~was~~ also impacted the economies of the colonies and was one part of a policy called Mercantilism in which raw materials are sent to the mother country and finished goods sent back to the colonies. The middle colonies would send mainly Tobacco, the southern colonies would send other crops ~~like~~ like rice and fruits, and the ~~the~~ NoE. colonies would send their abundant supply of timber to Britain. This route was quite controversial ^{at first} in the ~~second~~ ^{first} half of the 18th century when the colonies smuggled raw materials to other countries to obtain raw materials at a cheaper price than what Britain had to offer.

The second part of the Mercantilist system, sending finished goods to the colonies also had an impact on the colonial economies. Finished goods such as, clothing, shoes, tables, and other such commodities were sold ~~at~~ a high price to the colonists. This profited G. B. well but angered the colonies as they thought they

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were paying too high a price for the finished goods. and led to colonial smuggling as mentioned earlier. finished goods such as guns were also sent to Africa as payment for the organized sale of slaves to the British.

The ~~Atlantic~~ Atlantic trade routes and the policy of Mercantilism definitely had an impact on the colonial economies. The necessity of slave labor helped produce the raw materials that Britain needed to produce finished goods to be sent back to the colonies. High prices of British finished goods however, angered the colonies which led them to break many trade regulations with Britain.

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Early in the 1600's, British navigators discovered and settled all over the world. Soon, itself imperialist policies spread to all of ~~the~~ its colonies. They include western Africa, India and the South-East Asia, more importantly, North America. During this time period, British monarch practiced imperialism, then emerged into merchantalism in the mid-1700s. Route of Atlantic was firmly established by the ~~the~~ mid-1600s. A slavery import to America from Africa, a sugar and tobacco export from America to their mother land, manufactured goods exported from England to its ~~the~~ colonies. The east Indies provided the spices and tea. A rotational trade system was formed and well organized. This system strongly marked the American economy, especially the coastal colonies. Most of their jobs were depended on ~~the~~ these navigational trades.

Although Britain limited the right of manufacture to the mainland, but the Americans were quiet used to ~~the~~ being a raw material supplier in the new continent. British power was all over the world, ~~but~~ and North American colonies were only a part of their great ~~of~~ empire.

In the north, fur and fishing production were the most demanding economic benefits. New York, Boston, and other ports were rapidly developed as the living standard rises in ~~the~~ colonies (in New England, and their trade with Britain sharply increased. Much of the ~~Britain~~ British products depended on the fur and other materials from the New England colonies, but as a whole, it was

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the consumption of the colonial people that was more significant during this era.

The south, conversely provided the agricultural production for the mainland, the more significant importation of the south was the blacks from Africa, and the indenture servants earlier in the century. Not much material demand demands from the south made it more of an exporting area.

Development of the north ~~the~~ from 1600 ~ 1750 was not very significant. Most of the people in ~~the~~ New England was of religious reasons. The colonies were self-sufficient and only have done to the material world as ~~was~~ an impact of the English loyalists in America. Tea importation ~~is~~ was a big business in the 1700s. ~~There~~ were less Southern colonies, due to the lack of urbanization, have less material desires, therefore, the economic growth ~~was~~ was simply based based on its agricultural ~~the~~ exports. Slavery rapidly grew in the 1700s, and the mass production brought ~~to~~ much money to the colonies.

Impact of the Atlantic route was the key to the economic development. It opened the American Market the the rest of the world, at the same time, opened the world market to American exportation. The route contributed greatly to the separation of economic status of the north and south, and also contributed to the American rebellion ~~in the~~ starting in the 1750s, Navigation brought the economy up, and also ~~gave~~ trained the Americans to survive in the world economy ~~even~~ even after the revolutionarily war.