
AP European History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Short Answer Question 3

0–3 points

Score 3

Response accomplishes **all three** tasks set by the question.

Score 2

Response accomplishes **two** of the tasks set by the question.

Score 1

Response accomplishes **one** of the tasks set by the question.

Score 0

Response accomplishes **none** of the tasks set by the question.

Score NR

Is completely blank

Scoring Guide

- a) One point for using one piece of evidence to support Judt's argument regarding the creation of the welfare states. An implicit or explicit reference to Judt's argument is necessary.
- b) One point for using one piece of evidence to support Judt's characterization of political **AND/OR** economic conditions in the period 1960–2000. An implicit or explicit reference to Judt's characterization is necessary.
- c) One point for linking Judt's argument to one political **AND/OR** intellectual trend in late-twentieth-century Europe.

Scoring Notes

Possible acceptable responses for part (a) (not an exhaustive list):

- The creation of the welfare state attempted to prevent polarizing and violent political upheaval. Examples may include events from World War I, Great Depression, the rise of Fascism/Communism, World War II, and the Cold War (not exclusive).
- Welfare state creation attempted to prevent economic disasters and provide a social safety net. Examples may include policies stemming from World War I, Great Depression, Fascism/Communism, World War II and the Cold War.

Possible acceptable responses for part (b) (not an exhaustive list):

- Prosperity and safety in the period 1960–2000 is exemplified by social welfare programs; political stability and lack of armed conflict among major European states; economic recovery and stability; a movement towards European unification; and membership in collective security organizations. Examples may include “cradle to grave” social welfare policies, long-term effects of Marshall Plan/postwar economic recovery, steps toward European economic, and political integration and collective defense.

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Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Possible acceptable responses for part (b) (not an exhaustive list):

- Decades of relative prosperity and safety in the period 1960–2000 have led to intellectual and political movements questioning the welfare state's necessity. Examples may include neoliberalism/Thatcherism, rise of conservative/nationalist/protectionist movements, reduction in social welfare policies and deregulation of industry/banking/finance, globalization and free trade, and civil rights and inclusivity.

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Write your answer to SECTION I: PART B, QUESTION 3 on this page only.

After the political radicalism of WWII, several nations adopted the use of the welfare state. Nations like Britain and Italy implemented welfare states in response to the economic crises following WWII and the early Cold War. Using public healthcare and strong workers unions, these European nations provided ~~the~~ services for their population and limited the economic fluctuation of their markets. In this time period, most standards of living improved, and ~~the~~ many nations ~~in~~ of Europe created international organizations to save their economies from the stagflation that plagued the world's economies. This perspective that defends the welfare state represents the influence of Neoliberalism ~~on~~ on late 20th century politics. Neoliberal ideas sought to limit the welfare state, and many nations like Britain and the US adopted ~~these~~ policies that attempted ~~to~~ provide economic stimulation by loosening regulation on economies and giving less effort towards welfare actions. The author of this article therefore counters the neoliberal movement by expressing his support for the welfare state.

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Write your answer to SECTION I: PART B, QUESTION 3 on this page only.

Regarding the establishment of welfare states, Judd argues their creation is designed to forestall a return to economic depression, and this scenario played out in the Allied control of West Germany after the Second World War. Although the Allies had ostensibly saved West Germany from communist control, they ~~facilitated~~ instituted socially liberal welfare policies that maintained the health and stability of the state, even going so far as to literally drop free supplies to citizens during the Berlin Airlift. The characterization of these states as economically fortunate and stable is not only supported by West Germany but also by Scandinavian states such as Sweden and Finland, whose hyper-liberal welfare programs have made them some of the most prosperous countries on ~~the~~ Earth, even to this day. Judd wrote this as a British historian, however, responding to the platform of the Conservative Party in Britain, which experienced a resurgence under the Iron Lady Margaret ~~Thatcher~~ Thatcher and still holds a majority in Parliament. The Conservative Party opposes welfare programs, among others, and this trend prompted the British Judd to respond through a lesson in history.

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Write your answer to SECTION I: PART B, QUESTION 3 on this page only.

3a. Welfare States were created to ~~fight off~~ prevent another Great Depression and they boost our economy.

~~3b~~

3b. After the introduction of welfare ~~many~~ women were able to provide for their families and ~~work~~ work which in turn aided the economy.

3c. During the late 20th Century it was a trend for ~~poor~~ people to watch socialistic ideas and his response denounces those who thought this way. ~~and~~

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2017 SCORING COMMENTARY

Short Answer Question 3

Overview

Responses were expected to demonstrate two types of disciplinary practices vis-à-vis secondary sources: supplying evidence to support an author's claim and explaining how historical context influences an author's claims or arguments. Specifically, students were asked to examine Tony Judt's claims about the creation of welfare states in the twentieth century; substantiate his argument about the reasons for peace and prosperity in Europe between 1960 and 2000; and explain why Judt, writing in the early 2000s, was very defensive about the welfare state. At the same time the question evaluated students' understanding of key developments in European economic, political, and social history from roughly the 1920s to 2000, including reactions to the Great Depression and the rise of dictatorships; Western European political, economic, and social recovery after World War; the gradual integration of much of Europe; and political and social responses to change in the post-industrial era.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

The response to part a) earned 1 point for linking Judt's argument to making effective use of government initiatives (public healthcare) and strong worker's unions that limited economic instability. The response to part b) earned 1 point for linking Judt's characterization (improvement in standard of living) to international organizations stabilizing European economies. The response to part c) earned 1 point for correctly identifying Judt's response as one aimed at neoliberal policies (loosening economic regulations and investing less in welfare programs).

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

The response to part a) did not earn a point because the assertion that the Allies established social welfare programs in West Germany is incorrect. The response to part b) earned 1 point for correctly linking Judt's characterization of the half-century after the Second World War as economically fortunate and stable due to government intervention (liberal welfare programs) and postwar prosperity. The response to part c) earned 1 point for correctly identifying Judt's argument as a defense of the welfare state from critiques by the political right wing (Thatcherism, conservatism).

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

The response to part a) did not earn a point because it merely connects the Great Depression to the creation of welfare states but makes no explicit reference to Judt's argument. The response to part b) did not earn a point because it does not make reference to Judt's characterization of the political and economic climate of the postwar period and fails to give a valid example of conditions in the prescribed time period. The response to part c) earned 1 point by minimally identifying a political/intellectual trend (to "bash socialistic ideals") and characterizing Judt's argument as a defense of the welfare state against this attack.