AP European History
Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Short Answer Question 1

Generic Scoring Guide

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

Question-Specific Scoring Guide

• One point for describing an intellectual change that influenced the events described by Jaurès
• One point for explaining why the pattern of social changes identified by Jaurès led to the French Revolution
• One point for explaining how an ideology of the 1800s influenced Jaurès’ interpretation of the causes of the French Revolution

Scoring Notes

General note: The “events described in the passage” refers to the events of the French Revolution — the subject of Jaurès’ essays — and not to events in the early 20th century. The dual focus of the quote is on the intellectual changes brought about by the Enlightenment and the bourgeoisie’s role as the main force behind the French Revolution. In dealing with the social aspects of the Revolution, Jaurès is offering a largely Marxist interpretation for the causes of the upheaval, though he frames it in nationalist terms. Acceptable responses may interpret “bourgeoisie” as “the middle class.”

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

To meet the minimum requirement of “describe,” responses must do more than simply mention the word “Enlightenment” or name a particular thinker. An acceptable response should minimally describe some aspect of the Enlightenment or other intellectual changes in the 1700s that influenced the French Revolution. It is not necessary for an acceptable response to offer an explicit explanation of how a particular change influenced the French Revolution, but it must go beyond mere name-dropping.

• Enlightenment focus on reason, empiricism, or the application of scientific principles to society
• Enlightenment questioning of traditional authority and traditional political and social systems
Short Answer Question 1 (continued)

- Enlightenment skepticism about organized religion and religiously based justifications for existing institutions (e.g., divine-right monarchy)
- Descriptions of particular Enlightenment thinkers' theories or ideas that influenced the Revolution (e.g., Montesquieu, Condorcet, Rousseau, Voltaire, Locke)
- Salons and coffee shops used as a location where intellectual information is disseminated
- Printing press as a means of increased literacy and/or as a means of spreading of ideas via pamphlets

Additional notes:
- If responses only mention Enlightenment but do not describe how it influenced the events in the passage, they do not earn a point.
- Humanism, Individualism, Divine Right of Kings as ideas that are prior to and influence the French Revolution are acceptable if the response has a robust explanation.
- Responses may mislabel an intellectual change and still earn the point if the explanation of the intellectual change is in-depth and correct.

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

The main social development identified by Jaurès is the rise of the bourgeoisie. To meet the minimum requirement of “explain” the response must provide some minimal linkage between a social development identified by Jaurès and some aspect of the French Revolution. Most responses will likely focus on the outbreak of the Revolution in 1789, but acceptable responses could also focus on how policies or institutions of the various French Revolutionary governments reflect the influence of the bourgeoisie.
- Growing wealth and/or education of the bourgeoisie conflicted with its lack of political power under the French monarchy.
- Under the monarchy government mismanagement and heavy taxation on the bourgeoisie created resentment because of the bourgeoisie’s lack of an effective say in government.
- Growth in commerce and manufacturing led to the bourgeoisie playing a more important role in the French economy and demanding more political power.
- Growing belief by the members of the bourgeoisie that their class truly created wealth, while the nobility and the clergy were increasingly seen as “parasitic.”
- The abolition of the privileges of the clergy and the nobility in the early years of the Revolution resulted from the desire of the bourgeoisie to consolidate its power.
- The suppression of guilds and the banning of labor organizations and strikes (under the la Chapelier law) also resulted from influence of commercial and manufacturing interests on the Revolutionary governments.
- The ultimate rejection of the economic policies of the radical phase of the Revolution, such as the fixing of prices, also reflected the influence of the bourgeoisie on the course of the Revolution.

Possible acceptable responses for part (c) (not exhaustive):

To meet the minimum requirement for explaining how an ideology influenced Jaurès’ interpretation, the response must make a clear reference to a 19th-century ideology or “ism” (either by name or by
accurate description) and to assert some linkage between an idea, tenet, tendency, or emphasis in that ideology and the interpretation of the French Revolution expressed by Jaurès.

- Marxist thought described history as a series of class struggles. Jaurès’ description of the revolutionary role of the bourgeoisie as a class shows the influence of Marxism on his interpretation. (Alternatively, his assertion that the bourgeoisie had attained “class consciousness” shows the influence of Marxism.)

- Nationalist thought foregrounded the achievements and struggles of nations as the most significant aspect of history. Jaurès’ framing of the Revolution as a stage in French national development shows the influence of nationalism.

- Industrial Revolution — a period where workers’ consciousness is developing much like the consciousness of the Third Estate.

Additional notes:
- Responses may mislabel an ideology of the 1800s and still earn the point if the explanation of the ideology is in-depth, correct, and linked back to influencing Jaurès’ interpretation of the causes of the French Revolution.
- Responses in this part tend to lack the specificity to adequately explain an 1800s ideology and earn the point.

Other ideologies that might have influenced Jaurès’ interpretation are liberalism with its emphasis on the development of freer, more rational political systems and positivism with its emphasis on scientific and intellectual progress in history.
Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 1 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.

A. The concept of the Social Contract Contract and Self determination pioneered by John Locke led to the revolutionary ideas of the bourgeoisie. The idea that a government had to provide its citizens with undeniable natural rights contrasted sharply with the oppressive and corrupt estate system of France. The Henry IV-
Poweless bourgeoisie realized this, and started to yearn for more power and influence.

b. When the bourgeoisie developed Enlightenment ideas about society, they desired to change society that sharply contrasted those ideas. The Bourbon monarchs lived lavish and extravagant lives completely out of touch with the common people, even when there were millions of French peasants starving. As the idea of the Social Contract trickled down through the French populace, revolution against this government became inevitable.

c. Tocque was most likely influenced by liberalism in his writings. He speaks favorably of the French revolution and specifically of the rise of the bourgeoisie, which is consistent with liberal thought of the time. His emphasis on rights, wealth, and development are only matched by liberal ideology of the 19th century, which emphasized freedom, representative government, and natural rights.

End of response area for Q1
Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 1 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.

a) A prior event that influenced the French Revolution was the enlightenment and its use of reason. The revolution was spread thorough John Locke's social contract and natural rights policies. Which stated that if the government doesn't look after the the general will then revolt.

b) The social change led to the French Revolution because the bourgeoisie had become self aware that in order to gain social equality and political representation they needed to reform the government and revolt against a monarch.

c) An ideology of the 1800's that influenced the interpretation of Jaurès was individualism and the belief of one self interest. This was influential because it showed how the classes were self interested in political reform.
A) French thinkers, such as Baron de Montesquieu, Voltaire, Rousseau, Descartes and many others, at the time dramatically changed the course of French and European history. The Bourgeoisie prior to the French Revolution believed they were superior in all aspects of life until radical Jacobins such as Robespierre violently killed them in his Reign of Terror 1793-94.

B) Ordinary folk, such as the proletariat grew resentful towards the Divine Right of Kings and the ruling Bourgeoisie, who grew in strength under King Louis XV who was under the control of his mistress Madame Pompadour. The Monarchy and nobility became out-of-touch and self-centered with a lack of concern for the Third Estate which ultimately led to their downfall in 1792.

C) The ideology of the 1700s was largely focused on the Monarchy and the Nobility, not only in France, but in greater Europe as well. The peasant class toppled the European social structure, which had been in place since the Holy Roman Empire. The over-taxation and lack of food drove the average citizens of France to take the matter into their own hands.

End of response area for Q1
Short Answer Question 1

Overview

a) Describe one prior intellectual change that influenced the events described in the passage.

Responses were expected to describe an intellectual change, generally speaking from the Enlightenment, and its influence on the events outlined in the passage. These topics are addressed in the curriculum framework under Key Concept 2.3.I. A, B, and C, and 2.3.II. A and B.

b) Explain why the pattern of social changes that Jaurès describes led to the French Revolution.

Responses were expected to explain how the growing social and economic clout of the bourgeoisie was not accompanied by an increase in political influence and power. Responses were also intended to show how this set of conditions was, according the Jaurès, one of the reasons for the outbreak of the French Revolution. This content information is addressed in the curriculum framework in Key Concept 2.1. IV. A and B and Thematic Learning Objective PP-4.

c) Explain how an ideology of the 1800s influenced Jaurès' interpretation of the causes of the French Revolution

Responses were expected to explain how 19th-century ideologies, including Marxism, Liberalism, Socialism, Nationalism, Conservatism, or Romanticism, influenced Jaurès' interpretation of the causes of the French Revolution. This content information is addressed in the curriculum framework in Key Concept 3.3. I. A, B, C, D, and F; Key Concept 3.3. III. B; and Thematic Learning Objectives SP-2, OS-5, and SP-4.

Sample: 1A
Score: 3

The response to part a) earned 1 point because it accurately identifies prior intellectual changes — the notion of a Social Contract, self-determination, and the ideas of John Locke. The response accurately describes how the prerevolutionary bourgeoisie, influenced by these ideas, started to seek more political power.

The response to part b) earned 1 point because it accurately describes how the relationship between the monarchy and the common people changed, and it describes how this change contributed to the French Revolution.

The response to part c) earned 1 point because it explains liberalism as an ideology of the 1800s and accurately explains how liberalism’s emphasis on freedom, representative government, and natural rights influenced Jaurès’ interpretation of the causes of the French Revolution.

Sample: 1B
Score: 2

The response to part a) earned 1 point because of its description of the Enlightenment as a prior intellectual change, John Locke’s social contract, and natural rights policies, which gave the bourgeoisie a focus for revolt.

The response to part b) earned 1 point because it adequately describes how the bourgeoisie became self-aware and began to hold the belief that social equality and political representation were needed to reform the government.
Short Answer Question 1 (continued)

The response to part c) did not earn a point because “individualism” is not clearly defined as an ideology of the 1800s, nor is it tied to Jaurès’ interpretation of the causes of the French Revolution.

Sample: 1C
Score: 1

The response to part a) did not earn a point because there is no description of a prior intellectual change, simply a list of “thinkers.”

The response to part b) earned 1 point because there is a description of a pattern of social change — the monarchy and nobility being out of touch with the Third Estate — which contributed to the outbreak of the French Revolution. Although the first sentence is irrelevant, the second sentence is enough to have earned the point.

The response to part c) did not earn a point because it lacks any discussion of an ideology of the 1800s. Instead the response makes some off-task observations.