### **Question 1**

Architectural form is often determined by the intended function and meaning of the structure.

Select and clearly identify two specific structures from different cultures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. At least one of your choices must come from beyond the European tradition. Using specific visual evidence, analyze how the architectural form was determined by <u>both</u> the intended function <u>and</u> meaning of the structure. (30 minutes)

#### Background

This question asks students to select and identify two specific structures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. One of the structures must come from beyond the European tradition. For each structure, students must use specific visual evidence to analyze how the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. The intent of this question is to have students demonstrate an understanding about the relationship between architectural form, function, and meaning.

For purposes of this question, architectural form can be defined as including the spatial layout, design process, construction, decoration, relationship to location, and aesthetic or physical qualities. Students may choose structures with functions that embody, perform, or evoke political, social, sacred, cultural, fantastical, or abstract meanings. Students may choose examples that represent the relationship between architectural form and theory. Although not required, students may discuss the relationship of form, function, and meaning in terms of the appropriation of elements from earlier architectural traditions.

Architectural examples to answer this question exist in almost every period and culture in global art history, reflecting a variety of intended functions and meanings. Many religious structures have architectural elements with metaphorical meanings, such as the single inner chamber of the Temple of Vishnu at Deogarh, which acts as a home for the deity; or the sacred precinct of the Great Stupa at Sanchi, which encourages a circumambulatory path that symbolizes the Buddhist's spiritual journey toward enlightenment. In the Great Mosque at Damascus, the recessed niche of the mihrab indicates the gibla wall, which points the prayerful towards the Muslim holy site of Mecca. The respective sizes of these structures reflect devotional practices that are, on the one hand, solitary and private and, on the other hand, communal. Mortuary buildings and complexes, such as the Pyramids of Giza in Ancient Egypt and the Taj Mahal in India, incorporated symbolic formal elements in their designs to underscore religious beliefs and to aggrandize, commemorate, or memorialize the dead. In terms of urban planning, the Forbidden City in Beijing served as both a capital city and seat of earthly power, aligning the ceremonial spaces along a central axis and investing the common city grid plan with a sense of cosmic order and harmony. Similarly, Machu Picchu in Peru demonstrated the political authority of a royal residence, incorporated sacred geographical alignment, and utilized innovative agricultural engineering that responded to its specific mountain location.

Architectural forms from the European tradition are also determined by a wide range of intended functions and meanings. Religious structures in Greece and Rome, such as the Parthenon and the Pantheon, demonstrated through their imposing size, harmonious proportions, and the durability of marble the centrality of religion and, by extension, the divine order of the gods. During the Gothic period, the towering external height, soaring vaults, and increased size of the clerestory windows of cathedrals such as Chartres signaled a change from apocalyptic theology and communicated God's presence through the symbolic use

## **Question 1 (continued)**

of light. In the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, civic and government buildings mimicked earlier historical styles of architecture to signify the function of government as a moral, stabilizing force. Twentieth-century architects, such as Le Corbusier and Frank Lloyd Wright, employed modern materials to achieve divergent objectives in the realm of domestic architecture. Whereas Le Corbusier used concrete and steel to build a house that was a "machine for living in" — the Villa Savoye — Frank Lloyd Wright used these same materials in Fallingwater to open up the walls to the surrounding landscape to create a structure that seemed to grow out of its setting and promote the home as a sanctuary against the combative forces of modern life.

#### Three Tasks for Students

- 1. Select and clearly identify two specific structures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. One of the structures must come from beyond the European tradition.
- 2. Use specific visual evidence to analyze how architectural form was determined by the intended function of the structure.
- 3. Use specific visual evidence to analyze how architectural form was determined by the intended meaning of the structure.

#### **Points to Remember**

For a structure to be appropriate for this question, it must be possible to analyze how the architectural form was determined by both the function and meaning of the structure. This will be easier to achieve with actual works of architecture, as opposed to representations of architectural forms in paintings.

Discussions of generic architectural types (such as a church, pyramid, mosque, or palace) are unlikely to yield the specific visual evidence needed for an appropriate analysis.

The identification of each structure must be clear; however, identifications may be located within the body of the essay, or the specific identification may emerge only through the description of the structure.

Structures may date from any time period. At least one of the structures must come from beyond the European tradition.

If two structures from beyond the European tradition are selected, the structures must come from different cultures. If two structures are selected from the same culture, the stronger response should be scored.

If a student provides more than two structures, the two strongest responses should be scored, keeping in mind that one structure must still come from beyond the European tradition.

Prehistoric examples, such as Stonehenge, about which little information regarding the culture that produced it is available, are not acceptable choices and should not be scored.

Students are not asked to compare or contrast the two structures.

Notes written in the blank space above the response should not be scored.

## **Question 1 (continued)**

### **Scoring Criteria**

#### 9-8 points

#### Response demonstrates thorough knowledge and understanding of the question.

The student clearly and correctly identifies two appropriate structures from different cultures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. Using specific visual evidence, the student analyzes how the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. The response may include minor errors that do not have a meaningful effect on the analysis.

The score of **8** may be earned when the response is slightly unbalanced — with a stronger analysis of either one structure or the other, although both are represented — and/or includes several minor errors that do not have a meaningful effect on the analysis.

#### 7-6 points

#### Response demonstrates sufficient knowledge and understanding of the question.

The student correctly identifies two appropriate structures from different cultures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. Using specific visual evidence, the student analyzes how the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. However, the response may be somewhat unbalanced and/or may include minor errors that have some effect on the analysis.

The score of **6** may be earned when the response is significantly unbalanced and/or contains several minor errors that have some effect on the analysis.

### 5 points

#### Response demonstrates some knowledge and understanding of the question.

The student identifies two appropriate structures from different cultures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. Using visual evidence, the student addresses how the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. However, the response is less analytical than descriptive. It may be overly general, simplistic, digressive, or unbalanced. For example, the discussion of one of the structures may be mostly accurate, whereas the discussion of the other structure includes errors that affect the response.

#### OR

The student clearly and correctly identifies **only one** appropriate structure, but the response demonstrates thorough knowledge and understanding by using specific visual evidence to analyze how the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure.

**NOTE:** This is the highest score a response can earn if the student identifies and analyzes only one appropriate structure correctly and coherently.

## **Question 1 (continued)**

### 4-3 points

#### Response demonstrates limited knowledge and understanding of the question.

The student identifies two appropriate structures from different cultures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. The identification of the structures may be incomplete, implied, and/or contain errors. Using visual evidence, the student addresses how the architectural form was determined by the intended function and/or meaning of the structure. However, the response is limited, digressive, overly unbalanced, and/or contains significant errors.

#### OR

The student correctly identifies **only one** appropriate structure, but the response demonstrates sufficient knowledge and understanding by using visual evidence to analyze how the architectural form was determined by <u>both</u> the intended function <u>and</u> meaning of the structure.

The score of **3** may be earned if both structures are appropriate, but the discussion contains many significant errors.

#### 2-1 points

#### Response demonstrates little knowledge or understanding of the question.

The student identifies two appropriate structures from different cultures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. The identification of the structures may be incomplete, implied, and/or contain errors. The response demonstrates general familiarity with the issues raised by the question. However, the discussion is weak, overly descriptive, and/or contains significant errors.

#### OR

The student identifies **only one** appropriate structure, but the response demonstrates some knowledge and understanding by using evidence to address how the architectural form was determined by the intended function and/or meaning of the structure.

A score of **1** may be earned, even with two or more appropriate structures, when the discussion is too limited to ascertain the student's level of knowledge and understanding.

### 0 points

#### Response demonstrates no discernible knowledge or understanding of the question.

The student attempts to respond, but the response is without merit because it simply restates the question, includes no appropriate or identifiable structures, and/or consists entirely of incorrect or irrelevant statements. The score of 0 points includes crossed-out words, personal notes, and drawings.

— This is a blank paper only.

# 1A 1/3

## ART HISTORY SECTION II—Part A Time—1 hour 2 Ouestions

**Directions:** You have one hour to answer the two questions in this part, and you are advised to spend 30 minutes on each question. The proctor will announce when each 30-minute interval has elapsed, but you may proceed freely from Question 1 to Question 2. Do NOT go on to Part B or open the orange booklet for Section II: Free Response, Part B, Images, until you are told to do so.

Read the questions carefully and take time to think about what the questions ask. You can receive full credit only by directly answering the questions. Therefore, spend a few minutes organizing or outlining your responses in the blank space provided above the questions. Notes written in the blank space will not be scored. You must answer each question on the lined pages of this booklet. Analyze each question thoroughly and choose appropriate examples for your responses. Identify your examples as fully as possible.

**Note:** This exam uses the chronological designations B.C.E. (before the common era) and C.E. (common era). These labels correspond to B.C. (before Christ) and A.D. (anno Domini), which are used in some art history textbooks.

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Question 1 is repeated for your convenience.

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### ART HISTORY SECTION II—Part A Time—1 hour 2 Questions

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**Directions:** You have one hour to answer the two questions in this part, and you are advised to spend 30 minutes on each question. The proctor will announce when each 30-minute interval has elapsed, but you may proceed freely from Question 1 to Question 2. Do NOT go on to Part B or open the orange booklet for Section II: Free Response, Part B, Images, until you are told to do so.

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## ART HISTORY SECTION II—Part A Time—1 hour 2 Questions

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1. Architectural form is often determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure.

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Select and clearly identify two specific structures from different cultures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. At least one of your choices must come from beyond the European tradition. Using specific visual evidence, analyze how the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. (30 minutes)

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Question 1 is repeated for your convenience.

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## AP<sup>®</sup> ART HISTORY 2015 SCORING COMMENTARY

### **Question 1**

#### Overview

This question asked students to select and identify two specific structures in which the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. At least one of the structures must have come from beyond the European tradition. For each structure, students had to use specific visual evidence to analyze how the architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structure. The intent of this question was to have students demonstrate an understanding about the relationship between architectural form, function, and meaning.

#### Sample: 1A Score: 9

This response demonstrates thorough knowledge and understanding of the question by using specific visual evidence to analyze how architectural forms were determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structures. The response clearly and correctly identifies two appropriate architectural structures, one of which comes from beyond the European tradition: the Early Medieval Carolingian Palatine Chapel and the Islamic Great Mosque of Damascus. The response identifies the Palatine Chapel as a royal chapel that functioned "to serve as a place for the emperor Charlemagne to come worship and preside over his devout subjects, demonstrating his authority." The response cites specific visual evidence as to how the chapel achieves this "dual function" by citing the "central plan design, which concentrates worshippers in an area where the splendor of God and the ruler is evident," and an outdoor balcony, "where Charlemagne would stand to look out over his subjects as they filed in." The response also states that the chapel "utilizes clerestory windows to create an aura of the magnificence both of God and of Charlemagne himself." The response links these elements to the meaning of the structure by stating that "Charlemagne wanted to be seen as the successor to the Roman emperors"; thus, his chapel needed to express his "descent from Roman authority" and "his right to rule." The response notes that this is also achieved through the use of porphyry stone from Ravenna and classically inspired designs such as the central plan and the dome, with their reference to the Roman Pantheon, all of which helps to communicate the "power of their ruler." With regard to the Great Mosque of Damascus, the response identifies the structure as a "place of worship, a place for people to congregate to pray." The response notes that the structure achieves this function by citing specific visual evidence such as the "vast enclosed courtyard where worshippers could gather to intermingle and show devotion by washing in a fountain." The response also notes the "tall mosaic walls" which provide "a sort of sanctuary" by depicting the description of heaven in the Our'an, "a garden with flowing water." The response links these formal elements to the "majesty of the Islamic religion." an idea that is elaborated through a discussion of the "great minaret towers that flank the walls." The response notes the impressive size and detail of the minarets, as well as the fact that they were "adapted and repurposed from a previous structure but were given new meaning and function in the mosque plan," where they are linked to the Muslim call to prayer five times a day. This appropriation, according to the response, "undoubtedly conveyed the message of the power and majesty of the Islamic religion to those nearby."

### Sample: 1B Score: 5

This response demonstrates some knowledge and understanding of the question by using visual evidence to address how architectural forms were determined by both the intended function and meaning of the structures. The response correctly identifies two appropriate architectural structures, one of which comes from beyond the European tradition: the "New St. Peter's" by Bernini and the Great Mosque of Djenné. The response discusses Bernini's design of the courtyard at St. Peter's cathedral within the context of the Counter-Reformation and the Baroque Period as a structural part of the church. The response cites visual

## AP<sup>®</sup> ART HISTORY 2015 SCORING COMMENTARY

## **Question 1 (continued)**

evidence determined by the intended function and meaning of the structure when it describes the surrounding walls, "which represented the arms of the church welcoming the people." The response also notes the inclined walls that help to visually "increase the size of the church building when looking from outside," an aspect that "demonstrates the overwhelming power of the church." This discussion, however, includes errors when addressing the oval shape as a rejection of "Paganism." With regard to the Great Mosque of Djenné, the response correctly notes the function as a site for Muslim worship. The response then cites all of the essential components of a mosque, linking each to its function and meaning within the structure: the minaret, a "high tower overlooking the surrounding areas" used to "call Muslims to prayer"; a hypostyle hall that "had enough capacity to hold a large group"; a courtyard; the qibla wall; and a "mihrab dome," all of which serve to facilitate prayer for large groups of people in the direction facing Mecca as the "birthplace of Muhammed." This discussion, however, is overly general and there are no specific details mentioned that would distinguish the Great Mosque of Djenné from any other mosque.

#### Sample: 1C Score: 3

This response demonstrates limited knowledge or understanding of the question by using visual evidence to address how architectural form was determined by both the intended function and meaning of a structure. The response correctly identifies two architectural structures, but neither comes from beyond the European tradition: Frank Lloyd's Wright's Robie House in Chicago and Santa Costanza in Rome. Since neither of these examples is from beyond the European tradition, the stronger response was scored: Wright's Robie House, which demonstrates sufficient knowledge and understanding of the question. The response for Wright's Robie House identifies formal elements such as "the open floor plan, simplistic furniture, and geometric fixtures on the interior of the house, as well as the emphasis on horizontal line." These formal elements are also linked to meaning. The horizontal line reflects "the midwestern planes [sic]," while the response notes that "Wright attempts to completely integrate the indoors of the house and the exterior structure with the natural landscape of Chicago," making implicit reference to Wright's Prairie style. The social intent of Wright's approach to architecture is also referenced in the response, which notes that this "was to be a living space for a middle class family" and that the house is "a reaction to the city's urbanization and suburban development." The response contains some errors that affect the discussion, noting that the slightly slanted roof is "similar to that of Japanese architecture," instead of observing that the influence of Japanese architecture was actually in terms of the interior space. The response also misses some of the nuances of Wright's architectural intent with this building. In general, though, the discussion of the Robie House is stronger than the discussion of Santa Costanza. The response for Santa Costanza identifies the building and its location. It also describes the building correctly as an adaptation of a preexisting structure appropriated by Constantine. However, the response fails to properly address the meaning of the edifice: specifically, the function of Santa Costanza as a mausoleum for Constantina, the daughter of Constantine. Instead, the structure is identified as simply "a designated place of worship."