

# AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY 2016 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Short Answer Question 2

Use the passages below to answer all parts of the question that follows.

“When [the Dutch burgher] goes home from Church, does he take God’s Holy Book with him to ponder the sermon? No. Instead he picks up the day’s [business] gazette and busies himself with calculations of interest and the liquidation of debts. It would be better [if] on the Lord’s Day he gave some accounting of himself and, instead of reckoning his profits, reckoned up his sins.”

Simonides, minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, *Four Books on God’s Judgment*, 1655

“So, Amsterdam has risen through the hand of God to the peak of prosperity and greatness . . . The whole world stands amazed at its riches and from east and west, north and south they come to behold it. The Great and Almighty Lord has raised this city above all others . . . yea He has even taken from them the [commerce] of the east and the west (for in former times [other cities such as] Lisbon also flourished) and has spilled their treasure into our bosom.”

Melchior Fokkens, Dutch historian, *Description of the Widely Renowned Merchant City of Amsterdam*, 1662

a) Describe ONE important difference between the views of commerce and prosperity expressed in the two passages.

b) For EACH of the passages, identify and explain ONE factor (such as a historical development, an intellectual or philosophical trend, or a religious belief) that likely informed the view of commerce and prosperity expressed in that passage.

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 —

Is completely blank

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## 2016 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Short Answer Question 2 (continued)

#### Scoring Guide

##### 0–3 points

- ONE point for accurately describing an important difference between the views of commerce and prosperity expressed in the two passages by Simonides and Fokkens.
- ONE point for identifying and explaining a factor (historical development, intellectual or philosophical trend, or a religious belief) that likely informed the view of commerce and prosperity expressed by Simonides.
- ONE point for identifying and explaining a factor (historical development, intellectual or philosophical trend, or a religious belief) that likely informed the view of commerce and prosperity expressed by Fokkens.

#### Scoring Notes

##### Examples of responses to Part A that would earn credit: (1 Point)

- Simonides is critical of businessmen and their interest in business because it interferes with God's work. Fokkens instead praises business ventures as being a product of God's work.
- Simonides describes Dutch wealth as a distraction from spiritual needs. Fokkens sees Dutch wealth as a testament of God's favor.
- Simonides criticizes Dutch businessmen's obsession with profit because it prevents them from engaging in religious pursuits. Fokkens sees financial success as a manifestation of God's grace.
- Simonides suggests that religion and commerce should be separate. Fokkens suggests that religion and commerce are intertwined.

##### Examples from Part B that would earn credit:

###### Simonides's Passage: (1 Point)

- Simonides's commentary about the Dutch being too focused on "calculations of interest and liquidation of debt" could be supported by the influence of Protestantism and its critiques of the Catholic Church on the Dutch Reformed Church.
- Simonides's argument that the Dutch are too focused on "calculations of interest and liquidation of debt" could be supported by the increased Dutch wealth deriving from the formation of the Dutch East India Company, the increased participation of Dutch merchants in global commerce and the resulting decline of Spain as a world power, and the proliferation of art funded by wealthy merchants.
- Simonides, as a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church, was influenced by Protestant ideas about predestination, salvation by faith alone, the changing role of the clergy, and unnecessary wealth accumulation. Simonides is reacting to the increased religious pluralism of the Dutch community.

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**Short Answer Question 2 (continued)**

**Fokkens's Passage: (1 Point)**

- Fokkens's argument that "the whole world stands amazed at its [Amsterdam] riches" could be supported by the Dutch Golden Age and may include references to Dutch nationalism.
- Fokkens's argument that God "has raised this city above all others..." could be supported by the results of the Peace of Westphalia (1648), the decline of Catholic world powers such as Spain and Portugal, and the victories of Protestants over Catholics, especially in the Netherlands.
- Fokkens's characterization of Dutch prosperity relies on the historical development of Dutch trade and banking, such as the formation of the Bank of Amsterdam, the formation of Dutch East India Company, and the expansion of Dutch trade associated with overseas imperialism.
- The prosperity described by Fokkens could be attributed to the proper adherence to Protestant doctrines, such as prosperity being a sign of God's grace.

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 2 on this page only.

An important difference between the views of commerce and prosperity expressed in the two passages is that in the first passage, the minister of the Dutch Reformed Church sees commerce as a negative thing that draws people away from religion and church. However, in the second passage, the Dutch historian sees the prosperity of the Netherlands as a blessing from God himself. The Golden Age of prosperity and the victory of the wars of Independence against Spain and the moving of the ~~can~~ center of commerce from Antwerp to Amsterdam may have caused the positive view of the prosperity in the Netherlands in the second passage. The first passage's negative view on the prosperity of the Netherlands may have been caused by Calvinism, where ~~worshippers were reprimanded for~~ worshippers were not allowed to have luxuries or ~~busy themselves with~~ be interested in having lots of money.

End of response area for Q2



Q3983/4

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 2 on this page only.

a) In passage 1, the author believes that commerce & prosperity in Dutch lands is taking over the religious ideals of people; they are more interested in "calculation of interest" and liquidation of debts. In passage 2, the author is thanking God, thanking religion for giving the Dutch great economic prosperity; <sup>prosperity</sup> he looks @ it as a blessing from God. } not in God or sorrow for sin.

b) In Passage 1, the author was probably influenced by the Reformation, seeing as though he is from the Dutch Reformed Church. This might give him the ideas of <sup>the importance of</sup> strict religious & moral behavior rather than monetary profits.

In Passage 2, the author is simply an historian & an author of the Merchant City of ~~Amsterdam~~ Amsterdam. He is interested more in ideas of <sup>mercantilism,</sup> capitalism and profit, not of <sup>the</sup> strictness of religion, ~~Calvinism~~ Calvinism, for example.

End of response area for Q2



Q3983/4

SAC 2C

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 2 on this page only.

2a) Although both passages acknowledge the economic prosperity of Amsterdam in the 1600s, the first passage contends that the average citizen should be more worried about their faith than their profits, while the second passage even attributes their economic successes to the wants of God himself. This is an important distinction, as one contends that God is more important than economic prosperity, and the ~~other~~ other says that God is the reason for economic prosperity, which are two opposite points of view.

2b) In passage one, it is easy to see why the author has the opinion he does, because of the fact that he is a minister at a church, which explains why he contends that people are better off following their sins than their profits as he was the one they came to to reckon their sins.

~~As~~ In the other passage, the author is a Dutch historian, who may be biased and be using this piece more ~~to~~ as propaganda than an accurate historical account, to persuade other people or nations that Amsterdam was a city blessed by God in their economic prosperity.

End of response area for Q2



Q3983/4

# AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY 2016 SCORING COMMENTARY

## Short Answer Question 2

### Overview

This question asked students to contrast the mid seventeenth-century views of a Dutch minister and a Dutch historian on the connection between commercial prosperity and religion. Students were then asked to contextualize both sources by connecting each of them to contemporary historical developments, intellectual or philosophical trends, or religious beliefs.

### Sample: 2A

#### Score: 3

The response is clear and concise and provides a contrast of the two passages that earned the first point. The analysis of Fokkens's passage cites multiple appropriate factors, such as the Golden Age of prosperity, the independence from Spain, and the rise of Amsterdam, which earned 1 point. The explanation of the passage by Simonides cites the importance of Calvinism, especially its focus on simple living, and earned the third point.

### Sample: 2B

#### Score: 2

This response received 1 point for part a) because it illustrates a clear difference, noting Simonides's suggestion that economic prosperity is negatively affecting piety and contrasting this with Fokkens's belief that prosperity is a sign of God's favor. It received 1 point for part b) because its discussion of strict religious and moral behavior stemming from the Protestant Reformation explains one factor affecting Simonides. However, it did not receive a second point for part b) because it simply mentions "mercantilism," "Calvinism," and "capitalism" without developing its discussion of them enough to earn a point.

### Sample: 2C

#### Score: 1

The response to part a) successfully and eloquently makes a comparison between the two passages, and thereby earned 1 point. The response did not earn points for part b) because its attempt to use point-of-view-analysis is not a response to the prompt.