

# **AP® EUROPEAN HISTORY 2016 SCORING GUIDELINES**

## **Short Answer Question 3**

Many historians contend that the development of the railroad in the early 1800s was a significant turning point in European history.

- a) Identify TWO specific pieces of evidence that support the contention, and explain how each piece supports the contention.
- b) Identify ONE specific piece of evidence that undermines the contention, and explain how it undermines the contention.

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

## **Scoring Guide**

### **0–3 points**

- ONE point for identifying and explaining a piece of evidence that supports the contention that the development of railroads in the early 1800s was a significant turning point in European History
- ONE point for identifying and explaining a DIFFERENT piece of evidence from the one given above that supports the contention that the development of railroads in the early 1800s was a significant turning point in European History
- ONE point for identifying and explaining a piece of evidence that undermines the contention that the development of railroads in the early 1800s was a significant turning point in European History

# **AP® EUROPEAN HISTORY 2016 SCORING GUIDELINES**

## **Short Answer Question 3 (continued)**

### **Scoring Notes**

#### **Examples of responses to Part A that would earn credit:**

- The contention that the development of railroads in the early 1800s was a significant turning point in European history can be supported by railroads allowing for faster transportation of goods and raw materials that were necessary for production.
- The contention can be supported by railroads helping to improve diets by providing improved access to perishable food.
- The contention can be supported by the use of railroads for passenger transportation, initially for the middle class and, later, for the working class.
- The contention can be supported by railroads promoting economic expansion and growth by moving raw materials and finished goods more quickly and over greater distances.
- The contention can be supported by states' use of railroads for military mobilization and the rapid movement of armies.
- The contention can be supported by railroads promoting colonial expansion and imperialism by allowing imperial European powers to move resources more quickly and efficiently.
- The contention can be supported by railroads facilitating the rapid spread of information.
- The contention can be supported by railroads promoting a common national identity by making it easier to move throughout the entire country.
- The contention can be supported by railroads providing an opportunity for cultural interaction and increased access to leisure activities.

#### **Examples of responses to Part B that would earn credit:**

- The contention that the development of railroads in the early 1800s was a significant turning point in European history can be undermined by the fact that railroads in the early 1800s were not widespread throughout Eastern Europe.
- The contention can be undermined by the fact that there were alternative forms of transportation for both goods and people, notably canals and steamships.
- The contention can be undermined because passenger rail travel was limited to the middle and upper classes until late in the 19th century.
- The contention can be undermined by a discussion of alternative economic and technological turning points more significant in the early 1800s than railroads, such as the Industrial Revolution or the steam engine.

# SAQ 3A

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.

3 A. The development of railroads was a significant turning point in European history. One of the reasons is because it allowed for industrialization. For example, great Britain developed a large series of railroad networks extending all over their country which allowed both materials (like coal and iron) and finished products to be transported to factories and markets more quickly. It also allowed for greater connectivity and communication between people living long distances. The best example for this can be seen in Russia, with the Trans-Siberian Railway built by Sergei Witte. In the vast Russian empire, this allowed not only increased communication between people living long distances, but also the transportation of materials for industrialization.

B. Railroads were not a very significant turning point in European history. Even before the creation of railroads in Great Britain, materials could still easily be transported across the country. Great Britain had a system of natural rivers and canals which they used to transport goods before the creation of the railroad, which shows that they weren't revolutionary.

End of response area for Q3

# SAQ 3B

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.

a) Evidence that supports the idea that railroads marked a turning point includes increased trade and faster transportation. Before the 1800s trading inside of one country was difficult and slow but with the railroad it was much more efficient. Heavy materials no longer strained horses or took months to get delivered allowing for more money to be made for the producer. People could travel faster as well, allowing for wealth to be spread to all parts of the country through tariffs as well as bringing consumers to business' towns.

b) While one could argue their usefulness, railroads were a blunder to the environment and nature. They would build ~~old~~ tracks through meadows and the coal used to run them shot pollutants into the air. Though this ~~problem~~ probably wasn't thought of at the time it ~~wasn't~~ was the early stages of pollution.

End of response area for Q3

# SAQ 3C

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.

- a) The development of railroads allowed for quicker and more efficient trade between countries. This created a significant flourish in European economies because with easier access to foreign goods, consumer demands can be satisfied quicker. The building of railroads also influenced subsequent advances. With this new technology, other developments, such as the automobile, were able to occur, which changed European lifestyle completely.
- b) When newer and more efficient modes of technology were introduced, the railroad became less useful. While it wasn't completely obsolete, it was no longer the preferred method due to its limited practicality.

End of response area for Q3

# **AP® EUROPEAN HISTORY 2016 SCORING COMMENTARY**

## **Short Answer Question 3**

### **Overview**

This question asked students to consider the contention that the development of railroads in the early 1800s was a significant turning point in European history. Students were asked to provide and explain two specific pieces of evidence that support the contention and one specific piece of evidence that undermines it.

#### **Sample: 3A**

#### **Score: 3**

This response earned 3 points. The response earned 2 points for part a) with a detailed explanation of the significance of railroads for transportation of materials in Britain and increased communication in Russia. The response earned 1 point in part b) for an explanation of the significance of Britain's earlier canal and river network, thus undermining the contention that railroads were a turning point.

#### **Sample: 3B**

#### **Score: 2**

This response earned 2 points in part a) by offering acceptable explanations of the significant improvements in the transport of materials and people associated with the development of railroads in Europe. The reference to tariffs is a minor incorrect statement that does not negate the correct explanation. For part b) the response offers evidence that does not undermine the contention, but rather explains a negative effect of railroads. Thus, no point was earned in part b).

#### **Sample: 3C**

#### **Score: 1**

This response earned 1 point for part a) with an explanation of how railroads facilitated more efficient trade and the growth of consumerism. The reference to the automobile falls outside of the acceptable time period. The response for part b) offers no acceptable undermining evidence for the significance of railroads.