
AP United States History

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Short Answer Question 3

Answer (a), (b), and (c). Confine your response to the period 1500 to 1750.

- Briefly describe ONE specific historical difference between the role of religion in Spanish colonization and in the colonization of New England.
- Briefly describe ONE specific historical similarity between the role of religion in Spanish colonization and in the colonization of New England.
- Briefly explain ONE specific historical effect of religion on the development of society in either the Spanish colonies or the New England colonies.

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

No response. Response is completely blank.

Question-Specific Scoring Guide

- ONE point for describing one specific historical difference between the role of religion in Spanish colonization and in the colonization of New England
- ONE point for describing ONE specific historical similarity between the role of religion in Spanish colonization and in the colonization of New England
- ONE point for explaining one specific historical effect of religion on the development of society in either the Spanish colonies or the New England colonies

Scoring Notes

Introductory notes:

- Each point is earned independently.
- Accuracy:** These rubrics require that students demonstrate historically defensible content knowledge. Given the timed nature of the exam, responses may contain errors that do not detract from their overall quality, as long as the historical content used to advance the argument is accurate.
- Clarity:** Exam responses should be considered first drafts and thus may contain grammatical errors. Those errors will not be counted against a student unless they obscure the successful demonstration of the content knowledge, skills, and practices described below.

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Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

Examples of responses to (a) that would earn credit:

NOTE: Credited responses must explicitly address both Spanish colonization and the colonization of New England.

- New England colonists were typically Protestant while Spanish colonists were Catholic.
NOTE: To identify Catholicism and Christianity as different is not an acceptable response.
- New England colonists were more likely than Spanish colonists to establish settlements as religious enclaves.
- New England colonists were more likely than Spanish colonists to have settled in the Americas in order to obtain greater religious autonomy from the state.
- Religion was one of many motivations for Spanish colonists (or a primary motivation for a minority), whereas it was a primary motivation for many 17th-century New England colonists.
- Spanish colonists often treated colonization as a means of proselytizing native peoples while many New England colonists sought to create separate religious communities.
- New England colonists made religion more central to government and civic engagement than did the Spanish.
- The Spanish engaged in more extensive proselytizing among native peoples than did New England colonists.
- The English used force to acquire land, while the Spanish used force to require religious conversion among Native Americans.
- Spanish missions were larger and more common than conversion efforts such as New England praying towns.
- The Spanish colonists were a majority religious group in their home countries, while the New England colonists were a minority religious group in their home country.

Examples of responses to (b) that would earn credit:

- Both groups of colonizers sought to proselytize Christianity (Catholicism and Puritanism) and convert Native Americans in the New World.
- Both groups made religion part of civic life/community development.
- Native Americans in both the Southwest and New England used religion to help maintain their own culture in the face of colonization.
- Religious issues influenced the political sphere and government for both.
- Both used religion to justify exploitive labor systems.
- Both used religion and/or ideas of religious superiority to justify land acquisition and the displacement and domination of native people.
- Both were not tolerant of other religions in their colonies and often persecuted members of other religious groups.

Examples of responses to (c) that would earn credit:

NOTE: Examples must be confined to the period from 1500 to 1750 to earn credit.

- Spanish:
 - *Encomienda* system
 - Missions
 - Large-scale conversion to Catholicism
 - Pueblo Revolt
 - Conflicts between church and state

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Short Answer Question 3 (continued)

OR

- New England:
 - Puritan influence on government (e.g., Mayflower Compact, Fundamental Orders of Connecticut)
 - Local democracy in town meetings
 - Half-Way Covenant
 - Praying towns
 - Salem witch trials
 - Great Awakening
 - Puritan dissenters and the creation of new colonies in Connecticut and Rhode Island (Anne Hutchison, Roger Williams, Thomas Hooker)
 - Development of religious educational institutions (Harvard)
 - “City Upon a Hill” as an example of religious “greatness”

Write your answer to **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4** on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.

a) The role of religion in Spanish colonization and the colonization of New England differed in the different practices of religion. In New England consisted mainly of puritans who sought greater reform from the Church of England. Whereas the Spanish followed the *encomienda* system where colonists were sent to convert Native Americans to Catholicism in trade for land and enslavement.

b) Both the Spanish colonists and English colonists practiced strict religious enforcement and no religious tolerance. These two cultures only wanted their society full of others who share the same beliefs.

c) Throughout the Massachusetts Bay colony, John Winthrop's religious beliefs greatly reflected and impacted the society. His Calvinistic belief that the colony was the "city upon a hill" asserted the idea of creating a role model society for others to look up to and follow. The New England colonies further follow strict Puritan beliefs, seeking purity and perfectionism.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

Write your answer to SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3 or 4 on this page only. Do NOT write outside the box.

a) New England colonists were arriving to the Americans to ~~flies~~ flee religious persecution in England and ^{religion} was a vital part in maintaining colonial communities as they faced hardship. The Spanish came to the Americans in part to spread Catholicism in Native populations ~~and~~ ^{to force them into slavery} ~~and their religious religious super~~

b) In both societies, religion played a big role in communities and in the belief of religious superiority over Natives. The Spanish used Catholicism to establish control over Natives and New England settlers used their religion as an excuse to take Native land.

c) The majority of New England colonists were Puritans, whose strict moral rules served as a foundation for American ~~society~~ society and would persist in some form until challenged during the Progressive Era. The moral standards originated from their religion.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

Write your answer to **SHORT-ANSWER QUESTION 3** or **4** on this page only. Do **NOT** write outside the box.

Both in Spanish colonization and the colonization of New England, religion played an integral part. In the colonization of New England, religious freedom was a motivating factor for Protestant believers in England to come to the new world. They ~~wanted~~ sought freedom not in their country. In Spanish colonization, religion was intended to be spread by converting natives that they met, and was less of an influence towards going. Both colonizations spread religion to natives, while the English pilgrims.

End of response area for Question 3 or Question 4

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2018 SCORING COMMENTARY

Short Answer Question 3

Overview

- The responses were expected to explain a difference in the role of religion between the Spanish and New England colonies in the period from 1500 to 1750. Next, the responses were expected to explain a similarity in the role of religion between the Spanish and New England colonies in the period from 1500 to 1750. Finally, the responses were to explain a specific example showing an effect of religion in either the Spanish or New England colonies between 1500 and 1750.
- This question focused on the skills of Comparison and Causation.
- The Learning Objective assessed in this question focused on Culture and Society.
- This question mainly addressed Key Concept 2.2.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

The response to (a) earned 1 point because it uses specific examples of how the Spanish (“where colonists were sent to convert Native Americans to Catholicism in trade for land and enslavement”) and the New England (“consisted mainly of Puritans who sought [*sic*] greater reform”) colonies differed.

The response to (b) earned 1 point because it uses the limitations of religious freedom as a similarity between the Spanish and New England colonies.

The response to (c) earned 1 point because it cites John Winthrop’s Puritanism as a specific example of an impact of religion in the New England colonies.

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

The response to (a) earned 1 point because it describes a specific example for the differences between the Spanish (“spread Catholicism”) and the New England (“flee religious persucation [*sic*]”) colonies.

The response to (b) earned 1 point because it describes the specific historic example of ideas of “religious supieroity [*sic*]” as a similarity between the Spanish and New England colonies.

The response to (c) did not earn a point because, whereas it mentions Puritans and “moral rules,” the response does not effectively explain the moral rules as an impact on the colony and ends its discussion with the Progressive Era, which is outside of the time period.

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

The response to (a) earned 1 point because it describes a specific difference between the Spanish (“converting natives”) and New England (“Protestant believers ... to new world”) colonies.

The response to (b) did not earn a point because although it mentions that the Spanish and New England colonies both wanted to “spread religion to natives,” it does not describe any specific historical examples.

The response to (c) did not earn a point because there is no attempt to answer the prompt.