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

The engraving shows a historical encounter in 1765 in which the Mughal emperor Shah ‘Alam II granted the British East India Company, represented by Robert Clive, the right to collect tax revenue from the Mughal provinces of Bengal, Orissa, and Bihar.

a) Identify ONE way in which the event depicted in the image reflects political changes in the global balance of power in the eighteenth century.

b) Explain ONE way in which the event depicted in the image reflects economic changes in Asia in the eighteenth century.

c) Explain ONE significant way in which Great Britain’s relationship with South Asia changed in the nineteenth century, compared with the relationship depicted in the image.
Short Answer Question 2 (continued)

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.

Scoring Guide

0–3 points

- ONE point for identifying one way in which the event depicted in the image reflects political changes in the global balance of power in the eighteenth century
- ONE point for explaining one way in which the event depicted in the image reflects economic changes in Asia in the eighteenth century
- ONE point for explaining one significant way in which Great Britain’s relationship with South Asia changed in the nineteenth century, compared with the relationship depicted in the image

Scoring Notes

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

- The event depicted in the image reflects the growing power of European states and the decline of some Asian empires.
- The event depicted in the image reflects the disintegration of the Mughal Empire and the beginning of the British conquest of India, eventually allowing Great Britain to become the world’s greatest global power.
- The Mughal emperor’s granting of concessions to the British East India Company reflects the ways in which some European joint-stock companies contributed to expanding European power across the world while weakening Asian states.
- The Mughal Empire’s grant of the tax revenues to Great Britain, as shown in the image, was ultimately the result of Great Britain defeating European rivals such as France and the Netherlands to become the dominant power in South Asia.

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

- The event shown in the image reflects the growing power of European merchants and companies over trade and commerce in Asia.
Short Answer Question 2 (continued)

- The event shown in the image illustrates how Europeans were able to use their economic power through joint-stock companies, such as the British EIC, to weaken Asian states.
- The Mughal grant shows how competition between European mercantilist states and companies weakened Asian states by allowing Europeans to gain greater access to and control over Asian markets.

Examples of responses to part (c) that would earn credit:
- The most significant change in the relationship between Great Britain and South Asia from the time of the image to the nineteenth century is that the image shows only the beginning of the British conquest of India, whereas the British gained total control over India in the nineteenth century.
- A significant way that the relationship between Great Britain and India changed in the nineteenth century is that the cooperation between the Mughals and the British shown in the image turned into resistance and repression as Britain crushed the great Indian rebellion (or Sepoy Mutiny) of 1857.
- The most significant change is that Britain gained greater power in India, which led to the collapse of the Indian textile industry, the spread of famine, and India’s impoverishment.
2a. The image reflects political changes in the global balance of power in the 18th century by showing the greater political power European trade companies had on the areas they controlled. The British and Dutch trading companies arrived in Asian states and had the power to collect taxes, institute their own political leaders, and make decisions for the native population. European trade companies took over governmental roles in some Asian countries and shifted political global balance towards them.

2b. The economies of Asia in the 18th century became based on the production of raw and luxury goods. The British East India Company was focused on obtaining luxury goods like tea to then sell at higher prices in Europe. With European companies taking a lot of production in Asia, the economic revenue for Asian empires declined.

2c. Great Britain's relationship with South Asia intensified as India became the crown jewel in their empire. India's immense cotton production and worker availability made them a great source of revenue for Britain. Britain went on to establish a full government in India in order to maintain control over them.
The image depicts the Mughal Emperor granting the British East India company more power. This represents the shift in political power as land-based empires decreased and sea trade empires and joint stock companies increased as they monopolized trade in different areas. They were able to gain control of these areas and increase their power.

This event also depicts economic changes in Asia as joint stock companies and sea trade empires increased and flourished. By monopolizing these places (British monopolizing India and the Dutch monopolizing the spice islands) they were able to gain more and more control over the economic production of these colonies. This is also an example of mercantilism, as these companies became very rich by exploiting these Asian countries and forcing them to trade only with the joint stock companies, for more money. This led to a decline of the Asian colonies as it ruined their economy.

Great Britain became wealthier from silver trade, and they had a desire for Chinese luxury goods. This changed when...
A) The engraving reflects political changes in global power in the sense that it shows Britain and the Mughal Empire as dominant societies during the time. In the image, the Mughal Emperor is giving Great Britain the authority to collect taxes in India. Since Britain and the Mughals are both two powerful regions in that moment, it is clear that their interactions make them both stronger.

B) The engraving reflects economic change in Asia in the sense that Britain and India are both gaining and making Asia wealthier. In the image, the Mughal Emperor is giving Great Britain access to collect taxes in India. Since Britain and the Mughals are both two powerful regions in the moment, it is clear that their interactions make them both stronger and wealthier.

C) The relationship between Great Britain and South Asia changed in the nineteenth century with them colonizing them. From the eighteenth century, Britain accumulated wealth from India, but in the nineteenth century, Britain completely owned India as a whole. The association of the two shifted majority from the depiction in the image to the next century.
Overview

For this short-answer question, students were expected to identify how Mughal tax concessions to the British East India Company (EIC), as illustrated in an engraving by Benjamin West that depicts Robert Clive of the EIC receiving the right to tax three provinces from the Mughal emperor Shah 'Alam II, reflected political changes in the global balance of power in the eighteenth century. Furthermore, students were expected to explain how the same image reflected economic changes in Asia in the same century. Finally, students were asked to explain how Great Britain’s relationship with South Asia in the nineteenth century changed from the relationship depicted in the image. The question addressed Key Concepts 4.3 and 5.2 in the AP World History Curriculum Framework and the historical reasoning skills of Continuity and Change over Time and Contextualization.

Sample: 2A
Score: 3

a) The response earned 1 point because it identifies how the greater political power of European trading companies, such as those of the British and Dutch, in Asia reflected political changes in the global balance of power in the eighteenth century.

b) The response earned 1 point because it explains that European companies gained greater control over economic production in Asia, which led to a decline in revenue for Asian empires.

c) The response earned 1 point because it explains that the British acquired complete control over India and made it “the crown jewel in their empire.”

Sample: 2B
Score: 2

a) The response earned 1 point because it accurately identifies how the image reflects a shift in the global balance of political power by mentioning that the power of land-based empires decreased while the power of “sea trade empires” and joint-stock companies increased.

b) The response earned 1 point because it explains how the image reflects economic changes in Asia through its discussion of the British and Dutch increasingly monopolizing trade and production in India and the Spice Islands, which led to the decline of “Asian colonies.”

c) The response did not earn the point because it does not explain a change in the relationship between Great Britain and South Asia.

Sample: 2C
Score: 1

a) The response did not earn the point because its assertion that granting the British the right to collect taxes in three Indian provinces strengthened the Mughal Empire does not accurately identify a political change in the global balance of power as reflected in the image.
b) The response did not earn the point because its assertion that the Mughals’ tax concessions to the British made the empire stronger and wealthier does not accurately explain an economic change in Asia as reflected in the image.

c) The response earned 1 point because it explains that the relationship between Great Britain and South Asia changed in the nineteenth century from wealth accumulation to colonization (“Britain completely owned India”).