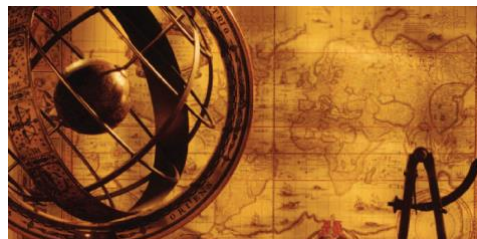


Elements of the AP World History: Modern Course*

A Quick Reference Guide

The Exam

The AP World History Exam is 3 hours and 15 minutes long and includes both a 95 minute multiple-choice/short-answer section and a 100 minute free response section. Each section is divided into two parts, as shown in the table below. Student performance on these four parts will be compiled and weighted to determine an AP Exam score.



Section	Question Type	Number of Questions	Exam Weighting	Timing
I	Part A: Multiple-choice questions	55	40%	55 minutes
	Part B: Short-answer questions	3	20%	40 minutes
	Question 1: Secondary source(s)			
	Question 2: Primary source			
	Students select one:			
	Question 3: No stimulus			
	Question 4: No stimulus			
II	Free-response questions	2		
	Question 1: Document-based		25%	60 minutes (includes 15-minute reading period)
	Students select one:		15%	40 minutes
	Question 2: Long essay			
	Question 3: Long essay			
	Question 4: Long essay			

Multiple-Choice Questions

The first part of Section I of the AP World History Exam includes 55 multiple-choice questions typically appearing in sets of three to four questions, each with one or more stimuli, including primary texts, secondary texts, images (artwork, photos, posters, cartoons, etc.), charts or other quantitative data, and maps. Additionally, there will be at least one set of paired text-based stimuli. Multiple-choice questions require analysis of the provided stimulus sources and of the historical developments and processes described in the sources

Short-Answer Questions

The second part of Section I of the AP Exam also includes three required short-answer questions.

- Short-answer question 1 is required and includes a secondary source stimulus. The topic of the question will include historical developments or processes between the years 1200 and 2001.
- Short-answer question 2 is required and includes a primary source stimulus. The topic of the question will include historical developments or processes between the years 1200 and 2001.
- Students may select short-answer questions 3 or 4, neither of which includes a stimulus. Short-answer question 3 will focus on historical developments or processes between the years 1200 and 1750. Short-answer question 4 will focus on historical developments or processes between the years 1750 and 2001. All four historical periods are represented among the four short-answer questions

*The information is taken from the AP World History: Modern Course Exam and Description, Fall 2019

Document-Based Question

The document-based question presents students with seven documents offering various perspectives on a historical development or process. The question requires students to do the following:

- Respond to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis or claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
- Describe a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.
- Use the provided documents to support an argument in response to the prompt.
- Use historical evidence beyond the documents relevant to an argument about the prompt.
- For at least three documents, explain how or why the document's point of view, purpose, historical situation, and/or audience is relevant to an argument.
- Demonstrate a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the question.

The topic of the document-based question will include historical developments or processes between the years 1450 and 2001.

Long Essay Question

The long essay question requires students to do the following:

- Respond to the prompt with a historically defensible thesis or claim that establishes a line of reasoning.
- Describe a broader historical context relevant to the prompt.
- Support an argument in response to the prompt using specific and relevant examples of evidence.
- Demonstrate a complex understanding of the historical development that is the focus of the prompt, using evidence to corroborate, qualify, or modify an argument that addresses the question.

Students must select one of the three long essay questions. Each question focuses on the same reasoning process, but historical developments and processes in different time periods. *The first option focuses primarily on historical developments or processes between 1200 and 1750, the second primarily on historical developments or processes between 1450 and 1900, and the third primarily on historical developments or processes between 1750 and 2001.*

The AP World History Exam will demonstrate your mastery of the following AP Thinking Skills:

1. Developments & Processes
2. Sourcing & Situation
3. Claims & Evidence in Sources
4. Contextualization
5. Making Connections
6. Argumentation

AP World History Units & Themes

Units	Chronological Period*	Exam Weighting
Unit 1: The Global Tapestry	c. 1200 to c. 1450	8–10%
Unit 2: Networks of Exchange		8–10%
Unit 3: Land-Based Empires	c. 1450 to c. 1750	12–15%
Unit 4: Transoceanic Interconnections		12–15%
Unit 5: Revolutions	c. 1750 to c. 1900	12–15%
Unit 6: Consequences of Industrialization		12–15%
Unit 7: Global Conflict		8–10%
Unit 8: Cold War and Decolonization	c. 1900 to the present	8–10%
Unit 9: Globalization		8–10%

The exam assesses content from the six course themes:
Theme 1: Humans and the Environment
Theme 2: Cultural Developments and Interactions
Theme 3: Governance
Theme 4: Economic Systems
Theme 5: Social Interactions and Organization
Theme 6: Technology and Innovation

THE AP STUDENT MUST BE PREPARED TO:

- Read the textbook on a regular basis
- Demonstrate understanding through a variety of means including discussions, quizzes, written responses, and exams
- Read and analyze primary source documents
- Create comprehensive thesis statements and defend thesis statements with supporting details and examples
- Compare and contrast historic events, people, ideas etc.

- Identify and describe changes in continuities in history as they relate to AP World themes
- Understand and articulate the cause / effect relationship of various historic events