

AP Multiple Choice Questions

1750 – 1914

The first successful revolution in the Caribbean and South America was launched in:

- a) Haiti
- b) Argentina
- c) Cuba
- d) Colombia
- e) Jamaica

Answer: A

In the nineteenth century, women's use of bound feet (China), white face paint (Japan), and corsets (Western Europe) are examples of which of the following?

- a) Practices that inhibit female activities
- b) The beauty of middle-class women
- c) Fashions that spread worldwide
- d) The middle class' setting the fashion for women
- e) Women's participation in the workforce

Answer: A

“Extraterritoriality” can best be described as which of the following?

- a) Exemption of foreigners from the laws of the country in which they live
- b) Expansion of a country's international borders to natural boundaries.
- c) Extension of dual citizenship to immigrants
- d) Acquisition of new colonies or territories
- e) Establishment of a government in exile.

Answer: A

Which of the following best explains why Japan was more successful than China in resisting imperialist encroachments in the nineteenth century?

- a) Japan's manipulation of the rivalries among western governments
- b) The introduction of democracy by the Meiji Restoration
- c) The willingness of Japan's elite to sponsor reform
- d) Lack of interest in Japanese markets
- e) Abundant natural resources

Answer: C

Which of the following facilitated European expansion in Asia in the nineteenth century?

- a) The popularity of democratic values among Asians
- b) A general easing of tensions and cooperative expeditions among European powers.
- c) Europe's development of new military technologies
- d) Asians' lack of resistance to European diseases
- e) Europe's ability to send numerically superior armies to Asia

Answer: C

Which of the following describes the major impact of the introduction of coffee growing in places like Kenya and El Salvador after 1880?

- a) The end of taxes paid to the government
- b) The weakening of the European colonial military and landowning elite
- c) Access to cheaper food for Africans and Latin Americans
- d) Increased control over the land by Africans and Latin Americans
- e) Greater dependence on foreign markets by Africans and Latin Americans

Answer: E

Which of the following is an accurate description of relations between European states and the Ottoman Empire in the period 1815 to 1914?

- a) The Ottomans were expanding at the expense of Russia, England and France
- b) Russian, English and French expansion came at the expense of the Ottomans.
- c) The Ottomans, in alliance with the Russians, English and French, sought to impede German unification.
- d) The Ottomans supported nationalism in the Balkans to destabilize Europe.
- e) The Ottomans and the French cooperated in colonizing North Africa.

Answer: B

Which of the following is true of both Russia and Japan by 1914?

- a) Both were characterized by a high degree of ethnic homogeneity.
- b) Both had effective democratic institutions that restrained the power of the monarchs.
- c) Both had low rates of literacy
- d) Marxism had become a strong influence among urban workers in both countries.
- e) Rapid, state-sponsored industrialization had occurred in both countries.

Answer: E

During the nineteenth century, Asian and African rulers usually desired transfer of which of the following western technologies?

- a) Medicines
- b) Weapons
- c) Navigational instruments
- d) Textile manufacturing equipment
- e) Chemical fertilizers

Answer: B

In the nineteenth century, the Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian empires were two examples of:

- a) Nationalistic empires
- b) Republican empires
- c) Colonial empires
- d) Multi-national empires
- e) Nation-states

Answer: D

Which of the following was among the first results of the European Industrial Revolution in other parts of the world?

- a) The beginning of the transatlantic slave trade
- b) Increased demand for commodities such as cotton and palm oil
- c) The search for oil in Africa, Asia and Latin America
- d) Construction of textile factories in Africa and Asia
- e) The partition of Africa by European imperial powers.

Answer: B

In the nineteenth century, Latin American urban dwellers were most similar to western European urban dwellers in which of the following areas?

- a) Literacy and cultural tastes
- b) Ethnic and racial composition
- c) Export and import patterns
- d) Standards of living
- e) Levels of literacy

Answer: A

Which of the following countries practiced indirect rule in governing its colonies in Africa?

- a) Portugal
- b) France
- c) Germany
- d) Great Britain
- e) Belgium

Answer: D

Western European foreign policy in the late 1800s was characterized by:

- a) Pan-Slavism, colonialism, and an arms race
- b) Détente, colonialism, and an arms race
- c) Imperialism, militarism, and deterrence
- d) An arms race, imperialism, and a series of alliances
- e) Containment, détente, and the domino theory

Answer: D

Which of the following reflected the living conditions of the Industrial Revolution?

- a) Initial housing was quite comfortable for immigrants
- b) crime able to spread relatively unchecked in densely populated areas
- c) factories closed in the winter time creating free time for factory laborers
- d) health care prevented spread of disease in tenements
- e) the bourgeoisie and proletariat frequently shared housing because that's just the nice thing to do

Answer: B

Which of the following was a social effect of the Industrial Revolution?

- a) birth of the proletariat – owners who control labor
- b) middle class prevented from owning agriculture
- c) man becomes part of machine instead of controlling machine
- d) on the assembly line, independent thought encouraged
- e) pace of work slows down giving individual workers more control over pace of labor

Answer: C

Which of the following best describes “Banana Republics”?

- a) one crop was prioritized at the expense of developing additional crops and creating a complex economy
- b) parliamentary buildings created in a crescent shape to stimulate active discussion
- c) tropical regions that lived on bananas as a staple product
- d) businessmen and industrialists were unable to strike deals with local aristocrats and politicians
- e) wealth created spreads to entire population

Answer: A

What was the first major trade to be fully power-driven and industrialized?

- a) the canning of food
- b) the textile industry
- c) the production of rubber
- d) the manufacture of glass
- e) the leatherworking trade

Answer: B

Which of the following was **not** an economic advantage enjoyed by Britain in the eighteenth century?

- A) abundant and accessible coal deposits
- B) local sources of raw cotton
- C) abundant skilled and unskilled labor
- D) access to water transportation
- E) sources of capital for investment

Answer: B

Improvements in transportation, such as the railroads and steamships,

- A) lowered transportation costs
- B) linked industrial centers with overseas resources
- C) integrated new states such as Germany
- D) facilitated delivery of manufactured products to consumers
- E) all of the above

Answer: E

From the perspective of the worker, the factory system meant

- A) better working conditions than piecework done at home
- B) better pay for skilled work
- C) greater opportunities for advancement within a free market system
- D) harsh discipline and close supervision
- E) an opportunity to families to work together

Answer: D

From the perspective of the consumer, the factory system meant

- A) cheaper manufactured goods
- B) higher quality manufactured goods
- C) fewer choices in manufactured goods
- D) manufactured goods priced beyond the means of many consumers
- E) acute shortages of many manufactured items

Answer: A

The Enlightenment was the intellectual movement in which

- A) the methods and questions of the Scientific Revolution were applied to human society.
- B) the methods and questions of the Confucian examination system were applied to society
- C) the methods and ideology of the Protestant Reformation were applied to society
- D) the ideas of the Renaissance were applied to society
- E) the ideas of the absolutist rulers were applied to society

Answer: A

Which of the following could be considered an expression of enlightened ideas about government?

- A) the Stamp Act of 1708
- B) the Quartering Act
- C) the Declaration of Independence
- D) the Committee of Public Safety
- E) the Congress of Vienna

Answer: C

The American colonists won their bid for independence primarily because

- A) they had superior generals
- B) they were united in the cause of freedom
- C) colonial militias were more disciplined and better marksmen than British troops were
- D) the French and the Dutch decided to support them against the British
- E) all of the above

Answer: D

Which of the following was **NOT** one of the causes of the French Revolution of 1789?

- A) a staggering national debt
- B) accusation of treason against Louis XVI
- C) resentment at the privileges of the aristocracy
- D) the extravagance of Marie Antoinette and the court at Versailles
- E) the opportunity presented by the summoning of the Estates General

Answer: B

Which of the following was **NOT** accomplished by the new French constitution?

- A) It abolished the nobility as a hereditary class
- B) It put peasants in control of the government
- C) It dramatically limited the power of the monarchy
- D) It instituted economic reforms
- E) It made priests elected officials on state payrolls

Answer: B

Napoleon became Europe's first popular dictator because he

- A) threatened to overpower the French people
- B) was needed since France was occupied by foreign armies
- C) held the promise of a new French empire
- D) promised order to an exhausted society
- E) was strikingly tall and handsome

Answer: D

Who was François Dominique Toussaint
L'Ouverture?

- A) the leader of a slave revolt in Saint Domingue
- B) the Caribbean delegate to the French
Revolutionary council
- C) the great impressionist painter of the French
Revolution
- D) the son of Robespierre and the Empress
Josephine
- E) the French General who crushed the slave
revolt in Saint Domingue

Answer: A

The revolutions of 1848 were widespread across Europe and were inspired by

- A) the establishment of permanent democracy in the Holy Roman Empire
- B) the desire for democratic reforms and national self-determination
- C) the installation of Louis Philippe as emperor of the Holy Roman Empire
- D) the demand that women be granted the right to vote
- E) Gil Scott-Heron's famous poem

Answer: B

In leading the revolutions of South America,
Simon Bolivar advocated

- A) that Spanish colonial rule be replaced
with an indigenous monarchy
- B) that ethnic nationalism be the basis of the
new states
- C) the popular sovereignty
- D) the abolition of slavery and full male
suffrage
- E) all of the above

Answer: C

Revolutions in Latin America were frequently a power struggle between what two groups?

- A) masters and slaves
- B) peninsulares and creoles
- C) European and indigenous peoples
- D) Europeans and mestizos
- E) colonial militias and European mercenaries

Answer: B

In Latin America, leaders who were called
caudillos

- A) were those most sympathetic to the old regimes
- B) ruled without the cooperation of the church
- C) were personalist leaders who held power without constitutional sanction
- D) were chosen by popular election
- E) were the sons of rich industrialists

Answer: C

The largest numbers of new arrivals in the Americas during the ***colonial*** period were

- A) British
- B) African
- C) Irish
- D) Spanish
- E) Portuguese

Answer: B

During the ***nineteenth century***, the majority of immigrants to the Western Hemisphere were from

- A) Asia
- B) Africa
- C) Europe
- D) Australia
- E) the Middle East

Answer: C

A political conservative in the nineteenth century would be likely to advocate

- A) the restoration of the French monarchy after the defeat of Napoleon
- B) limiting suffrage to men of property
- C) censorship as a reasonable means of preventing social unrest
- D) government support of the established church
- E) all of the above

Answer: E

A political liberal in the nineteenth century would be likely to advocate

- A) returning freed slaves to Africa
- B) the confiscation of church property by the state
- C) universal suffrage for all men and women, regardless of race
- D) written constitutions and representative government
- E) all of the above

Answer: D

In response to socialist demands for social and economic reform, most governments

- A) treated trade unions as illegal organizations
- B) supported business and prosecuted strikers
- C) passed laws restricting child labor
- D) extended the vote to the working class
- E) all of the above

Answer: E

In their critique of industrial capitalism, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels claimed that

- A) the trade union movement would force industry to accept social reforms
- B) the most equitable and just society could be found in an industrial commune
- C) the bourgeois class needed to exercise responsibility toward their workers
- D) democracy had failed because most workers did not understand their true interests; a dictatorship would serve them better
- E) only a workers' revolution would change the abuses of capitalism and create a just and equal society

Answer: E

Population in Europe during the 19th century

- A) remained steady until the 1830s and then began to decrease steadily
- B) was notable for rapid overall growth and a far more rapid increase in city populations
- C) was dramatically reduced when the Great Famine killed 25% of the Russian, Irish and Prussian populations
- D) decreased as peasants, reassured by falling death rates, reduced the rural birth rate by over 60% due to their adoption of birth control
- E) was numerically dominated by the landed aristocracy

Answer: B

Adam Smith's concept of capitalism, presented in *The Wealth of Nations*, included the idea that:

- A) monopoly was a natural and a positive outcome of capitalist activity
- B) economic decisions on price, supply, and demand should be made by the free market rather than by government decision
- C) although economic competition was good, the government had to intervene from time to time to protect the interests of society
- D) although economic competition was good, the education system had to teach moral concepts to students to cushion the impacts of competition on society
- E) the government should protect workers

Answer: B

What invention revolutionized communication during the Industrial Revolution?

- A) phonograph
- B) radar
- C) electric telegraph
- D) battery
- E) telephone

Answer: C

The 2nd Agricultural Revolution was a change in farming methods and crops that resulted in

A) rich farmers sharing agricultural techniques with poor farmers

B) rich farmers refusing to plant on their lands, thereby causing a famine

C) rich farmers “enclosing” their lands and poor farmers becoming landless

D) an increase in the “two field method”

E) widespread starvation

Answer: C

What does it mean to use a “division of labor” in manufacturing?

- A) Dividing the work force into capitalists and communists
- B) Dividing work into specialized and repetitive tasks
- C) Using “division” as well as other mathematical functions
- D) Having the worker make the entire product
- E) Dividing the labor unions in order to weaken them

Answer: B

Which of the following is ***not*** true of urban poor neighborhoods?

- A) They were often filled with overcrowded tenements
- B) There was an atmosphere of filth, pollution, and sewage
- C) The danger of typhus, smallpox, dysentery, and tuberculosis was very high
- D) Most poor urbanites lived in factory owned apartment buildings
- E) The houses were often mixed in with factories

Answer: D

Factory work represented a complete transformation from the nature of agricultural work because

- A) workers felt little job satisfaction
- B) workers felt that they had lost control over their work
- C) the jobs were repetitive, unskilled, and boring
- D) industrial accidents were common
- E) All of the above

Answer: E

Women typically earned

- A) as much as men
- B) one third to one half as much as men
- C) ten percent of what men made
- D) twice as much as men
- E) nothing as their service was “tenure” service to the owner

Answer: B

Much of the industrial workforce was composed of child labor. Children workers

- A) learned a great deal from their work and were able to apply their skills later in life
- B) worked fourteen to sixteen hours a day and were beaten to stay awake
- C) preferred work to attending school
- D) were only permitted by law to work a half day
- E) were educated at the company's expense as mandated by law

Answer: B

The cotton boom enriched planters as well as manufacturers and

- A) lowered the demand for wool
- B) lowered the demand for silk
- C) made many sharecroppers rich
- D) created a high demand for mulch
- E) created a high demand for slaves

Answer: E

The role of the middle-class woman became management of the home, children, and servants, otherwise known as

- A) the “factory at home”
- B) the “female world of home”
- C) “home, sweet, home”
- D) “children, kitchen and church”
- E) the “cult of domesticity”

Answer: E

Thomas Malthus's explanation of workers' misfortunes was that

A) population was outgrowing the food supply

B) workers were immoral and destined to fail

C) the weak would perish and the strong would survive

D) workers needed to work harder and longer hours

E) the government was uncaring

Answer: A

India had dominated the world's cotton textile manufacturing for centuries, but when England imported cheap textiles into India,

- A) England's textile industry collapsed
- B) English workers rioted due to perceived Indian favoritism
- C) Indian textile workers had more leisure time
- D) Indian textile workers lost their jobs
- E) Indian textile industry "boomed"

Answer: D

Which ideology questioned the sanctity of private property?

- A) capitalism
- B) socialism
- C) manichaeism
- D) mercantilism
- E) liberalism

Answer: B

Bismarck's plan to unite most German-speaking people into a single state was centered on using

- A) liberalism and language
- B) industry and nationalism
- C) religion and conservatism
- D) ethnicity and race
- E) democracy and liberalism

Answer: B

Leaders of Meiji Japan planned to remain free from Western imperialism by

- A) negotiating with Western diplomats
- B) restricting Western access to Japan
- C) keeping out all foreign influences
- D) becoming a world-class industrial power
- E) using propaganda to make Japanese people hostile to Westerners

Answer: D

The Meiji transformed the government and incorporated

A) European practices in government, education, industry, and popular culture

B) Chinese practices in government, education, industry, and popular culture

C) Korean practices in government, education, industry, and popular culture

D) Russian practices in government, education, industry, and popular culture

E) only Japanese practices

Answer: A

A group of reformers who created societies that would create happiness through thoughtful planning and regulation were

- A) utopian socialists
- B) Marxists
- C) Communists
- D) Jacobin Club
- E) women suffragettes

Answer: A

Which of the following best summarizes the reform movements of the Industrial Revolution?

- A) capitalism should not be checked by government intervention
- B) reform more possible in Russia than in the United States due to autocratic structure
- C) parliaments started passing laws that limited hours, child labor and worsening working conditions
- D) factory owners almost always made changes because they realized a happy, healthy, well-paid work force could be more productive
- E) the number of people with influence – aristocracy and middle class – increased pressuring the government to act on behalf of the workers

Answer: C

The Congress of Vienna

- A) kept relative peace in Europe for a century
- B) created radical changes in the governmental structure of Europe
- C) was led by Frenchmen Rousseau
- D) created France and British as dominant nations
- E) occurred in Germany

Answer: A

In China, a "sphere of influence" was

- A) a city designated for trade between Chinese and European merchants
- B) a Christian mission where Chinese converts could live free of state persecution
- C) a district in which a foreign power had exclusive trade, transportation, and mineral rights
- D) a tributary state beyond the borders of the empire that paid taxes to the Qing dynasty in exchange for protection
- E) a state-sponsored academy based on European science

Answer: C

At the end of the nineteenth century, the Ottoman Empire, Russian Empire, Qing Dynasty, and Tokugawa Japan were "societies at crossroads" because

- A) they were all dealing with the challenges of rapid industrialization
- B) they discovered through wars and confrontations that they were militarily much weaker than the western powers
- C) they were all forced to grant equal rights and political freedom to their people
- D) they were all competing for the same colonies and resources
- E) all of the above

Answer: B

Which of the following was **not** an economic motivation for imperialism?

- A) Cheap raw materials from overseas colonies were needed to sustain industrialization
- B) Overseas colonies offered markets for manufactured goods
- C) Overseas colonies offered a haven for the settlement of surplus populations
- D) European and American industry needed more sources of coal
- E) All were economic motives for imperialism

Answer: D

The “white man’s burden” proposed by Rudyard Kipling refers to

- A) the cost of creating and supporting an empire
- B) the moral duty of the west to work to “civilize” the rest of the world
- C) the cost of abolishing slavery in Africa
- D) the need for Christian missionaries to undermine Islam in Africa and Asia
- E) All of the above

Answer: B

The Berlin Conference in 1884–1885 established

- A) the procedures for purchasing African lands from local rulers
- B) the rules of military engagement for European forces overseas
- C) that the Americas were off-limits for further European colonization
- D) that Africa would be carved into spheres of influence similar to China
- E) that, if a European power indicated its intention to colonize and then proceeded to occupy an African territory, it could claim that colony

Answer: E

A rising non-western nation that avoided colonial subjugation by pursuing a concerted strategy of political and economic reform was

- A) Liberia
- B) Ethiopia
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Japan
- E) Persia

Answer: D

Generally speaking, European colonialism was

- A) a process that aimed to help the colonial peoples as much as possible
- B) largely exploitation, usually accompanied by condescension.
- C) implemented in a fashion that enabled all involved to reap the most benefit possible
- D) an effort to produce mutual growth and development
- E) less beneficial to the people than the very different, “people-centered” colonial policies followed by the United States in the Philippines and Guam

Answer: B

Which of the following was **not** a negative effect of African imperialism in Africa?

- A) arbitrary borders created by European powers would be the cause of many of the 20th century conflicts in Europe
- B) natural resources leave region benefitting Europe
- C) slave trade continues on West Coast but is discontinued on the Swahili Coast.
- D) fostered pattern of violence to obtain political control
- E) impeded the development of diverse economies

Answer: C

Which of the following was ***not*** a cause of imperialism and colonialism?

- A) need to maintain bases and coal stations around the world
- B) decreasing populations forced European nations to seek outside labor
- C) new weaponry gave Europe a military advantage
- D) medical advances allowed Europeans to enter continents without fear of malaria and yellow fever
- E) belief in racial superiority of the Europeans

Answer: B

Why was the Sepoy Rebellion a turning point in the history of India?

- A) The British were finally rebuffed and withdrew from India
- B) The sepoys successfully pushed the British out of Bengal
- C) India came to be ruled directly by the British government
- D) It inspired the development of new weapons that did not require gunpowder
- E) All of these

Answer: C

The former British North American colonies and Australia were similar in that

- A) both were considered part of Britain in 1900
- B) they utilized existing local systems of control
- C) British colonists displaced indigenous peoples in both places
- D) they were settled at about the same time
- E) they both used violent revolution to remove British control

Answer: C

After British slave emancipation in 1834,
new plantation workers came from

- A) Africa
- B) the Pacific Islands
- C) British India
- D) China
- E) All of these

Answer: E

During the Crimean War, Russia

- A) exploited the weakness of the Ottoman Empire.
- B) claimed to protect Jews in the Ottoman Empire
- C) seized territories in East Asia
- D) remained neutral
- E) defeated the Ottoman Empire once and for all

Answer: A

The British frustration by the enormous trade deficit with China led to

- A) British export of opium to China
- B) repeated interventions by the Royal Navy
- C) the British overthrow of the Qing government
- D) a temporary end of trade between the two countries
- E) the resignation of the Disraeli cabinet

Answer: A

Among the cultural motives for European imperialism was a desire to

- A. spread Christianity
- B. abolish slavery
- C. “civilize” people of the colonies by bringing them Western education, medicine, and customs
- D. end oppressive treatment of women, like sati
- E. all of these

Answer: E

Free-trade imperialism in Latin America meant

- A. economic dependence instead of direct colonization
- B. that there were no tariffs for goods traded to the United States
- C. that European powers were free to be involved there
- D. a military build-up in Latin American countries
- E. All of these

Answer: A