

AP Exam Format

55 Multiple Choice Questions – 55 minutes (40% of overall score)

4 Short Answer Questions - 50 minutes (20% of overall score)

1 Document-based Question – 55 minutes (25% of overall score)

1 Long Essay Question – 35 minutes (15% of overall score)

Unit 1 Exam Format

55 Multiple Choice Questions – 55 minutes (day 1) Counts as Unit Exam (30% of overall grade)

MCQs – Multiple Choice Questions

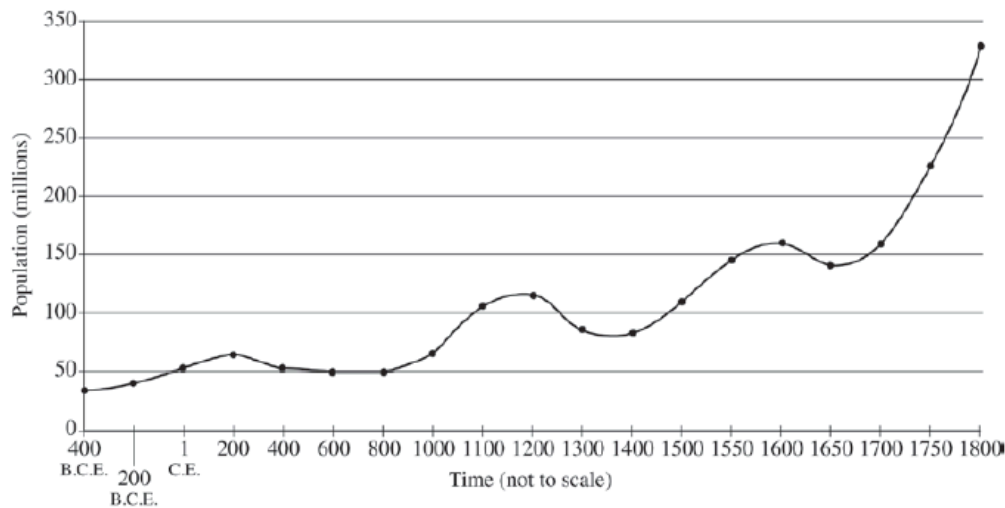
1. Skim the stimulus (for about ten seconds) first and find out:
 - a. What it is
 - b. What its saying
 - c. Major trends/themes
2. Carefully read the question and the four options
 - a. Watch out for weird tricky tricks
3. Go back to the stimulus and find the answer
 - a. A LOT of the answers will be obvious
4. Mark out all the answer choices that are **WRONG**
 - a. This will leave you with one or maybe two possible answers
 - i. This is a good thing
 - b. Note that some stimuli might not have the answer. It may just be something you're supposed to know anyway.
5. Mark the best answer on the scantron
 - a. Best to mark it lightly the first time and darken them if you have time at the end
 - i. In case you have to erase
6. Keep an eye on time
 - a. Don't get hung up on one question or one stimulus.
 - i. Give a tentative answer (mark lightly on the scantron) and mark it on your test booklet
 - ii. Come back to it if you have time
 - b. Look at the clock for how far you should be in the test when you reach halfway through the time period (22 minutes in)
 - c. If you have ten minutes left and ten questions left, you're fine
 - d. In the last two minutes, if you have more than five questions left, choose one letter for all the remaining answers (example: all Cs)

General MCQ tips

1. Go with your gut
2. Mark out obvious wrong answers
3. Check your answers to make sure you put what you meant
4. Keep an eye on the clock

Questions 4–7 refer to the chart below.

POPULATION OF CHINA, 400 B.C.E. to 1800 C.E.



Source: adapted from Quamrul Ashraf and Oded Galor, "Cultural Assimilation, Cultural Diffusion and the Origin of the Wealth of Nations," (2007), accessed at <http://www.voxeu.org/article/why-did-europe-s-growth-take-happen-first>

- Which of the following best explains the changes illustrated in the chart during the period 400 B.C.E. to 600 C.E.?
 - The development of the Silk Road trade networks
 - The rise and collapse of the Han dynasty
 - The increased number and variety of domesticated animals
 - The development of large cities as social and administrative centers
- Which of the following best explains the changes illustrated in the chart during the period 800 C.E. to 1200 C.E.?
 - Lower mortality rates in new trading cities
 - Daoist support for commerce
 - Large-scale migrations of Asian peoples
 - Technological innovations in agricultural production
- Which of the following best explains the changes illustrated in the chart during the period 1200 C.E. to 1400 C.E.?
 - The Mongol invasions and spread of the bubonic plague
 - An increase in peasant revolts against taxation
 - An increase in the use of coerced labor
 - The military expansion of the Islamic caliphate

Questions 15–18 refer to the charter below.

“We know that the prosperity of the Netherlands and the welfare of their inhabitants depends principally on navigation and trade, and we find by experience that without the common help, assistance, and interposition of a General Company, Dutch merchants cannot be profitably protected and maintained in their great risk from pirates, extortion, and otherwise, which will happen in so very long a voyage. We have found it good that navigation, trade, and commerce in the West Indies and Africa should not henceforth be carried on any otherwise than by the common united strength of the merchants and inhabitants of the Netherlands. And for that end there shall be erected one General Company.

Moreover, we furnish the General Company with a proper charter and with the following privileges and exemptions, namely that for 24 years none of the natives or inhabitants of the Netherlands who are not affiliated with the General Company shall be permitted to sail to the Americas or the West Indies.”

Charter of the Dutch West India Company, 1621

15. The risks mentioned in the first paragraph are best understood in the context of which of the following historical developments?
- (A) Competition with African states for the profits from the slave trade
 - (B) Competition with Catholic European states to convert Amerindian peoples
 - (C) Competition with European states for the profits of global trade
 - (D) Competition with Asian empires for the profits of the spice trade
16. The privileges and exemptions mentioned in the second paragraph of the passage are best seen as an example of which of the following?
- (A) Social Darwinism
 - (B) Feudalism
 - (C) Laissez-faire economics
 - (D) Mercantilist practices
17. Organizations of the type created by the charter most directly contributed to which of the following developments in the period 1450–1750 C.E.?
- (A) An increase in peasant revolts
 - (B) The emergence of new economic and political elites
 - (C) The implementation of restrictions on religious freedom
 - (D) The spread of Chinese and Indian technologies
18. The economic activities referenced in the charter most directly contributed to which of the following in the period 1450–1750 C.E.?
- (A) A decrease in the publication of travel narratives
 - (B) Increased funding for the visual and performing arts
 - (C) Decreased spending on the construction of religious centers
 - (D) Dutch becoming the predominant language for commercial transactions