



AP[®] United States History 2002 Scoring Commentary

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Question 1

Sample	Score1-9	Commentary
IA	low	This essay has no thesis. Its treatment of reform is superficial and it makes few references to documents. It has very little outside information and is poorly written.
IB	middle	This essay discusses reform movements and makes connections to democratic ideals. Uses the documents, though often only by quotation. It has limited outside information.
IC	high	This essay has a sophisticated thesis that connects reforms to democratic ideals. It has a rich and effective discussion on the Jacksonian period and demonstrates a good understanding of historical issues. It has considerable outside information such as Dorothea Dix and the Know Nothing party. The analysis of reforms is excellent.

Question 2

Sample	Score1-9	Commentary
IA	low	This essay has a simplistic thesis and very little analysis, which keeps it in the lower category. It has some factual information such as the references to Roger Williams and Lord Baltimore, but the information is not used effectively. Placing Pennsylvania in the Chesapeake is a major error.
IB	middle	This essay has a thesis and some relevant information. It offers limited analysis of the ways in which religion shaped society and uses very little evidence.
IC	high	This essay has a well-developed thesis that is supported by ample evidence. It is unusually perceptive, has excellent analysis, and is well organized. It has a solid discussion on the role of religion in New England, Maryland, and Virginia.

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Question 3

Sample	Score1-9	Commentary
IIIA	low	This essay has a thesis that is not adequately supported. It is thin on factual information and has vague generalizations. It has some major errors such as the one concerning the incorrect references to the Alien And Sedition Acts.
IIIB	middle	This essay has a partially correct thesis and some supporting information. It does have some major errors such as the information on the Hartford Convention, Washington dealing with domestic problems, Jefferson with foreign affairs. This is a good example of an essay in which errors may not detract from overall argument. It is unevenly organized.
IIIC	high	This essay has a well-developed thesis, plus very good analysis that provides a balanced assessment with substantial relevant, specific information, good conclusion, is well-written, shows clearly Jefferson's flexibility as president in fusing federalist and republican principles regarding Louisiana and the powers of the federal government. Although the section on Washington has more information, it also has a good analysis on Jefferson. It has a thoughtful conclusion.

Question 4

Sample	Score1-9	Commentary
IVC	low	This essay contains a clear thesis. In the two time periods, it deals with the League of Nations and the United Nations to the exclusion of nearly everything else. The writing and organization are acceptable. This essay scored in the low category.
IVB	middle	This essay contains a clear thesis that contrasts isolationism with interventionism. There is a slight imbalance toward the 1945-50 period. The organization is acceptable; the writing is at times imprecise, particularly in the second half of the essay. This essay does not adequately incorporate the information it offers on immigration.
IVA	high	This essay contains a clear, well-developed thesis. The essay displays an excellent understanding of the question and its thesis is well supported by many relevant facts. It is also clearly organized, combining the narrative and analytic approach. A few minor errors do not distract from the overall quality of the essay.

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Question 5

Sample	Score1-9	Commentary
IA	low	This essay misunderstands the question, provides random factual information, and is poorly organized.
IB	middle	This essay contains a thesis, written at the end of the essay, that only partially develops the relationship between the two eras. There is some accurate information on the Civil Rights movement, but the linkage is weak beyond Jim Crow. Placing Martin Luther King in Little Rock is an error. This paper has acceptable organization and writing.
IC	high	This is an essay that clearly examines the failures of Reconstruction (Southern hostility, Black Codes, denial of vote, KKK, and, by extension, <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i>). It establishes clear linkage between the two eras in its exploration of MLK, Rosa Parks, the Montgomery Bus Boycott, <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , and the sit-ins, and how they, in turn, addressed the issues of inequality and discrimination. But it doesn't follow through on the civil Rights movement's response to lack of voting rights, which the author mentions as a failure of Reconstruction.