

# AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY

## 2007 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 6

Britain and France were engaged in a geopolitical and economic rivalry during the eighteenth century. Identify the factors that contributed to this rivalry, and assess the results for both countries over the period 1689 to 1789.

#### 8–9 Points

- Thesis is explicit, clearly identifies the factors, and assesses the results for both countries.
- Organization is clear with consistent and effective analysis in support of the argument (may either assess the results throughout the essay or assess the results in a separate paragraph).
- Essay identifies BOTH the geopolitical and economic factors AND assesses the results for BOTH countries at some length (students often use geographical, political, or territorial factors instead of geopolitical ones).
- Identification of factors and assessment of results are supported by multiple pieces of relevant evidence.
- Specifically addresses how the rivalry between Britain and France led to changes in the period between 1689-1789 for both countries.
- May contain errors that do not detract from the argument.

#### 6–7 Points

- Thesis is explicit, identifies the factors and assesses the results for both countries.
- Organization is clear with less effective analysis in support of the argument than in an essay scoring higher.
- Essay identifies BOTH the geopolitical and economic factors AND assesses the results for BOTH countries at least briefly.
- Identification of factors and assessment of results are supported by at least one piece of relevant evidence.
- Specifically addresses how the rivalry between Britain and France led to changes in the period between 1689 and 1789 for both countries.
- May contain an error that detracts from the argument.

#### 4–5 Points

- Thesis is explicit, but may put more emphasis on factors or results.
- Organization is apparent but not consistently followed or not effective.
- Essay shows some imbalance; mentions BOTH the geopolitical and economic factors AND assesses the results for BOTH countries but develops only one.
- Most of the factors and assessment of results are supported by at least one piece of relevant evidence.
- May be very generalized with little chronological connection.
- May contain a few errors that detract from the argument.

#### 2–3 Points

- No explicit thesis or a thesis that merely repeats/paraphrases the prompt.
- Organization is unclear and ineffective.
- Essay may completely ignore one of the question's tasks (identify the factors OR assessment of results).
- The factors and/or assessment of results are supported by at least one or two pieces of relevant evidence.
- May contain several errors that detract from the argument.

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**Question 6 (continued)**

**0–1 Point**

- No discernable attempt at a thesis.
- No discernable organization; may attempt to answer the question but fails to do so.
- One or none of the major topics suggested by the prompt is mentioned (may suggest a rivalry but supports it with evidence that is out of the time period).
- Little or no supporting evidence used.
- May contain numerous errors that detract from the argument.

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

Part C ~~1~~ #6

Throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, France and Great Britain were locked in a titanic struggle for supremacy both in Europe and abroad. Through open warfare and diplomatic intrigue, these two rival powers fought a conflict of military and political maneuvering ~~on~~ on a global scale, with the fate of thousands of acres of land and <sup>the lives</sup> millions of people hanging in the balance. Ultimately, this confrontation was precipitated by a variety of governmental and economic factors inherent to both nations and their populations and its results would shape the events of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The rivalry between France and Britain ~~cannot~~ be attributed to a single prominent cause or rallying point; instead, their confrontations were a consequence of a litany of elements that caused friction between the two nations. In a sense, the two countries were natural enemies; situated mere miles from one another, separated by a ~~stretch~~ <sup>this</sup> stretch of sea, they each had ample natural resources and, more importantly, access to the Atlantic and the riches of the Americas. Moreover, there had existed a common antipathy and loathing between the nation-states dating back to the Hundred Years' War. ~~In~~ In addition, both states saw colonial expansion as the hallmark of success, and viewed any such moves by the other as a threat to the status quo. Such was the case with India and the Ohio River Valley, both of which saw considerable Anglo-French competition and colonization during the eighteenth century. Likewise, on the Continent, each faction sought to upset any plans of the other that would put one state at a clear advantage. The preservation of a favorable balance of power thus became the leading objective of ~~both~~ both the British and French, and they strove to achieve such ~~a goal~~ dominance through both economic and military conflict. The worst fear of any and all ministers and statesmen on

Part C #6

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either side of the rivalry was to be caught at a territorial or financial disadvantage that would leave ~~the~~ <sup>their</sup> state susceptible to foreign dominance. It was this mutual fear of being "caught short" that was probably the single most important factor in the Anglo-French rivalry of the ~~the~~ eighteenth century.

As a result of the conflict that unfolded over the course of the century, France and Britain were left in very different <sup>internal</sup> ~~and~~ domestic situations. At the beginning of the 1800s, Britain, having won victories at Quebec, Plassey in India, and Pleinheim on the Continent, felt reasonably secure with its current state of affairs, managing to retain the majority of its colonial possessions, prospering economically, and enjoying domestic stability with its parliamentary government. It entered the nineteenth century confident in its naval dominance and comparative security. France, by contrast, saw the considerable deflation of its colonial empire and a generally loss of popular support for its autocratic government. Virtually bankrupted by Louis XIV's efforts to expand ~~the~~ France's European possessions, and embarrassed by their military shortcomings, the French empire fell deeper into debt and incurred the enmity of its people. Moreover, its failure to abandon its autocratic and absolutist policies caused it to incur the wrath of its landed nobility, setting the stage for powerful upheavals that would forever transform the state. The French Revolution would come to represent a failed domestic policy and an inadequate level of social reforms leading to domestic revolt.

Without a doubt, the curious rivalry of France and Britain ~~is~~ would be one of the defining factors in Britain's rise to power throughout the nineteenth century and France's instability in turmoil. As completely as possible, the rivalry succeeded in raising one nation's fortunes to a pinnacle of unrivaled



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Britain and France ~~have been~~ <sup>have</sup> ~~been~~ rivals during the eighteenth century, ~~and still~~ This rivalry was caused by the fact they had always somewhat been at odds with each other since the Hundred Years War. They were two world powers who competed for many things, they competed for control of colonies in North America and Africa, and they France helped the Americans during the American Revolution, Britain became the somewhat victor of this rivalry. It started the Industrial Revolution and benefited ~~the~~ more than France did. France, although a center for the Scientific Revolution in the 1700's, was thrown into a violent revolution.

Britain and France were both world powers during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. They competed for natural resources, colonies, and allies. Both countries were leaders in knowledge during the scientific revolution. They fought many wars with each other, and supported the other countries opponent, like the French supporting the U.S. in the American Revolution.

The results of this rivalry were completely different for each country. Britain became the leader of the industrial revolution. It held many valuable colonies throughout the world including South Africa, and India.

~~But~~ France, on the other hand, was

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~~perpetuate~~ thrown into a bloody revolution, which left it ~~weak~~ for ~~many~~ years politically unstable for many years. Its original ~~monarchy~~ was overthrown to be replaced by a weak republic and then a dictator.

The French British rivalry was caused by much ~~thier~~ include an ongoing feud since the Hundred years War, the competition of both ~~be~~ world powers, the battle to control the best colonial in North America and Africa, Britain came out on top, keeping its stable constitutional monarchy and starting the industrial revolution while France was overtaken by a bloody revolution.

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Britain and France during the eighteenth century became extremely competitive over matters in economy and geopolitical power. Both became extreme rivals with each other, each wanting more power. This competitiveness became present ~~is~~ when both England and France began industrialization, as well as setting up imperial colonies.

Industrialization was one such factor that lead to the ~~competition~~ rivalry between England and France. England began industrializing first with new ways of ~~getting~~ obtaining agricultural products faster. This bolstered England's economy dramatically. This also sparked a competitive feud between England and France. France became extremely concerned of England's rising power in the economics in Europe. This was due to England's rapid industrialization which contributed to the surge in its own economy. Thus, France began the

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race in industrialization. This occurred ~~was~~ <sup>with</sup> France and its rising railroad and railways. The two countries were neck and neck, each ~~try~~ trying to achieve a more powerful economy. Therefore, industrialization became one factor which contributed to the rivalry.

Another such factor was imperialism. As imperial colonies grew more and more, so did the rivalry between England and France. Imperial ~~economic~~ colonies were one sure way to gain more power due to the fact that the economies ~~the~~ surged when imperial colonies ~~the~~ formed. England and France became ~~even~~ almost dependent for the need of more imperial expansion on <sup>the</sup> continents of Africa and Asia. Both countries had many imperial colonies set up to boost their economies. This, therefore, created an extreme rivalry between England and France as each country tried to ~~the~~ obtain the most money out of these imperial colonies and expand their imperial

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empires to better boost their economies and become a leading world power. ~~These empires were the British Empire and the French Empire.~~

~~England and France began~~

increasing its imperialism in Africa.

England and France began competing for ~~power~~ imperial growth. Thus, imperialism became another factor which contributed to the rivalry between England and France. Therefore,

~~Therefore~~, England and France became competitors for different factors. Each wanted a more powerful economy and political empire. This became hard to achieve as both began their rivalry, each wanting more and power. This rivalry was due to the industrialization and imperialism that was occurring during that time. It caused this surge of competitive attitude for a better ~~the~~ economy and empire. Although England started industrializing first, France began its revolutions and advances in industrialization as well. Also, England and France both

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competed more and more for imperial  
power.

# AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY 2007 SCORING COMMENTARY

## Question 6

### Overview

The intent of this question was for students to construct an essay composed of two parts. The first part of the question asked them to identify the geopolitical and economic factors that contributed to the rivalry between Britain and France during the years between 1689 and 1789; the second part directed them to assess the results of this rivalry for both countries during that time period.

### Sample: 6A

**Score: 9**

This essay's thesis is explicit and addresses both factors and results, which are elaborated on with clear organization as the essay develops. Every major assertion is supported by multiple pieces of relevant evidence. Results are assessed throughout. This essay specifically addresses the rivalry between Britain and France and demonstrates a superior understanding of the era.

### Sample: 6B

**Score: 5**

This essay has an explicit thesis. It uses historic rivalry and competition for natural resources, colonies, and allies as factors. However, the essay gives a minimal response to both parts of the question. Assertions are supported by relevant, but extremely generalized evidence.

### Sample: 6C

**Score: 3**

The essay addresses the factors that contributed to the rivalry between Britain and France (e.g., industrialization and imperial colonies) with at least one piece of relevant evidence but does not assess the results for either country. The thesis is feeble, and significant errors detract from the argument.