

AP[®] EUROPEAN HISTORY

2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 7

Analyze the ways in which Western European nations have pursued European economic and political integration from 1945 to the present, referring to at least two nations.

9–8 points

- Thesis explicitly addresses both economic and political integration.
- Essay is organized, clearly developing both parts of the question.
- At least two countries are referred to specifically and accurately connected to integration issue.
- Essay uses multiple pieces of specific evidence to support claims for both economic and political integration.
- Essay may contain errors that do not detract from argument.

7–6 points

- Thesis refers to both economic and political integration.
- Essay is organized; economic and political integration issues are covered with a few examples but may be somewhat uneven.
- Two countries are accurately referred to but with uneven connection to integration issues.
- Essay uses a few examples of specific evidence to support both economic and political integration but may be uneven.
- Essay may contain an error that detracts from argument.

5–4 points

- Thesis may only address one aspect of European integration or may only be contextual.
- Organization is clear, but there may be significant imbalance in the treatment of economic and political integration.
- Essay refers to two European countries relevantly, but one assertion may not be completely accurate.
- Essay supports claims for economic or political integration with specific evidence.
- Essay may contain a few errors that detract from argument.

3–2 points

- There is no explicit thesis, or one that merely paraphrases the question or is a generic response.
- Structure is disorganized, with minimal treatment of either economic or political integration, or completely omits one.
- Essay refers to only one specific country accurately.
- Essay supports only one or two claims with relevant specific evidence.
- Essay may contain several errors that detract from argument.

1–0 points

- There is no discernible attempt at a thesis or a completely inadequate attempt.
- There is no clear attempt to organize the essay in a manner that addresses the question.
- Essay makes little or no attempt to use relevant specific evidence.
- Essay may contain numerous errors that detract from argument.

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Question 7 (continued)

Historical Background

Dates of treaties refer to when the treaty was signed.

Economic Integration

Marshall Plan (1947–1952) was a United States program to help European reconstruction after the Second World War.

- Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC) administered the plan and coordinated the economic policies of member states.
- \$13.15 billion in U.S. aid was sent to Europe under the plan.
- The plan contributed to rapid economic recovery in recipient countries and helped promote the beginnings of economic integration.

Benelux customs union (1948) abolished tariff barriers among the Low Countries.

Franco-German Coal and Steel Pact (1950) was led by economist Jean Monnet and French foreign minister Robert Schuman. Schuman Declaration (1950) called for a supranational organization of European states.

European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), created by Treaty of Paris (1951), eliminated trade barriers among the coal and steel industries of Germany, France, Benelux countries and Italy. The same members created the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) in 1957.

Treaty of Rome (1957) established the European Economic Community (EEC or Common Market, later called the European Community or EC), which initially consisted of France, West Germany, Benelux and Italy.

- Treaty created a free market, eliminated tariffs among member states, and declared the intention to establish a common tariff toward all other nations (accomplished by 1968).
- EEC/EC also coordinated social and economic policies among member states.
- Great Britain, Ireland and Denmark joined the EEC in 1973; Greece, in 1981; Spain and Portugal, in 1986.
- EEC/EC eventually became largest single trading bloc in the world, accounting for more than 20 percent of world economic output.

Schengen Agreement (1985) allowed for travel without passports among several Western European countries (later expanded and folded into the structure of the European Union).

Single European Act (1987) was ratified by the parliamentary bodies of all member states and called for the following:

- a common monetary unit, the euro
- free movement of goods, labor, capital and services
- coordination of social welfare policies and charter of labor rights
- common production standards
- uniform tax rates
- recognition of each other's professional licensing

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Question 7 (continued)

Historical Background (continued)

Several European Free Trade Area (EFTA) nations joined the 12 EC nations in 1991 to create the European Economic Area.

Treaty of European Union (Maastricht Treaty, 1992) confirmed the arrangements of the Single European Act and created the European Union (EU), establishing the following:

- a stronger central banking system (European Monetary Institute)
- a common defense system
- common social policies regarding immigration and labor practices

More countries eventually joined the EU: Austria, Finland and Sweden (1995); Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Cyprus and Malta (2004); Romania and Bulgaria (2007).

In 1999 the euro was established as a virtual currency for settling financial accounts. In 2002 euro notes and coins were issued, replacing several national currencies in Western Europe.

Political Integration

Council of Europe was created in Strasbourg in 1948:

- Could not pass binding legislation but could provide forums for discussion.
- Mission was to uphold individual and political freedom and rule by law.
- Human Rights Commission began to hear petitions regarding violations.

NATO, a defensive alliance among Western European countries and the United States, was established in 1949 primarily as a counter to the perceived threat of the Soviet bloc.

In 1967 ECSC, EEC and Euratom were combined into the European Community. In the 1970s and 1980s the EC was more of an intergovernmental organization than a supranational entity; this trend was heightened by increased diversity of its member countries.

In 1979 citizens of member nations began voting directly for candidates to the European Parliament, but the Parliament's influence as a legislature did not grow significantly.

The EU is currently moving from an intergovernmental role toward a supranational one, opening the way for greater political integration. The Treaty on European Union (Maastricht Treaty) required member nations to demonstrate acceptable standards of democratic government and human rights. The treaty also introduced the idea of European citizenship. In addition to aspects of the treaty listed in the section on economic integration above, the treaty also included the following:

- Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)
- provisions for police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- expansion of the role of the European Parliament

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Question 7 (continued)

Historical Background (continued)

In 2005 the European Parliament ratified a new constitution to streamline decision making and better coordinate economic, employment, diplomatic and defense policies, but several member countries held referenda that rejected the proposed constitution.

In 2007 France and Germany produced a simplified version for ratification.

Summary of EU governing structure:

- Council of the European Union is the main decision-making body. It represents the member states.
- European Parliament represents the people and shares legislative and budgetary power with the council.
- European Commission represents the common interests of the EU and is the prime executive body ensuring implementation of policy.

Western European Nation since 1945 have pursued Economic and political intergration by the establishment of alliances, uniformed and mutual understanding, and the creation of a continual economic intergration. This is most embodied by the EU, but specifically the close relationship of Germany, Britain, and France.

After the End of W.W.II the newly liberated Europe after having rooted out facism now turns to a communist enemy. With the Marshall Plan instated to help fight communism economically, the western nations of Britain and France along with the U.S. soon allow West Germany to reunify. Not long after this reunification Britain, France, and Germany along with other ~~super~~ powers form a economic union which soon includes, Sweden, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Italy etc. This becomes what is now known as the E.U. designed to prevent a economic war the E.U. brought its goal of economic integration to the table. The Establishment of the Maastricht Treaty which created the euro currency allowed for the political integration of the member states. The universal E.U. currency established to compete with the U.S. dollar effectively unites Britain, France and the new unified Germany as a strong economic driving force in establishing an interconnected European force. The elimination of tariffs in member states of the E.U. also contributes to further economic

integration. By stimulating trade you make war within the E.U. useless and unbeneficial. With the strong economic powers of Europe freely trading the integration lacks only one other concept.

The political integration of West Europe is traceable to N.A.T.O which causes political integration of the west originally against communism, but now evolved to fighting terrorism and fighting for democracy, although strongly American led, and not having France as a member N.A.T.O is not the only option. The E.U. also serves as a way to politically integrate Europe. France is ~~also~~ a member of the E.U. and with the abolition of restricted immigration between nations, West Europe under the E.U. experiences strong new cultural ties ~~from~~ through travel and political unification embodied by the delegates of each nation meeting to speak their respective countries issues, and with Europe a ~~part~~ major part of the U.N. political integration is key in achieving Europe's goals of harmony.

So, in conclusion we see that through the establishment of various economic and political unions such as N.A.T.O and especially the E.U.

European political and economic integration is at an alltime high. We see that the historic rivals of Britain, France, and Germany are now very peaceful and friendly, thanks to the ~~wests~~ integration of alliances such as inspired by not only Metternich ~~but~~ Bismarck's defining system of alliances.

Following World War II, Western European nations made a concerted effort to consolidate their economies and lessen political conflict, a marked departure from the days in which European nations openly sought to undermine or destroy each other. European nations became increasingly integrated through a series of treaties and economic policies which greatly stabilized the countries ravaged by World War II.

Two of the most important economic developments at the time were the ECSC, or European Coal and Steel Community, and the EEC, or Common Market. The brainchild of French economic advisor Monnet and French premier ^{Robert} Schumann, the ECSC abolished tariffs in the coal and steel industries.

The program did much to revitalize the coal and steel industries in Europe, so, following a similar program of tariff elimination, the EEC (Common Market) was created through the ratification of the Treaty of Rome.

Further economic integration was achieved through the Treaty of Maastricht, which

established the European Union and made the euro standard currency in many countries.

Political action taken to ~~ensure~~ ^{enhance} the stability of Western Europe include the formation of NATO and the Helsinki Accords. NATO, which was formed in order to preserve international security, was slightly undermined when President Charles de Gaulle of France withdrew military support from the organization and went on to develop France's own nuclear weapons.

~~Indeed,~~ old rivalries between France and England also surfaced when de Gaulle opposed Britain's entrance into the EEC.

The Helsinki Accords marked the high point of Cold War détente between the U.S. and the Soviet Union but also encouraged Western European stability. The Accords clarified borders between European nations and formed a "watch ~~community~~ ^{committee}" in which 65 member nations agreed to monitor the human and political rights' actions of other member nations.

With exception to the occasional disagreement that formed between Great Britain and France's de Gaulle over economic policies,

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

7B-3

Western Europe succeeded in integrating during the years following World War II. The EEC, EEC, Treaty of Rome, Treaty of Maastricht, NATO and Helsinki Accords all served to reasonably unite ~~an area~~ a region which had been, for many centuries, fractured by political instability and war.

introduction of the euro,

Economic + Political Integration

In 1945, WWII ended. Europe struggled from a destroyed economy and ~~the~~ the disastrous effect of the war: the loss of millions of people. Many countries longed for ~~the~~ peace, which now had finally come. France and Spain both participated in several national organizations that tried to integrate ~~the~~ Europe, economically and politically.

The United Nations, of which France and Spain joined, ~~the~~ was created to unite Europe, and deal with both economic and political problems. Like the League of Nations that had failed ~~the~~ after WWI, the UN tried to keep ^{Peace} between the countries of Europe. The UN also tried to solve problems of poverty and unemployment and other economical aspects. Now, the UN ~~the~~ holds almost all the European Nations, as members.

France, and later Spain, also became part of a trade union, which in time, held over 150 nations. It set up policies and regulated trade between countries. At the same time, many European nations converted to a new system of currency. The currency was called "Euro" and was designed to eliminate unequal transactions, while bringing European countries closer to each

other.

The national organizations of which France and Spain were a part, was created in the hope of preventing war. ~~They were~~ ^{they were} also aimed at preventing economic disasters, such as the great depression (1929).

AP[®] EUROPEAN HISTORY 2011 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 7

Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' understanding of the process of Western European integration from 1945 to the present. The question required students to organize their response according to two analytic categories — economic and political — and to support their analysis with specific evidence. The question did not require students to address issues such as the desirability, causes or success of Western European integration but left this possibility open.

Sample: 7A

Score: 8

The thesis, developed in the introduction and recapitulated in the conclusion, addresses all parts of the question, referring to both economic and political integration. The essay shows nuanced understanding both of economic developments contributing to integration (Marshall Plan, creation of the European Union, Maastricht Treaty, introduction of the euro) and of political developments (UN's role, NATO and its evolution, EU cultural developments, immigration policies). The essay also shows an appreciation of some of the long-term changes in European politics brought about by integration (for instance, the disappearance of the historical rivalry between France and Germany). There is specific and appropriate use of examples from Great Britain, France and West Germany.

Sample: 7B

Score: 6

The thesis, stated in the introduction, is generic but is supplemented in the conclusion with some specifics. Economic aspects of integration are clearly and chronologically laid out (European Coal and Steel Community/ECSC, European Economic Community/EEC, Treaty of Rome, Treaty of Maastricht, creation of the euro). Political developments are more weakly treated, with the essay focusing more on institutions established primarily to provide Cold War-era stability rather than foster Western European integration (NATO, Helsinki Accords) and an emphasis on developments that marked setbacks in the integration process (France's withdrawal from NATO and opposition of Britain's entry into the EEC under De Gaulle). The essay uses examples from France and Great Britain.

Sample: 7C

Score: 2

The attempted thesis is unclear and does not address the question directly; it only outlines in very general terms the post-1945 context that made integration necessary or desirable. The essay does not address political developments adequately — for example, the creation of the UN is not used effectively or accurately as an example of integration. Economic issues are also not adequately addressed (only the creation of the euro is used appropriately; the mention of a 150-nation "trade union" might be a reference to the WTO and is thus not directly relevant to the question). The essay uses France and Spain as examples but in a somewhat arbitrary fashion, failing to explain why these two countries are chosen.