Chapter 05  Economic Expansion, Social Change, and Religious Wars 1550-1650

Economic Expansion and Social Change

1. Analyze the effects of the Columbian exchange (the interchange of plants, animals, and diseases between the Old World and the New World) on the population and economy of Europe in the period 1550 to 1700.  (AP 2006 A)

2. Explain how economic, technological, political, and religious factors promoted European explorations from about 1450 to about 1525.  AP 1980

3. Why were Europeans able to achieve economic and political control over many non-European peoples between 1450 and 1750?  AP 1978

4. “In the fifteenth century, European society was still centered on the Mediterranean region, but by the end of the seventeenth century, the focus of Europe had shifted north.”

   Identify and analyze the economic developments between 1450 and 1700 that helped bring this about.  AP 1989

5. Analyze the changes in the European economy from about 1450 to 1700 brought about by the voyages of exploration and by colonization.  Give specific examples.  AP 1992


7. Analyze the economic, technological, and institutional factors responsible for western Europe's domination of world trade from 1650 to 1800.  (AP 2005)

8. Analyze the impact of TWO cultural and/or technological developments on European education in the period 1450 to 1650.  (AP 2008 B)

9. Account for the growth and decline of European witch hunts in the period 1500 to 1650.  (AP 2005 B)
The Religious Wars

10. Analyze the reasons for the decline of the Holy Roman Empire as a force in European politics in the period 1517 to 1648. (AP 2008 B)

11. In 1519 Charles of Hapsburg became Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor. Discuss and analyze the political, social, and religious problems he faced over the course of his imperial reign (1519-1556). AP 1990

12. How did the Reformation contribute to the development of nation-states in Western Europe between 1450 and 1648? Acorn 1985

13. “Leadership determines the fate of a country.” Evaluate this quotation in terms of Spain’s experience under Philip II. AP 2000

14. Analyze the factors that prevented the development of a unified German state in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. (AP 2007 A)

15. In the seventeenth century, England and the Netherlands developed effective capitalist economies, while Spain did not. Why did the economies develop so differently in England and the Netherlands, on the one hand, and in Spain, on the other? AP 1979

16. In the seventeenth century, how did England and the Dutch Republic compete successfully with France and Spain for control of overseas territory and trade? AP 1986

17. Analyze various ways in which the Thirty Years’ War (1618-1648) represented a turning point in European history. (2009 A)

18. Evaluate the relative importance of the religious rivalries and dynastic ambitions that shaped the course of the Thirty Years’ War. AP 1981

19. Compare and contrast the religious policies of TWO of the following:

   Elizabeth I of England
   Catherine de Médicis of France
   Isabella I of Spain (AP 2002)

20. Using examples from at least two different states, analyze the key features of the "new monarchies" and the factors responsible for their rise in the period 1450 to 1550. (AP 2005 A)

21. European monarchs of the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries are often referred to as the “New Monarchs.” What was “new” about them? Do their actions warrant this label? AP 1979
22. Using examples from at least two different states, analyze the key features of the "new monarchies" and the factors responsible for their rise in the period 1450 to 1550. (AP 2005)