

Exercise walk-through

5.8

Romanticism

AP European History

Romanticism: contrasting emphases, not uniform camps

EMPHASIS ON REASON

reason can test authority
general principles can guide reform
institutions can be criticised

EMPHASIS ON FEELING

feeling and imagination matter
the particular — a nation,
a landscape — matters
Rousseau himself doubted reason alone

War and revolution showed the emotional power of mass politics.
Religious revival, including Methodism, also valued personal experience

Rousseau questioned exclusive reliance on reason. Romanticism also involved art, imagination and nature; it was not only a political doctrine.

Religious revival and emotional mobilisation

Methodism

John Wesley's movement valued personal religious experience and communal devotion. **Religious revival** overlapped with Enlightenment thought.

Mass politics

Revolution, war and rebellion showed the force of emotions and national attachment in collective action. That context helps explain the interest in feeling.

Feeling can matter without proving every emotional judgement correct. Revival movements were not all caused by the French Revolution.

Compare two invented classroom positions

Position A

Institutions should be judged by general rational principles that apply across communities.

Position B

Moral judgement should also consider feeling and a community's history. General principles alone are insufficient.

Original practice: explain a difference, then explain why B does not necessarily reject every use of reasoning.

Check: insufficient does not mean worthless

Worked interpretation

A stresses general standards; B assigns more weight to emotion and particular historical experience. Saying reason alone is insufficient does not mean reason has no value. Rousseau and Romanticism help contextualise the difference.

These invented positions illustrate tendencies; neither represents every Enlightenment or Romantic thinker.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 State what Rousseau objected to and what he emphasised. [2]

2.2 Explain why religious revival is placed alongside Romanticism. [2]

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 State what Rousseau objected to and what he emphasised. [2]

2.1

- he objected to the exclusive reliance on reason and emphasised emotion in the moral improvement of self and society
-

2.2 Explain why religious revival is placed alongside Romanticism. [2]

2.2

- both privilege inner experience over the demonstrable, and the CED describes the revival as consistent with the Romantic movement

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 The CED says revolution and war “demonstrated” the emotional power of mass politics.

(a) State what the verb implies.

[1]

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[1]

(a)

- that the events are the evidence for the claim

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The CED says revolution and war “demonstrated” the emotional power of mass politics.

(b) State what the evidence is.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The CED says revolution and war “demonstrated” the emotional power of mass politics.

(b) State what the evidence is.

[1]

(b)

- revolution, war and rebellion of the preceding decades

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 Rousseau objected to reliance on reason that was

[1]

☐

- A partial
- B exclusive
- C mathematical
- D foreign

3.2 The CED's word for Romanticism's relation to Enlightenment rationality is

[1]

☐

- A replacement
- B challenge
- C agreement
- D ignorance

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- A partial
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3.1 B

- reason as the only faculty is the target

3.2 The CED's word for Romanticism's relation to Enlightenment rationality is

[1]

☐

- A replacement
- B challenge
- C agreement
- D ignorance

3.2 B

- challenge, not replacement

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A movement privileges inner experience over what can be demonstrated.

(a) State which two developments share this feature.

[2]

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A movement privileges inner experience over what can be demonstrated.

(a) State which two developments share this feature.

[2]

(a)

- Romanticism; religious revival, including Methodism

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A movement privileges inner experience over what can be demonstrated.

(b) Explain why they are treated together.

[1]

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[1]

(b)

- they share a temper – inner experience above the demonstrable