

Exercise walk-through

3.1

Contextualizing Period 3

AP United States History

Continuity and Change in Period 3

The period's reasoning skill is **continuity and change**.

The strongest answers hold both: political institutions changed radically, while slavery, westward expansion, and conflict with American Indians continued and intensified.

Exam transfer: describe one effect

2025 AP US History, Set 1, Question 3(B)

“Briefly describe one effect of the Seven Years’ War from 1754 to 1765.”

Try it: Write a response using one effect within the dates. Give relevant details, rather than only naming a term.

Compare: Would a response about the Declaration of Independence in 1776 answer this question? Explain your decision.

Worked response: an effect within the dates

Teacher-written model

Britain's costly victory encouraged Parliament to raise revenue from its North American colonies. The Stamp Act of 1765 imposed a tax on printed materials in the colonies.

Why this fits: It describes a postwar tax policy within 1754–1765. The official scheme accepts further British taxation to pay for the war; it also accepts the end of French colonies and heightened tensions.

1776 is outside this prompt's dates. "Describe" requires relevant characteristics beyond an isolated term; it is not a universal instruction to supply two separate parts.

Exam tips

- Explain links from war expense and territorial expansion to revenue measures, settlement restrictions and resistance; avoid treating independence as inevitable.
- Explain how **republicanism** and **natural rights** support an argument; relate each to evidence.
- For the Constitution, argue from the **specific weakness** it fixed – no power to tax, no power to regulate commerce, no executive.
- Keep **Federalist** and **Anti-Federalist** positions straight, and remember the **Bill of Rights** was the price of ratification.
- The Revolution's effects on **slavery and women** are examinable, and both are partial: ideals spread further than rights did.
- On continuity-and-change prompts, give one of each. An answer that only lists changes has answered half the question.

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 State the CED's three key concepts for the period. [3]

2.2 Explain why KC-3.1 names two causes. [2]

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2.1

- British attempts at tighter control and colonial resolve leading to independence and war; the Revolution's ideals inspiring new experiments with forms of government; migration and competition intensifying conflicts among peoples and nations
-

2.2 Explain why KC-3.1 names two causes. [2]

2.2

- the war was the product of both British policy and colonial resolve; an answer with only the first removes the colonists' agency

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 KC-3.2 speaks of experiments.

(a) State what this implies about the Articles and the Constitution.

[2]

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[2]

(a)

- they are two attempts rather than a plan and its execution

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 KC-3.2 speaks of experiments.

(b) State the thread most often dropped.

[1]

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[1]

(b)

- KC-3.3's migration and competition over land

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 KC-3.1 attributes the independence movement to British control and

[1]

☐

A the colonial resolve to pursue self-government

B French intervention

C Spanish policy

D nothing else

3.2 “New experiments with different forms of government” is

[1]

☐

A plural and experimental

B a single plan

C a description of Britain

D about the colonies before 1754

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Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A student's context for the Revolution mentions only British taxation.

(a) State what is missing.

[1]

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(a)

- the colonial resolve to pursue self-government

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A student's context for the Revolution mentions only British taxation.

(b) Explain why it matters.

[2]

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(b)

- the CED makes the movement the product of both, so a policy-only account cannot explain why colonists responded as they did