**SHORT ANSWER (SAQ) for AP History Exams**

Get used to these, you’ll see them on:
**AP World History: Modern**AP United States History
AP European History

What is an **SAQ**? What does it look like? What do I “do?”

* It is NOT an essay. However, you do need to answer in COMPLETE SENTENCES, and DIRECTLY.
* Typical answers are 3-5 Sentences for **each part.**
* There will be three separate “questions,” with three separate boxes for each question.
* See the sample sheet for what they look like. You CANNOT write outside of the box!
* The questions are divided into three tasks, labeled A, B, and C.
* Each of the sub-questions will be graded separately, so you should label these A-B-C on your paper and have 3-5 sentences for each part.
* Each question assesses a different skill set.
* Question 1 = Analyzing and interpreting a secondary source
* They may ask for evidence that supports an argument, or evidence that undermines (contradicts, refutes) it, prepare for both.
* Question 2 = Analyzing and interpreting a primary source, written text, or to visual sources such as images, charts, or maps.
* You might use information from the stimuli, or you might be bringing in outside information.
* This will be over the skill of comparison or continuity and change over time.
* Question 3 = you will have a choice, and it will ask you to respond to a question about world history without a stimulus. It’ll focus on the historical thinking skills of causation or continuity and change over time.
* Answer the question it’s ASKING, not the question you WISH it was asking.

What might a response look like? Make an easy, three-four sentence response with the acronym **C­E-E**:

* **Claim** – Write your answer to the question, or your claim. If it includes a source, MENTION THAT SOURCE in your answer!
* **Evidence** – Support your answer with FACTS and NOUNS – specific evidence! (Who, What,
When, Where, Why, How? – You don’t need all of these, but make sure you have a few)
* **Explain** – Describe WHY your evidence answers the question.

**PRACTICE SAQs**

Use the sample “SAQ” Response sheet to answer the following SAQs **Question 1**: Answer all parts of the question that follows:

|  |
| --- |
| “To science we owe dramatic changes in our smug self-image. Astronomy taught us that our earth isn’t the center of the universe but merely one of billions of heavenly bodies... Now archaeology is demolishing another sacred belief: that human history over the past million years has been a long tale of progress. In particular, recent discoveries suggest that the adoption of agriculture, supposedly our most decisive step toward a better life, was in many ways a catastrophe from which we have never recovered...”- Jared Diamond, “The Worst Mistake in the History of the Human Race,” *Discover**Magazine*, May 1987. |

1. Identify ONE specific historical example that corroborates the claim made by Jared Diamond.
2. Explain ONE specific historical example that refutes the claim made by Jared Diamond.
3. Explain ONE specific result of the adoption of agriculture by humankind.

**Question 2: Answer all parts of the question that follows:**



***Ceremonial Bronze Chisel with Head, Olmec Dancing Girl, Harappa***

***Jade Inlay, Shang***

1. **Identify ONE similarity between the civilizations that created the art depicted above.**
2. **Explain ANOTHER similarity between the civilizations that created the art depicted above.**
3. **Explain ONE difference between the civilizations that created the art depicted above.**