

AP U.S. History Exam

Exam Overview

The AP U.S. History Exam is 3 hours and 15 minutes long and includes both a 95-minute multiple-choice and short-answer section (Section I) and a 100-minute free-response section (Section II). Each section is divided into two parts, as shown in the table below. Student performance on these four parts will be compiled and weighted to determine an AP Exam score.

Section	Question Type	Number of Questions	Timing	Percentage of Total Exam Score
I	Part A: Multiple-choice questions	55 questions	55 minutes	40%
	Part B: Short-answer questions	3 questions ♦ Required Question 1: periods 3–8 ♦ Required Question 2: periods 3–8 ♦ Choose between ♦ Question 3: periods 1–5 OR ♦ Question 4: periods 6–9	40 minutes	20%
II	Part A: Document-based question	1 question: periods 3–8	60 minutes (includes a 15-minute reading period)	25%
	Part B: Long essay question	1 question, chosen from three options on the same theme: ♦ periods 1–3 ♦ periods 4–6 ♦ periods 7–9	40 minutes	15%