

# AP<sup>®</sup> EUROPEAN HISTORY

## FREE PRACTICE TEST

### Answers and Explanations



## ANSWER KEY

1. D	12. B	23. C	34. B	45. A
2. A	13. C	24. D	35. A	46. C
3. C	14. A	25. A	36. D	47. A
4. B	15. D	26. C	37. A	48. B
5. A	16. B	27. A	38. B	49. D
6. A	17. B	28. B	39. C	50. A
7. C	18. C	29. D	40. D	51. D
8. D	19. D	30. B	41. C	52. D
9. C	20. A	31. A	42. A	53. A
10. D	21. B	32. C	43. B	54. C
11. B	22. B	33. C	44. D	55. D

## EXPLANATIONS

## SECTION 1: Part A: Multiple-Choice Questions

- D** The question asks which aspect of Baroque art of the early seventeenth century is reflected in Hyacinth Rigaud's 1701 portrait of Louis XIV of France. (A) is incorrect because in the early seventeenth century, Baroque art focused on religious or state themes. (B) is incorrect because neoclassical themes are not present in either the image. (C) is incorrect because Baroque art centered around literal representations of people and places that were depicted sensuously. It did not utilize abstraction. The portrait shows Louis XIV in a position of power, represented through his stance, clothing, and symbols of statehood. The use of Baroque art to convey state power was widespread until the middle of the eighteenth century. Therefore, (D) is correct.
- A** The questions asks to identify the artistic style of the image and place it within its historical context of competing artistic styles. (B) is incorrect because Rococo art focused on private life and leisure, not state themes or serious subject matter. (C) is incorrect because Neoclassical used Greek and Roman influences to create inspiring images of patriotism and civic duty. (D) is incorrect because Mannerists artists used distortion in their images to emphasize the emotions of the artist. Baroque art focused on religious and state themes in order to emphasize authority. Therefore, (A) is correct.
- C** The question asks which artistic style replaced the Baroque style shown in the image. (A) is incorrect because artistic styles in the eighteenth century moved away from religious themes. (B) is incorrect because Impressionism, which attempted to capture the effect of light on the human eye, was not an eighteenth-century style. (D) is incorrect because religious and mythological subjects were a feature of art previous to the mid eighteenth century. These themes were gradually replaced by private themes that emphasized the outlook and values of a commercial society. Therefore, (C) is correct.
- B** The table shows estimates of select European countries' GDP per capita in the years 1820, 1870, and 1913. The question asks which country's inhabitants were most prosperous, based on the data in the table. In each of the years shown, Great Britain had the highest GDP per capita. (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (B) is correct.
- A** The table shows estimates of select European countries' GDP per capita in the years 1820, 1870, and 1913. The question asks for the cause of the trends in the table. The dates in the table coincide with a period of economic growth that can be correlated with the industrial revolution and its effects on societies around Europe. In particular, technological advances led to increased productivity and a more effective use of natural and other resources. (B), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (A) is correct.

6. **A** The table shows estimates of select European countries' GDP per capita in the years 1820, 1870, and 1913. The question asks for the most significant limitation of the data presented in the table for a historian wishing to understand economic conditions in nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Europe. (B) and (C) are incorrect because the question asks about nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Europe, and thus no data from before 1820 or beyond 1913 would be necessary. (D) is incorrect because while the data does not differentiate between the per capita GDP of men and women, this is not as significant of a limitation as the fact that the table doesn't account for income inequality across the societies in question (per capita GDP is the average gross domestic product per person), so this data doesn't necessarily reflect the realities of extreme wealth or poverty in stratified societies with huge income disparities. Therefore, (A) is correct.
7. **C** The question asks about the effect of sixteenth century ship design. (A) is incorrect because navigation continued to be a highly skilled profession that required specialized training. (B) is incorrect because naval innovations resulted in more long distance trade. (D) is incorrect because piracy along the Mediterranean coast has existed since classical antiquity. Sixteenth-century ship designs resulted in ships that were faster and easier to steer, making oceanic exploration possible. Therefore, (C) is correct.
8. **D** The question asks what the invention of the caravel represented in terms of the broader historical context. The caravel was a Portuguese ship design that allowed Portugal to emerge as a naval empire on the basis of its technological achievements. The rise of Portugal as the primary motivator in the Age of Exploration challenged traditional trading centers, such as Venice. Britain was not a major naval empire for several centuries. The caravel was not designed for attack, because it was an example of the broader European focus on exploration and discover. (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect. Therefore, (D) is correct.
9. **C** This question asks about possible criticisms of the creation of overseas colonies during the Age of Exploration. It focuses on identifying a claim that a critic of overseas colonization could make about European attempts to settle new lands. (A) is incorrect because a critic of overseas colonies would not agree that they provided a trade benefit for Europeans. (B) is incorrect because a critic of overseas colonies would not have mentioned how they allowed Europeans to access beneficial trade routes. (D) is incorrect because a critic of overseas colonies would not have agreed that they allowed monarchs to strengthen their authority. A critic of overseas colonies would be most likely to agree with the fact that colonies led to a reorganization of local cultures and societies under European control, often with very negative consequences for the native populations. Therefore, (C) is correct.
10. **D** This question asks what conditions in Eastern Europe led to the rise of the "Solidarity" movement. (A) is incorrect because Nikita Khrushchev's de-Stalinization policies failed. (B) is incorrect because the fall of the Soviet Union did not take place until after the "Solidarity" movement. (C) is incorrect because collective economic systems were falling out of favor due to failure of the USSR to successfully collective agriculture. The poor economic conditions in the Soviet Union were often combined with authoritative methods of control, which often led to dissent in member states. Therefore, (D) is correct.
11. **B** The questions asks which historical event is most similar to "Solidarity's" program of nonviolent, nationalist rebellion. (A) is incorrect because the Storming of the Bastille, while nationalistic, was violent. (C) is incorrect because the American colonial rebellion against British rule used violence. (D) is incorrect because the annexation of Austria by Nazi Germany was violent. Gandhi's Salt March for Indian Independence was a nonviolent, nationalistic protest that challenged the authority of England to rule India. Therefore, (B) is correct.
12. **B** The question asks which conclusion about the Polish Solidarity movement is best supported by the passage and your knowledge of events in the 1980s in Eastern Europe. (A) is incorrect because the Solidarity movement was secular, not religious. (C) is incorrect because the solidarity movement contributed to a lessening, not an increase, in governmental control over Polish industry. (D) is incorrect because the Solidarity movement was explicitly non-violent. It was very influential in contributing to the weakening of Soviet power in Poland, and, indirectly, in the rest of Eastern Europe. Therefore, (B) is correct.

13. **C** The question asks what facilitated the work of Renaissance artists such as Leonardo Da Vinci. (A) is incorrect because there was no widespread artistic movement within monasteries during the Renaissance. (B) is incorrect because Europeans had been trading with regions to the east for many centuries before Da Vinci's time; additionally, the cultural exchange that occurred as a result of trade between Europe and the east did not directly influence Renaissance Italian artists. (D) is incorrect because Renaissance Italy had no legal requirements encouraging people to pursue artistic endeavors. Renaissance artists such as Da Vinci would not have been able to fund their art without the patronage and support of wealthy individuals who wished to support artists and also glorify themselves through the commissioning of great works. Therefore, (C) is correct.
14. **A** The question asks which answer best characterizes one of the major stylistic differences between medieval and Renaissance Italian painting. (B) and (D) are incorrect because medieval artists were primarily concerned with religious, not political or humanistic themes. (C) is incorrect because Renaissance artists depicted a wide variety of subject matter, not exclusively scenes from daily life. Both medieval and Renaissance artists were concerned with religious themes, but the major shift during the Renaissance was that Renaissance artists were much more focused on naturalism and modeled much of their work on the sculptures and depictions of the human body present in classical antiquity. Therefore, (A) is correct.
15. **D** The question asks which statement best characterizes the primary emphasis of Renaissance humanism during Leonardo Da Vinci's time. (A) is incorrect because humanists primarily admired classical Greek and Roman rather than early Christian thinkers. (B) is incorrect because the primary European rediscovery of scientific texts from the Arab world occurred during the medieval rather than the Renaissance period. (C) is incorrect because humanists generally did not express a fondness for political theorists from the Holy Roman Empire. Therefore, (D) is correct.
16. **B** The maps show Europe in 1914 and 1919. The question asks about the causes of the alliance system shown on the key in the 1914 map of Europe. (A) is incorrect because the alliance system did not attempt to curtail the effects of decolonization. (C) is incorrect because Europe was not unified under a single currency until the introduction of the euro in 1999. (D) is incorrect because tensions between Roman Catholic and Protestant nations had broadly been resolved by this point in time. The alliance system was an attempt to maintain the long-term balance of power in Europe through cooperative defense alliances. Therefore, (B) is correct.
17. **B** The maps show Europe in 1914 and 1919. The question asks about the motivations behind the change in Germany's national borders after World War I. (A) is incorrect because the smaller borders did not provide for a strong or stable German Weimar Republic. (C) is incorrect because Wilsonian idealism would not have punished Germany by reducing its national territory. (D) is incorrect because Germany was not included in the League of Nations. The reduced national borders of Germany reflect a desire of many of the peace negotiators in Paris to punish Germany for its role in the war. Therefore, (B) is correct.
18. **C** The maps show Europe in 1914 and 1919. The question asks which answer is an accurate statement about the European economy following World War I. (A) and (B) are incorrect because European nations, including Britain, suffered immensely after World War I. (D) is incorrect because Russia adopted a system of state control after World War I. Therefore, (C) is correct.
19. **D** The question asks for the context in which the passages can best be understood. (A) is incorrect because the passages do not mention papal indulgences. (B) is incorrect because the passages do not mention free will. (C) is incorrect because the second passage was written by Catholic Counter-Reformers, not Calvinists (who were Protestants). The first passage mentions sins being "taken away," while the second passage mentions "remission of sins." Therefore, (D) is correct.
20. **A** The question asks which answer best characterizes the point of view of the Anabaptists, as shown in the excerpt from *The Schleithem Confession*. (B) is incorrect because the passage does not mention ecclesiastical (church) officials. (C) is incorrect because the passage does not mention the church hierarchy. (D) is incorrect because the passage explicitly argues that infant baptism is not valid. The passage states that "Baptism shall be given to all those who have learned repentance and amendment of life, and who believe truly that their sins are taken away by Christ." Therefore, (A) is correct.

21. **B** The question asks for a principal area of agreement among most Protestant Reformers and most Catholics in the sixteenth century. (A) is incorrect because Protestants believed that more weight should be given to scripture, while Catholics believed that equal weight should be given to scripture and church tradition. (C) is incorrect because conflict over the role of faith and good works was one of the driving forces behind the Protestant Reformation. (D) is incorrect because Protestants generally did not like the prevalence of images and sculptures in Catholic churches and often campaigned against such art (sometimes violently). Protestants and Catholics had plenty of theological differences in the sixteenth century, but at the time there was virtually no one who questioned the idea that Jesus was both divine and human and was a real person who lived in first-century Palestine. Therefore, (B) is correct.
22. **B** The map shows European colonies in Southeast Asia. The question asks which answer best describes the European economic system that underpinned trade with and colonization of the region shown on the map. (A) is incorrect because feudalism had largely died out before the fifteenth century, earlier than the time period that marked the beginning of European imperialism in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. (C) is incorrect because libertarianism is a political philosophy that did not gain much traction until the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. (D) is incorrect because isolationism is a foreign policy stance that eschews involvement in other countries' affairs. Mercantilism was the economic system popular from the sixteenth through eighteenth centuries that was designed to maximize a country's exports and trade benefits. Therefore, (B) is correct.
23. **C** The map shows European colonies in Southeast Asia. These colonies were developed as a result of mercantilist policies that transformed beginning in the middle of the eighteenth century into capitalist policies. (A) is incorrect because the laws of supply and demand did not fully regulate the market. Many countries, notably England, were on the path of developing extensive welfare states. (B) is incorrect because the Triangle Trade was extremely profitable for Europeans. (D) is incorrect because New World products were in high demand. Overseas products and influences were in high demand by Europeans, which led to the development of a consumer culture. Therefore, (C) is correct.
24. **D** The map shows European colonies in Southeast Asia. The question asks which answer was a major contributing factor in the European exploration of Southeast Asia. (A) is incorrect because Europeans adopted Chinese and Muslim navigational techniques. (B) is incorrect because while certain individuals may have had interest in the indigenous languages of other nations, this impulse was not at all widespread. (C) is incorrect because the European colonies in South America were economically successful. European exploration was often rooted in the need for laborers and markets to supply industrial enterprises in Europe. Therefore, (D) is correct.
25. **A** The question asks which nineteenth-century belief system is best reflected in the passage. The author states that the "law of organic progress is the law of all progress," i.e., the Theory of Evolution can be applied to society as a whole, not just biological processes—this is the classic formulation of Social Darwinism. (B), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (A) is correct.
26. **C** The question asks for the main claim of the author in the excerpted passage. The author states, "Whether it be in the development of the Earth, in the development of Life upon its surface, the development of Society, of Government, of Manufactures, of Commerce, of Language, Literature, Science, Art, this same evolution of the simple into the complex, through a process of continuous differentiation, holds throughout." This is the classic formulation of Social Darwinism (see also the explanation to question 28). (A), (B), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (C) is correct.
27. **A** The question asks what critics of this author and those who agreed with him ideologically have claimed about his views. (B), (C), and (D) are incorrect because they do not relate directly to the issue of Social Darwinism. Critics of this theory have claimed that it can be (and was) used to justify theories of racial superiority and even eugenics (the author describes "the civilized divisions of the species" and "differentiation of these races from each other"). Therefore, (A) is correct.
28. **B** The question asks what belief Copernicus is referring to when he mentions "certain motions of the Earth" in the passage. Copernicus' model was heliocentric, i.e., it posited that the Earth and other planets revolve around the Sun. (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (B) is correct.



29. **D** The question asks why astronomers who came after Copernicus, such as Galileo Galilei and Johannes Kepler, were able to correct some of Copernicus' faulty calculations. (A) is incorrect because the reflecting telescope was invented in 1668, after both Copernicus and Galileo/Kepler's time. (B) is incorrect because the eclipse table was invented by Maya astronomers in Central America and was not known to European astronomers during the scientific revolution. (C) is incorrect because while the microscope was invented after Copernicus' time, it would not have been a helpful tool in understanding astronomical processes. The refracting telescope was invented in 1608, after Copernicus but in time for Galileo and Kepler to use it to make more precise astronomical calculations than did Copernicus. Therefore, (D) is correct.
30. **B** The question asks what upon what grounds the author preemptively dismisses potential critics of his work. In the second paragraph excerpted, Copernicus notes that his potential critics likely don't know much about mathematics and also that they misuse or misappropriate religious texts. (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (B) is correct.
31. **A** The question asks which scientific models finally led to confirmation and widespread scholarly acceptance of Copernicus' basic theories more than a century after Copernicus' death. Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation states that every mass exerts a proportional force on every other mass. This law allowed astronomers to roughly calculate the gravitational forces between the Sun and the Earth, which ultimately led to widespread acceptance of the heliocentric model that Copernicus espoused. (B), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (A) is correct.
32. **C** The image shows a European leader (not labeled, but it's Belgium's King Leopold II) carving up a cake labeled "Afrique" ("Africa" in French). The question asks which answer accurately describes a short-term consequence of the "scramble for Africa" for European nations. (A) is incorrect because the increase in colonizing efforts actually decreased the amount of military conflict between European nations. (B) is incorrect because it was not until the twentieth century that there was any widespread concern for the human rights of indigenous people affected by European colonialism. (D) is incorrect because the slave trade had been legally abolished in Europe starting in the beginning of the nineteenth century, and while there were occasional pirates engaged in illegal slavery, the colonization of Africa by European nations did not facilitate this effort. Therefore, (C) is correct.
33. **C** The question asks how European imperialists justified overseas expansion and rule. Imperialism was rooted in the idea that conquered peoples did not have the right to popular sovereignty. Colonies were in an unequal relationship with their mother country because colonies became economically disadvantaged through supplying so many goods to the conqueror and lacked the political authority to change their circumstances. Imperialism was justified by claiming that Europeans were culturally and racially superior. (A), (B), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (C) is correct.
34. **B** The image shows a European leader (not labeled, but it's Belgium's King Leopold II) carving up a cake labeled "Afrique" ("Africa" in French). The questions asks for the sentiment expressed in Joseph Conrad's quote in the question stem. In the quote, Conrad states that the conquest of other nations is "not a pretty thing when you look into it too much," implying that he feels uneasy or uncomfortable with the way that Europeans felt entitled to take lands away from those who were different from themselves. (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (B) is correct.
35. **A** The question asks what is best illustrated by the passage. (B) is incorrect because the passage describes the plight of the inhabitants of rural, not urban France. (C) is incorrect because the passage does not mention anything about political reform. (D) is incorrect because the passage indicates that it was extremely difficult, not easy, for the people the author encountered to find food and other resources. Therefore, (A) is correct.
36. **D** The question asks how the growth of large-scale agriculture and the factory system affected the lives of rural Europeans in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. (A) is incorrect because the increase of available agricultural technology actually led to fewer farming jobs because mechanization meant better efficiency. (B) is incorrect because poverty was very widespread in the time period in question. (C) is incorrect because there was no widespread labor movement among European farmers during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. As a result of industrialization, there were many more urban jobs available in Europe, particularly in factories. This phenomenon led many people who had previously practiced agriculture to move from rural areas to urban areas. Therefore, (D) is correct.

37. **A** The question asks which answer most accurately describes the collection of developments in eighteenth century Europe that are known as the Agricultural Revolution. (B) is incorrect because wild plants and animals were domesticated significantly before the eighteenth century. (C) is incorrect because rural populations declined in the Agricultural Revolution and urban populations increased. (D) is incorrect because the Agricultural Revolution was notable for its overall increased in agricultural productivity. Therefore, (A) is correct.
38. **B** The image shows a British trench during the Battle of the Somme in July 1916. The question asks which explanation best accounts for the rise of trench warfare in World War I. (A) is incorrect because trenches are defensive, not offensive. (C) is incorrect because Allied forces did not have trouble recruiting soldiers. (D) is incorrect because trenches were not used to transport tanks. Trenches were the result of the fact that technological innovations in firepower and artillery made war more deadly, but there were not similar technological innovations in transport methods. Troops were required to dig in to avoid the enemy's firepower. Therefore, (B) is correct.
39. **C** The question asks how life in the trenches on the Western Front in World War I can best be described. The primary reason for trenches was to maintain a defensive position. Trenches were highly organized and carefully planned in order to provide maximum protection for the troops while limiting the damage that could be done by an invading enemy who was able to break the initial defenses. As part of this defensive strategy, soldiers typically slept through much of the afternoon hours in order to work on fortifying their position under cover of night. Life in the trenches was characterized by high casualty rates (typically from artillery fire) and poor living conditions. (A), (B), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (C) is correct.
40. **D** The question asks for an accurate statement about trench warfare's likely impact on the outcome of World War I. (A) is incorrect because while conditions in trenches were universally unpleasant, the German trenches were actually more sanitary and less disease ridden than Allied trenches. This is a result of the fact that Germans chose their positions first, and opted for high ground positions that avoided water related diseases such as trench foot. (B) is incorrect because the Central Powers were in World War II. Trench warfare did not shift the advantage to Germany due to fact that both the Allies and the Axis powers maintained long term trench positions. (C) is incorrect because casualties in the trenches were extremely high. Trench warfare led to significant casualties without territorial gains. Therefore, (D) is correct.
41. **C** The question asks how the authors of the document quoted viewed the "rights of man." The document explicitly mentions the "natural, unalienable, and sacred rights of man." (A), (B), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (C) is correct.
42. **A** The question asks what the document quoted established for the first time in France. (B) is incorrect because France had a monarchy for many years before the time of this document. (C) is incorrect because the French aristocracy lost much of its power during this time period. (D) is incorrect because there is nothing in particular to indicate that this document established *laissez-faire* economic principles. Therefore, (A) is correct.
43. **B** The question asks which thinker was a direct inspiration for the events of the French Revolution. Blaise Pascal was a mathematician, Thomas Hobbes argued for authoritarian government, and Ayn Rand was a twentieth century philosopher. (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (B) is correct.
44. **D** The question which answer best describes John Knox's main argument. (A) is incorrect because Knox argues against any woman having a position of political authority. (B) is incorrect because while the author might agree with the sentiment, he does not specifically mention anything about women being weak and feeble. (C) is incorrect because Knox is not in favor of men and women having equality in the political realm. Therefore, (D) is correct.
45. **A** The question asks for the likely purpose behind Queen Elizabeth I's speech. (B) is incorrect because she acknowledges that the battle might result in the loss of English lives, including her own. (C) is incorrect because she mentions that she is willing to give her life along with those of her soldiers. (D) is incorrect because she talks about tyrants fearing her but not her own subjects. Therefore, (A) is correct.
46. **C** The question asks for the context in which John Knox's speech can best be understood. (A) is incorrect because Knox specifically argues against women in political roles. (B) is incorrect Knox was a Protestant, not a Catholic. (D) is incorrect because Knox's expulsion does not directly relate to the topic of the passage excerpted. Knox had

a history of bad relationships with three female queens who had reigned in England before the time of the writing of this passage. It can be assumed that part of his antipathy towards female leaders stemmed from that experience. Therefore, (C) is correct.

47. **A** The question asks what the authors of the excerpt feared. (B) is incorrect because the passage doesn't mention anything about racism (not to mention that most Dutch and French people in the seventeenth century belonged to the same race). (C) is incorrect because the author specifically mentions that Holland "produces no goods of its own." (D) is incorrect because the author thinks that the French have a disadvantage, not the Dutch. Therefore, (A) is correct.
48. **B** The question asks what the authors are referring to when they say that the Dutch immigrants to France enter "into a league with their fellow countrymen." (A) is incorrect because the authors are concerned with economics, not athletics. (C) is incorrect because the fight for civil liberties was not a concern among French merchants in the seventeenth century. (D) is incorrect because the authors are concerned with economics, not the flourishing of creativity. Therefore, (B) is correct.
49. **D** The question asks which statement was true of Dutch traders at the time of the writing of the passage. (A) and (B) are incorrect because the Dutch dominated the European trading scene at the time of the writing of this passage. (C) is incorrect because the Dutch did not have a lot of natural resources. Therefore, (D) is correct.
50. **A** The question asks about the motivations behind the creation of workhouses for the British poor in the nineteenth century. (B) and (C) are incorrect because the workhouses were created by the state, not mutual aid societies or religious groups. (D) is incorrect because the workhouses were designed to combat the plight of the urban poor, not to enhance the industrial position of Britain. Workhouses provided very basic social welfare programs for poor populations in overcrowded urban areas. Therefore, (A) is correct.
51. **D** The question asks about the author's comparison of "dirty scoundrels" to "peaceable and decent men." The comparison reflects a self-conscious awareness of class. "Dirty scoundrels" are represented as lower class than "peaceable and decent men" like the author. The growth of self-conscious social classes was a result of industrialization. The author's experience does not reflect the toils of daily life, a literal concern about hygiene, or a focus on hereditary background. (A), (B), and (C) are incorrect. Therefore, (D) is correct.
52. **D** This question asks to determine an accurate statement about the effect of social welfare programs on the quality of life for the working class. Overall, social welfare programs, such as workhouses, has a positive effect on the quality of life for the working poor by meeting subsistence needs. Social welfare programs like this were not designed for those people in a position to seek other employment. Participating in these programs did not significantly stigmatize the working poor. (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect. Therefore, (B) is correct.
53. **A** The question asks to identify the economic system demonstrated in passage. (B) is incorrect because Supply Side Economics focuses on increased production. (C) is incorrect because Trickle-Down Theory focuses on the relationship of the rich and the poor within a country. (D) is incorrect because the passage is focused on free market economic forces. Therefore, (A) is correct.
54. **C** The question asks to describe the main argument of the author in the excerpted passage from the Marshall Plan. (A) is incorrect because the Marshall Plan advocated government interference in economic systems. (B) is incorrect because the focus is on economic recovery, not international reputation. (D) is incorrect because the plan does not focus on providing aid to former Axis powers. The passage describes how aid would benefit Europe, with a particular focus on how helping Europe would be beneficial to the United States. Therefore, (C) is correct.
55. **D** The question asks what evidence supporters of the Marshall Plan could use to support their position. (A) and (B) are incorrect because the fact that the funds have not been repaid and that the Marshall Plan only represented a small increase in available aid would not support a positive interpretation of the Marshall Plan. (C) is incorrect because the Marshall Plan did prevent the spread of Communism to Western Europe. Areas that received Marshall Plan funds in Western and Central Europe funds experienced an extended period of economic growth. Therefore, (D) is correct.