

AP European History

4490

Readiness Assessment Test

Thank you for considering this course for your student. Here are some tips for success in the Readiness Assessment process.

* Please do not provide your student this assessment or its contents until you are ready for him or her to complete it in a single sitting with no books, notes, or outside help. It is intended to be a spot check of retained knowledge and skill.
* Make sure you have the latest version of this assessment. Ideally, please download it and have your student complete it within one week prior to enrollment.
* Completed Readiness Assessment materials for a course should be submitted immediately after you enroll in the course.
* **Readiness Assessment materials must be submitted by uploading from the Family Account in the Enrolled Courses view**. Readiness Assessment materials are not accepted through email.
* Visit Live Chat, or email TPS Support ([support@pottersschool.org](mailto:support@pottersschool.org)) for questions or assistance.

**Part I: Academic Background** (to be completed by the parent)

**Age/Grade**

1. How old will your student be as of **October 1st** of the academic enrollment year?
2. What grade will your student be in **at the start of this course**?

**Related Coursework**

1. Please provide the title of the most recently completed (or in-progress) course in the same subject area or related subject area that might help assess academic readiness for this course:

Course Name:

* 1. What is the student’s in-progress or final course grade (numeric grade if available)?
  2. What is the name of the course provider (e.g., online provider, taught at home, local college)?
  3. What is the name of the course curriculum (title and name of publisher of primary text if known)?
  4. Is the student on-track to complete the entire course/curriculum by the end of the current year (if in-progress)?
  5. How is the course evaluated? Is the work self-checked, parent-checked, or evaluated outside the home?
  6. What percentage (if any) of the student’s grade is based on assessments that are completed without access to notes or outside resources and completed in a single sitting without the opportunity for rework to improve the grade?

**Additional Background**

1. Is your student’s first language English or a different language? If different, what is his or her language background? (**Note:** Most TPS classes are designed for native English speakers, but we also provide support at several levels for students whose first language is not English.)
2. Is there additional information that might help us better know your student and understand his or her unique abilities and needs for the best course placement and academic outcome?

**Part II: AP Questionnaire** (to be completed by the student)

TPS wants to help each AP student achieve his or her individual AP exam goals. The following information allows us to better support you in accomplishing your goals.

1. Are you planning to take the AP exam associated with this course?
2. If you are planning to take the associated AP exam, what is your score goal?

**How do I decide my score goal?** AP exams are scored as 1-5, where scores of 4 or 5 are competitive and a scores of 3, 4, or 5 may receive credit from participating colleges. To see what credit is available from specific colleges for specific exam scores, please go to this site:

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/getting-credit-placement/search-policies>

1. If you are planning to take the associated AP exam, have you identified an exam site that offers this exam near you?

**Part III: Readiness Test** (to be completed by the student)

**Instructions**

Read the United States *Declaration of Independence* and the French *Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen* (located at the end of this document).

Then write an essay comparing (explaining what is alike or similar) and contrasting (explaining what is different) the two documents.

* Your essay should consist of 5 paragraphs.
* The first paragraph should state your thesis (arguable claim) and give a rough outline of your argument.
* The next three paragraphs should lay out your argument, using **specific examples from the texts** provided.
* Each of the body paragraphs should have a clear topic sentence supported by examples.
* Please avoid long quotations of documents; instead, summarize the contents as necessary.
* The final paragraph should be your conclusion, which sums up your argument and attempts to provide some commentary on the significance of what you are saying, basically answering the question, “So what?”

This assignment is open-ended; you may explain the stated purpose, the reasoning involved, the specific issues considered, all of these, or something else that interests you. There is no expectation that you have prior knowledge of either document or their historical context. There is not a single right or wrong answer.

The essay will be evaluated on whether you demonstrate the ability to:

* understand the text of historical documents.
* write a thesis statement responding to a prompt.
* support that thesis statement with specific evidence from the documents.
* write clear English sentences and paragraphs.
* construct a reasonable argument.

You are not expected to demonstrate knowledge beyond the documents provided.

[Type essay here]

**Background to the Documents**

In 1776, in the early days of the American Revolution, the Congress of representatives of Britain’s non-Canadian North American colonies met to deal with the difficulties they were experiencing under British rule. The previous year, fighting had broken out between colonial militia (local troops) and British army regulars (professional soldiers). After much debate and discussion, Congress issued the *Declaration of Independence*, explaining to the world (and to their own people) why they no longer would remain under the rule of George III, King of Great Britain.

A few years later, in 1789, in the early days of the French Revolution, the governing revolutionary body, the National Constituent Assembly, issued the *Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen*, outlining the principles they intended to follow for the government of France that they were attempting to reform.

Obviously, both documents were in some senses idealistic and aspirational because they expressed what their authors hoped their new governments would become. Both documents would, over time, become iconic expressions of the revolutions that gave birth to them.

**The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789)**

<https://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/rightsof.asp>

*The representatives of the French people, constituted into a National Assembly, considering that ignorance, forgetfulness or contempt of the rights of man are the sole causes of public misfortunes and of the corruption of governments, are resolved to expose, in a solemn declaration, the natural, inalienable and sacred rights of man, so that that declaration, constantly present to all members of the social body, points out to them without cease their rights and their duties; so that the acts of the legislative power and those of the executive power, being at every instant able to be compared with the goal of any political institution, are very respectful of it; so that the complaints of the citizens, founded from now on simple and incontestable principles, turn always to the maintenance of the Constitution and to the happiness of all.*

*In consequence, the National Assembly recognizes and declares, in the presence and under the auspices of the Supreme Being, the following rights of man and of the citizen:*

***Article I****- Men are born and remain free and equal in rights. Social distinctions can be founded only on the common good.*

***Article II****- The goal of any political association is the conservation of the natural and imprescriptible rights of man. These rights are liberty, property, safety and resistance against oppression.*

***Article III****- The principle of any sovereignty resides essentially in the Nation. No body, no individual can exert authority which does not emanate expressly from it.*

***Article IV****- Liberty consists of doing anything which does not harm others: thus, the exercise of the natural rights of each man has only those borders which assure other members of the society the enjoyment of these same rights. These borders can be determined only by the law.*

***Article V****- The law has the right to forbid only actions harmful to society. Anything which is not forbidden by the law cannot be impeded, and no one can be constrained to do what it does not order.*

***Article VI****- The law is the expression of the general will. All the citizens have the right of contributing personally or through their representatives to its formation. It must be the same for all, either that it protects, or that it punishes. All the citizens, being equal in its eyes, are equally admissible to all public dignities, places and employments, according to their capacity and without distinction other than that of their virtues and of their talents.*

***Article VII****- No man can be accused, arrested nor detained but in the cases determined by the law, and according to the forms which it has prescribed. Those who solicit, dispatch, carry out or cause to be carried out arbitrary orders, must be punished; but any citizen called or seized under the terms of the law must obey at once; he renders himself culpable by resistance.*

***Article VIII****- The law should establish only penalties that are strictly and evidently necessary, and no one can be punished but under a law established and promulgated before the offense and legally applied.*

***Article IX****- Any man being presumed innocent until he is declared culpable, if it is judged indispensible to arrest him, any rigor which would not be necessary for the securing of his person must be severely reprimanded by the law.*

***Article X****- No one may be disturbed for his opinions, even religious ones, provided that their manifestation does not trouble the public order established by the law.*

***Article XI****- The free communication of thoughts and of opinions is one of the most precious rights of man: any citizen thus may speak, write, print freely, except to respond to the abuse of this liberty, in the cases determined by the law.*

***Article XII****- The guarantee of the rights of man and of the citizen necessitates a public force: this force is thus instituted for the advantage of all and not for the particular utility of those in whom it is trusted.*

***Article XIII****- For the maintenance of the public force and for the expenditures of administration, a common contribution is indispensable; it must be equally distributed between all the citizens, according to their ability to pay.*

***Article XIV****- Each citizen has the right to ascertain, by himself or through his representatives, the need for a public tax, to consent to it freely, to know the uses to which it is put, and of determining the proportion, basis, collection, and duration.*

***Article XV****- The society has the right of requesting account from any public agent of its administration.*

***Article XVI****- Any society in which the guarantee of rights is not assured, nor the separation of powers determined, has no Constitution.*

***Article XVII****- Property being an inviolable and sacred right, no one can be deprived of private usage, if it is not when the public necessity, legally noted, evidently requires it, and under the condition of a just and prior indemnity.*

**Note:** In the *Declaration of Independence,* the word “state”, means an organized political entity, such as Germany or Panama; it does not mean a state in the sense of one of the political entities (e.g., Alaska) that make up the United States.

**Declaration of Independence (1776)**

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript>

***In Congress, July 4, 1776***

***The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,****When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.*

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.*

***[Here follows a long list of grievances against the King of Great Britain. You need not read all of these, but you should read a few, which are marked by underlining.]***

*He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.*

*He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.*

*He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.*

*He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.*

*He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.*

*He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.*

*He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.*

*He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.*

*He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.*

*He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.*

*He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.*

*He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.*

*He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:*

*For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:*

*For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:*

*For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:*

*For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:*

*For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:*

*For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences*

*For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:*

*For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:*

*For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.*

*He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.*

*He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.*

*He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.*

*He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.*

*He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.*

*In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.*

*Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our Brittish brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.*

***[Resume reading here.]***

*We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.*

***[56 signatures follow]***