

2017 AP® EUROPEAN HISTORY FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

1. Evaluate whether or not the Glorious Revolution of 1688 can be considered part of the Enlightenment.

Document 1

Source: John Evelyn, writer and founding member of the Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge, diary entry, 1688

7th October—Dr. Tenison [an Anglican minister] preached at St. Martin’s church, showing the Scriptures to be our only rule of faith, and its perfection above all traditions. After which, near 1,000 devout persons partook of the Communion. The sermon was chiefly a response to a sermon by a Jesuit, who the Sunday before had disparaged the Scripture and railed at our translation. Some who were present [on that Sunday] pulled the Jesuit out of the pulpit, and treated him very coarsely. Hourly expectation of William, the Prince of Orange’s invasion heightened to that degree, that his Majesty [James II] thought fit to dispense with all laws and in the meantime, he called over 5,000 Irish and 4,000 Scots soldiers, and continued to remove Protestants and put in Papists at Portsmouth harbor and other places of trust, and retained the Jesuits about him, increasing the universal discontent. It brought people to so desperate a pass, that they seemed passionately to long for and desire the landing of the Prince of Orange, whom they looked on to be their deliverer from Popish tyranny, praying incessantly for an east wind, which was said to be the only hindrance of his expedition [from the Netherlands] with a numerous army ready to make a descent.

Document 2

Source: King William III, declaration, October 10, 1688

The Declaration of His Highness William, by the Grace of God, Prince of Orange, etc., of the reasons inducing him to appear in arms in the Kingdom of England, and for preserving the Protestant religion, and for restoring the laws and liberties of England, Scotland, and Ireland:

We for our part will concur in everything that may procure the peace and happiness of that nation, which a free and lawful Parliament shall determine, since we have nothing before our eyes in this our undertaking but the preservation of the Protestant religion, the covering of all men from persecution for their conscience, and the securing to the whole nation the free enjoyment of all their laws, rights, and liberties, under a just and legal government.

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Document 3

Source: Excerpts from the English Bill of Rights, passed by Parliament and ratified by William III, 1689

Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons, being now assembled in a full and free representative of this nation, do in the first place (as their ancestors in like case have usually done) for the vindicating and asserting their ancient rights and liberties declare:

That the pretended power of suspending the laws or the execution of laws by royal authority without consent of Parliament is illegal;

That levying money for or to the use of the Crown by pretence of prerogative, without grant of Parliament, for longer time, or in other manner than the same is or shall be granted, is illegal;

That the raising or keeping of a standing army within the kingdom in time of peace, unless it be with consent of Parliament, is against law;

That the subjects which are Protestants may have arms for their defense suitable to their conditions and as allowed by law;

That the freedom of speech and debates or proceedings in Parliament ought not to be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of Parliament;

That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted;

And that for redress of all grievances, and for the amending, strengthening and preserving of the laws, Parliaments ought to be held frequently.

Document 4

Source: Gilbert Burnet, Anglican bishop and close friend of William III, sermon preached at the coronation ceremony of William III, April 1689

When the encouraging and promoting of a vigorous piety, and sublime virtue, and the explaining and propagating of true religion is the chief design of their rule; when impiety and vice are punished, and error is repressed; when the decency of the worship of God is kept up, without adulterating it with superstitions; when order is carried on in the Church of God, without tyranny; and above all when princes are in their own deportment [conduct], examples of the fear of God . . . and when it is visible that they honour those who fear the Lord, and that vile men are despised by them, then do they truly rule in fear of God.

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Document 5

Source: John Locke, English writer, *Two Treatises of Government*, 1689

The reason why men enter into society, is the preservation of their property; and the end why they choose and authorize a legislative power, is, that there may be laws made, and rules set, as guards and fences to the properties of all the members of the society, to limit the power, and moderate the dominion, of every part and member of the society: for since it can never be supposed to be the will of the society, that the legislative should have a power to destroy that which every one designs to secure, by entering into society, and for which the people submitted themselves to legislators of their own making; whenever the legislators endeavour to take away, and destroy the property of the people, or to reduce them to slavery under arbitrary power, they put themselves into a state of war with the people, who are thereupon absolved from any farther obedience, and are left to the common refuge, which God hath provided for all men, against force and violence. . . . the supreme executor, who having a double trust put in him, both to have a part in the legislative, and the supreme execution of the law, acts against both, when he goes about to set up his own arbitrary will as the law of the society.

Document 6

Source: Voltaire, French writer, *Letters on the English*, 1726–1729

The English are the only people upon earth who have been able to prescribe limits to the power of kings by resisting them; and who, by a series of struggles, have at last established that wise Government where the Prince is all powerful to do good, and, at the same time, is restrained from committing evil; where the nobles are great without insolence, though there are no vassals; and where the people share in the Government without confusion. . . . The English have doubtless purchased their liberties at a very high price, and waded through seas of blood to drown the idol of arbitrary power. Other nations have been involved in as great calamities, and have shed as much blood; but then the blood these other nations spilt in defense of their liberties only enslaved them the more.

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Document 7

Source: “William and Mary,” woodcut from a mid-eighteenth-century English children’s book, showing William III and his wife and coruler Queen Mary II

**XXVIII. WILLIAM the THIRD and
MARY the SECOND, from 1688 to 1702.**



**WILLIAM the hero, with MARIA mild,
(He James’s nephew, she his eldest child)
Fix’d freedom and the church, reform’d the coin;
Oppos’d the French, and settled Brunswick’s line.**

The Granger Collection, New York

The scroll in William’s hand is labeled “Bill of Rights.” The rhyming verse below the image reads: “William the hero, with Maria mild, / (He James’s nephew, she his eldest child) / Fix’d freedom and the church, reform’d the coin; / Oppos’d the French and settled Brunswick’s line.”*

** a reference to the principle that only a Protestant would be allowed to become ruler of Great Britain, officially adopted in 1701*

END OF DOCUMENTS FOR QUESTION 1

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