

AP U.S. History Mini-Test 1

Multiple-Choice Answers

1. (C)
Mercantilism, the pursuit of economic power through national self-sufficiency, was the dominant economic doctrine in Western Europe by 1660. This doctrine encouraged the state to encourage manufacturers, to develop and protect its own shipping, and to make use of colonies as sources of raw materials and markets for its manufactured goods.
2. (E)
All of the choices are utopian communities which evolved as part of the religious revivals, or the Second Great Awakening, of the 1820s, 1830s, and 1840s. But only one of those communities, Brooke Farm, was the source of the transcendentalist philosophy espoused by Thoreau, Melville, and others who lived and worked there. Brooke Farm focused on the importance of spiritualism over materialism. Members of the community lived a communal life-style and all shared in the upkeep of the community. The writers who lived there explored the workings of nature and the individual and became some of the most prominent U.S. writers of the nineteenth century. During their prime they were a part of what is now called the American Renaissance.
3. (A)
The Declaratory Act, whose passage was coupled with the defeat of the detested Stamp Act, stated that Parliament had the right to tax any English colony when it chose and as it chose. The fact that the colonists had no representatives to Parliament was denied by Parliament's belief that IT represented all English citizens whether they lived in England itself or in England's overseas colonies. Therefore, Parliament believed that it alone had the right to tax England's colonies and could do so at will. Coupling the passage of this act with the repeal of the Stamp Act blunted the American reaction because Americans were so busy celebrating the repeal of the Stamp Act, most ignored the implications of the Declaratory Act.
4. (E)
The establishment of penitentiaries in the 1840s reflected a dramatic shift in public opinion toward criminals. Up until this time, criminals tended to be seen as sinners. Punishments were usually public and corporal. Jails were seen as temporary holding facilities to house criminals until they could be tried and appropriately punished. The belief was that public punishment, or the fear of it, would prevent most people from criminal behavior and would deter criminals from repeating their offenses. There was no thought to rehabilitation beyond punishment. By the 1840s, many people had concluded that crime was a social disease that should be treated with education and rehabilitation. Penitentiaries were viewed as places where criminals could spend time in isolation, reflecting about their crimes and exploring how they could improve themselves for a

better future life. While penitentiaries were not a perfect solution, they represented a marked improvement over the public punishments that preceded them and a true shift toward a rehabilitation approach to crime. This shift came at about the same time people were reforming efforts to treat insanity. Again this shift was one that moved people away from an “isolate-them-and-treat-them-like-animals” approach to an approach of providing a caring, quiet environment where they hopefully could be treated and recover. The first sanitariums were intended to rehabilitate the insane, just as the first penal institutions were intended to rehabilitate criminals.

5. (B)
Boss Tweed’s moneybag and the dollar and cents signs indicate that political influence was up for sale. The cartoon does not say who was buying influence nor does it bring up the issue of efficiency.
6. (B)
The whole “taxation without representation” issue revolved around Parliament’s belief that its laws were sovereign (unchallengeable) in all parts of the empire, including the colonies. This sovereignty of parliamentary rule meant that Parliament could pass any taxes or laws in regard to the colonies and the colonies could not legally resist the enactment of these taxes or laws. The colonists, however, believed that without direct representation in Parliament, their rights as English citizens were being violated. In their view, the Parliament had no right to tax them or regulate them unless they were given direct parliamentary representation. Neither side was willing to compromise on the issue and without compromise, no solution to the problems related to this conflict could be developed.
7. (A)
In the presidential election of 1876, Samuel Tilden defeated his Republican opponent, Rutherford B. Hayes, in the popular vote by 250,000 votes. However, there were 20 contested votes in the electoral college. If Hayes received all the contested electoral votes, he would win the election by one vote in the Electoral College and he would gain the presidency. The matter was turned over to Congress, where a Republican-dominated commission awarded the disputed electoral votes to Hayes. The Senate ratified the commission’s decision, but the Democrats in the House threatened to use political means to gain Tilden’s victory through a House vote. Republicans negotiated the issue and the Compromise of 1877 was the result. Hayes got the presidency. Democrats received assurances that federal soldiers would be withdrawn from Southern states (effectively ending Reconstruction) and that blanket federal government support for Republicans in the South would end. This opened the door for Democrats to regain control in all the Southern states (they had already effectively regained control in all but three). None of the other choices listed in the question were in any way involved in the Compromise of 1877.

8. (C)

In 1848, the Seneca Falls women's rights convention, organized by Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, adopted a "Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions." This document was modeled after the Declaration of Independence in form and language.

9. (E)

The colonies at this time were overwhelmingly rural and children were most valuable as laborers to help run the family farms that dominated the communities. Males helped with the fieldwork and females helped with childrearing and household chores. Formal education did not provide children with any additional skills usable on the farm and deprived the farm of the child's labor while he or she was being educated. For most families, this was not a sensible trade-off. As a result, most children were taught basics so they could read the Bible, which was seen as the greatest teacher of the day, and write legibly. Anything beyond that was considered superfluous, and the only people who provided their children with extensive formal educations were those who were rich enough to afford it, as were many wealthy plantation owners in the South, or those who were using it as a status symbol.

There was no publicly funded education at the time, and the idea of publicly funded education was still years away. While education was seen as more essential for males than for females, because there was nothing, career wise, a female could do with a formal education, it was still seen as a luxurious extra even for males.

10. (B)

While Indian tribal religions differed in a number of ways, all worshipped many gods, a feature of polytheistic religions. Option (A) is incorrect as some tribes, such as those of the Iroquois Confederacy, conferred large responsibility on women, including the choice of male chiefs. Option (C) is incorrect, as all Indian tribes were polytheistic, not monotheistic. Only a few Indian tribes practiced human sacrifice, so Option (D) is incorrect. Option (E) is incorrect for the same reason.

11. (E)

The Trent Affair resulted from the overaggressive pursuit of two Confederate ambassadors to England by an American naval officer. The two Confederates, John Mason and James Slidell, were on their way to Europe aboard a British packet ship to become permanent envoys to England and France. The captain of the Union vessel, the *San Jacinto*, found out that the Confederate envoys were on the British vessel. He intercepted the British ship in international waters, stopping and boarding the vessel and removing the two Confederate envoys, who were returned as prisoners to the United States. The British vehemently protested the seizure as a violation of their maritime rights. They threatened war with the United States, which would have included recognition of the Confederacy, if the two diplomats were not returned. Many in the North were determined to keep the diplomats whether it meant war with Britain or not.

Fortunately, Lincoln had a more realistic assessment of the situation. He realized that the Union could not afford a war with England while simultaneously trying to subdue the Confederacy. He also realized that turning the diplomats over to England immediately would cause a firestorm of protest at home. So he stalled for time, posturing to the British to make it sound like the U.S. would never back down. After a few weeks, when tensions had subsided at home and people's attention had shifted to other matters, he quietly arranged the release of the two diplomats to the British. While the incident was a dangerous gaffe by the Union, and was a major short-term embarrassment, in the long-term, Lincoln's handling of the matter earned him much respect in Britain and laid the groundwork for better future relations between the two powers. It did not, however, prevent the Confederacy from purchasing several warships such as the Alabama from the British before the war was over.

12. (D)

The map shows the gains made by Britain stemming from the Treaty of Paris. The British extended their dominion, at the expense of the French, westward to the Mississippi River. France lost nearly all its North American possessions. Spain gained land from Mexico to the Mississippi, including the strategic port of New Orleans. The Portuguese had no land holdings in North America. As for the Native Americans, their disposition in the wake of the treaty would depend on whether they were allied with the British or the French. No treaty was signed between the British and the Indians, and animosity remained between the two groups.

13. (E)

Political machines and the politics of political bosses dominated the workings of city governments at the turn of the century. Many of these organizations stayed in power through bribery, graft, and other corrupt practices. In return, however, the machines took care of the interests of many of their most influential constituents. They provided many services that helped the poor survive, in return for support at the polls. Many reformers, mostly from the middle and upper classes, demanding changes to end the corruption, found themselves stymied at the polls by large blocks of poor and immigrant voters who supported the political machines. The machines were often successfully able to portray themselves as protectors of the poor who fought against upper-class reformers interested only in themselves.

While the political machines were able to enlist the support of some industrial leaders, and sometimes got indirect support from organized religion, they got little support from the middle class and virtually no support from wealthy landowners living outside the city.

14. (E)

The biggest failure of Reconstruction in the South was its failure to effectively change Southern social structure and eliminate the racism inherent within. When Reconstruction ended, the Republican governments which had run the South during Reconstruction were

universally voted out of office. When they were gone, the South was in many ways little different than it had been before the war. Most of the wealth was still concentrated in the hands of a few white landowners. While Blacks were no longer technically slaves, they owned no land. Various restrictions and lack of capital effectively prevented them from acquiring land. Without land and money, Blacks remained targets of white exploitation. New “black codes” limited their voting rights, education rights, property rights, and their rights to use public facilities. The passage of these new codes symbolized how little attitudes had changed. Blacks were still economic slaves, if not legal slaves, and lived in terror of white oppression. Whites still felt that Blacks were inferior and, in many cases, blamed Blacks (and Yankees) for the Civil War as well as every other problem experienced since the war. As a result, while the Civil War held the Union together and ended legalized slavery, it would be another 80 years after the end of Reconstruction before types of social changes hoped for at the start of Reconstruction could begin.

15. (A)

The architectural style depicted is known as the Romanesque style, and it was favored by America’s most renowned architect of the early nineteenth century, Thomas Jefferson. The building shown is the old state capitol building in Richmond, Virginia, which was designed by Jefferson and still stands. Its soaring front columns and undecorated facades, its narrow but deep floor plan, and its solid, simple, classical lines are typical of the Romanesque style. This style was quite popular during Jefferson’s time, largely because Jefferson favored it. It was supplanted by the similar, but more elegant, Greek Revival style which was favored by Benjamin Latrobe (B) and Dr. William Thornton (D). Charles Bullfinch (C) of Boston, another prominent early American architect, was known for his Georgian designs. William Jenney (E) was an American architect who lived in the second half of the nineteenth century and was responsible for using cast iron and steel to design and construct America's first skyscrapers.

16. (B)

Many legal scholars consider the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution the most important amendment. It mandates that the federal government must provide equal protection under the law for every American citizen. This amendment was drawn up by Congress during Andrew Johnson’s administration in an attempt to guarantee that civil rights legislation would be enforced. At the time, Johnson was accused, accurately, of not enforcing laws designed to protect the rights of freed blacks and former slaves. By passing this amendment, Congress hoped to guarantee enforcement of these laws. To ensure that the returning Southern states would not block overall ratification of the amendment, Congress mandated that states seeking readmission must ratify the amendment as a precondition for readmission.

17. (A)

The War of 1812 was really an outgrowth of the Napoleonic Wars in Europe. The U.S. attempted to remain neutral and trade with both Britain and France. This eventually led

to both Britain and France retaliating against U.S. ships, seizing those they accused of trading with their enemy. In addition, the British, desperately short of sailors to man the ships of their huge navy, began stopping U.S. ships at sea to impress sailors (mostly accused of being British navy deserters) to meet their manpower needs. These actions were insulting to most Americans, all the more so because under Jefferson's rule (1800–1808) the military had been so reduced that the United States could effectively do nothing to stop it. Economic embargoes against Britain and France hurt U.S. exporters as much or more than it hurt France or Britain. Increasing frustration at home led to charges of British backing of Indian tribes whose attacks in the Northwest Territory effectively blocked settlement north and west of the Ohio River. While there was some truth to these charges, they were greatly overblown. Also, many Americans believed that eventually Canada was destined to be a part of the United States. These people saw British actions as a wonderful excuse to declare war and grab Canada from Britain, while the bulk of British forces were occupied with Napoleon. The only choice listed that did not lead to the American declaration of war is choice (A). The British did not formally occupy any U.S. territory, outside of some outposts they illegally maintained in the Northwest Territory, before the war began. British soldiers did not land in Louisiana until December 1815, as the war was approaching its conclusion.

18. (C)
The principle of popular sovereignty was a central feature of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. Though championed by Senator Stephen A. Douglas (A) it had previously been put forward by 1848 Democratic presidential candidate Lewis Cass. A favorite policy of Democrats — not Whigs (D) — during the late 1840s and early 1850s, it proved a failure in solving the impasse over the status of slavery in the territories (E). It differed from the system of congressionally specified free and slave areas used in the Missouri Compromise (B).
19. (C)
During the period from 1835–1865 Southerners generally defended slavery as a positive benefit to society and even to the slaves themselves. That slavery was a necessary evil (A) and should be gradually phased out as the slaves were colonized outside the United States (D) was the attitude of an earlier generation of white Southerners, including Thomas Jefferson. That slavery was a national sin (E) and should be immediately abolished (B) was the view of the Abolitionists, a minority even in the North during this period.
20. (B)
The Newburgh Conspiracy was composed of army officers disgusted with a central government too weak to collect taxes to pay them and their troops. Betrayal of the plans for the fort at West Point (A) was Benedict Arnold's treason. Resistance to the collection of federal excise taxes in western Pennsylvania (C) took the form of the Whiskey Rebellion of 1791. New England's threat to secede should the War of 1812 continue (D) was made at the 1814 Hartford Convention. Burr's strange plot (E) came to nothing.

21. (C)
The most forceful Southern protest against the high protective tariffs of the first half of the nineteenth century came in 1832 when South Carolina claimed that it had nullified—suspended the operation of—the tariff laws within its boundaries. The Hayne-Webster Debate (A) dealt with this and related issues, and the resignation of Vice President John C. Calhoun (D) may have been at least in part influenced by disagreements over tariffs. The Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions (B) were a protest against the Alien and Sedition Acts of the late 1790s, not the tariff, and the “gag rule” (E) dealt with slavery.
22. (C)
Jackson did *not* object to the bank’s preventing inflation, though some of his followers may have. Jackson, on the other hand, desired a gold standard. He believed the bank allowed the economic power of the government to be wielded by private individuals (A), the bank’s directors. He believed it benefited this small and wealthy group, and their friends, at the expense of the rest of the country (E). He believed it could create economic hardship for the nation (D) and had in 1819; and he believed it threatened the integrity of the democratic system by using its influence in elections (B).
23. (E)
The largest impact on the reduction of inland freight rates during this period was created by the introduction of steamboats. Railroads (A) came somewhat later. Keelboats, flatboats (D), turnpikes (C), and canals (B) were of less importance.
24. (A)
The Free-Soil party’s main issue was a federal ban on the spread of slavery in the territories. Later in the decade the Free-Soil party was swallowed up by the Republican Party, which also espoused its chief issue as well as calling for a homestead act (B). Only the radical abolitionists during the 1850s called for the immediate and uncompensated abolition of slavery (C), just as after the Civil War it was only the most radical of the Republicans who called for providing the freed slaves with “forty acres and a mule” (D). During the 1850s it was Southerners who desired to annex Cuba (E), hoping it would become a slave state.
25. (D)
The Southern states did not attempt to reinstitute slavery, but some or all of them did refuse to repudiate the Confederate debt (A), elect former Confederates to high positions (B), refuse to grant Blacks the right to vote (C), and pass special “black codes” restricting the legal rights of Blacks (E), resulting in the imposition of harsh congressional Reconstruction despite Johnson’s efforts to prevent it.
26. (D)
The hostility of the fierce Iroquois helped keep the French out of what is now the United States. The French did establish a profitable fur trade in Canada (A), and Champlain did found a permanent settlement, Quebec, along the St. Lawrence (B) and did make it back to France alive (C). Instead of a British-French alliance against the Iroquois (E), what

developed was an alliance system that pitted the British and Iroquois against the French and Algonquins.

27. (A)

The XYZ Affair involved the demand of French foreign minister Talleyrand that he receive a bribe before he would meet with American envoys. Immediately following the War of Independence, the British did refuse to evacuate their forts on American territory, particularly on the northwestern frontier (B). In 1818 Andrew Jackson did lead an incursion into Spanish-held Florida (C) in pursuit of raiding Indians. The 1807 British seizure of American crewmen from a U.S. Navy warship in Chesapeake Bay (D) was the *Chesapeake-Leopard* Incident. Finally, Aaron Burr did indeed seem to have some sort of bizarre plot in mind during the first decade of the 1800s though nothing came of it (E).

28. (D)

The status of slavery in the territories proved the most divisive aspect of the slavery issue. Relatively little controversy surrounded the international slave trade (E), and Congress prohibited it in 1808, as soon as it was constitutionally empowered to do so. The status of slavery in the District of Columbia (A), the right to send antislavery literature through the mail (B), and the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law (C) were all highly controversial and divisive issues though ultimately not to the degree of the territorial issue that eventually led to civil war.

29. (C)

The Pre-emption Act provided that those who settled on government land would have first chance to buy it. Tyler did set a precedent for the vice president's becoming a full-fledged (rather than merely acting) president when the incumbent dies (D). The idea that the status of slavery in a territory should be decided by the settlers there (A) was popular sovereignty. Slave law pre-empted free law in disputes involving escaped slaves (B) by means of the Fugitive Slave Law, and that was the only case in which federal law pre-empted state law in matters pertaining to slavery (E).

30. (B)

The first policy toward the Plains Indians was simply to let them have the entire area, which was actually believed to be a desert. Later the policy changed to dividing the Indians between two large reservations (A), then to confining them to a number of small reservations (E), then to giving them their land in individual parcels (C), and then back to reservations again. The idea that Indians should be exterminated (D) was never a policy of the government but, unfortunately, was held by some individuals.

31. (A)

Contrary to myth, Confederate industry did a masterful job in producing weapons and ammunition for the Confederate military during the war. While it is true that the Confederates never had the abundance of weapons possessed by Union forces,

particularly in artillery, it was only near the end of the war, when Union forces had overrun many production centers and totally destroyed the South's transportation network, that severe shortages of ammunition and weapons developed. It is also true that in the beginning of the war Confederate industry could not arm everyone who volunteered for military service; the Union had that same problem. Most Southerners had their own weapons so that despite the lack of government-produced weapons, there was no shortage of available weapons for soldiers. The biggest problem faced by the Confederate armies in regard to weapons and ammunition was a lack of uniformity for the vast array of "home grown" weapons and ammunition used by their soldiers, not a shortage of weapons themselves.

32. (C)

Grant was an intensely loyal man who was, sadly, not the best judge of character in choosing his administrative appointees. During his first term in office, his administration was beset with financial scandals involving the vice president, Grant's brother-in-law, and a well-known financial entrepreneur named Jay Gould. In his second term, the "whiskey ring" scandal implicated Grant's private secretary. His secretary of war was implicated in a bribery scandal. While few believed Grant to be corrupt, Grant's loyalty to his corrupt associates tarnished his image in virtually everyone's eyes. It also crippled the effectiveness of his administration.

33. (C)

While the slavery issue had never died out, a series of compromises had smoothed over many of the underlying issues left unresolved throughout the 1830s and 1840s. With the acquisition of California, Texas, and the New Mexico Territory from Mexico, combined with the treaty giving the United States complete control of southern Oregon Territory, the whole slavery issue resurfaced like an open wound. Fierce debates would dominate the political scene over which states should be "slave states" or "free states." Some people desired popular sovereignty in which residents of a territory could decide for themselves if they wanted to allow slavery. Others, primarily Southerners, argued that such popular sovereignty was unconstitutional. The debates often turned violent, as was notably true in Kansas in the 1850s. Eventually, the slavery debate, reopened by the Mexican-American War, would lead to the separationism and secessionism in the South that sparked the Civil War.

34. (C)

Up until 1801, Spain had controlled the Louisiana Territory. While Spanish control theoretically threatened U.S. Mississippi River commerce and blocked westward U.S. expansion, in reality the Spanish kept the Mississippi open to American commerce. Also, Spain was a weak power whose future looked bleak. It was commonly believed that Louisiana could be "obtained" from Spain one way or another whenever it suited American purposes. However, in 1801 Spain secretly turned over control of Louisiana to Napoleon and the French. Napoleon had openly discussed a French empire in North

America, and in 1802 the Port of New Orleans was closed to American shipping. This precipitated a crisis for Jefferson. A French empire blocking U.S. westward expansion was unacceptable as was French blocking of U.S. trade along the Mississippi. Jefferson considered joining with England in an effort to drive out the French militarily, but decided to try negotiations first. Due to a variety of factors, Napoleon decided the vast Louisiana territory was not worth the cost of possession and maintenance. He thereby stunned American negotiators by offering the entire Louisiana Territory to the U.S. for approximately four cents an acre (\$15 million). The purchase secured U.S. trading rights along the Mississippi and opened up the trans-Mississippi West to American exploration and expansion.

35. (C)

In the 1830s and 1840s, the Democrats supported the Jeffersonian principles of limited power to the federal government. They felt that what power the government wielded should be exercised at the state and local level. Democrats distrusted a strong, centralized government and opposed policies which would give the federal government too much control, such as a national bank, protective tariffs, or government support for private industry. Their opponents, the Whigs, favored all of these policies. The Whigs believed in using the power of the federal government to help build the country and expand the nation's economy. The Whigs supported policies favored by business owners, the middle class and the wealthy.

36. (A)

The doctrine of nullification was developed in South Carolina as a means of protecting residents from what they saw as the "tyranny of the majority." This doctrine claimed that individual states could choose to ignore federal mandates or laws if they found those laws offensive or unfair to their interests. This issue became a crisis in 1832 when South Carolina invoked nullification in regard to an unpopular federal tariff. Andrew Jackson forced the tariff to be collected and some South Carolinians began discussing secession. The crisis was resolved through the passage of a compromise tariff leading to the repeal of the nullification law by South Carolina. While a more serious crisis had been averted, this incident set the stage for further talk of secessionism as the slavery issue escalated tensions throughout the 1840s and 1850s.

37. (E)

Innovations by Eli Whitney and Simeon North in the use of inter-changeable parts to produce small arms for the military pioneered the beginnings of the machine tool industry. The use of precision-engineered, high-quality interchangeable parts led to the mass production of a wide variety of high-quality products not previously available to consumers. This brought the United States slowly but steadily into the Industrial Revolution and laid the groundwork for the American manufacturing colossus that emerged by the end of the nineteenth century.

38. (A)

The Carolinas were granted to supporters of the Stuarts as a reward for their loyalty during the Stuarts' exile during the English civil war. With the Stuarts' restoration to the throne, eight courtiers loyal to the Stuarts were granted proprietorship of the land extending from Virginia to Florida.

39. (D)

William Morgan, an ex-Freemason, planned to write a book detailing problems with and unfavorable activities involving members of the Masonic movement. Before the book could be published, Morgan was kidnapped and never seen nor heard from again. People commonly assumed that the Freemasons had killed him to prevent him from exposing their activities. Since the Masons tended to be secretive, they never publicly refuted the charges, convincing even more people of their guilt in the affair. Since the secrecy of Freemasonry was seen by many as un-American and undemocratic, the Morgan Affair confirmed people's suspicions and led to an anti-Masonic movement that pitted the poor (mostly anti-Masons) against the rich (mostly Masons). It bred distrust of political leaders (mostly Masons) by common citizens who now believed that their political leaders and the wealthy in general were involved in some type of elaborate Freemason plot to subvert the government from within and take over the country. Anti-Masons were very active politically, being the first political group to use political conventions to nominate their candidates. They achieved only limited support as an independent political party and they eventually supported the reform-minded platform of the Whigs, whose views were similar to the views of most anti-Masons.

40. (D)

While smuggling (A) was a problem, most smuggling was designed to obtain goods without paying stiff English tariffs. As such, smuggling was a problem for the English, but in many ways helped the colonial economy in America. The colonies had no trade surplus (B) at this time. In fact, the situation was just the opposite. By 1760, the English colonies had amassed a trade deficit of over 2 million British pounds (sterling), a huge debt for that time. Although the colonial economy was exporting nearly all the excess agricultural goods it could produce, the colonies had developed a huge appetite for fine quality British manufactured goods. This appetite was leading to such massive imports of English goods to the colonies that the fledgling, mostly agricultural, colonial economy could not keep pace. This imbalance led to a shortage of "hard" cash to pay for the imported goods, creating severe problems keeping the economy solvent. Thus, answer (D) describes the biggest problem with the colonial economy.