

Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program

TCAP

Social Studies Grade 8 Practice Test

Student Name

Teacher Name



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Test Administrator Instructions:

This practice test has one subpart. It is recommended that you print one copy of this practice test and pull the answer key before copying and distributing the practice test to your students. The answer key is found at the end of the practice test.

There will not be an operational social studies test for students in grades 3–8 in 2016–17. However, all students will participate in a mandatory social studies field test. Testing times for the field test will be approximately 50 minutes. This field test will be administered during the same window as the operational assessments at the end of the school year. The field test will not have a written response portion.

Directions

This Practice Test booklet contains multiple-choice items in Grade 8 Social Studies. You must write your answers to the practice test items on your separate answer document.

You may use this test booklet for scratch paper or to make notes. However, you must write your answers on your separate answer document to receive credit. Nothing you write in this test booklet will be scored.

- 1.** The list below describes one of the English colonies in America.

- intended to be settled by debtors from overcrowded English prisons
- conceived as a means of prison reform
- organized by James Oglethorpe

Which phrase describes another purpose of the colony described by the information on the list?

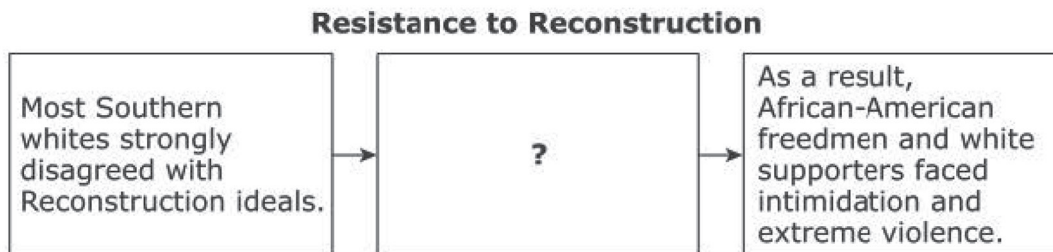
- A.** to offer land to indentured servants
- B.** as a barrier from Spanish expansion
- C.** as a financial investment for the English king
- D.** to protect colonists against American Indian conflicts

2. The list below reflects some interactions between the British government and the colonies in America from 1721 to 1754.

- Followed policy of salutary neglect
- Allowed experiments with self-government
- Allowed widespread ownership of land

Based on the items on the list and your knowledge of early colonial history, which outcome was prompted by these interactions?

- A.** The policies encouraged colonists to join militias.
- B.** The policies required economic control over the colonists.
- C.** The policies encouraged patterns of individualism among the colonists.
- D.** The policies forced colonists to move westward in search of new opportunities.
3. The diagram below relates to events after the Civil War.



Which statement completes the diagram?

- A.** The Supreme Court accepted “separate but equal” laws.
- B.** The Civil Rights Act of 1875 was overturned.
- C.** The ratification of the 14th Amendment.
- D.** The Ku Klux Klan rose to power.

4. Which statement would have been made by a Federalist during the debate over ratification of the U.S. Constitution?
- A. Rejection of the Constitution would result in civil disorder.
 - B. Guarantees of individual rights should be in the Constitution.
 - C. The Constitution only represents the interests of the wealthy.
 - D. The Constitution gives too much power to the central government.
5. The excerpt is about *The Liberator* and its publisher.

William Lloyd Garrison (1805–1879) issued the first number of *The Liberator* on January 1, 1831. The radical tone of the paper was unprecedented because it labeled slave-holding a crime and called for immediate abolition. When the Nat Turner rebellion on August 1831 escalated Southern fears of slave uprisings, some Southern states passed laws making circulation of *The Liberator* a crime and called for prosecution of Garrison.

Source: Public Domain/Library of Congress

Which statement identifies one impact of the publication of *The Liberator*?

- A. Congress passed a law immediately freeing slaves.
- B. Congress passed a law condemning slave uprisings.
- C. *The Liberator* provided justification for militant abolition actions.
- D. *The Liberator* provided justification for returning fugitive slaves to slave owners.

6. The statements below refer to the First Great Awakening of the 1730s.

Statement 1: American churches must promote scientific thought over religious fervor.

Statement 2: American churches should focus on the declining morals.

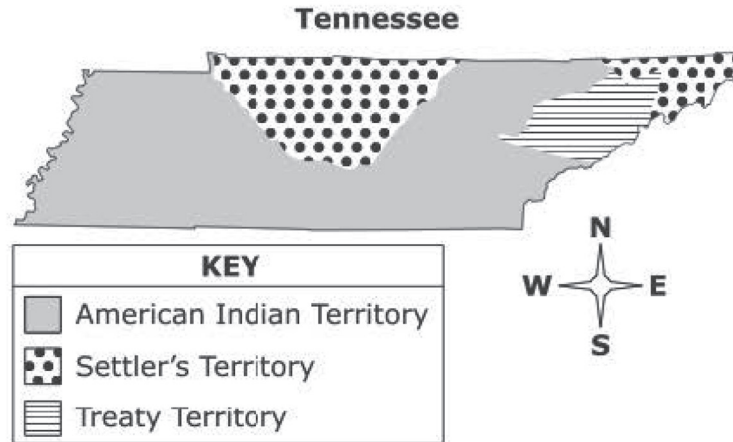
Statement 3: American churches must strictly stay on the religious path begun by persecuted Puritans.

Statement 4: The only way to achieve Christian conversion is by practicing the beliefs of the Church of England.

Based on your knowledge of early colonial history, which statement identifies a goal of the First Great Awakening?

- A. statement 1
- B. statement 2
- C. statement 3
- D. statement 4

7. The map below illustrates the outcome of the Treaty of Holston (1791).



Which statement explains the outcome of this land settlement treaty?

- A. It resulted in peace with the Cherokee.
 - B. It resulted in the Chickasaw moving west.
 - C. It allowed construction of the Natchez Trace.
 - D. It allowed the shipment of goods along the Mississippi River.
8. The excerpt below is from the Northwest Ordinance of 1787.

Article the Sixth. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.

Source: Public Domain/U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

Why were people who were opposed to slavery dissatisfied with this article?

- A. It outlawed both slavery and involuntary servitude.
- B. It allowed escaped slaves to be captured and returned to slavery.
- C. It required residents to pay for the capture and return of escaped slaves.
- D. It allowed convicted criminals to be placed into servitude as punishment.

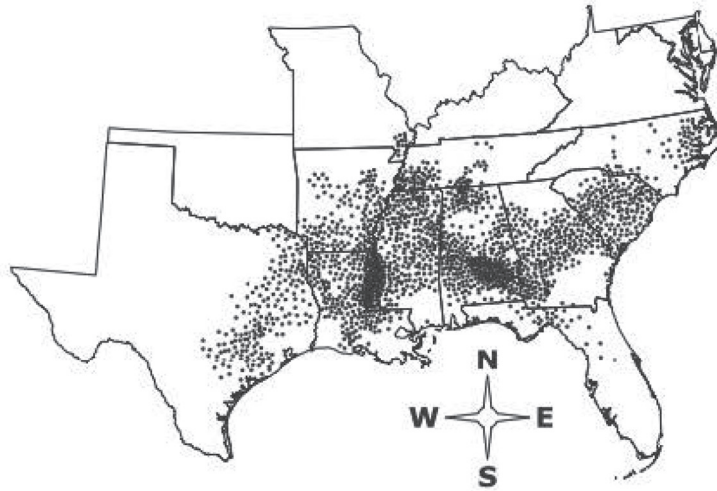
9. What was a **main** difference between the Reconstruction plan outlined by President Lincoln and submitted to Congress by President Johnson and the plan of Radical Republicans?
- A. The Presidential plan allowed all former Confederate soldiers to vote.
 - B. The Presidential plan blocked all former slaves from holding public offices.
 - C. The Radical Republicans' plan divided the Southern states into military districts.
 - D. The Radical Republicans' plan required military leaders to revise state constitutions.
10. The list below describes a leader who came to the New World in 1620.

- ?
- Governor, Plymouth Colony
- Author: Of Plymouth Plantation

Which term completes the list?

- A. John Winthrop
- B. James Oglethorpe
- C. Peter Stuyvesant
- D. William Bradford

- 11.** The map below shows cotton production in southern states in 1860. Each dot represents 2,000 bales of cotton.



According to the map, which three states produced the most cotton in 1860?

- A.** Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi
- B.** Arkansas, Tennessee, and Kentucky
- C.** Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina
- D.** Texas, Virginia, and North Carolina

- 12.** The excerpt below is from a letter written in 1777 from Benjamin Franklin to General George Washington.

“Sir,
“The gentleman, who will have the honor of waiting upon you with this letter, is . . . Lieutenant-General in the King of Prussia’s service. . . . He goes to America with a true zeal for our cause, and a view of engaging in it, and rendering it all the service in his power. He is recommended to us by two of the best judges of military merit in this country . . . who have long been personally acquainted with him, and interest themselves in promoting his voyage, from the full persuasion that the knowledge and experience he has acquired by twenty years’ study and practice in the Prussian school may be of great use in our armies. . . .”

“B. Franklin.”

—*The Writings of George Washington*, Volume V, Part II, 1834

Source: Public Domain

How did the person discussed in the letter contribute to the outcome of the Revolutionary War?

- A.** by writing propaganda that raised the spirits and morale of the Continental Army
 - B.** by conducting training that improved the skills and discipline of the Continental Army
 - C.** by taking part in a conspiracy aimed at helping the British Army capture a strategic fort
 - D.** by winning a battle that helped stop the British Army from capturing the western frontier
- 13.** Which event made John Sutter an important figure in U.S. history?
- A.** the publication of a Boston newspaper against slavery
 - B.** the exploration of the southern part of the Louisiana Purchase
 - C.** the discovery of gold and the start of the Californian Gold Rush
 - D.** the opening of a textile mill and the start of the American Industrial Revolution

- 14.** The excerpt below is from the Northwest Ordinance of 1787.

These republics . . . shall be formed . . . to provide . . . for the establishment of States, and permanent government therein, and for their admission to a share in the federal councils on an equal footing with the original States. . . .

The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus, and of the trial by jury. . . . All fines shall be moderate; and no cruel or unusual punishments shall be inflicted. No man shall be deprived of his liberty or property, but by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land. . . .

Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and, in their property, rights, and liberty, they shall never be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorized by Congress. . . .

There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided, always, That any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any one of the original States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed.

Source: Public Domain

Which statement describes an important provision in this excerpt from the Northwest Ordinance?

- A.** It allowed military actions against American Indians.
- B.** It included ideas that foreshadowed the Bill of Rights.
- C.** It gave new states more freedoms than older states.
- D.** It established the principle of equal rights for all.

- 15.** The excerpt below is from the inaugural address of President James K. Polk in 1845.

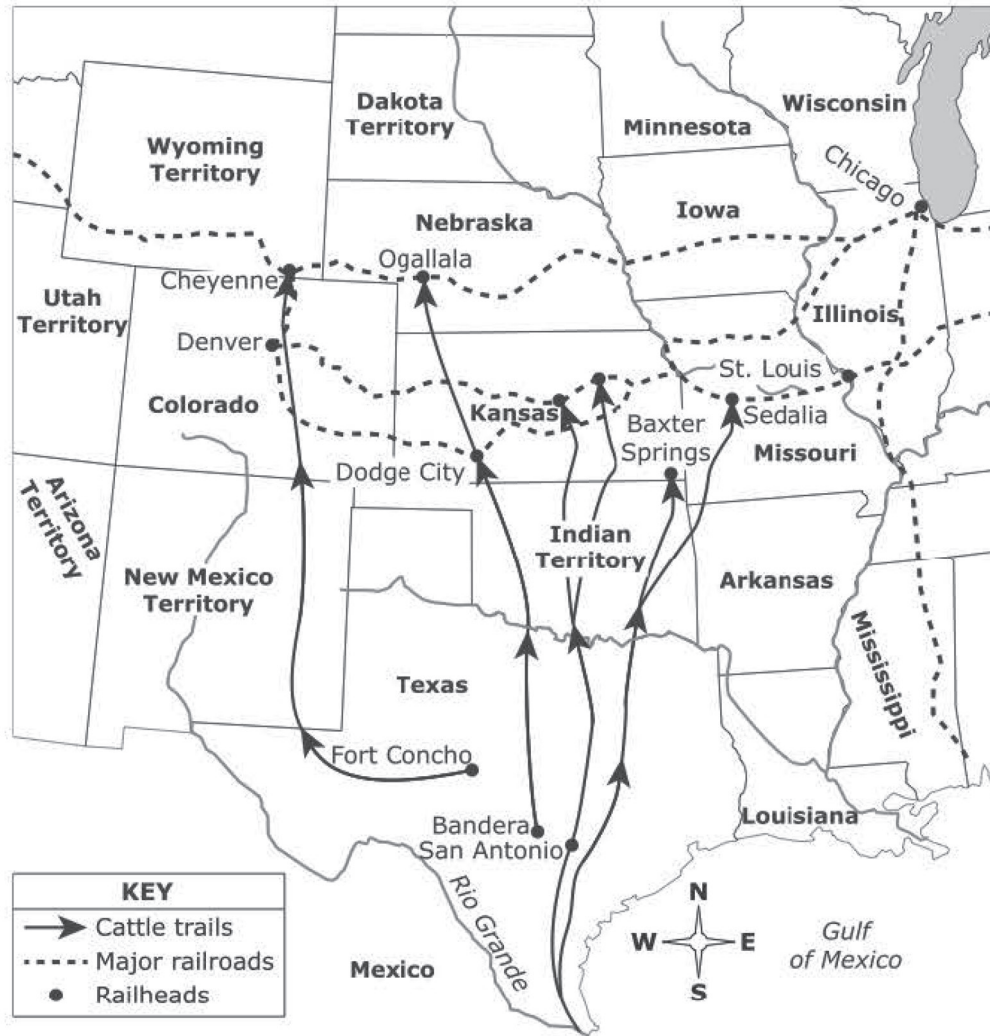
In the earlier stages of our national existence the opinion prevailed with some that our system of confederated States could not operate successfully over an extended territory, and serious objections have at different times been made to the enlargement of our boundaries. These objections were earnestly urged when we acquired Louisiana. Experience has shown that they were not well founded. . . . New States have been admitted into the Union; new Territories have been created and our jurisdiction and laws extended over them. As our population has expanded, the Union has been cemented and strengthened. As our boundaries have been enlarged and our agricultural population has been spread over a large surface, our federative system has acquired additional strength and security. It may well be doubted whether it would not be in greater danger of overthrow if our present population were confined to the comparatively narrow limits of the original thirteen States than it is now that they are sparsely settled over a more expanded territory.

Source: Public Domain

Based on this excerpt and your knowledge of U.S. history, which statement predicts how territorial expansion would likely proceed in the United States into the 20th century?

- A.** The United States would continue to acquire territory.
- B.** The United States would advocate against the acquisition of colonies.
- C.** The United States would be satisfied with territorial expansion to the Pacific Ocean.
- D.** The United States would return territory to American Indians east of the Mississippi.

16. The map below shows some major cattle trails and rail lines of the 19th century.



How did cattle trails affect urban development in the West?

- A. The trails ended the economic success of small towns.
- B. The towns at the ends of trails became major shipping centers.
- C. The use of trails encouraged urban development throughout the region.
- D. The use of trails influenced urban development far from the railroad path.

17. Why did President James Monroe issue the Monroe Doctrine in 1823?
- A. Many British military leaders called for the invasion of Latin America.
 - B. Many Latin American countries had recently become independent from Spain.
 - C. European nations had entered into a number of wars involving conflicting religious groups.
 - D. Previous presidents had urged the United States to ally themselves with European nations.
18. The table below contains data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

| Census Year | Slaves | Percent Increase |
|-------------|-----------|------------------|
| 1790 | 697,897 | ----- |
| 1800 | 893,041 | 27.97 |
| 1810 | 1,191,364 | 33.40 |
| 1820 | 1,538,038 | 28.79 |
| 1830 | 2,009,043 | 30.61 |
| 1840 | 2,487,455 | 23.81 |
| 1850 | 3,204,313 | 28.82 |
| 1860 | 3,953,760 | 23.39 |

Source: Public Domain/U.S. Census Bureau

Based on the information in the table and your knowledge of U.S. history, which statement **best** explains a reason for the statistics shown in the table?

- A. Many captured people in the United States became slaves.
- B. More slaves were needed as the cotton industry expanded.
- C. The growth of industry encouraged the increase of the slave population.
- D. The slave population rose as territories were added to the United States.

- 19.** The fictional headline below relates to one of the most important events in the recognition of human rights.



Which statement describes the impact of the event in the headline?

- A.** Foreign merchants gained the right to open shops.
- B.** Colonists had the right to claim American Indian lands.
- C.** Colonists had more freedom to criticize government officials.
- D.** Royal governors had unrestricted power to request British troops.

20. The image below from 1876 shows the Pilgrims landing at Plymouth, Massachusetts, on December 22, 1620.



Source: Public Domain/Library of Congress

Based on this image and your knowledge of the Pilgrims, which statement contrasts the lifestyle of these colonists to those of other early settlers?

- A. The Pilgrims once had a more peaceful interaction with American Indians.
- B. The Pilgrims soon formed diverse Protestant congregations.
- C. The Pilgrims were soon hampered by a lack of leadership.
- D. The Pilgrims were prepared to farm the fertile soil.

- 21.** The excerpt below is from an 1846 congressional proposal regarding the acquisition of territory.

Provided that, as an express and fundamental condition to the acquisition of any territory from the Republic of Mexico, by the United States, by virtue of any treaty which may be negotiated between them, and to the use by the Executive of the monies herein appropriated, neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory, except for crime whereof the party shall be first duly convicted.

—Wilmot Proviso

Source: Public Domain/U.S. National Archives and Record Administration

Based on your knowledge of history, which part of the proviso caused it to fail to become law?

- A.** the use of presidential funds for the land
- B.** the ban on the spread of slavery to the territory
- C.** the acquisition of territory from the Republic of Mexico
- D.** the requirement to negotiate the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

22. The excerpt below describes an event from Geronimo's life.

In the summer of 1858, being at peace with the Mexican towns as well as with all the neighboring Indian tribes, we went south into Old Mexico to trade. Our whole tribe (Bedonkohe Apaches) went through Sonora toward Casa Grande, our destination, but just before reaching that place we stopped at another Mexican town called by the Indians "Kas-ki-yeh." Here we stayed for several days, camping just outside the city. Every day we would go into town to trade, leaving our camp under the protection of a small guard so that our arms, supplies, and women and children would not be disturbed during our absence.

Late one afternoon when returning from town we were met by a few women and children who told us that Mexican troops from some other town had attacked our camp, killed all the warriors of the guard, captured all our ponies, secured our arms, destroyed our supplies, and killed many of our women and children. . . . When all were counted, I found that my aged mother, my young wife, and my three small children were among the slain. . . . I silently turned away and stood by the river. How long I stood there I do not know, but when I saw the warriors arranging for a council I took my place.

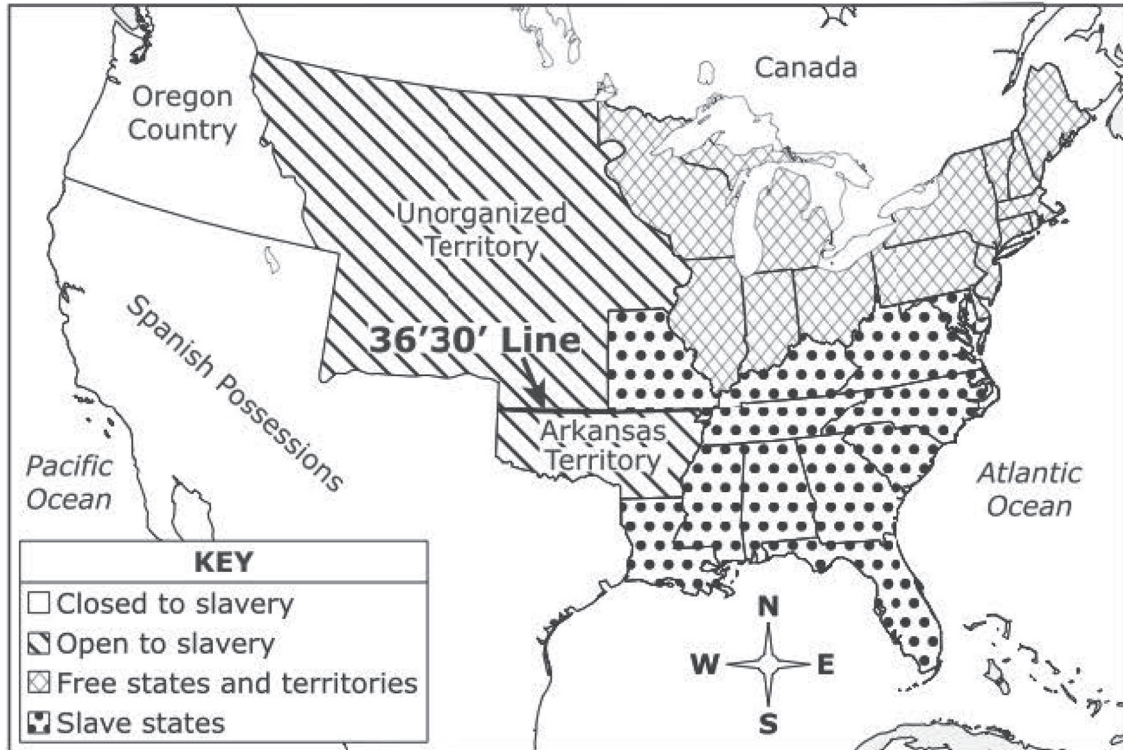
—Geronimo's *Story of His Life*, 1906

Source: Public Domain

Using the excerpt and your knowledge of Geronimo's life, which statement describes Geronimo's reaction to the event described in this excerpt?

- A. He surrendered to the Mexican army.
- B. He began a series of raids in revenge.
- C. He moved the tribe north across the border.
- D. He filed a lawsuit against the Mexican army.

23. The map below shows divisions of the United States before the Civil War.



Which statement describes an outcome of the law that created the divisions shown on the map?

- A. It set the precedent for the eventual abolition of slavery.
 - B. It became the law which supported the Dred Scott decision.
 - C. It allowed western states to vote on whether to be free or slave states.
 - D. It set the precedent that Congress could make laws attempting to regulate slavery.
24. What effect did the Transylvania Purchase have on the Watauga settlement?
- A. It led to the Watauga Petitions.
 - B. It improved relations with the Cherokee.
 - C. It provided protection against attack by the British.
 - D. It contributed to the founding of the Watauga Association.

25. The excerpt below is from *Dred Scott v. Sandford* issued March 6, 1857.

4. A free negro of the African race, whose ancestors were brought to this country and sold as slaves, is not a "citizen" within the meaning of the Constitution of the United States.

5. When the Constitution was adopted, they were not regarded in any of the States as members of the community which constituted the State, and were not numbered among its "people or citizen." Consequently, the special rights and immunities guaranteed to citizens do not apply to them. And not being "citizens" within the meaning of the Constitution, they are not entitled to sue in that character in a court of the United States, and the Circuit Court has no jurisdiction in such a suit.

6. The only two clauses in the Constitution which point to this race, treat them as persons whom it was morally lawful to deal in as articles of property and to hold as slaves. . . .

8. A State, by its laws passed since the adoption of the Constitution, may put a foreigner or any other description of persons upon a footing with its own citizens, as to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by them within its dominion, and by its laws. But that will not make him a citizen of the United States, nor entitle him to sue in its courts. . . .

9. The change in public opinion and feeling in relation to the African race, which has taken place since the adoption of the Constitution, cannot change its construction and meaning.

Source: Public Domain/U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

Based on the excerpt and your knowledge of U.S. history, which question was the basis of the Court's decision?

- A. whether slavery should be allowed in the United States
- B. whether the circuit court can make decisions dealing with slavery
- C. whether the Supreme Court has the authority to address the question of slavery
- D. whether a person of African descent becomes a citizen of the United States by moving to a state that prohibits slavery

26. The excerpts below are from the Charter of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1629, and the New England Articles of Confederation, 1643.

Charter of the Massachusetts Bay Colony

AND, further our Will and Pleasure is, and We do hereby . . . declare . . . That all . . . the Subjects . . . which shall go to and inhabit within the said Lands . . . be granted, and every of their Children which shall happen to be born there . . . shall have and enjoy all liberties . . . of free and natural Subjects within any of the Dominions . . . as if they and every of them were borne within the Realme of England. . . .

New England Articles of Confederation

Wherefore it is fully agreed and concluded by . . . the parties . . . and they jointly and severally do . . . agree . . . that they all . . . henceforth be called by the name of the United Colonies of New England.

2. The said United Colonies for themselves and their posterities do jointly . . . enter into a firm and perpetual league of friendship and amity for offence and defence. . . .

3. It is further agreed that the Plantations which at present are or hereafter shall be settled within the limits of Massachusetts shall be forever under . . . Massachusetts . . . and that Plymouth, Connecticut, and New Haven shall each of them have like peculiar jurisdiction and government within their limits. . . .

Source: Public Domain

Which idea in these documents was **most** responsible for future problems?

- A. the granting to colonists the rights and privileges of British citizens
- B. the focus on plans for the New England colonies to work together for defense
- C. the ruling that local governments will have the power to execute and oversee local laws
- D. the requirement that settlements remain under the jurisdiction of the colonies where they originated

27. The list below includes some important people in Texas history.

- James Bowie
- William Travis
- David Crockett
- James Bonham

What do the people on the list have in common?

- A.** They were state governors.
- B.** They were western explorers.
- C.** They were defenders of the Alamo.
- D.** They were members of the Old Three Hundred.

- 28.** This excerpt below is from President Abraham Lincoln’s Second Inaugural Address in 1865.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago, all thoughts were anxiously directed to . . . civil-war. All dreaded it—all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, . . . agents were in the city seeking to destroy it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union, and divide effects, by negotiation. Both parties deprecated war; but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive; and the other would accept war rather than let it perish. And the war came.

One eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the Southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war. . . . The government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war, the magnitude, or the duration, which it has already attained. . . . Both read the same Bible, and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare ask a just God’s assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men’s faces, but let us judge not that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered; that of neither had been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. . . . He gives to both North and South, this terrible war. . . . Fondly do we hope—ferently do we pray—that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. . . .

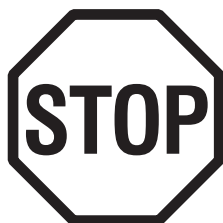
With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation’s wounds; . . . to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace.

Source: Public Domain/U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

Which statement describes President Lincoln’s message in this excerpt?

- A.** Slavery was not a main cause of the war.
- B.** God favored the North to win the conflict.
- C.** The spread of slavery into the territories caused the war.
- D.** The South should not be punished for disrupting the Union.

- 29.** Why were the Alien and Sedition Acts an important issue during the 1800 presidential election?
- A.** because they made it easier for immigrants to vote
 - B.** because they seemed to conflict with freedom of speech
 - C.** because they caused a problem with the electoral process
 - D.** because they established an embargo interrupting free trade
- 30.** Which statement identifies the significance of the Battle of Shiloh?
- A.** It was the first major land battle between Northern and Southern troops.
 - B.** It was a battle that helped General Stonewall Jackson earn his nickname.
 - C.** It was the Civil War battle in which the armies suffered the most casualties.
 - D.** It was a devastating battle that helped the Union gain control of the Mississippi River.



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Social Studies Practice Test Questions

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