

## AP U.S. History Mini-Test 1

### Multiple-Choice Questions

1. The fundamental goal of mercantilism in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries was
  - (A) to eliminate the obstacles to free trade among the countries of Europe.
  - (B) to have “mother” countries serve as a source of raw materials and the colonies as a source of manufactured goods.
  - (C) to limit foreign imports and to encourage a favorable balance of trade.
  - (D) to encourage wealthy nations to provide economic assistance to the developing areas of the world.
  - (E) to discourage the growth of economic nationalism.
  
2. Henry David Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Fenimore Cooper, Herman Melville, Margaret Fuller, and Theodore Parker were all involved in developing the transcendentalist philosophy of the
  - (A) Shaker community in New Lebanon, New York.
  - (B) Mormon community in Palmyra, New York.
  - (C) New Harmony community in Indiana.
  - (D) Oneida community in upstate New York.
  - (E) Brooke Farm community in Roxbury, Massachusetts.
  
3. Parliament claimed the right to tax and legislate for England’s American colonies whenever it desired, without direct American representation in Parliament, through passage of
  - (A) the Declaratory Act.
  - (B) the Proclamation of 1763.
  - (C) the Townshend Acts.
  - (D) the Intolerable Acts.
  - (E) the Currency Act.
  
4. The establishment of penitentiaries during the 1840s reflected
  - (A) a public desire to completely remove criminals from public view and permanently separate them from society so women and children would not be offended by having to look at them.
  - (B) a new attitude by the public that criminals were sinners who were beyond redemption; therefore, they should be forced into isolation to protect society from their depredations.
  - (C) a new attitude that emphasized more intense corporal punishment for criminals rather than the old religious-based efforts which had emphasized forgiveness.

- (D) the shortage of space to house criminals during the massive crime waves that surged through East Coast cities beginning in 1842.
- (E) a new attitude that looked upon criminals as misguided, in need of help, and penitentiaries were designed to help these misguided souls reform.

5. This 1871 cartoon by Thomas Nast suggests which of the following?



- (A) Justice prevails in New York.
  - (B) Political influence is sold for cash.
  - (C) The wealthy control New York politics.
  - (D) New York government is inefficient.
  - (E) The people are being well-served by New York government.
6. The key issue that prevented the American colonists from resolving their problems with England without open rebellion was
- (A) the sovereignty of King George III over the colonies.
  - (B) the sovereignty of Parliament's edicts over the colonies.
  - (C) the stationing of British soldiers on American soil.
  - (D) American desire for total independence from Britain.
  - (E) the use of boycotts by American colonists to resist taxes passed by Parliament.
7. The Compromise of 1877 resulted in
- (A) the ascension of Republican Rutherford B. Hayes to the presidency in return for assurances that what was left of Reconstruction in the South would be ended.
  - (B) the division of the Dakota Territory into North Dakota and South Dakota.

- (C) government financing for a Southern transcontinental railroad route in return for financial grants allowing the completion of the Great Northern Railroad from Minnesota to the Pacific Northwest.
  - (D) the ascension of Republican Rutherford B. Hayes to the presidency in return for the passage of an Amnesty Act which would pardon former Confederate soldiers, allowing them to regain their voting rights.
  - (E) the formal separation of Virginia and West Virginia and the official acceptance of statehood for West Virginia.
8. The statement that “all men and women are created equal” and that “the history of mankind is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations on the part of man toward woman, having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over her....” was issued by the
- (A) organizers of the National Organization of Women (NOW).
  - (B) United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in support of women’s suffrage.
  - (C) Seneca Falls women’s rights convention in its “Declaration of Sentiments and Resolution.”
  - (D) supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).
  - (E) National Women’s Suffrage Association and the American Women’s Suffrage Association in a joint unity resolution.
9. In the English colonies in the mid-eighteenth century, formal education beyond minimal reading and writing skills was considered
- (A) essential for both males and females.
  - (B) essential for males but not for females.
  - (C) essential for the children of poor colonists so the children would have a better chance of obtaining wealth.
  - (D) something every colonial government should provide for its colonists.
  - (E) nonessential for both males and females, except as a status symbol for those who could afford to pay for it.
10. Which of the following is a feature of all Indian religions?
- (A) Women can hold no leadership positions in the culture
  - (B) A belief in many gods (polytheism)
  - (C) A belief in just one god (monotheism)
  - (D) Human sacrifice
  - (E) Worship of the sun and moon

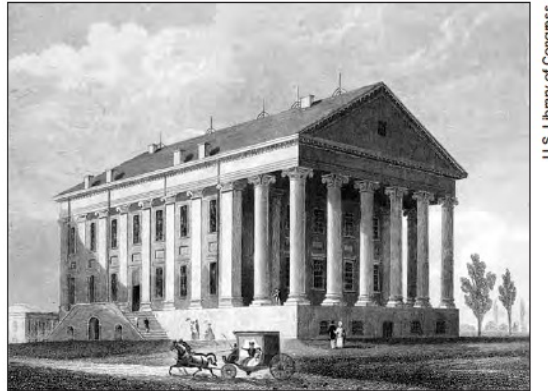
11. The Trent Affair was important because
- (A) it discredited the revolutionary government in France in the eyes of most Americans.
  - (B) it prevented the Confederacy from being able to purchase several warships from Britain and France for use against Union shipping.
  - (C) it was the first clear case of treason by a United States official and it badly embarrassed the administration of John Adams.
  - (D) it resulted in the sinking of the Confederate raider, the *Alabama*.
  - (E) it nearly led to British recognition of the Confederacy and war between Britain and the Union.
12. The shaded area of the map below shows the land claims of which of the following in the wake of the Treaty of Paris in 1763?



- (A) The French
  - (B) The Spanish
  - (C) The Portuguese
  - (D) The British
  - (E) Native Americans
13. The political machines such as Tammany Hall, which ran U.S. cities at the turn of the century, derived their strongest support from
- (A) industrial leaders and business elites.
  - (B) organized religion.
  - (C) wealthy landowners living in rural areas outside the cities.
  - (D) the middle class.
  - (E) poor immigrants and ethnic communities in the inner city.
14. The biggest failure of Reconstruction governments was that they
- (A) failed to reestablish an effective plantation system to rejuvenate the South's devastated economy.

- (B) were dominated by Blacks, which aroused white hostility that, combined with the inexperience of black legislators, doomed Reconstruction governments to failure.
- (C) failed to reestablish an effective public education system in the occupied South.
- (D) failed to effectively industrialize the South.
- (E) failed to change basic white attitudes in the South and they were unable to effectively reorganize the South's social structure.

15. The picture below reflects the architectural style favored by which of the following?

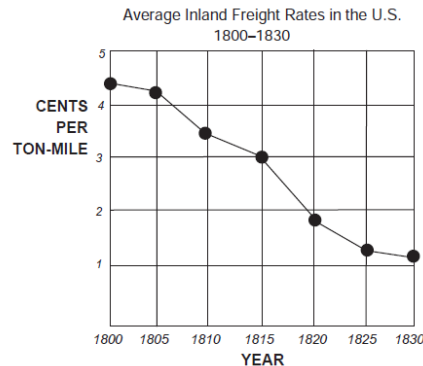


- (A) Thomas Jefferson
  - (B) Benjamin Latrobe
  - (C) Charles Bullfinch
  - (D) Dr. William Thornton
  - (E) William Jenney
16. The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution was important because
- (A) it prohibited slavery within the United States.
  - (B) it guaranteed equal protection under the law for every American citizen.
  - (C) it prohibited any state from denying an American citizen the right to vote based on race/ethnic background, color, or having previously been a slave.
  - (D) it prohibited any state from denying women the right to vote.
  - (E) it provided Congress with the power to establish and collect income taxes.
17. The United States declared war on Britain in June of 1812 for all of the following reasons EXCEPT
- (A) British occupation of the Mississippi River delta south of New Orleans.
  - (B) desires by some Americans to occupy Canada and annex it to the United States.
  - (C) the British navy's impressment of American sailors from American ships at sea.
  - (D) British seizure of American merchant ships.
  - (E) British collusion with Indian tribes in the Northwest Territory, aiding Indian efforts to prevent American settlement of this region.

18. The principle of “popular sovereignty” was
- (A) first conceived by Senator Stephen A. Douglas.
  - (B) applied as part of the Missouri Compromise.
  - (C) a central feature of the Kansas-Nebraska Act.
  - (D) a policy favored by the Whig party during the late 1840s and early 1850s.
  - (E) successful in solving the impasse over the status of slavery in the territories.
19. Which of the following best describes the attitudes of Southern Whites toward slavery during the mid-nineteenth century (ca. 1835–1865)?
- (A) Slavery was a necessary evil.
  - (B) Slavery should be immediately abolished.
  - (C) Slavery was a benefit to both Whites and Blacks.
  - (D) Slavery should gradually be phased out and the freed slaves colonized to some place outside the United States.
  - (E) Slavery was a national sin.
20. The Newburgh Conspiracy was concerned with
- (A) betrayal of the plans for the vital fort at West Point, New York.
  - (B) the use of the Continental Army to create a more centralized Union of the states.
  - (C) resistance to the collection of federal excise taxes in western Pennsylvania.
  - (D) New England’s threat to secede should the War of 1812 continue.
  - (E) Aaron Burr’s plot to detach the western United States as an empire for himself.
21. The most forceful Southern protest against high protective tariffs during the first half of the nineteenth century was
- (A) the Hayne-Webster Debate.
  - (B) the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions.
  - (C) the Nullification Controversy.
  - (D) the resignation of Vice President John C. Calhoun.
  - (E) the imposition of the congressional “gag rule.”
22. All of the following were among President Andrew Jackson’s objections to the First Bank of the United States EXCEPT:
- (A) It allowed the economic power of the government to be controlled by private individuals.
  - (B) It threatened the integrity of the democratic system.
  - (C) It was preventing the government from achieving its policy of creating inflation.

- (D) It could be used irresponsibly to create financial hardship for the nation.
- (E) It benefited a small group of wealthy and privileged persons at the expense of the rest of the country.

23. In looking at the information presented in the graph, which of the following was most responsible for the change shown between 1815 and 1830?



- (A) The development of practical steam-powered railroad trains
  - (B) The development of a network of canals linking important cities and waterways
  - (C) The growth in the nation's mileage of improved roads and turnpikes
  - (D) Improvements in the design of keelboats and flatboats
  - (E) The development of steamboats
24. The main issue of the 1850s Free-Soil party was that
- (A) the federal government should permit no further spread of slavery in the territories.
  - (B) a homestead act should be passed, granting 160 acres of government land in the West free to anyone who would settle on it and improve it for five years.
  - (C) the federal government should oversee immediate and uncompensated abolition of slavery.
  - (D) freed slaves should be provided with 40 acres and two mules to provide them the economic means of independent self-support.
  - (E) the United States should annex Cuba.
25. In response to President Andrew Johnson's relatively mild reconstruction program, the Southern states did all of the following EXCEPT
- (A) refuse to repudiate the Confederate debt.
  - (B) elect many former high-ranking Confederates to Congress and other top positions.
  - (C) refuse to grant Blacks the right to vote.
  - (D) attempt to reinstitute slavery.
  - (E) pass special "Black codes" restricting the legal rights of Blacks.

26. The chief significance of French explorer Samuel de Champlain's alienation of the Iroquois Indians was
- (A) to prevent the French from establishing a profitable fur trade in Canada.
  - (B) to prevent Champlain from founding any permanent settlement along the St. Lawrence River.
  - (C) to prevent Champlain from making it back to France alive.
  - (D) to prevent New France from expanding southward into what is now the United States.
  - (E) the creation of an alliance of British and French colonists against the Iroquois.
27. The international incident known as the XYZ Affair involved
- (A) a French foreign minister's demand for a bribe before he would meet with American envoys.
  - (B) the British refusal to evacuate their forts on American territory
  - (C) General Andrew Jackson's incursion into Spanish-held Florida
  - (D) the British seizure of American crewmen from a U.S. Navy warship in Chesapeake Bay.
  - (E) Aaron Burr's secret plot to detach the western United States in order to create a new nation of which he would be ruler.
28. The most divisive and controversial aspect of the slavery issue during the first half of the nineteenth century was
- (A) the status of slavery in the District of Columbia.
  - (B) the right of abolitionists to send their literature through the U.S. mail.
  - (C) the enforcement of the draconian Fugitive Slave Law.
  - (D) the status of slavery in the territories.
  - (E) the prohibition of the international slave trade.
29. The 1840s Pre-emption Act, signed by President John Tyler, provided that
- (A) the status of slavery in a territory was to be decided by the settlers there.
  - (B) slave law pre-empted free law in disputes involving escaped slaves.
  - (C) settlers who had squatted on government land would have first chance to buy it.
  - (D) the vice president automatically became president upon the death of the president.
  - (E) federal law pre-empted state law in matters pertaining to slavery.
30. Which of the following expresses the first policy taken by the federal government toward the Indians of the Great Plains?



- (A) The Indians should be confined to two large reservations, one north of the Platte River and the other south of it.
  - (B) Since the Great Plains are a desert anyway, the Indians may be allowed to keep the entire area.
  - (C) Indians should be given individual parcels of land by the government rather than holding land communally as tribes.
  - (D) Indians are subhuman and ought to be exterminated.
  - (E) The Indians should be induced to accept permanent residence on a number of small reservations.
31. All of the following are true of the Confederate war effort during the Civil War EXCEPT:
- (A) Confederate industry was never able to adequately supply Confederate soldiers with the armaments they needed to successfully fight the war.
  - (B) Confederate agriculture was never able to adequately supply the people of the South with the food they needed.
  - (C) Inflation became a major problem in the South as the Confederate government was forced to print more paper currency than it could support with gold or other tangible assets.
  - (D) The inadequate railroad system of the South hindered movement of soldiers, supplies, and food from the places where they were stationed (or produced) to the places where they were most needed.
  - (E) Tremendous resentment at the military draft developed among poor and middle class Southerners because wealthy Southern males could pay to have a substitute take their place in the army.
32. The main reason that President Grant's administration is considered a failure is
- (A) his failure to retreat from the radical Reconstruction policies of his predecessors.
  - (B) his failure to effectively quell the Indian uprisings in the Western territories.
  - (C) his failure to control the corruption permeating his administration
  - (D) his attempts to destroy the Democratic party and return the country to a one-party system.
  - (E) his failure to be reelected after serving his first term in office.
33. The most significant aspect of the Mexican-American War on the United States during the 20 years following the war was that it
- (A) led to the development of the idea of "passive resistance" among those who opposed the war.
  - (B) ended years of hostility between the United States and Mexico.

- (C) reignited the slavery conflict in regards to all the territories newly acquired from Mexico.
  - (D) gave America undisputed control over Mexican foreign policy for the next 20 years.
  - (E) revealed the shocking ineptitude of American military forces, leading to massive reforms in military training and procedures throughout the 1850s.
34. The Louisiana Purchase resulted primarily from
- (A) efforts to prevent Spain from closing off westward expansion by the United States.
  - (B) glowing reports of the vast beauty and potential of the region as reported by Lewis and Clark on their return from their famous exploration of the region.
  - (C) American efforts to prevent war with France over control of the Louisiana Territory and secure American commerce rights in New Orleans and along the Mississippi River.
  - (D) Federalist desires to establish a strong confederation of antislavery states west of the Mississippi River and further limit the power of the Southern Republicans.
  - (E) Republican desires to further dilute the Federalist power base in New England by expanding the country and reducing Federalist influence.
35. In the 1830s and 1840s, the primary difference between the Whigs and the Democrats was that
- (A) the Whigs favored economic expansion while the Democrats favored a stable but retracted economy.
  - (B) the Democrats favored the abolition of slavery while the Whigs favored retaining the current system of slavery being allowed in the Southern states that desired it, but no further expansion of slavery north of the Mason-Dixon line.
  - (C) the Whigs favored an expanded, activist federal government while the Democrats favored a limited non-interventionist federal government.
  - (D) the Democrats were strongly supported by Evangelical Christians and supported a wide range of moral reforms while the Whigs were supported by Westerners who favored individual choice over morally based restrictions on behavior.
  - (E) the Whigs favored limitations on westward expansion while the Democrats favored the concept of “manifest destiny” and expansion to the Pacific Ocean.
36. The Nullification Crisis of 1832 revolved around
- (A) states’ rights to overrule or disallow any federal legislation they found unacceptable.
  - (B) the federal government’s right to nullify any antislavery legislation passed by the territories west of the Mississippi.
  - (C) the Supreme Court’s right to nullify Congressional legislation deemed unconstitutional.

- (D) the refusal of state militias to submit themselves to federal control in time of war.
  - (E) the right of Congress to override a presidential veto on matters of foreign policy.
37. The American system of manufacturing which emerged in the early 1800s was successful because of its use of
- (A) slave labor.
  - (B) handmade, individually crafted, high-quality items.
  - (C) the “putting out” system—distributing raw materials and collecting finished products for distribution.
  - (D) early electric power to provide cheap energy for new factories.
  - (E) inter-changable parts to allow for mass production of high-quality items.
38. Colonies such as the Carolinas were known as “restoration colonies” because
- (A) their creation was mainly due to the restoration of the Stuarts to the English throne.
  - (B) they were created as places to send criminals to restore them to civilized behavior and give them a chance to lead decent, honest lives.
  - (C) their creation was mainly due to an effort by the English government to restore a balance of power in the New World between the thriving English colonies in New England and the less successful English colonies in the South.
  - (D) their creation was mainly due to the restoration of the power of English Parliament over the king.
  - (E) their creation was an attempt to restore the supremacy of the Anglican church in the colonies.
39. The Morgan Affair of 1826 was responsible for
- (A) the revolt by Texans to obtain their independence from Mexico.
  - (B) the collapse of John Quincy Adams’ presidency and his loss of the 1828 election to Andrew Jackson.
  - (C) the collapse of efforts to revive a national bank.
  - (D) the establishment of the anti-Masonic movement.
  - (E) the founding of the modern temperance movement.
40. By 1760, the biggest problem with the economy of the English colonies was
- (A) smuggling.
  - (B) a trade surplus so large that England was threatening to confiscate American assets to help balance the English economy.

- (C) a lack of demand for the vast quantities of high-quality American manufactured goods now being produced, leading to high unemployment in the American colonies.
- (D) a huge balance-of-trade deficit that threatened the solvency of the colonial economy.
- (E) a lack of adequate deep-water ports to provide loading and unloading facilities for the large number of ships now trying to bring goods to or carry goods from the colonies.