

AP Practice Exam Questions

- The Bill of Rights did not come from a desire to protect the liberties won in the American Revolution, but rather from a fear of the powers of the new federal government.
Assess the validity of the statement.
- Although historically represented as distinct parties, the Federalists and the Whigs in fact shared a common political ideology, represented many of the same interest groups, and proposed similar programs and policies.
Assess the validity of the statement.
- From the 1840's through the 1890's, women's activities in the intellectual, social, economic, and political spheres effectively challenged traditional attitudes about women's place in society.
Asses the validity of the statement.
- Although the economic development of the Trans-Mississippi West is popularly associated with hardly individualism, it was in fact largely dependent on the federal government.
Asses the validity of this statement with specific reference to western economic activities in the nineteenth century.
- Although the 1960's are usually considered the decade of greatest achievement for Black civil rights, the 1940's and 1950's were periods of equally important gains.
Asses the validity of this statement.
- Compare the expansionist foreign policies of Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James K. Polk. To what extent did their policies strengthen the United States?
- In what ways did the early nineteenth-century reform movements for abolition and women's rights illustrate both the strengths and the weaknesses of democracy in the early American republic?
- Analyze the ways in which state and federal legislation and judicial decisions, including those of the Supreme Court, affected the efforts of any TWO of the following groups to improve their position in society between 1880 and 1920.
 - African Americans
 - Farmers
 - Workers
- Identify THREE of the following New Deal measures and analyze the ways in which each of the three attempted to fashion a more stable economy and a more equitable society.
 - Agricultural Adjustment Act
 - Securities and Exchange Commission
 - Wagner National Labor Relations Act
 - Social Security Act

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- Describe THREE of the following and analyze the ways in which each of the three has affected the status of women in American society since 1940.
 - Changing economic conditions
 - The rebirth of an organized Women's movement
 - Advances in reproductive technology
 - The persistence of traditional definitions of women's roles
- Analyze the ways in which TWO of the following influenced the development of American society.
 - Puritanism during the seventeenth century
 - The Great Awakening during the eighteenth century
 - The second Great Awakening during the nineteenth century
- Compare and contrast the attitudes of THREE of the following toward the wealth that was created in the United States during the late nineteenth century.
 - Andrew Carnegie
 - Eugene V. Debs
 - Horatio Alger
 - Booker T. Washington
 - Ida M. Tarbell
- To what extend did the decade of the 1950's deserve its reputation as an age of political, social, and cultural conformity?
- For the period before 1750, analyze the ways in which Britain's policy of salutary neglect influenced the development of American society as illustrated in the following.
 - Legislative assemblies
 - Commerce
 - Religion
- Analyze the ways in which supporters of slavery in the nineteenth century used legal, religious, and economic arguments to defend the institution of slavery.
- Analyze the reasons for the emergence of the Populist movement in the late nineteenth century.
- Assess the relative influence of THREE of the following in the American decision to declare war on Germany in 1917.
 - German Naval Policy
 - American economic interests
 - Woodrow Wilson's idealism
 - Allied propaganda
 - America's claim to world power

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- Analyze the degree to which the Articles of Confederation provided an effective form of government with respect to any TWO of the following.
 - Foreign relations
 - Economic conditions
 - Western lands
- Analyze the extent to which TWO of the following influenced the development of democracy between 1820 and 1840.
 - Jacksonian economic policy
 - Changes in electoral policies
 - Second Great Awakening
 - Westward movement
- Analyze the ways in which the Great Depression altered the American social fabric in the 1930's.
- Analyze the influence of TWO of the following on American-Soviet relations in the decade following the Second World War.
 - Yalta Conference
 - Communist revolution in China
 - Korean War
 - McCarthyism
- Analyze the extent to which the American Revolution represented a radical alteration in American political ideas and institutions.
Confine your answer to the period 1775 to 1800.
- Discuss the impact of territorial expansion on national unity between 1800 and 1850.
- Analyze the economic consequences of the Civil War with respect to any TWO of the following in the United States between 1865 and 1880.
 - Agriculture
 - Labor
 - Industrialization
 - Transportation
- How do you account for the appeal of McCarthyism in the United States in the era following the Second World War?
- Analyze the extent to which religious freedom existed in the British North American colonies prior to 1700.
- Analyze the impact of any TWO of the following on the American industrial worker between 1865 and 1900.
 - Government actions
 - Immigration
 - Labor unions
 - Technological changes

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- To what extent and why did the United States adopt an isolationist policy in the 1920's and 1930's?
- "1968 was a turning point for the United States." To what extent is this an accurate assessment? In your answer, discuss TWO of the following:
 - National politics
 - Vietnam War
 - Civil Rights
- How did TWO of the following contribute to the reemergence of a two party system in the period 1830 to 1840?
 - Major political personalities
 - States' rights
 - Economic issues
- How were the lives of the Plains Indians in the second half of the nineteenth century affected by technological developments and government actions?
- In what ways did economic conditions and developments in the arts and entertainment help create the reputation of the 1920's as the Roaring Twenties?
- Assess the success of the United States policy of containment in Asia between 1945 and 1975.
- Evaluate the extent to which the Articles of Confederation were effective in solving the problems that confronted the new nation.
- In what ways did developments in transportation bring about economic and social change in the United States in the period 1820 to 1860?
- Evaluate the impact of the Civil War on political and economic developments in TWO of the following regions.
 - The South
 - The North
 - The West

Focus your answer on the period between 1865 and 1900.

- Compare and contrast United States society in the 1920's and the 1950's with respect to TWO of the following:
 - race relations
 - role of women
 - consumerism
- Analyze the impact of the American Revolution on both slavery and the status of women in the period from 1775-1800.
- Analyze the effectiveness of political compromise in reducing sectional tensions in the period 1820 to 1861.
- Compare and contrast the programs and policies designed by reformers of the Progressive era to those designed by reformers of the New Deal period. Confine your answer to programs and policies that addressed the needs of those living in poverty.

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- Analyze the successes and failures of the United States Cold War policy of containment as it developed in TWO of the following regions of the world during the period 1945 to 1975.
 - East and Southeast Asia
 - Europe
 - Latin America
 - Middle East
- Compare and contrast the ways in which economic development affected politics in Massachusetts and Virginia in the period from 1607 to 1750.
- To what extend did the debates about the Mexican War and its aftermath reflect the sectional interests of New Englanders, westerners, and southerners in the period from 1845 to 1855?
- Describe the patterns of immigration in TWO of the periods listed below. Compare and contrast the responses of Americans to immigrants in these periods.
 - 1820 to 1860
 - 1880 to 1924
 - 1965 to 2000
- Analyze the extent to which TWO of the following transformed American society in the 1960's and 1970's.
 - The Civil Rights movement
 - The antiwar movement
 - The women's movement
- Analyze the differences between the Spanish settlements in the Southwest and the English colonies in New England in the seventeenth century in terms of TWO of the following:
 - Politics
 - Religion
 - Economic development
- Explain why and how the role of the federal government changed as a result of the Civil War with respect to TWO of the following during the period 1861-1877:
 - Race relations
 - Economic development
 - Westward expansion

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- Historians have argued that Progressive reform lost momentum in the 1920's. Evaluate this statement with respect to TWO of the following:
 - Regulation of business
 - Labor
 - Immigrants
- While the United States appeared to be dominated by consensus and conformity in the 1950's, some Americans reacted against the status quo.
Analyze the critiques of United States society made by TWO of the following.
 - Youth
 - Civil Rights Activists
 - Intellectuals
- Settlers in the eighteenth-century American backcountry sometimes restored to violent protest to express their grievances. Analyze the causes and significance of Two of the following:
 - March of the Paxton Boys
 - Regulator movement
 - Shay's Rebellion
 - Whiskey Rebellion
- In what ways did the Second Great Awakening in the North influence TWO of the following?
 - Abolitionism
 - Temperance
 - The cult of domesticity
 - Utopian communities
- To what extent did the role of the federal government change under President Theodore Roosevelt in regard to TWO of the following?
 - Labor
 - Trusts
 - Conservation
 - World affairs
- "Landslide presidential victories do not ensure continued political effectiveness of legislative success."
Asses the validity of this statement by comparing TWO of the following presidential administrations.
 - Franklin Roosevelt (1936)
 - Lyndon Johnson (1964)
 - Richard Nixon (1972)
 - Ronald Reagan (1984)

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- Early encounters between American Indians and European colonists led to a variety of relationships among the different cultures.
Analyze how the actions taken by BOTH American Indians and European colonists shaped those relationships in TWO of the following regions. Confine your answer to 1600's.
 - New England
 - Chesapeake
 - Spanish Southwest
 - New York and New France
- Analyze the impact of the market revolution (1815-1860) on the economies of TWO of the following regions.
 - The Northeast
 - The Midwest
 - The South
- Following Reconstruction, many southern leaders promoted the idea of a “New South.” To what extent was this “New South” a reality by the time of the First World War? In your answer be sure to address TWO of the following.
 - Economic development
 - Politics
 - Race relations
- Presidential elections between 1928 and 1948 revealed major shifts in political party loyalties.
Analyze both the reasons for these changes and their consequences during this period.