

PRACTICE EXAM 10: NEW YORK REGENTS U.S. HISTORY & GOVERNMENT SIMULATION (50 QUESTIONS)

1. Roger Williams founded the colony of Rhode Island in the 1630s after being banished from Massachusetts. The colony became known for:

- A. Its policy of religious tolerance and the separation of church and government
- B. Its strict enforcement of a single official religion required of all colonists
- C. Its system of large plantations worked entirely by enslaved African laborers
- D. Its refusal to allow any form of self-government or elected colonial assembly

2. The Proclamation of 1763, issued by the British government after the French and Indian War, angered many colonists because it:

- A. Required the colonies to pay a new tax on all printed documents and legal papers
- B. Forced colonial merchants to ship all of their goods only on British-owned vessels
- C. Forbade colonial settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains
- D. Demanded that the colonies provide housing and supplies for British soldiers

3. One main purpose of the Declaration of Independence (1776) was to:

- A. Establish a detailed plan of government for the new United States of America
- B. List the colonists' grievances against the king and justify their break from Britain

- C. Create a permanent military alliance between the colonies and the nation of France
- D. Outline the specific powers that would be given to each branch of the new government

4. The Treaty of Paris of 1783, which ended the American Revolution, was significant because in it Great Britain:

- A. Agreed to continue governing the American colonies under a new and fairer set of laws
- B. Promised to pay the colonies for the damage caused during the years of the war
- C. Required the new United States to remain a permanent military ally of Great Britain
- D. Recognized the independence of the United States and granted it territory to the Mississippi River

5. At the Constitutional Convention, delegates from the North and South reached a compromise on the Atlantic slave trade in which they agreed that:

- A. The slave trade would be abolished immediately throughout all of the United States
- B. Each state would be permitted to decide for itself whether to allow the slave trade
- C. Congress would not be allowed to ban the importation of enslaved people for twenty years
- D. Enslaved people would be counted fully when determining each state's representation

6. President George Washington set several important precedents during his two terms in office, including:

- A. Forming a Cabinet of advisers and choosing to serve only two terms as President
- B. Declaring himself president for life in order to provide stability to the new nation
- C. Refusing to allow the formation of any political parties within the new government
- D. Giving the states the power to overturn any law passed by the national Congress

7. President Thomas Jefferson's Embargo Act of 1807, which banned American trade with foreign nations, was intended to:

- A. Raise money for the federal government by taxing all goods imported from Europe
- B. Encourage American merchants to expand their trade with Britain and France
- C. Punish Native American nations by cutting off their access to manufactured goods
- D. Pressure Britain and France to respect American neutrality by withholding trade

8. The Second Great Awakening of the early 1800s was a religious revival that contributed to American society by:

- A. Ending all organized religion in the United States in favor of pure scientific thought
- B. Inspiring many people to join reform movements such as abolitionism and temperance
- C. Establishing a single national church to which all American citizens were required to belong
- D. Discouraging Americans from taking any part in social or political reform efforts

9. The reformer Dorothea Dix devoted her efforts in the mid-1800s to improving the treatment of:

- A. Factory workers who labored long hours in dangerous industrial conditions
- B. Immigrants who faced discrimination and poverty in the nation's growing cities
- C. People with mental illness and prisoners held in jails and institutions
- D. Enslaved people seeking to escape to freedom in the northern free states

10. The United States annexation of Texas in 1845 contributed directly to:

- A. Rising tensions with Mexico that helped lead to the Mexican-American War
- B. The immediate abolition of slavery throughout the newly added territory
- C. A long period of peace between the United States and the nation of Mexico
- D. The decision of the United States to return the Louisiana Territory to France

11. The Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 brought national attention to Abraham Lincoln mainly because in them he:

- A. Called for the immediate and complete abolition of slavery in every state of the Union
- B. Argued that the southern states had the right to secede peacefully from the Union
- C. Defended the Dred Scott decision and the spread of slavery into all the territories
- D. Spoke forcefully against the expansion of slavery into the western territories

12. General William Tecumseh Sherman's "March to the Sea" through Georgia in 1864 was an example of "total war" because it:

- A. Targeted only the soldiers of the Confederate army while leaving civilian property untouched
- B. Destroyed civilian property, railroads, and farms to break the South's will and ability to fight
- C. Involved a peaceful occupation of southern cities without any damage to the region
- D. Relied entirely on naval forces to blockade the southern coastline from foreign trade

13. President Abraham Lincoln's plan for Reconstruction, often called the "Ten Percent Plan," reflected his desire to:

- A. Punish the southern states severely and bar all former Confederates from public life
- B. Place the entire South under permanent military rule for several decades after the war
- C. Restore the southern states to the Union quickly and with relatively lenient terms
- D. Divide the southern plantations and distribute the land among formerly enslaved people

14. The rapid industrial growth of the United States in the late 1800s was promoted by a combination of factors, including:

- A. Abundant natural resources, a growing labor supply, investment capital, and new technology
- B. A small population, a shortage of raw materials, and limited transportation networks
- C. Strict government ownership of all factories and heavy regulation of private business
- D. A return to small-scale handcraft production and a rejection of new machinery

15. The photographer and writer Jacob Riis, author of "How the Other Half Lives," is best known for:

- A. Defending the business practices of wealthy industrialists during the Gilded Age
- B. Organizing labor unions to demand better wages and shorter hours for workers
- C. Promoting westward settlement by advertising free land available on the Great Plains
- D. Exposing the harsh living conditions of the poor in crowded city tenements

16. Wealthy industrialists of the late 1800s such as Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller were called "robber barons" by their critics because these critics believed the industrialists:

- A. Donated nearly all of their wealth to charities and gave little thought to their own profit
- B. Refused to expand their businesses or to take any financial risks during this period
- C. Built their fortunes through ruthless methods and the exploitation of their workers
- D. Owed their success entirely to government ownership and control of their companies

17. Millions of immigrants came to the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Which combination best describes the "push" and "pull" factors behind this immigration?

- A. A push of plentiful jobs at home and a pull of religious persecution in the United States
- B. A push of poverty and persecution abroad and a pull of jobs and freedom in the United States
- C. A push of high wages abroad and a pull of strict immigration limits in the United States
- D. A push of free farmland abroad and a pull of overcrowded conditions in the United States

18. The Grange movement, formed by farmers in the late 1800s, worked mainly to:

- A. Press for state laws regulating the rates charged by railroads and grain storage facilities
- B. Encourage farmers to abandon agriculture and move to jobs in the nation's growing cities
- C. Support the railroad companies in their efforts to raise shipping rates for farm goods
- D. Oppose the expansion of public education in the rural communities of the Midwest

19. American imperialism in the late 1800s was driven in part by the ideas of Alfred Thayer Mahan, who argued that the United States should:

- A. Avoid all involvement in foreign affairs and focus only on settling the American West
- B. Reduce the size of its navy and rely on other nations to protect its overseas trade
- C. Grant immediate independence to any territory that the United States might acquire
- D. Build a powerful navy and acquire overseas bases to protect its growing trade interests

20. After the Spanish-American War, the Platt Amendment placed restrictions on the new nation of Cuba by:

- A. Requiring Cuba to become a permanent state within the United States of America
- B. Forcing Cuba to pay the entire cost of the Spanish-American War to the United States
- C. Giving the United States the right to intervene in Cuban affairs and to maintain a naval base
- D. Prohibiting Cuba from ever trading with any nation other than the United States

21. During World War I, the United States government sold "Liberty Bonds" to the public in order to:

- A. Set the prices of food and other goods needed by the armed forces during the war
- B. Help finance the cost of the war by borrowing money from ordinary American citizens
- C. Recruit and train new soldiers for service in the United States Army and Navy
- D. Produce propaganda posters that would build public support for the war effort

22. The case of Sacco and Vanzetti in the 1920s is often cited as an example of:

- A. The anti-immigrant prejudice and fear of radicals that marked the period after World War I
- B. The success of the labor movement in winning better wages for immigrant factory workers
- C. The federal government's efforts to expand the legal rights of recent immigrants
- D. The growing acceptance of immigrants into mainstream American political life

23. The Ku Klux Klan experienced a major revival during the 1920s. Unlike the earlier Klan, this revived Klan directed its hostility against:

- A. Wealthy industrialists and the owners of large corporations across the nation
- B. The federal government and its efforts to enforce the laws of Reconstruction
- C. Labor unions and their attempts to organize workers in the nation's factories
- D. African Americans as well as immigrants, Catholics, and Jews across the country

24. The widespread bank failures of the early 1930s deepened the Great Depression because they:

- A. Forced the federal government to take over and operate all of the nation's banks
- B. Caused interest rates to fall so low that businesses borrowed and expanded too quickly
- C. Wiped out the savings of many families and made it harder for businesses to get loans
- D. Led foreign nations to invest heavily in the American banking system to help it recover

25. The National Recovery Administration (NRA), a New Deal program, attempted to promote economic recovery by:

- A. Paying farmers to reduce their crop production in order to raise the prices of food
- B. Setting codes for fair wages, prices, and working hours in the nation's industries
- C. Insuring the savings that ordinary Americans had deposited in the nation's banks
- D. Building dams to control flooding and bring electricity to a poor rural region

26. Critics of the New Deal such as Senator Huey Long argued that President Roosevelt's programs:

- A. Gave far too much economic aid and relief to the wealthiest Americans of the time
- B. Expanded the power of the states at the expense of the federal government's authority
- C. Moved the country too quickly toward a system of pure free-market capitalism
- D. Did not go far enough to redistribute wealth and help the poorest Americans

27. The Atlantic Charter, agreed to by President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Churchill in 1941, set out:

- A. A statement of shared goals for the postwar world, including self-determination for nations
- B. A formal declaration of war by the United States against Nazi Germany and its allies
- C. A plan for the United States and Britain to divide the colonies of the defeated nations
- D. An agreement requiring the United States to remain neutral for the rest of the war

28. During World War II, the United States economy was transformed as factories that had made consumer goods were converted to:

- A. Producing food and clothing to be shipped as charity to defeated enemy nations
- B. Manufacturing only small luxury items for sale to wealthy American consumers
- C. Producing tanks, aircraft, ships, and weapons to supply the Allied war effort
- D. Building new homes and highways to prepare for the return of soldiers after the war

29. The dropping of atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945 resulted in:

- A. A long and costly Allied land invasion of the Japanese home islands the following year
- B. The surrender of Japan, which brought World War II to an end shortly afterward
- C. The immediate entry of the Soviet Union into the war on the side of Japan
- D. A negotiated peace that allowed Japan to keep the territory it had conquered

30. Tension between the United States and the Soviet Union grew rapidly after World War II largely because:

- A. The two nations had fought on opposite sides throughout the Second World War
- B. The United States and the Soviet Union disagreed over how to divide the continent of Africa
- C. The Soviet Union demanded that the United States adopt a communist economic system

D. The two nations had opposing political and economic systems and competing global goals

31. The Korean War (1950–1953) ended with:

A. A complete victory for North Korea, which united the entire peninsula under communism

B. An armistice that left Korea divided near the 38th parallel, close to where the war began

C. The United States gaining permanent control over the entire Korean peninsula

D. The peaceful reunification of North and South Korea into a single democratic nation

32. In response to the Soviet launch of Sputnik in 1957, the United States passed the National Defense Education Act, which:

A. Provided federal funding to improve the teaching of science, math, and foreign languages

B. Required all American students to serve a period of time in the United States military

C. Banned the teaching of any subject that the government considered unrelated to defense

D. Closed all public schools until the United States had launched its own satellite into orbit

33. In 1955, Rosa Parks became a symbol of the civil rights movement when she:

A. Led a march of thousands of people from the city of Selma to Montgomery, Alabama

B. Organized the first lunch-counter sit-in to protest segregation at a store in the South

C. Became the first African American student to enroll at a previously all-white university

D. Refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger, sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott

34. In his "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (1963), Martin Luther King Jr. defended the use of:

A. Armed self-defense as the only effective response to violent segregationists in the South

B. Nonviolent direct action and civil disobedience to challenge unjust laws and segregation

C. A complete withdrawal of African Americans from American society and politics

D. Working only through the courts rather than through any form of public protest

35. President Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty," part of his Great Society, included programs designed to:

- A. Reduce federal spending on social programs in order to balance the national budget
- B. Provide military training and jobs in the armed forces for unemployed young men
- C. Provide education, job training, and assistance to help lift Americans out of poverty
- D. Encourage poor Americans to leave the cities and resettle on farms in rural areas

36. The Supreme Court case *Mapp v. Ohio* (1961) protected the rights of the accused by ruling that:

- A. Evidence obtained through an illegal search and seizure cannot be used in court
- B. Suspects must be informed of their rights before being questioned by the police
- C. Defendants who cannot afford a lawyer must be provided one by the state
- D. A person cannot be tried twice for the same crime after being found not guilty

37. During the 1970s, the United States economy experienced an unusual condition known as "stagflation," which was characterized by:

- A. Rapid economic growth combined with very low unemployment and falling prices
- B. A balanced federal budget combined with steadily rising wages for all workers
- C. Falling prices and high employment caused by a sharp increase in factory output
- D. High inflation occurring at the same time as high unemployment and slow growth

38. The Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev introduced reforms in the 1980s known as glasnost and perestroika, which involved:

- A. Tightening government control over the economy and silencing all political criticism

- B. Expanding the Soviet military and increasing tensions with the United States sharply
- C. Greater openness and the restructuring of the Soviet economy and political system
- D. The forced relocation of millions of citizens to develop remote regions of the country

39. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the United States emerged as:

- A. One of several roughly equal world powers competing for influence in a divided world
- B. The world's only remaining superpower, with unmatched military and economic influence
- C. A nation that withdrew completely from involvement in international affairs and trade
- D. A close military ally of the former Soviet republics under a single joint command

40. The United States Congress is described as "bicameral," which means that it:

- A. Is made up of two separate chambers, the House of Representatives and the Senate
- B. Shares its lawmaking power equally with the President and the Supreme Court
- C. Meets only once every two years to pass the laws needed by the nation
- D. Consists of a single chamber in which every state has an equal number of votes

41. Among the powers granted to Congress by the Constitution is the authority to:

- A. Interpret the meaning of the laws and decide whether they violate the Constitution
- B. Command the armed forces of the United States as the commander in chief
- C. Appoint the justices who serve on the United States Supreme Court and lower courts
- D. Declare war, coin money, and regulate trade among the states and with other nations

42. The "full faith and credit" clause of the Constitution requires that:

- A. Each state provide the same level of public services and benefits to all of its residents

- B. The federal government honor all of the debts that it owes to other foreign nations
- C. Each state recognize the official acts, records, and court rulings of the other states
- D. The President faithfully carry out and enforce all of the laws passed by the Congress

43. "Monetary policy" in the United States is carried out mainly by the Federal Reserve, which influences the economy by:

- A. Adjusting the levels of government taxing and spending to speed up or slow down growth
- B. Controlling the money supply and adjusting interest rates to influence economic activity
- C. Setting the prices of goods and the wages paid to workers throughout the economy
- D. Deciding which industries the government will own and operate during a recession

44. During major crises such as the Civil War, the Great Depression, and the world wars, the power of the federal government generally:

- A. Decreased sharply as the states took over most of the responsibilities of government
- B. Remained completely unchanged from the way it had operated in peaceful times
- C. Was transferred entirely to the United States Supreme Court for the duration of the crisis
- D. Expanded as the government took on new responsibilities to respond to the emergency

45. The history of immigration to the United States best supports the conclusion that immigrants have:

- A. Contributed greatly to the nation's economy, labor force, and cultural diversity over time
- B. Had almost no effect on the development of American society, economy, or culture
- C. Caused the United States to abandon its democratic form of government over time
- D. Prevented the United States from ever developing a strong national economy or identity

46. Supreme Court cases such as *Brown v. Board of Education*, *Gideon v. Wainwright*, and *Miranda v. Arizona* all demonstrate the Court's role in:

- A. Reducing the rights of individuals in order to increase the power of the government
- B. Settling disputes between the United States and the governments of foreign nations
- C. Interpreting the Constitution to protect and expand the rights of individuals
- D. Writing new laws to replace those that had been passed by the United States Congress

47. Compromises such as the Great Compromise and the Three-Fifths Compromise were necessary at the Constitutional Convention because:

- A. The delegates all agreed completely on every issue and simply needed to record their decisions
- B. Delegates held differing interests and had to make concessions to reach a workable agreement
- C. The British government required the delegates to compromise before approving the Constitution
- D. A single delegate held all of the power and forced the others to accept his decisions

48. Features of the United States Constitution such as the Bill of Rights, the separation of powers, and judicial review all serve to:

- A. Concentrate as much power as possible in the hands of the President of the United States
- B. Allow the federal government to act without any restrictions during times of crisis
- C. Give the individual states unlimited authority over the people living within their borders
- D. Limit the power of government and protect the rights and liberties of the people

49. The abolition of slavery, the granting of women's suffrage, and the civil rights movement of the 1960s are all examples of how the United States has:

- A. Gradually reduced the number of people who are allowed to take part in public life
- B. Returned power from the national government to the individual state governments
- C. Worked over time to extend the ideals of liberty and equality to more of its people
- D. Avoided making any changes to the rights guaranteed in its founding documents

50. The United States Constitution has remained the foundation of American government for over two centuries largely because it:

- A. Establishes basic principles while remaining flexible enough to adapt to a changing nation
- B. Spells out a fixed solution to every possible problem the nation might ever face
- C. Cannot be changed, amended, or reinterpreted under any circumstances whatsoever
- D. Gives complete and unlimited authority to whichever political party wins each election

Practice Exam 10 – Answer Key with Explanations

1. A — Roger Williams founded Rhode Island on principles of religious tolerance and the separation of church and government. He welcomed those persecuted for their beliefs elsewhere. The colony became an early model of religious freedom in America.
2. C — The Proclamation of 1763 forbade colonial settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains to reduce conflict with Native nations. Colonists who wanted western land resented the limit. It was an early source of friction with Britain.
3. B — A central purpose of the Declaration was to list the colonists' grievances against the king and justify their decision to separate from Britain. It explained why independence was necessary. The document framed the break as a defense of natural rights.
4. D — In the Treaty of Paris, Britain recognized American independence and granted the new nation territory extending to the Mississippi River. This greatly expanded U.S. boundaries. The treaty formally ended the Revolutionary War.
5. C — Northern and southern delegates compromised by agreeing that Congress could not ban the importation of enslaved people for twenty years. This protected the slave trade until 1808. The compromise reflected the deep divisions over slavery at the convention.
6. A — Washington set lasting precedents by forming a Cabinet of advisers and choosing to step down after two terms. These customs shaped the presidency that followed. His restraint reinforced the idea of limited executive power.
7. D — Jefferson's Embargo Act cut off trade to pressure Britain and France into respecting American neutrality and ending interference with U.S. shipping. The policy backfired by harming the American economy. It showed the difficulty of using trade as a weapon.
8. B — The Second Great Awakening inspired many Americans to join reform movements such as abolitionism and temperance. Its message of moral improvement spurred social activism. The revival helped fuel the era's reform spirit.
9. C — Dorothea Dix worked to improve the treatment of people with mental illness and prisoners confined in jails and institutions. She exposed cruel conditions and pushed for reform. Her efforts led to the creation of better facilities.
10. A — Annexing Texas raised tensions with Mexico over the border and the loss of the territory, helping lead to the Mexican-American War. Mexico viewed annexation as a hostile act. The dispute soon erupted into armed conflict.

11. D — In the Lincoln-Douglas debates, Lincoln gained national attention by speaking forcefully against the expansion of slavery into the territories. His arguments sharpened the national debate. The debates raised his profile despite losing the Senate race.
12. B — Sherman's March destroyed civilian property, railroads, and farms to break the South's will and ability to keep fighting. This deliberate targeting of resources defines total war. The campaign hastened the Confederacy's collapse.
13. C — Lincoln's Ten Percent Plan aimed to restore the southern states to the Union quickly and with lenient terms. He hoped to heal the nation rather than punish it. The plan clashed with the harsher goals of Radical Republicans.
14. A — Rapid industrialization was promoted by abundant natural resources, a growing labor supply, plentiful investment capital, and new technology. These factors combined to power factory growth. Together they made the U.S. a leading industrial nation.
15. D — Jacob Riis exposed the harsh living conditions of the poor in crowded city tenements through his writing and photographs. His work shocked the public and spurred reform. He was an influential figure in the Progressive movement.
16. C — Critics called industrialists "robber barons" because they believed these men built fortunes through ruthless methods and the exploitation of workers. The term emphasized harm to laborers and consumers. It reflected concern about concentrated economic power.
17. B — Immigration was driven by "push" factors like poverty and persecution abroad and "pull" factors like jobs and freedom in the United States. These forces drew millions across the Atlantic. The combination explains the era's massive immigration.
18. A — The Grange pressed for state laws regulating the rates charged by railroads and grain storage facilities. Farmers organized to fight unfair charges. Their efforts led to early government regulation of business.
19. D — Mahan argued that the United States should build a powerful navy and acquire overseas bases to protect its growing trade. His ideas influenced American imperialism. Naval strength became central to U.S. foreign policy.
20. C — The Platt Amendment gave the United States the right to intervene in Cuban affairs and to maintain a naval base. It limited Cuba's true independence. The provision reflected American influence over the island after the war.
21. B — Liberty Bonds helped finance World War I by borrowing money from ordinary citizens who purchased them. Selling bonds raised funds for the war effort. It also encouraged public involvement in supporting the troops.
22. A — The Sacco and Vanzetti case reflected the anti-immigrant prejudice and fear of radicals that followed World War I. Many believed the men were convicted for their backgrounds and beliefs. It became a symbol of the era's nativism.
23. D — The revived Klan of the 1920s directed its hostility against African Americans as well as immigrants, Catholics, and Jews. Its targets were broader than the Reconstruction-era Klan. This reflected the decade's nativism and intolerance.
24. C — Bank failures wiped out the savings of many families and made it harder for businesses to obtain loans, deepening the Depression. The loss of confidence triggered more runs and closures. This contributed to the downward economic spiral.
25. B — The NRA set codes for fair wages, prices, and working hours in industry to promote recovery. It sought to stabilize business and protect workers. The program was later struck down by the Supreme Court.

26. D — Critics like Huey Long argued that the New Deal did not go far enough to redistribute wealth and help the poorest Americans. Long proposed his own "Share Our Wealth" plan. Such critics pushed Roosevelt toward bolder reforms.
27. A — The Atlantic Charter stated shared goals for the postwar world, including self-determination for nations. Roosevelt and Churchill outlined principles of freedom and cooperation. It helped shape later organizations like the United Nations.
28. C — During the war, factories converted to producing tanks, aircraft, ships, and weapons for the Allied effort. This shift made the U.S. the "arsenal of democracy." Wartime production transformed and revived the economy.
29. B — The atomic bombings led to Japan's surrender, bringing World War II to an end shortly afterward. The destruction convinced Japan to give up. The bombings remain among the most consequential events of the war.
30. D — U.S.-Soviet tension grew because the two nations had opposing political and economic systems and competing global goals. Their rivalry shaped the postwar world. This clash became the foundation of the Cold War.
31. B — The Korean War ended with an armistice that left Korea divided near the 38th parallel, close to the prewar boundary. Neither side achieved total victory. The division has persisted to the present day.
32. A — In response to Sputnik, the National Defense Education Act provided federal funding to improve teaching in science, math, and foreign languages. The goal was to close the perceived gap with the Soviet Union. It reflected Cold War competition in education.
33. D — Rosa Parks became a symbol of the movement when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger, sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Her act of defiance galvanized the community. The boycott became a landmark civil rights protest.
34. B — In his "Letter from Birmingham Jail," King defended nonviolent direct action and civil disobedience to challenge unjust laws and segregation. He argued there was a moral duty to resist injustice. The letter became a key statement of the movement's philosophy.
35. C — The War on Poverty provided education, job training, and assistance to help lift Americans out of poverty. These Great Society programs aimed to reduce hardship. They expanded the federal government's role in social welfare.
36. A — *Mapp v. Ohio* ruled that evidence obtained through an illegal search and seizure cannot be used in court. This established the exclusionary rule at the state level. It strengthened Fourth Amendment protections for individuals.
37. D — Stagflation was marked by high inflation occurring at the same time as high unemployment and slow growth. This combination puzzled economists, who had assumed the two moved oppositely. It made the 1970s a difficult economic decade.
38. C — Gorbachev's glasnost and perestroika brought greater openness and a restructuring of the Soviet economy and political system. The reforms loosened state control. They contributed to the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union.
39. B — After the Soviet collapse, the United States emerged as the world's only remaining superpower, with unmatched military and economic influence. The bipolar Cold War order ended. America took on a leading global role.
40. A — A bicameral Congress is made up of two separate chambers, the House of Representatives and the Senate. This structure resulted from the Great Compromise. It balances representation by population with equal state representation.

41. D — Among the powers granted to Congress are the authority to declare war, coin money, and regulate trade among the states and with other nations. These are enumerated legislative powers. They are distinct from the roles of the executive and judiciary.
42. C — The full faith and credit clause requires each state to recognize the official acts, records, and court rulings of the other states. This ensures legal consistency across state lines. It helps bind the states into a single nation.
43. B — Monetary policy, carried out by the Federal Reserve, controls the money supply and adjusts interest rates to influence economic activity. This differs from fiscal policy's use of taxing and spending. The Fed uses these tools to promote stability.
44. D — During major crises, the power of the federal government generally expanded as it took on new responsibilities to meet the emergency. Wars and depressions required strong national action. This pattern recurs throughout American history.
45. A — The history of immigration shows that immigrants have contributed greatly to the nation's economy, labor force, and cultural diversity. Their work and traditions shaped American society. This enduring impact defines the United States as a nation of immigrants.
46. C — Cases like *Brown*, *Gideon*, and *Miranda* show the Supreme Court interpreting the Constitution to protect and expand the rights of individuals. Each strengthened protections for citizens or the accused. They illustrate the judiciary's role in safeguarding liberty.
47. B — Compromises like the Great Compromise and Three-Fifths Compromise were needed because delegates held differing interests and had to make concessions to reach agreement. Without compromise, the convention might have failed. These bargains made the Constitution possible.
48. D — The Bill of Rights, separation of powers, and judicial review all serve to limit government power and protect the rights and liberties of the people. They guard against tyranny. These features reflect the framers' fear of concentrated authority.
49. C — The end of slavery, women's suffrage, and the civil rights movement all show the United States working over time to extend the ideals of liberty and equality to more of its people. Each marked progress toward those ideals. Together they trace the expansion of American democracy.
50. A — The Constitution has endured because it establishes basic principles while remaining flexible enough to adapt to a changing nation. Amendments and reinterpretation keep it relevant. This balance of stability and adaptability explains its longevity.