

PRACTICE EXAM 14: USHG FRAMEWORK SIMULATION

PART I — STIMULUS-BASED MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Directions (1–28): For each statement or question, record on your separate answer sheet the number of the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question.

Base your answers to questions 1 through 3 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"We shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us, so that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken... we shall be made a story and a by-word through the world..."

— John Winthrop, "A Model of Christian Charity," 1630

1. Winthrop's primary purpose in this passage was to
 - A. encourage the Pilgrims at Plymouth Plantation to return to England
 - B. urge the Massachusetts Bay colonists to establish a representative legislature
 - C. defend the right of Puritan settlers to declare independence from England
 - D. challenge the new Puritan colony to serve as a moral example to the world
2. The phrase "city upon a hill" reflects which Puritan belief?
 - A. that the colony had a special religious mission visible to all nations

- B. that Massachusetts Bay should immediately seek a royal charter from Charles I
- C. that the new colony should adopt complete religious toleration from its founding
- D. that the colony should remain economically dependent on the English Crown

3. The vision Winthrop expressed in this passage influenced later American ideas of

- A. unrestricted religious freedom for all faiths in the British North American colonies
- B. an established national church for all of the original thirteen American colonies
- C. American exceptionalism and the nation's special mission in the world
- D. the natural superiority of the southern plantation economy over the northern states

Base your answers to questions 4 and 5 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

— First Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified 1791

4. A primary purpose of this amendment was to

- A. authorize the federal government to establish a national religion for the country
- B. protect basic civil liberties from interference by the federal government
- C. require state governments to fund religious schools throughout the country
- D. limit the rights of the press to criticize the federal executive branch in wartime

5. This amendment is part of which addition to the original United States Constitution?

- A. the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments ratified together in 1791
- B. the Reconstruction Amendments adopted following the American Civil War
- C. the Progressive Era amendments enacted between the years 1909 and 1920
- D. the late twentieth-century amendments dealing with presidential succession

Base your answers to questions 6 and 7 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"It shall be unlawful for any person... writing, printing, uttering or publishing... any false, scandalous and malicious writing or writings against the government of the United States, or either house of the Congress of the United States, or the President of the United States, with intent to defame the said government..."

— Sedition Act, July 1798

6. The most serious constitutional objection to this act was that it
- A. illegally lowered the legal age requirement for service in the United States Senate
 - B. permitted the president to declare war without congressional authorization
 - C. expanded the federal authority to coin money beyond the limits set by Congress
 - D. limited free speech and press protections guaranteed by the First Amendment
7. The most significant political response to this act was the
- A. immediate impeachment of President John Adams by the United States House
 - B. ratification of a constitutional amendment expressly repealing the Sedition Act
 - C. adoption of the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions arguing for state nullification
 - D. dissolution of the Federalist Party at the end of the second Washington administration

Base your answers to questions 8 and 9 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"The American System... will gradually and progressively unite the agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial classes of our country, by giving to each its appropriate stimulus, and rendering each, in some degree, dependent upon and serviceable to the others..."

— Henry Clay, speech in the United States House of Representatives, March 1824

8. Henry Clay's American System included which three main elements?

- A. immediate abolition of slavery, free trade with Britain, and federal welfare programs
- B. a protective tariff, a national bank, and federally funded internal improvements
- C. state-funded military expansion, low tariffs, and the immediate purchase of Florida
- D. land redistribution to small farmers, an isolationist foreign policy, and the gold standard

9. The internal improvements component of the American System was intended to

- A. raise federal revenue through new direct taxes on personal individual incomes
- B. block the construction of new railroads and canals across the western territories
- C. limit federal involvement in roads and canals to projects in the southern states
- D. promote national economic unity through federally funded roads, canals, and ports

Base your answers to questions 10 and 11 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"It being the true intent and meaning of this act not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way..."

— Kansas-Nebraska Act, May 1854

10. The principle established by this act for determining the legal status of slavery in the territories was

- A. popular sovereignty, allowing residents to decide the slavery question for themselves
- B. federal supremacy, requiring all new territories to permit the institution of slavery
- C. congressional prohibition, banning slavery throughout all of the federal territories
- D. judicial determination, leaving the slavery question solely to the Supreme Court

11. A major consequence of the act was that it

- A. permanently ended sectional conflict over the future of slavery in the territories
- B. brought about the immediate national abolition of all forms of human slavery
- C. effectively repealed the Missouri Compromise and triggered violence in "Bleeding Kansas"
- D. immediately admitted both Kansas and Nebraska to the Union as free states

Base your answers to questions 12 and 13 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"The lien on the crop has at last involved the very land itself in a slavery scarcely less hopeless than the chains which were broken at the close of the war. The system of the share-cropper... reduces the negro to a state of semi-bondage..."

— Henry W. Grady, report on conditions in the postwar South, 1880s

12. The sharecropping system described in this passage developed primarily as a response to

- A. the rapid mechanization of southern cotton agriculture during Reconstruction
- B. the postwar shortage of cash, credit, and labor in the agricultural South
- C. the immediate federal redistribution of land to formerly enslaved African Americans
- D. the long-term collapse of the international demand for southern cotton exports

13. The conditions described in this passage suggest that for many freedpeople, the Reconstruction era resulted in

- A. continued economic dependence and limited progress toward true economic freedom
- B. immediate ownership of large tracts of southern farmland through federal land grants
- C. successful and rapid integration into the industrial wage economy of the urban North
- D. the immediate end of all forms of racial discrimination in the southern states

Base your answers to questions 14 and 15 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"Whereas, in the opinion of the Government of the United States the coming of Chinese laborers to this country endangers the good order of certain localities within the territory thereof: Therefore... the coming of Chinese laborers to the United States be... suspended..."

— Chinese Exclusion Act, May 1882

14. A primary purpose of this act was to

- A. encourage further Chinese immigration to develop the western American economy
- B. extend full American citizenship rights to Chinese laborers already in the United States
- C. fund the construction of additional federal transcontinental railroad lines across the West
- D. prohibit the further entry of most Chinese laborers into the territory of the United States

15. This law was significant in United States history because it

- A. opened the United States to large-scale immigration from countries across East Asia
- B. was the first major federal law to restrict immigration on the basis of national origin
- C. extended the constitutional right of birthright citizenship to Chinese American children

D. abolished all federal restrictions on immigration to the United States from foreign nations

Base your answers to questions 16 and 17 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"To provide for the establishment of Federal reserve banks, to furnish an elastic currency, to afford means of rediscounting commercial paper, to establish a more effective supervision of banking in the United States..."

— Federal Reserve Act, December 1913

16. The Federal Reserve Act was enacted during the presidency of

- A. President William McKinley during the late nineteenth century before 1900
- B. President Theodore Roosevelt during the early years of the Progressive Era
- C. President Woodrow Wilson during his first term in the White House
- D. President Warren G. Harding during the period following the First World War

17. A primary purpose of the Federal Reserve System established by this act was to

- A. stabilize the national banking system and provide a flexible national currency
- B. eliminate all federal regulation of banking and banking practices nationwide
- C. nationalize all private commercial banks operating within the United States
- D. permanently fix the value of the United States dollar to the price of silver

Base your answers to questions 18 and 19 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited."

— Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified 1919

18. The primary purpose of this amendment was to

- A. permit the regulated commercial sale of alcohol under federal license throughout the country
- B. transfer responsibility for alcohol regulation entirely to the individual state governments
- C. extend the right to vote in alcohol-related referendums to all American adult women
- D. prohibit the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages in the United States

19. An unintended consequence of this amendment was the

- A. immediate reduction of organized criminal activity across the United States to historic lows
- B. growth of organized crime and bootlegging networks supplying illegal alcohol
- C. permanent end of cultural conflict between rural and urban Americans across the country
- D. ratification of a new constitutional amendment expanding federal taxes on alcohol consumption

Base your answers to questions 20 and 21 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"I have here in my hand a list of two hundred and five—a list of names that were made known to the Secretary of State as being members of the Communist Party and who nevertheless are still working and shaping policy in the State Department."

— Senator Joseph McCarthy, speech in Wheeling, West Virginia, February 1950

20. McCarthy's speech and similar accusations of this period are most closely associated with the

- A. American debate over racial integration of the United States armed forces after the war
- B. American withdrawal from international affairs following the conclusion of the Second World War
- C. Second Red Scare and widespread fear of communist subversion in the federal government
- D. women's suffrage movement seeking federal constitutional protection of national voting rights

21. A long-term consequence of the era described in this passage was the

- A. immediate abolition of all loyalty programs for federal employees by an act of Congress
- B. complete restoration of full diplomatic relations between the United States and the USSR
- C. reduction of American military commitments to the nations of Western Europe under NATO
- D. damage to the reputations and careers of many Americans accused without evidence of disloyalty

Base your answers to questions 22 and 23 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress approves and supports the determination of the President, as Commander in Chief, to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression."

— Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, August 1964

22. The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution served as the principal congressional authorization for the

- A. major American military escalation of involvement in the war in Vietnam
- B. immediate American withdrawal of forces from the territory of South Vietnam
- C. formal declaration of war by Congress against the People's Republic of China
- D. American participation in the multinational coalition during the Persian Gulf War

23. A long-term consequence of the experience described in this passage was the

- A. immediate restoration of full presidential authority over all American military deployments
- B. dissolution of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization at the end of the Vietnam conflict
- C. passage of the War Powers Resolution in 1973 limiting unilateral presidential war-making
- D. enactment of a constitutional amendment requiring a public referendum before any war

Base your answers to questions 24 and 25 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"This right of privacy... is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate her pregnancy. The detriment that the State would impose upon the pregnant woman by denying this choice altogether is apparent."

— Justice Harry Blackmun, *Roe v. Wade*, 1973

24. The Supreme Court's decision in this case held that

- A. all state governments retained complete and unlimited authority to regulate abortion
- B. the constitutional right to privacy protected a woman's decision to end a pregnancy
- C. only the federal Congress could make any laws regarding the regulation of abortion
- D. the Constitution provided no privacy protection for any decisions concerning reproduction

25. The constitutional basis for the right described in this passage was rooted in

- A. the explicit text of the Second Amendment's protection of the right to keep and bear arms
- B. the express guarantees of religious free exercise written into the text of the First Amendment
- C. the Tenth Amendment reservation of all unenumerated powers solely to the individual states
- D. an implied right of personal privacy that the Court derived from several amendments

Base your answers to questions 26 through 28 on the political cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.



26. The cartoonist's main point in this image is that President Theodore Roosevelt
- A. opposed any active American involvement in the political affairs of the Caribbean region
 - B. supported the immediate independence of all Caribbean and Latin American nations from the United States
 - C. used the threat of American military force to project American power across the Caribbean
 - D. demanded the immediate dismantling of the United States Navy and the closure of American bases
27. The foreign policy approach depicted in this cartoon is most directly associated with the
- A. Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine asserting United States police power in the hemisphere
 - B. League of Nations created by President Wilson at the end of the First World War in Europe
 - C. Open Door Policy proposed by Secretary of State John Hay for trade with China
 - D. Marshall Plan adopted by President Truman to provide aid to postwar Western Europe
28. A specific historical event that reflected the policy depicted in this cartoon was the

- A. American refusal to construct any interoceanic canal across the isthmus of Central America
- B. American support for Panamanian independence from Colombia and the construction of the Panama Canal
- C. Spanish-American War, fought entirely within the territorial boundaries of the United States
- D. American withdrawal of all naval forces from the Caribbean during the early twentieth century

PRACTICE EXAM 14 –ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

1. D — Winthrop addressed the Massachusetts Bay colonists as they prepared to settle, urging them to recognize that their colony was being watched by the world and would either justify or shame their religious mission. The "city upon a hill" language framed the colony's success as a moral and spiritual test before God and other nations.

2. A — Puritans believed they had entered a covenant with God to build an exemplary godly community in the New World, and Winthrop's image expressed the idea that their conduct would be visible to all peoples as evidence of that mission. The metaphor cast the colony as a public model of Christian virtue.

3. C — Winthrop's vision of a uniquely chosen community with a worldwide mission became a foundational source of the later American belief in exceptionalism — the idea that the United States has a distinctive role and responsibility among the world's nations. The "city on a hill" phrasing has been invoked by leaders ranging from John F. Kennedy to Ronald Reagan.

4. B — The First Amendment restricts the federal government from infringing on the freedoms of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition. Its purpose was to safeguard core civil liberties identified during the ratification debates as needing explicit constitutional protection.

5. A — The First Amendment was ratified in December 1791 as part of the Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments adopted together to address Anti-Federalist concerns that the original Constitution lacked sufficient protection of individual liberties. James Madison drafted and shepherded the package through Congress.

6. D — The Sedition Act criminalized criticism of the federal government and its officers, an obvious tension with the First Amendment's guarantees of free speech and press adopted only seven years earlier. Jefferson and Madison led the constitutional challenge to the act on exactly that ground.

7. C — In the Virginia Resolutions (Madison) and Kentucky Resolutions (Jefferson) of 1798–1799, the two states argued that the federal government had exceeded its constitutional powers and that states could judge and resist unconstitutional federal laws. The resolutions introduced the doctrine of state interposition and nullification into American political debate.

8. B — Clay's American System bundled together a protective tariff to shield American industry, a national bank to provide credit and stable currency, and federally funded internal improvements such as roads and canals to knit regional economies together. The three elements were meant to operate as a single integrated program.

9. D — Federal funding for internal improvements — including the National Road, river and harbor work, and proposed canals — was intended to lower transportation costs and connect western producers, southern farmers, and eastern manufacturers into a single national market. The goal was economic integration rather than mere regional development.

10. A — The act applied the doctrine of popular sovereignty, allowing settlers in Kansas and Nebraska to decide for themselves whether their territories would permit slavery rather than having Congress impose a rule. Senator Stephen Douglas championed the principle to win southern support for organizing the territories.

11. C — By opening the door to slavery north of latitude 36°30', the act effectively repealed the Missouri Compromise and unleashed a violent contest between pro- and anti-slavery settlers known as "Bleeding Kansas." The crisis helped shatter the Whig Party and gave rise to the Republican Party.

12. B — After the Civil War, the South was capital-poor, and the destruction of the plantation system left landowners short of cash to pay wages and freedpeople without land to farm. Sharecropping arose as a compromise: landlords supplied land, tools, and seed while tenant families paid with a share of the crop, often under exploitative terms.

13. A — The crop-lien and share systems trapped many freedpeople in cycles of debt that bound them to the land they worked without producing real ownership or autonomy. Although slavery had ended in law, the economic order that replaced it left most southern African Americans in a condition of continued dependence rather than full economic freedom.

14. D — The Chinese Exclusion Act suspended the entry of Chinese laborers for ten years and barred those already in the United States from naturalizing, in response to economic pressures and racial hostility on the West Coast. Subsequent extensions and the 1902 reauthorization made the restrictions effectively permanent until 1943.

15. B — The act marked the first time the federal government had restricted immigration by targeting a specific national-origin group, breaking from a long pattern of relatively open European immigration. It established a precedent that would expand into the broader national-origins quota system of the 1920s.

16. C — The Federal Reserve Act was signed by President Woodrow Wilson in December 1913 during the first year of his first term, as part of his "New Freedom" reform agenda. It joined other major Wilson-era reforms such as the Underwood Tariff and the Clayton Antitrust Act of 1914.

17. A — The system was created to give the United States a central banking structure capable of expanding or contracting the money supply, serving as a lender of last resort, and supervising member banks. Its goal was to prevent the recurring panics that had plagued the unregulated banking system, including the major Panic of 1907.

18. D — The Eighteenth Amendment banned the manufacture, sale, and transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes throughout the United States, implementing the longstanding goals of the temperance movement at the constitutional level. The Volstead Act of 1919 then provided the enforcement machinery.

19. B — Prohibition created a vast illegal market for alcohol, which organized crime networks rose to supply through bootlegging, smuggling, and speakeasies, enriching figures such as Al Capone. The resulting lawlessness was one of the principal reasons for the Twenty-First Amendment's repeal in 1933.

20. C — McCarthy's accusations exemplified the Second Red Scare, the postwar wave of fear that communists had infiltrated the federal government, schools, unions, and the entertainment industry. The era was shaped by events such as the Soviet atomic test of 1949, the fall of China, and the Hiss and Rosenberg cases.

21. D — Many federal employees, teachers, actors, and union members were investigated, blacklisted, or fired on the basis of accusations and guilt by association, even when no evidence of disloyalty existed. McCarthy himself was censured by the Senate in 1954, but the era's reputational damage to thousands of innocent Americans is its lasting legacy.

22. A — President Lyndon Johnson used the resolution as broad legal authority to deploy hundreds of thousands of American combat troops to South Vietnam and to expand bombing campaigns against North Vietnam. The resolution functioned for nearly a decade as the substitute for a formal declaration of war.

23. C — Anger over how the Tonkin Gulf Resolution had been used to expand the Vietnam War led Congress to pass the War Powers Resolution of 1973 over President Nixon's veto. The law required presidents to notify Congress within forty-eight hours of deploying forces and to withdraw them within sixty to ninety days absent congressional authorization.

24. B — In a 7–2 decision, the Supreme Court held that the constitutional right of privacy included a woman's decision whether to continue a pregnancy, subject to increasing state interest as the pregnancy progressed. The ruling struck down most existing state criminal abortion statutes.

25. D — Justice Blackmun's opinion located the right of privacy in a combination of the Fourteenth Amendment's due process liberty and rights implied by the First, Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, and Fourteenth Amendments, drawing on earlier privacy decisions such as *Griswold v. Connecticut* (1965). The right was therefore implied rather than explicitly enumerated in the Constitution.

26. C — Roosevelt's signature phrase "speak softly and carry a big stick" expressed his belief that diplomacy worked best when backed by visible military force. The cartoon shows him striding among Caribbean nations with the U.S. Navy at his back, making clear that American influence rested on the credible threat of intervention.

27. A — The Roosevelt Corollary, announced in 1904, asserted that the United States had the right to act as an "international police power" in the Western Hemisphere to forestall European intervention when Latin American nations defaulted on debts or fell into instability. It transformed the defensive Monroe Doctrine into a justification for active American intervention.

28. B — In 1903 the Roosevelt administration backed a Panamanian revolt against Colombia and quickly recognized the new Republic of Panama, securing a treaty that allowed the United States to build and control the Panama Canal. The canal, opened in 1914, became the most striking material symbol of the policy depicted in the cartoon.