

PRACTICE EXAM 46: 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.

"In 1793, Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, a machine that quickly removed seeds from cotton. The invention made cotton far more profitable and greatly increased the demand for enslaved labor in the South."

— Account of the cotton gin

1. A major effect of the cotton gin was that it
 - A. increased the demand for enslaved labor in the South
 - B. ended the use of enslaved labor on southern farms
 - C. reduced the profitability of growing cotton
 - D. shifted cotton production to the northern states

2. The cotton gin made the growing of cotton
 - A. far less profitable than other southern crops
 - B. impossible without machinery from the North
 - C. far more profitable and important to the southern economy
 - D. a minor part of the economy of the South

3. The spread of cotton production after the invention of the cotton gin helped to
 - A. weaken the institution of slavery in the South
 - B. reduce sectional tensions between North and South
 - C. shift the southern economy toward manufacturing
 - D. strengthen the South's dependence on slavery

Base your answers to questions 4 through 6 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"The Constitution created the Electoral College as the system for electing the president. Citizens vote for electors in each state, and those electors then cast votes for president based on the results in their state."

— Description of the Electoral College

4. Under the Electoral College system, the president is chosen by

- A. a direct nationwide popular vote of all citizens
- B. electors selected in each of the states
- C. the members of the United States Senate
- D. the governors of the individual states

5. The number of electors each state receives is based on

- A. the amount of land within each state
- B. the wealth and tax revenue of each state
- C. the size of the state's representation in Congress
- D. the number of political parties in the state

6. The Electoral College was created as a compromise between

- A. choosing the president by Congress and by a direct popular vote
- B. the power of the federal courts and the state legislatures
- C. the rights of the states and the power of the president
- D. the interests of farmers and those of merchants

Base your answers to questions 7 through 9 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"In the early nineteenth century, textile factories in towns like Lowell, Massachusetts, employed young women to operate machines. The growth of the factory system was part of a broader shift toward industry in the North."

— Account of the Lowell mills

7. The Lowell mills are an example of the early growth of

- A. plantation agriculture in the southern states
- B. the factory system in the northern states
- C. the cattle ranching industry in the West
- D. small family farms across the frontier

8. Many of the workers in the early Lowell textile mills were

- A. enslaved people brought from the southern states
- B. immigrants arriving from the nations of Asia
- C. skilled craftsmen from the European countries
- D. young women from the surrounding farm communities

9. The growth of the factory system in the North contributed to

- A. the decline of manufacturing in the United States
- B. the spread of plantation agriculture to the North
- C. the development of an industrial economy in the region
- D. a return to a purely agricultural way of life

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

"During Reconstruction, the Ku Klux Klan used violence and intimidation to prevent African Americans from voting and to undermine Reconstruction governments in the South."

— Account of the Ku Klux Klan

10. During Reconstruction, the Ku Klux Klan used violence mainly to

- A. prevent African Americans from voting and exercising their rights
- B. protect the rights of formerly enslaved people
- C. support the Reconstruction governments in the South
- D. help African Americans gain land and education

11. The activities of the Ku Klux Klan during Reconstruction helped to

- A. strengthen the political power of African Americans
- B. undermine the rights African Americans had gained
- C. promote cooperation between the races in the South
- D. enforce the Reconstruction Amendments in the South

Base your answers to questions 12 through 14 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"John D. Rockefeller built the Standard Oil Company into a giant corporation that controlled most of the oil industry. By eliminating competitors, Standard Oil became a near-monopoly in its field."

— Account of Standard Oil

12. The Standard Oil Company is an example of a

- A. small family-owned business in a competitive market
- B. company owned and operated by the federal government

- C. labor union organized to protect workers' rights
- D. monopoly that controlled most of an industry

13. Rockefeller built Standard Oil into a giant corporation by

- A. eliminating competitors and controlling the oil industry
- B. dividing the company into many small competing firms
- C. sharing control of the industry with labor unions
- D. turning the company over to government ownership

14. Public concern over companies like Standard Oil led the government to

- A. encourage the growth of larger monopolies
- B. provide subsidies to the largest corporations
- C. pass laws regulating monopolies and trusts
- D. transfer ownership of industry to private hands

Base your answers to questions 15 through 17 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"Ida Tarbell was a journalist who investigated the practices of the Standard Oil Company. Writers like Tarbell, who exposed corruption and abuses in business and government, were known as muckrakers."

— Account of Ida Tarbell

15. Ida Tarbell is best known for

- A. defending the business practices of Standard Oil
- B. exposing the practices of the Standard Oil Company
- C. organizing workers into national labor unions
- D. inventing new technologies for the oil industry

16. Journalists like Ida Tarbell who exposed corruption and abuses were known as

- A. abolitionists
- B. populists
- C. nativists
- D. muckrakers

17. The work of muckrakers like Tarbell helped to

- A. build public support for Progressive reforms
- B. defend large corporations from government regulation
- C. reduce public interest in social and economic problems
- D. weaken the movement for reform in the United States

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

"President William Howard Taft promoted a foreign policy known as 'Dollar Diplomacy.' It encouraged American businesses to invest in other countries, especially in Latin America, as a way to expand American influence."

— Description of Dollar Diplomacy

18. The policy of "Dollar Diplomacy" sought to expand American influence through

- A. the threat of military force against other nations
- B. alliances with the major powers of Europe
- C. the investment of American businesses in other countries
- D. the acquisition of overseas colonies by force

19. Dollar Diplomacy was used most often in American relations with

- A. the nations of Western Europe
- B. the countries of Latin America
- C. the empires of the Pacific region
- D. the nations of northern Africa

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

"The Teapot Dome scandal of the 1920s involved government officials who secretly leased federal oil reserves to private companies in exchange for bribes. The scandal damaged public trust in the government."

— Account of the Teapot Dome scandal

20. The Teapot Dome scandal involved government officials who

- A. raised taxes on American oil companies
- B. nationalized the nation's oil reserves
- C. reduced the federal government's role in business
- D. accepted bribes to lease federal oil reserves

21. A major effect of the Teapot Dome scandal was that it

- A. strengthened public trust in the federal government
- B. led to the nationalization of the oil industry
- C. damaged public trust in the government
- D. ended all private investment in oil production

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

"During the 1930s, severe drought and poor farming practices turned much of the Great Plains into a region of dust storms known as the Dust Bowl. Many farm families were forced to leave their land and migrate west."

— Account of the Dust Bowl

22. A major cause of the Dust Bowl was the combination of

- A. severe drought and poor farming practices
- B. heavy rainfall and frequent flooding of farmland
- C. the rapid industrialization of the Great Plains
- D. government restrictions on western farming

23. A major effect of the Dust Bowl was that

- A. farming on the Great Plains became more profitable
- B. most farm families remained on their land
- C. the population of the Great Plains increased sharply
- D. many farm families were forced to migrate west

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

"During World War II, American forces in the Pacific used a strategy known as 'island hopping.' They captured key islands while bypassing others, gradually moving closer to Japan."

— Account of the Pacific War

24. The strategy of "island hopping" involved

- A. attacking every Japanese-held island in the Pacific
- B. capturing key islands while bypassing others
- C. avoiding all combat with Japanese forces
- D. defending American islands without advancing

25. The goal of the island-hopping strategy was to

- A. move American forces gradually closer to Japan
- B. withdraw American forces from the Pacific region
- C. defend the western coast of the United States
- D. capture the colonies of the European powers

Base your answer to question 26 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"After World War II, many Americans moved from cities to the suburbs. Developments like Levittown offered affordable, mass-produced houses, and the growth of suburbs was aided by new highways and rising car ownership."

— Account of postwar suburbanization

26. A major reason for the growth of suburbs after World War II was the

- A. decline in the number of automobiles owned by families
- B. lack of available housing outside of the major cities
- C. availability of affordable housing and new highways
- D. movement of most Americans back into the cities

Base your answers to questions 27 and 28 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"During the early Cold War, the House Un-American Activities Committee, or HUAC, investigated Americans suspected of communist ties. Some people in the film industry were placed on a blacklist and could no longer find work."

— Account of HUAC and the blacklist

27. The House Un-American Activities Committee was created to

- A. promote cooperation with the Soviet Union
- B. defend Americans accused of communist ties
- C. expand the civil liberties of American citizens
- D. investigate Americans suspected of communist ties

28. The Hollywood blacklist is an example of how the Cold War

- A. expanded the civil liberties of American citizens
- B. led to the violation of some Americans' rights
- C. strengthened cooperation among film studios
- D. encouraged the spread of communist ideas

ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS – PRACTICE EXAM 46

1. A — A major effect of the cotton gin was that it increased the demand for enslaved labor in the South. By making cotton more profitable, it expanded cotton farming. More plantations meant a greater demand for enslaved workers.

- 2. C** — The cotton gin made growing cotton far more profitable and important to the southern economy. Quick seed removal boosted cotton production dramatically. Cotton became the South's dominant cash crop.
- 3. D** — The spread of cotton helped strengthen the South's dependence on slavery. As cotton became central to the economy, so did enslaved labor. This entrenched slavery deeper in southern life.
- 4. B** — Under the Electoral College, the president is chosen by electors selected in each state. Voters cast ballots for electors, who then vote for president. This indirect system was established by the Constitution.
- 5. C** — The number of electors is based on the size of a state's representation in Congress. Each state's electors equal its senators plus representatives. This ties electoral power to congressional representation.
- 6. A** — The Electoral College was a compromise between choosing the president by Congress and by direct popular vote. The framers debated both methods at the convention. The electoral system balanced these competing approaches.
- 7. B** — The Lowell mills are an example of the early growth of the factory system in the North. Textile factories used machines and wage workers. They represented the rise of northern industry.
- 8. D** — Many early Lowell workers were young women from the surrounding farm communities. Mills recruited "mill girls" to operate the machines. They formed much of the early factory workforce.
- 9. C** — The growth of the factory system contributed to the development of an industrial economy in the North. Manufacturing expanded as factories spread. This shifted the region toward industry.
- 10. A** — The Klan used violence mainly to prevent African Americans from voting and exercising their rights. It terrorized Black citizens and their allies. This aimed to restore white control in the South.
- 11. B** — The Klan's activities helped undermine the rights African Americans had gained. Intimidation suppressed Black political participation. This eroded the gains of Reconstruction.
- 12. D** — Standard Oil is an example of a monopoly that controlled most of an industry. Rockefeller's company dominated oil production and refining. Its size gave it enormous market power.
- 13. A** — Rockefeller built Standard Oil by eliminating competitors and controlling the oil industry. He bought out or undercut rivals to gain dominance. This near-monopoly controlled the field.
- 14. C** — Public concern over such companies led the government to pass laws regulating monopolies and trusts. Measures like the Sherman Antitrust Act targeted these combinations. This reflected demands to curb corporate power.
- 15. B** — Tarbell is best known for exposing the practices of the Standard Oil Company. Her investigative reporting revealed its ruthless methods. This brought public scrutiny to the company.

- 16. D** — Journalists who exposed corruption and abuses were known as muckrakers. They investigated wrongdoing in business and government. Their reporting fueled calls for reform.
- 17. A** — The work of muckrakers helped build public support for Progressive reforms. Their exposés roused public outrage over abuses. This pressure encouraged reform legislation.
- 18. C** — Dollar Diplomacy sought to expand American influence through the investment of American businesses abroad. It used economic ties rather than military force. Investment was meant to extend United States influence.
- 19. B** — Dollar Diplomacy was used most often in American relations with the countries of Latin America. The United States encouraged investment there to gain influence. The region was a focus of this policy.
- 20. D** — The Teapot Dome scandal involved officials who accepted bribes to lease federal oil reserves. They secretly handed public oil lands to private companies. The corruption became a major scandal.
- 21. C** — A major effect was that it damaged public trust in the government. The scandal exposed corruption at high levels. This eroded confidence in federal officials.
- 22. A** — A major cause of the Dust Bowl was the combination of severe drought and poor farming practices. Overfarming had stripped the soil, and drought turned it to dust. Together they produced devastating dust storms.
- 23. D** — A major effect was that many farm families were forced to migrate west. Ruined land drove farmers from their homes. Many sought work in states like California.
- 24. B** — Island hopping involved capturing key islands while bypassing others. American forces seized strategic positions and skipped heavily defended ones. This conserved resources while advancing.
- 25. A** — The goal was to move American forces gradually closer to Japan. Each captured island brought the military nearer to the Japanese mainland. This strategy steadily tightened the approach.
- 26. C** — A major reason for suburban growth was the availability of affordable housing and new highways. Mass-produced homes and improved roads made suburbs accessible. Rising car ownership supported the shift.
- 27. D** — HUAC was created to investigate Americans suspected of communist ties. It questioned individuals about alleged subversive activities. The committee reflected Cold War anticommunist fears.
- 28. B** — The blacklist is an example of how the Cold War led to the violation of some Americans' rights. People lost their jobs based on suspicion or accusation. This reflected the era's threats to civil liberties.