

GRADE 8
Social Studies

Administered May 2018

RELEASED

SOCIAL STUDIES

DIRECTIONS

Read each question carefully. Determine the best answer to the question from the four answer choices provided. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

1

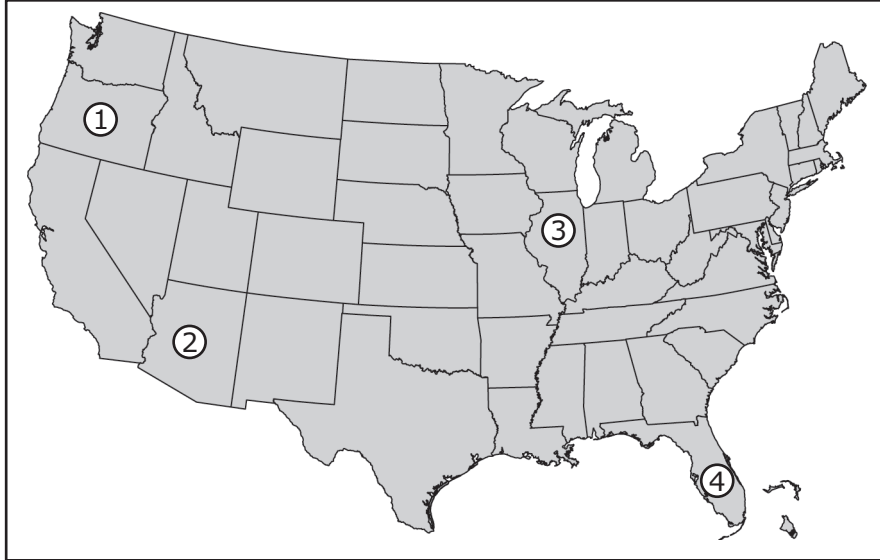
History and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of Republican government. . . . It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances.

—*President George Washington's Farewell Address, 1796*

The idea expressed in this quote is that the United States should avoid —

- A becoming involved in the political affairs of other countries
- B being a part of a global trade network
- C establishing U.S. territories overseas
- D allowing U.S. citizens to emigrate

Contiguous United States



Which numbered state did the United States acquire from Spain in 1819?

- F** 1
- G** 2
- H** 3
- J** 4

-
- 3** The development of the factory system in the early 1800s caused —
- A** a decrease in free trade between nations
 - B** an increase in government regulation of businesses
 - C** an increase in production levels
 - D** a decrease in immigration

4

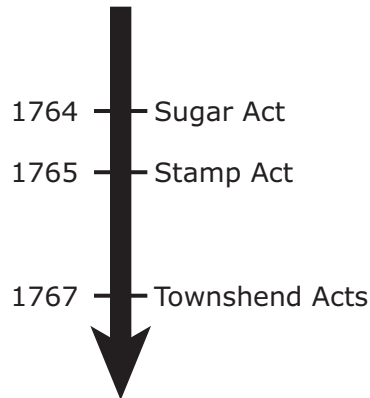
Articles of Confederation

- Did not grant a federal power to tax or regulate commerce
- Did not establish a common currency
- Did not establish an executive or judicial branch

What does this list suggest about the drafters of the Articles of Confederation?

- F** They did not want a judicial system based upon that of Great Britain.
 - G** They feared that a strong central government would abuse its power.
 - H** They were uncertain that democracy would continue to be the best type of government.
 - J** They did not think that state governments could provide for the general welfare.
-

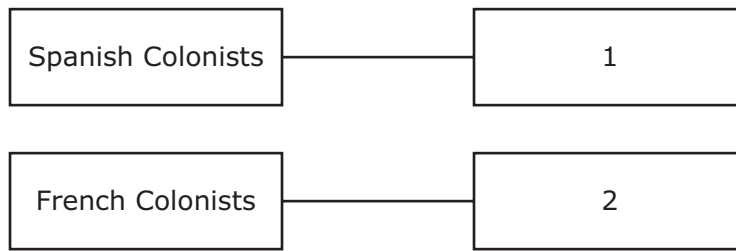
5



What was the primary reason Parliament passed these acts?

- A** To promote the growth of cottage industries in the colonies
- B** To encourage foreign trade with the colonies
- C** To recover the cost of defending the colonies
- D** To fund the establishment of new colonies

6



Which pair of actions best completes this graphic?

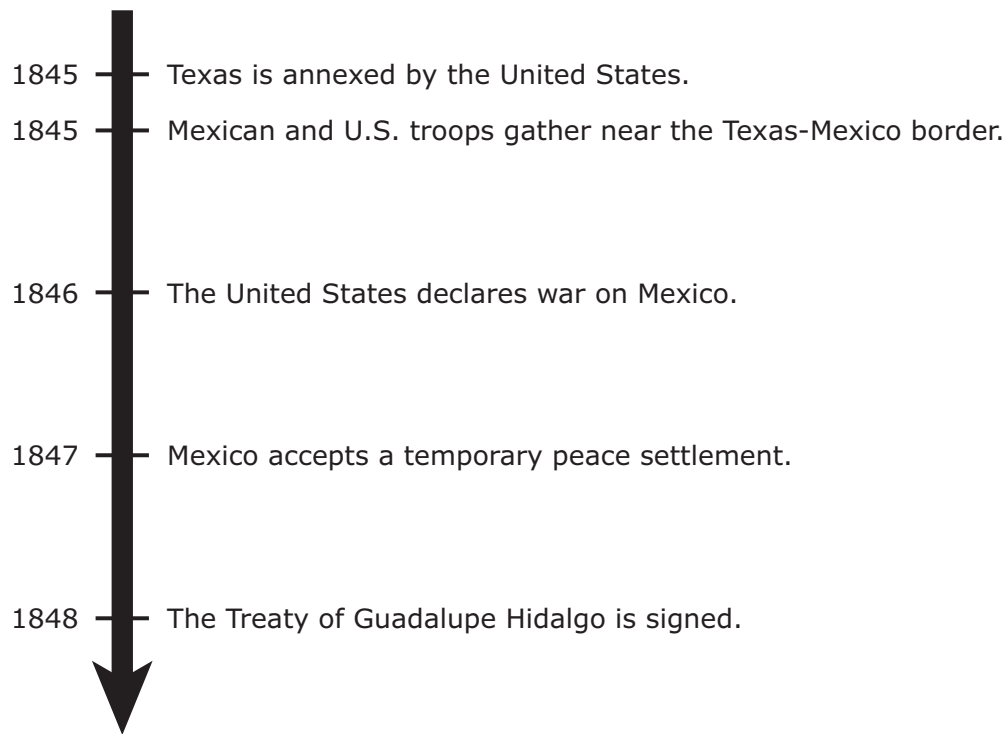
- F** 1—Enslaved native populations
2—Organized utopian societies
- G** 1—Established Catholic missions
2—Focused primarily on fur trading
- H** 1—Promoted political freedom
2—Participated in the triangular trade
- J** 1—Became commercial shipbuilders
2—Created an early system of public schools

7 Which of the following is most associated with the formation of the Democratic Party?

- A** The election of Andrew Jackson as president
- B** The use of protective tariffs
- C** The impeachment of President Andrew Johnson
- D** The abolition movement

- 8** The British government issued the Proclamation of 1763 to limit the area British colonists were allowed to settle. Which geographic feature did the British use as the boundary of approved settlement?
- F** Lake Michigan
 - G** Gulf of Mexico
 - H** Mississippi River
 - J** Appalachian Mountains
-

9



Which of the following occurred as a result of these events?

- A** The president of Mexico refused to withdraw troops from Texas.
- B** Parts of southern Texas were returned to Mexico.
- C** The United States acquired several territories from Mexico.
- D** Mexico was forced to sell Florida to the United States.

- 10** What was the main cause of the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson in 1868?
- F** His opposition to the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment
 - G** His refusal to investigate reported criminal activity by the Union army during the Civil War
 - H** His opposition to Radical Reconstruction policies for former Confederate states
 - J** His refusal to use the Homestead Act to redistribute land to former slaves

-
- 11** This painting shows artist Thomas Nast's interpretation of General Robert E. Lee's surrender to General Ulysses S. Grant, which ended the Civil War.



Source: Galena-Jo Daviess County Historical Society

Where did the events shown in this painting occur?

- A** A private home in Appomattox County, Virginia
- B** The U.S. Capitol building
- C** A public church near Ford's Theatre
- D** The Governor's mansion in Richmond, Virginia

12

- Invention of the cotton gin
- Opening of lands along the Mississippi River
- Growing demand for inexpensive labor

Which change occurred as a direct result of these developments?

- F** A reduction in the number of skilled workers in northern states
- G** The expansion of manufacturing into the western territories
- H** A reduction in trade with European countries
- J** The expansion of slavery into newly acquired territories

13

The ____?____ established a government . . . , outlined the process for admitting a new state to the Union, and guaranteed that newly created states would be equal to the original thirteen states. Considered one of the most important legislative acts of the Confederation Congress, the ____?____ also protected civil liberties and outlawed slavery in the new territories.

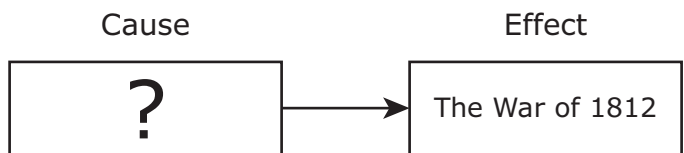
—*“Primary Documents in American History,”*
Library of Congress, www.loc.gov
(accessed May 2, 2014)

Which document completes this excerpt?

- A** Declaration of Independence
- B** Treaty of Ghent
- C** Northwest Ordinance
- D** Louisiana Purchase Treaty

- 14** The Virginia Company authorized a general assembly in Virginia so that colonists could —
- F** self-govern on a local level
 - G** vote in the British Parliament
 - H** participate in a free-market economy
 - J** express dissatisfaction with British rule

15



Which action completes this graphic organizer?

- A French naval attacks on U.S. harbors
- B British invasions of countries allied with the United States
- C French embargoes on trade with the United States
- D British impressment of U.S. sailors

16

Population of Selected U.S. Cities, 1840–1870

Urban Area	1840	1850	1860	1870
New York, NY	312,710	515,547	813,669	942,292
Baltimore, MD	102,313	169,054	212,418	267,354
New Orleans, LA	102,193	116,375	168,675	191,418
Philadelphia, PA	93,665	121,376	565,529	674,022
Boston, MA	93,383	136,881	177,840	250,526

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The statistics in this table illustrate population changes associated with —

- F the rise of industrialism in the United States
- G the establishment of a federal income tax
- H a prolonged food shortage in the United States
- J a lengthy war over disputed territory



Corcoran Gallery of Art

The theme represented in this painting is most associated with —

- A** the nineteenth-century temperance movement
- B** books and songs supporting the nativist movement
- C** the works of artists from the Hudson River School
- D** the nineteenth-century industrial boom

-
- 18** How did the Freedmen's Bureau most assist in the reconstruction of the South?
- F** By dividing large plantations and redistributing the property to former slaves
 - G** By creating a militia to help enforce the voting rights of former slaves
 - H** By offering legal assistance and public schooling to former slaves
 - J** By petitioning the government to offer money to former slaves

19 This early map of New England was published in 1677.

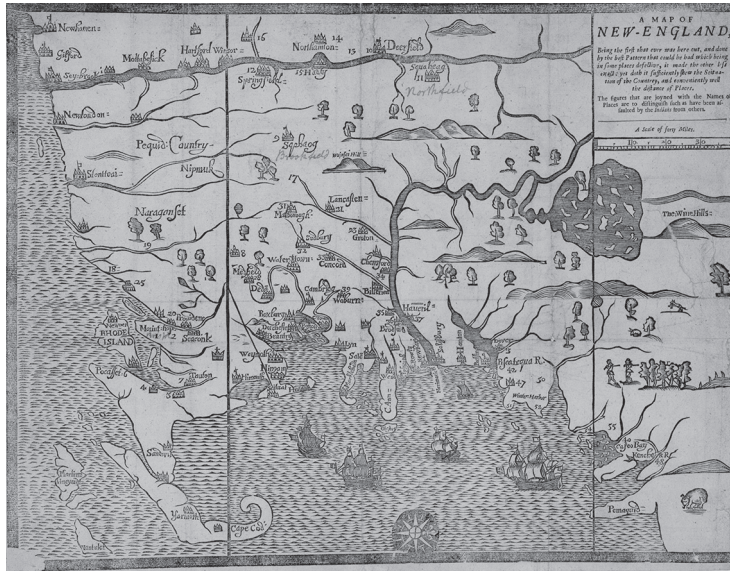
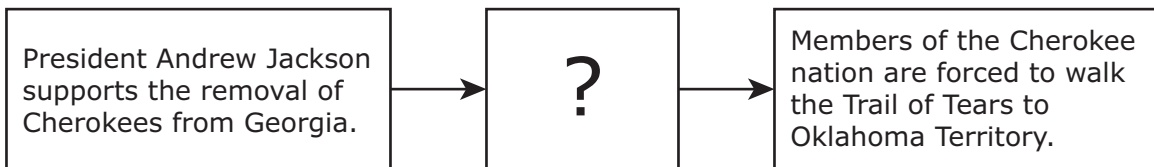


Image courtesy of the Massachusetts Historical Society

Which of the following names the group best known for settling this region and states their reason for settling?

- A Merchants: To trade with the region's American Indians
- B Quakers: To establish a colony free of slavery
- C Explorers: To map the region's rivers
- D Puritans: To freely practice their religion

20



Which of the following correctly completes this graphic organizer?

- F President Jackson annexes land west of the Mississippi River.
- G President Jackson ignores a Supreme Court ruling.
- H President Jackson introduces a bill to Congress.
- J President Jackson vetoes an act passed by Congress.

We [New Englanders] look upon the states, not as separated, but as united. We love to dwell on that union, and on the mutual happiness which it has so much promoted. . . . In our contemplation, Carolina and Ohio are parts of the same country. . . . We do not impose geographical limits to our patriotic feeling or regard. . . .

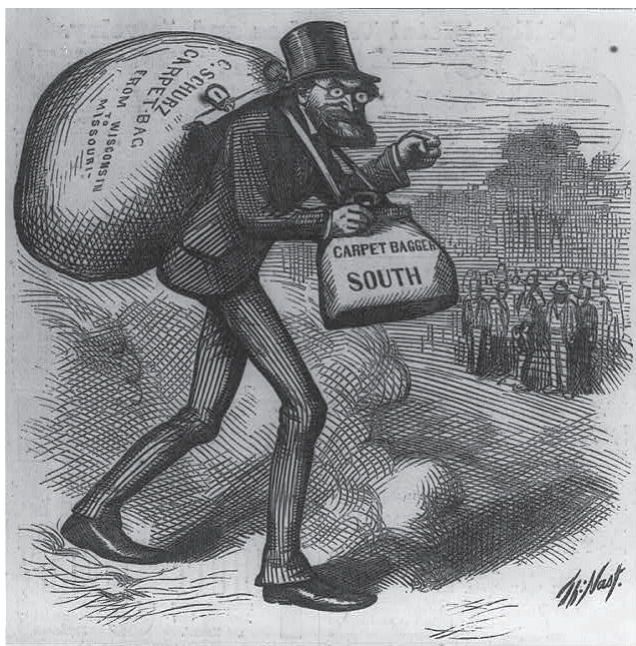
—*Senator Daniel Webster, reply to Senator Robert Hayne, January 1830*

In this reply, Daniel Webster is reacting to —

- A** the inability of citizens to elect Supreme Court justices
 - B** an attempted nullification of a federal law by a state
 - C** a proposal to revise the amendment process of the U.S. Constitution
 - D** the federal seizure of private land for transportation networks
-

22 Which American colony's economy was based primarily on shipbuilding and fishing?

- F** Virginia
- G** Maryland
- H** Georgia
- J** Massachusetts



Source: Library of Congress,
Prints and Photographs Division

This political cartoon comments on events that occurred during the —

- A** Reconstruction era
- B** Age of Jackson
- C** Second Great Awakening
- D** War of 1812

One Way to Amend the U.S. Constitution

Proposal	Ratification
Proposal by a _____ (1) _____ vote in both houses of Congress.	Ratification by three-fourths of the _____ (2) _____.

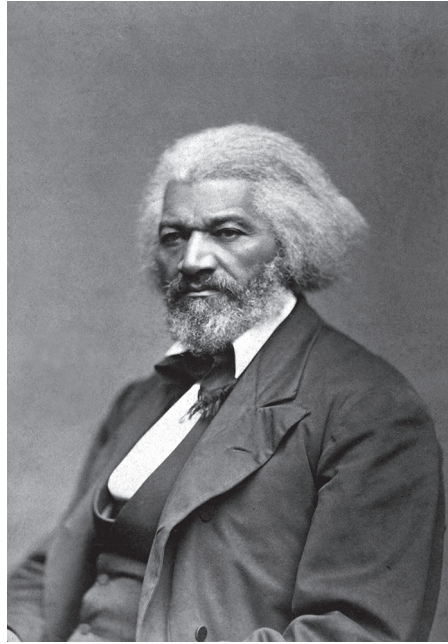
Which numbered pair correctly replaces (1) and (2) in this table?

- F** (1) three-fourths
(2) eligible voters
- G** (1) two-thirds
(2) Electoral College
- H** (1) three-fourths
(2) Supreme Court
- J** (1) two-thirds
(2) state legislatures

25 Which of the following had the greatest impact on the outcome of the Civil War?

- A** Economic differences between the Union and the Confederacy
- B** The amount of military training given to Union forces and Confederacy forces
- C** Religious differences between the Union and the Confederacy
- D** The alignment of foreign allies with the Union or with the Confederacy

Frederick Douglass



Source: NARA

This leader inspired followers of the abolitionist movement by —

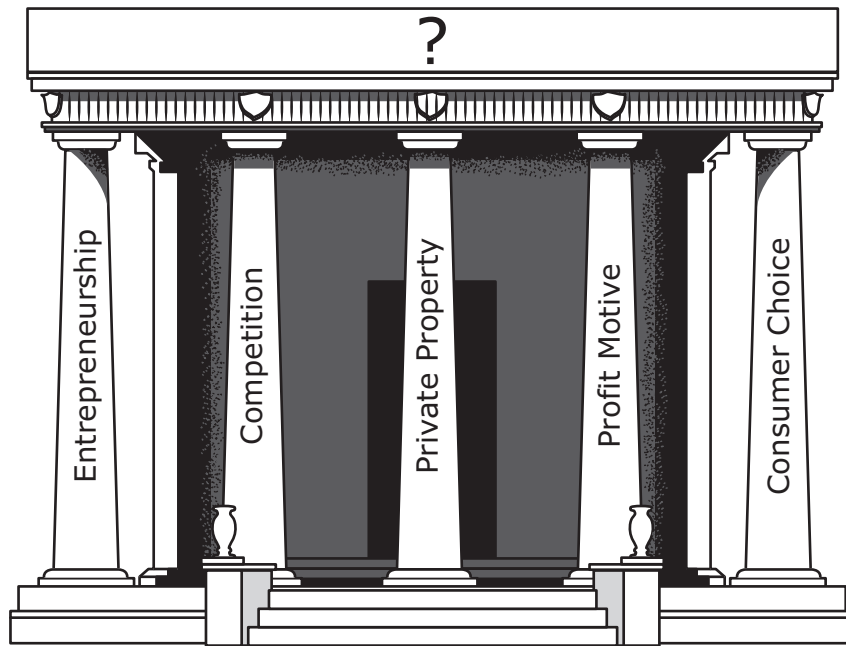
- F** writing *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- G** publishing the anti-slavery newspaper *The North Star*
- H** organizing the Underground Railroad
- J** becoming the first African American senator

The question whether the judges are invested with exclusive authority to decide on the constitutionality of a law has been heretofore a subject of consideration with me in the exercise of official duties. Certainly there is not a word in the Constitution which has given that power to them more than to the Executive or Legislative branches.

—*Thomas Jefferson, 1815*

Which constitutional principle is Jefferson referring to in this excerpt?

- A** Full faith and credit
- B** Popular sovereignty
- C** Federalism
- D** Judicial review



Which of the following best completes this illustration?

- F** Free Enterprise System
- G** Mercantile System
- H** Federalism
- J** Republicanism

29 Which of the following is the best example of an early U.S. struggle to define the domestic authority of the central government?

- A** The XYZ Affair
- B** The War of 1812
- C** The Barbary Wars
- D** The Whiskey Rebellion

30

Bills of rights . . . are not only unnecessary in the proposed Constitution, but would even be dangerous.

Those who agreed with this point of view were known as —

- F Minutemen
- G Loyalists
- H Federalists
- J Patriots

31

Representation in the
U.S. Senate

Equal number of seats for
all states

Representation in the
U.S. House of Representatives

Number of seats based on
state population

Why was this congressional structure created by the framers of the Constitution?

- A To follow the plan outlined in the Articles of Confederation
- B To reach a compromise between large and small states
- C To reach a compromise between slave states and non-slave states
- D To implement the outcome of a popular vote

32 Irish and Chinese immigrants are best remembered for performing which type of labor during the late nineteenth century?

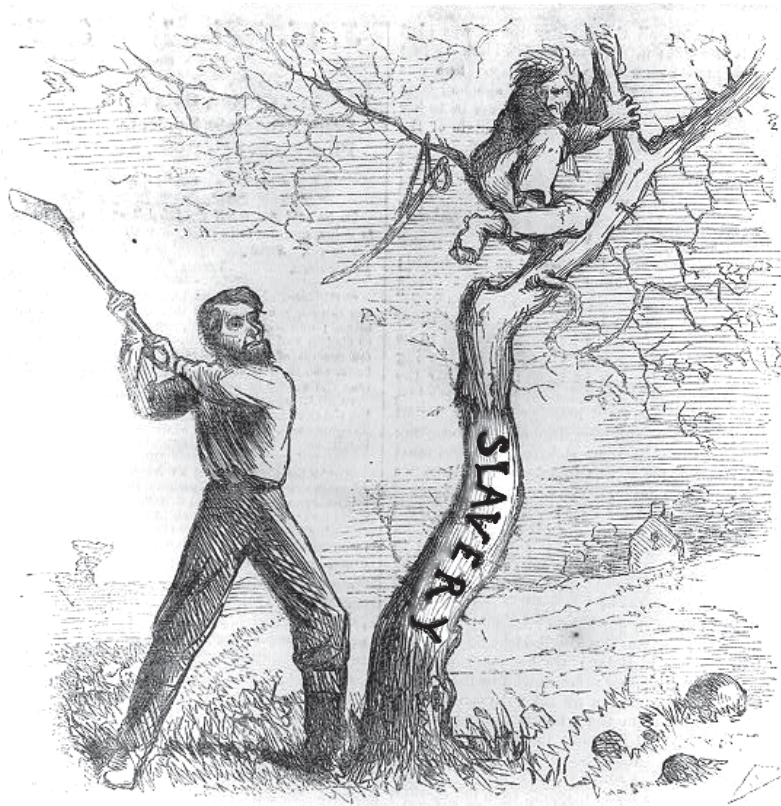
- F** Building dams in the midwestern states
- G** Digging canals across northern states
- H** Building railroads in western territories
- J** Constructing bridges in southern states

33

All you need is an open mind and a readiness to work with the other[s] . . . to make decisions. You also need to be impartial—in other words, your decisions must not be influenced by personal feelings and biases.

This statement is most likely from a handbook designed to prepare citizens for —

- A** voting in elections
- B** jury duty
- C** paying income taxes
- D** military service



LINCOLN'S LAST WARNING.

"Now, if you don't come down, I'll cut the Tree *from under you*."

Source: Library of Congress,
Prints and Photographs Division

How did President Lincoln succeed in permanently abolishing the practice represented by the tree in this cartoon?

- F** By ordering the use of popular sovereignty to decide the issue of slavery
- G** By encouraging an armed rebellion of slaves in the South
- H** By promoting the passage and ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment
- J** By helping abolitionists fund the Underground Railroad

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

—*U.S. Constitution, Tenth Amendment*

What was the purpose of this amendment?

- A** To encourage citizens to monitor the federal government
- B** To prevent conflicts between state and local governments
- C** To limit the authority of the federal government
- D** To increase the participation of citizens in state government

36 The reform efforts of Dorothea Dix during the mid-nineteenth century led to —

- F** improved education for immigrant children
- G** the creation of worker safety regulations
- H** the expansion of suffrage for women
- J** improved facilities for the mentally ill and disabled

- The potential for new markets
- An abundance of inexpensive farmland
- The discovery of gold

Which title best completes this list?

- A** Economic Motives for Passing the Northwest Ordinance
- B** Reasons for Issuing the Monroe Doctrine
- C** Economic Motives for Manifest Destiny Policies
- D** Reasons for the Gadsden Purchase

38 How did the growth of the railway system during the nineteenth century affect the U.S. economy?

- F** By helping expand the commercial markets of U.S. companies
- G** By making it easier for people in rural areas to work in urban factories
- H** By helping strengthen the economic ties between U.S. and British companies
- J** By permitting faster communication between corporate leaders and their employees

A number of brave & resolute men, determined to do all in their power to save their country from the ruin which their enemies had plotted, in less than four hours, emptied every chest of tea on board the three ships commanded by the captains Hall, Bruce, and Coffin, amounting to 342 chests, into the sea!! without the least damage done to the ships or any other property. The matters and owners are well pleas'd that their ships are thus clear'd; and the people are almost universally congratulating each other on this happy event.

—*Boston Gazette, 1773*

The actions described in this excerpt were carried out in order to —

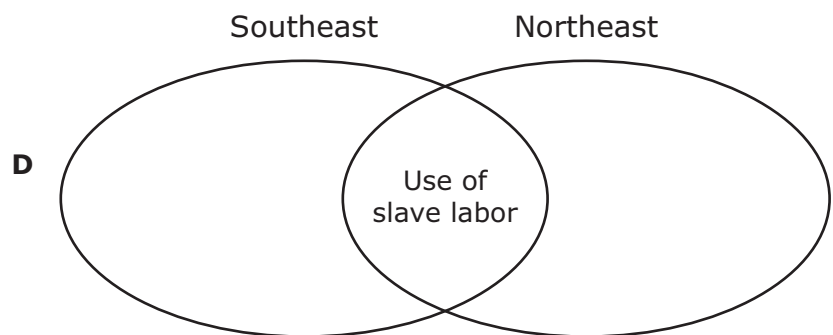
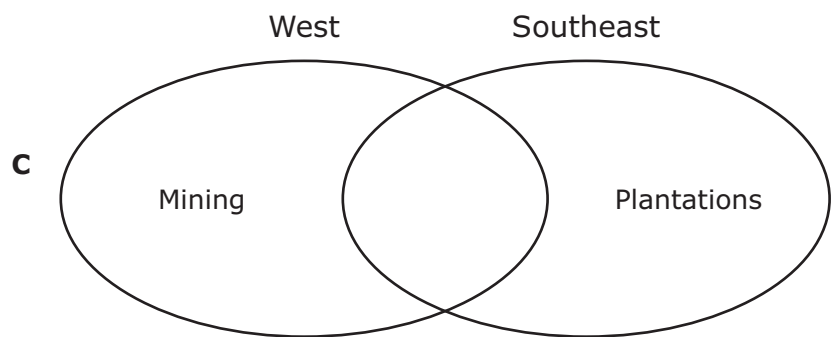
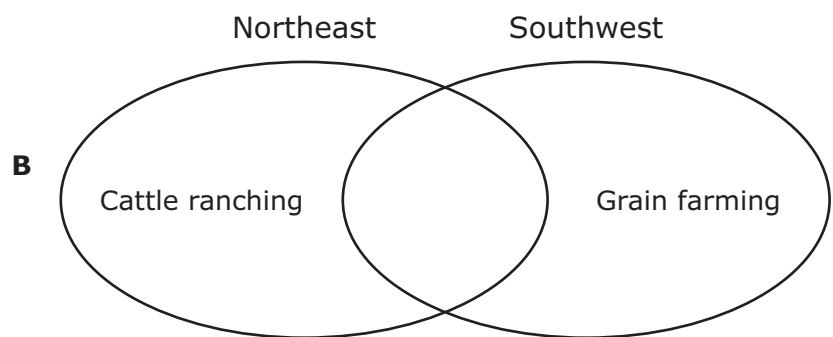
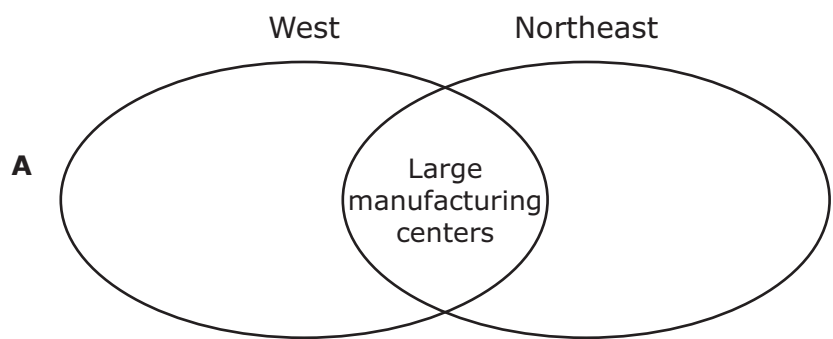
- A** encourage the outbreak of war between England and France
- B** protest British taxation policies
- C** end trade disagreements between colonists and French traders
- D** protest a ban on selling beverages in the colonies

- The Missouri Compromise
- The Compromise of 1850
- The Kansas-Nebraska Act

What was the fundamental question addressed in each of these congressional acts?

- F** Should the U.S. expand westward?
- G** Should states be allowed to nullify federal laws?
- H** Should slave labor be allowed in new states?
- J** Should states be able to secede from the Union?

41 Which diagram correctly compares two regions of the United States during the mid-nineteenth century?



42 Which law would be considered unconstitutional on the basis of First Amendment guarantees?

- F** A ban on the publication of classified information by government employees
 - G** A requirement that church employees pay income tax
 - H** A requirement that churches get a permit before building a new chapel
 - J** A prohibition on electing religious leaders to government office
-

43

[The] production of goods moved from home businesses, where products were generally crafted by hand, to . . . production in factories. This revolution, which involved major changes in transportation, manufacturing, and communications, transformed the daily lives of Americans as much as . . . any single event in U.S. history.

—*"The Industrial Revolution in the United States," The Library of Congress, www.loc.gov (accessed February 21, 2014)*

Which of the following was most responsible for the revolution described in this excerpt?

- A** Expanded public education
- B** Rapid technological innovation
- C** Increased government spending
- D** Rapid territorial expansion

Susan B. Anthony Dollar



Source: United States Mint

Why did Congress honor this woman by putting her on a coin?

- F** Because she was an influential First Lady
- G** Because she designed the nation's first flag
- H** Because she fought for women's suffrage
- J** Because she was the first woman elected to Congress

**STAAR
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