Examination June 1994

United States History and Government

PART ONE *Answer all 47 questions in this part.* [55]

DIRECTIONS (1–47): *For each statement or question, write in the space provided the number of the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question.*

1 In the Colonial Era, developments such as the New England town meetings and the establishment of the Virginia House of Burgesses represented
1 colonial attempts to build a strong national government
2 efforts by the British to strengthen their control over the colonies
3 steps in the growth of representative democracy
4 early social reform movements 1____

2 According to the Declaration of Independence, the people have the right to alter or abolish a government if that government
1 is a limited monarchy
2 violates natural rights
3 becomes involved in entangling alliances
4 favors one religion over another 2____

3 During the debates over the ratification of the United States Constitution, Federalists and Anti-Federalists disagreed most strongly over the
1 division of powers between the national and state governments
2 provision for admitting new states to the Union
3 distribution of power between the Senate and the House of Representatives
4 method of amending the Constitution 3____

4 Which constitutional provision was intended to give the people the most influence over the Federal Government?
1 President's duty to give Congress information about the state of the Union
2 electoral college system for choosing the President
3 direct election of members of the House of Representatives for two-year terms
4 process for proposing and ratifying amendments to the Constitution 4____

5 One similarity between the United States Constitution and the New York State Constitution is that both
1 provide methods for dealing with foreign powers
2 authorize the coinage of money
3 establish rules for public education
4 separate the branches of government 5____

6 The 14th amendment provides that no "state [shall] deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." A direct result of this amendment was that

1 the process of amending the Constitution became slower and more complex
2 the guarantees in the Bill of Rights were applied to state actions
3 every citizen gained an absolute right to freedom of speech and assembly
4 the power of the Federal Government was sharply reduced

6____

7 When John Marshall was Chief Justice, United States Supreme Court decisions tended to strengthen the power of

1 the National Government
2 state and local governments
3 labor unions
4 trusts and monopolies

7____

8 An example of the unwritten constitution in the United States is the

1 sharing of power by the national and state governments
2 development of the political party system
3 separation of powers among the three branches of government
4 guarantees of due process of law

8____

Base your answer to question 9 on this excerpt from a newspaper article and on your knowledge of social studies.

> WASHINGTON, Dec 4 -- Supporters of limits on Congressional terms gathered in the nation's capital today, ...
>
> Limiting the number of years that members of Congress could serve to 12 years -- six terms for House members and two terms for senators -- would force more competition into the system. . . supporters of term limits said this year's elections, with a 96 percent re-election rate in the House, showed how hard it was for even an angry electorate to defeat incumbents.
>
> -- The New York Times, December 1990

9 The major reason for increased support for the change discussed in the article is the public's belief that

1 most current members of Congress have taken bribes
2 the President's political party should have a majority in Congress
3 political disputes in Congress would be reduced
4 the democratic process would be strengthened

9____

10 Alexander Hamilton's argument that the government has the power to create a National Bank is based on which part of the Constitution?

1 the Preamble
2 the elastic clause
3 guarantees to the States
4 the Bill of Rights

10____

11 The legal basis for the United States purchase of the Louisiana Territory was the

1 power granted to the President to make treaties
2 President's power as Commander in Chief
3 authority of Congress to declare war
4 Senate's duty to approve the appointment of ambassadors

11____

12 The reason for ending the importation of enslaved persons to the United States after 1807 was the

1 success of the American colonial revolution against Britain
2 rapid industrialization of the South
3 replacement of slave labor by immigrant workers from eastern Europe
4 passage of legislation that forbids the practice

12____

13 After the passage of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments, African Americans continued to experience political and economic oppression mainly because

1 the amendments were not intended to solve their problems
2 many African Americans distrusted the Federal Government
3 Southern legislatures enacted Jim Crow laws
4 poor communications kept people from learning about their legal rights

13____

Base your answers to questions 14 and 15 on the speakers' statements and on your knowledge of social studies.

Speaker A: "The business of America is business, and we would be wise to remember that."

Speaker B: "Government ownership of business is superior to private enterprise."

Speaker C: "Strict government regulation of business practices is a means to insure the public good."

Speaker D: "Only through personal effort can wealth and success be achieved."

14 Which speaker best expresses the main idea of rugged individualism?

(1) *A* (3) *C*
(2) *B* (4) *D*

14____

15 Which speaker would most likely have supported the ideas of the Progressive movement?

(1) *A* (3) *C*
(2) *B* (4) *D*

15____

16 Which term best describes United States economic policy during the era of the rise of big business (1865–1900)?

1 laissez-faire capitalism
2 mercantilism
3 Marxism
4 welfare-state capitalism

16____

17 Which statement best describes the status of the labor union movement in the United States in 1900?
1 Most of the labor force was organized into unions.
2 Government and business opposition had destroyed the labor union movement.
3 Unions were still struggling to gain public acceptance.
4 Unions had won the right to strike and bargain collectively. 17____

18 The purpose of the Interstate Commerce Act (1887), the Sherman Antitrust Act (1890), and the Clayton Antitrust Act (1914) was to
1 eliminate unfair business practices
2 reduce imports from foreign nations
3 reduce the power of the unions
4 increase the power of local governments 18____

19 Why did the United States follow a policy of unrestricted immigration for Europeans during most of the 1800's?
1 Business and industry depended on the foreign capital brought by immigrants.
2 The American economy needed many unskilled workers.
3 Most Americans desired a more diversified culture.
4 The United States wanted to help European nations by taking in their surplus population. 19____

20 In the early 20th century, muckrakers were able to influence American society mainly through their
1 frequent acts of civil disobedience
2 activities as government officials
3 publication of articles and books
4 control over factories 20____

21 The initiative, referendum, recall, and direct primary are all intended to
1 make the President more responsive to the wishes of Congress
2 reduce the influence of the media on elections
3 give political parties more control of the electoral process
4 increase participation in government by citizens 21____

22 The main reason the United States developed the Open Door policy was to
1 allow the United States to expand its trade with China
2 demonstrate the positive features of democracy to Chinese leaders
3 aid the Chinese Nationalists in their struggle with the Chinese Communists
4 encourage Chinese workers to come to the United States 22____

23 President Theodore Roosevelt's policies toward Latin America were evidence of his belief in
1 noninvolvement in world affairs
2 intervention when American business interests were threatened
3 the sovereign rights of all nations
4 the need for European interference in the Western Hemisphere 23____

24 The "clear and present danger" ruling in the Supreme Court case *Schenck* v. *United States* (1919) confirmed the idea that
1 prayer in public schools is unconstitutional
2 racism in the United States is illegal
3 interstate commerce can be regulated by state governments
4 constitutional rights are not absolute 24____

25 A major reason for the isolationist trend in the United States following World War I was
1 a desire to continue the reforms of the Progressives
2 the public's desire to end most trade with other nations
3 the failure of the United States to gain new territory
4 a disillusionment over the failure to achieve United States goals in the postwar world 25____

26 Which events best support the image of the 1920's as a decade of nativist sentiment?
1 the passage of the National Origins Act and the rise of the Ku Klux Klan
2 the Scopes trial and the passage of women's suffrage
3 the Washington Naval Conference and the Kellogg-Briand Pact
4 the growth of the auto industry and the Teapot Dome affair 26____

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

Statement A: The best way to economic recovery is to subsidize industry so that it will hire more workers and expand production.

Statement B: If jobs are not available, the government must create jobs for those who are unemployed.

Statement C: According to human nature, the most talented people will always come out on top.

Statement D: Our government is responsible for the nation's economic well-being.

27 Which statement is closest to the philosophy of Social Darwinism?
(1) *A*
(2) *B*
(3) *C*
(4) *D* 27____

28 Which statements most strongly support the actions of President Franklin D. Roosevelt?
(1) *A* and *C*
(2) *B* and *C*
(3) *C* and *D*
(4) *B* and *D* 28____

29 Which action best illustrates the policy of isolationism followed by the United States before it entered World War II?
1 signing of a collective security pact with Latin American nations
2 passage of neutrality legislation forbidding arms sales to warring nations
3 embargo on the sale of gasoline and steel to Japan
4 President Franklin D. Roosevelt's exchange of American destroyers for British naval and air bases

29____

30 Deficit spending by the Federal Government as a means of reviving the economy is based on the idea that
1 purchasing power will increase and economic growth will be stimulated
2 only the National Government can operate businesses efficiently
3 the National Government should turn its revenue over to the states
4 lower interest rates will encourage investment

30____

31 President Harry Truman justified using atomic bombs on Japan in 1945 on the grounds that the
1 world was ready for a demonstration of nuclear power
2 Axis powers deserved total destruction
3 early ending of the war would save many lives
4 American public demanded that the bombs be used

31____

32 Which precedent was established by the Nuremberg war crimes trials?
1 National leaders can be held responsible for crimes against humanity.
2 Only individuals who actually commit murder during a war can be guilty of a crime.
3 Defeated nations cannot be forced to pay reparations.
4 Defeated nations can be occupied by the victors.

32____

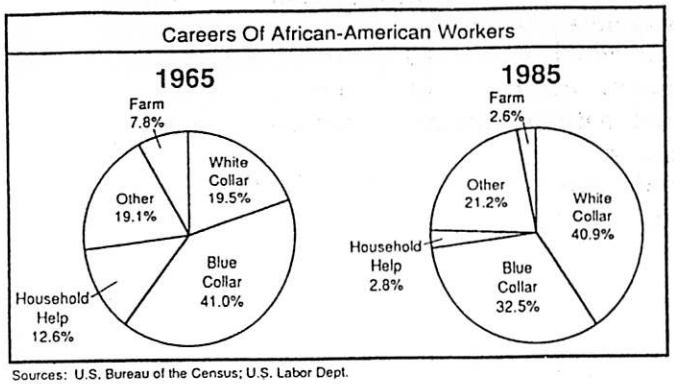
33 In the years just after World War II, the United States attempted to prevent the spread of communism in Europe mainly by
1 taking over the governments of several Western European nations
2 increasing opportunities for political refugees to settle in the United States
3 holding a series of summit meetings with leaders of the Soviet Union
4 establishing policies of economic and military aid for European nations

33____

34 Throughout United States history, the most important aim of the country's foreign policy has been
1 participation in international organizations
2 advancement of national self-interest
3 containment of communism
4 development of military alliances

34____

Base your answers to questions 35 and 36 on the graph below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census; U.S. Labor Dept.

35 Which statement is best supported by the data in the graph?
1 African Americans are increasingly entering white-collar occupations.
2 Professional opportunities for African Americans were as limited in 1985 as they were in 1965.
3 An increasing percentage of African Americans are unemployed.
4 The United States economy has little need for skilled African-American workers. 35____

36 Which factor best explains the situation shown in the graph?
1 an increase in imports of consumer goods from foreign nations
2 an increase in the wages of agricultural and household service workers
3 an increase in educational opportunities combined with affirmative action programs
4 a growing refusal by blue-collar employers to hire African Americans 36____

37 Under Chief Justice Earl Warren, the Supreme Court was considered "activist" because of its
1 reluctance to overturn state laws
2 insistence on restricting freedom of speech to spoken words
3 expansion of individual rights in criminal cases
4 refusal to reconsider the issues of the *Plessy* v. *Ferguson* case 37____

38 When necessary to achieve justice, which method did Martin Luther King, Jr., urge his followers to employ?
1 using violence to bring about political change
2 engaging in civil disobedience
3 leaving any community in which racism is practiced
4 demanding that Congress pay reparations to African Americans 38____

39 In 1988, Congress voted to pay $20,000 to each of the surviving Americans of Japanese descent who were interned during World War II because
1 the danger of war with Japan no longer existed
2 all of the interned Japanese Americans eventually became American citizens
3 the World Court ordered the United States to pay reparations
4 many Americans believed the internment was unjust and unnecessary 39____

40 A common characteristic of third political parties in the United States is that they
1 tend to focus on one person or one issue
2 come into existence only during periods of corruption
3 have dealt mainly with foreign policy issues
4 have frequently forced Congress to decide Presidential elections 40____

41 The major political parties in the United States obtain most of their national campaign funds from
1 the personal fortunes of the candidates
2 state and local taxes
3 funds appropriated by Congress
4 the contributions of individuals and special interest groups 41____

42 The main significance of the Watergate affair was that it
1 led to the impeachment and conviction of President Richard Nixon
2 showed that the laws of the United States are superior to the actions of a President
3 was the first time a President had disagreed with Congress
4 proved that Presidential powers are unlimited 42____

43 "The great rule of conduct for us in regard to foreign nations is, in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connection as possible."

This quotation supports a foreign policy of
1 imperialism
2 appeasement
3 neutrality
4 economic sanctions 43____

44 The Korean War and the Persian Gulf War were similar in that both
1 represented United Nations efforts to assist nations in repelling aggressors
2 involved unilateral military action by the United States
3 were military defeats for the United Nations
4 brought about lasting solutions to problems in each region 44____

45 Raising import duties on foreign manufactured goods is an example of
1 technological competition
2 supporting free trade
3 lowering inflation
4 economic protectionism 45____

46 The growth of modern technology has resulted in
1 a decrease in the population of the world
2 increasing interdependence among nations
3 a growing need for unskilled labor
4 a sharp decline in the need for oil and coal 46____

Base your answer to question 47 on the cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.

47 What is the main idea of the cartoon?
1 Native Americans and Europeans showed a great willingness to share knowledge at their first contact.
2 Spanish colonization in the Americas preceded British colonization.
3 American society has failed to recognize the achievements of Native Americans.
4 The pluralistic heritage of the United States began to receive approval early in the nation's history. 47___

Students Please Note:

In developing your answers to Parts Two and Three, be sure to
(1) include specific factual information and evidence whenever possible
(2) keep to the questions asked; do not go off on tangents
(3) avoid overgeneralizations or sweeping statements without sufficient proof; do not overstate your case
(4) keep these general definitions in mind:
(a) discuss means "to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail"
(b) describe means "to illustrate something in words or tell about it"
(c) show means "to point out; to set forth clearly a position or idea by stating it and giving data to support it"
(d) explain means "to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationships of"

PART TWO *Answer one question from this part.* [15]

1 In United States history, the system of checks and balances has operated to limit or to strengthen the powers of the branches of the Federal Government.

Examples of Checks and Balances

Judicial review
Impeachment process
Presidential appointment of Supreme Court Justices
Presidential veto
Presidential war powers
Treaty ratification

Know historical examples of each of those.

Choose *three* of the examples listed and for *each* one chosen:

- Describe its use during a specific historical conflict between two branches of the Federal Government
- Explain how one branch of government either lost or gained power as a result of this conflict [5,5,5]

2 Many disputes have been brought before the United States Supreme Court. Below are listed Supreme Court cases and the constitutional issue involved in each case.

Cases — Issues

McCulloch v. *Maryland* (1819) — federalism
Dred Scott v. *Sanford* (1857) — property rights
Plessy v. *Ferguson* (1896) — civil rights
Korematsu v. *United States* (1944) — Presidential power
Engel v. *Vitale* (1962) — freedom of religion
Miranda v. *Arizona* (1966) — due process
Roe v. *Wade* (1973) — right to privacy

STUDY

Choose *three* cases from the list. For *each* one chosen:

- Show how the constitutional issue listed was involved in the case
- State the Supreme Court's decision in the case
- Discuss an impact of the decision on United States history [5,5,5]

Answers June 1994

United States History and Government

ANSWER KEY

PART ONE

1. 3	13. 3	25. 4	37. 3
2. 2	14. 4 (*or D*)	26. 1	38. 2
3. 1	15. 3 (*or C*)	27. 3 (*or C*)	39. 4
4. 3	16. 1	28. 4 (*or B and D*)	40. 1
5. 4	17. 3	29. 2	41. 4
6. 2	18. 1	30. 1	42. 2
7. 1	19. 2	31. 3	43. 3
8. 2	20. 3	32. 1	44. 1
9. 4	21. 4	33. 4	45. 4
10. 2	22. 1	34. 2	46. 2
11. 1	23. 2	35. 1	47. 3
12. 4	24. 4	36. 3	

PART TWO *See answers explained section.*

PART THREE *See answers explained section.*

ANSWERS EXPLAINED

PART ONE (1–47)

1. 3 The New England town meetings and the Virginia House of Burgesses were steps in the growth of representative democracy. The town meetings were established by the Pilgrims soon after they settled in Massachusetts and became common throughout New England in the 17th century. Freemen in villages held open meetings to discuss and vote on issues and town laws and to elect representatives to colonial assemblies. The House of Burgesses in Virginia, established in 1619 as the first colonial legislature, was elected by Virginia colonists. Other colonies followed Virginia's example and set up their own elected legislatures.

WRONG CHOICES EXPLAINED:

(1) The colonies were separate political entities, each with its own legislature and its own governor appointed by the king. Benjamin Franklin's Albany Plan of Union, the first attempt to form a union of colonies, was rejected in 1754 when the colonial legislatures refused to surrender what authority they had to a central government. The first union of colonies was formed by the First Continental Congress in 1774.

(2) The New England town meetings and the Virginia House of Burgesses were limited forms of self-government tolerated by the British government because the king appointed the colonial governors and the British Parliament had the right to overrule actions of colonial legislatures.

(4) The New England town meetings and the Virginia House of Burgesses were political institutions to protect the property rights and individual rights of colonists. Social reform did not become an issue until long after the colonies gained independence.

2. 2 The Declaration of Independence states that the Creator gave men "certain inalienable [natural] Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness" and that "whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends [rights], it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it." The premise of the Declaration is that no government has the right to act against its people by violating their natural rights. If it does, the people retain the right to rise up against the government, which derives its power to rule from the people.

WRONG CHOICES EXPLAINED:

(1) The Declaration of Independence did not object to limited monarchy as a form of government. It objected to the rule of King George III, who was accused of attempting to establish an "absolute Tyranny over these states."

(3) The Declaration of Independence objected to the political and economic policies of Great Britain that affected the colonists. The colonists were