

AMSCO AP United States History Exam (APUSH) - Period 3 Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2025 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain from reliable sources accurate, complete, and timely information about this product.

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. What type of legislature allows each state to have one vote?**
 - A. Unicameral legislature**
 - B. Bicameral legislature**
 - C. Federal legislature**
 - D. National legislature**
- 2. Which American political philosopher's ideas influenced the development of American political philosophy from Locke?**
 - A. Montesquieu**
 - B. Jean-Jacques Rousseau**
 - C. Thomas Hobbes**
 - D. David Hume**
- 3. Which legislation allowed the president to deport those deemed dangerous during wartime?**
 - A. Naturalization Act**
 - B. Alien Act**
 - C. Sedition Act**
 - D. Immigration Reform Act**
- 4. Which delegate from Pennsylvania proposed a plan that aimed to reorder the colonies' relationship with Parliament?**
 - A. George Washington**
 - B. Joseph Galloway**
 - C. Thomas Jefferson**
 - D. John Adams**
- 5. What was one of the main arguments made by the Democratic-Republicans regarding the Alien and Sedition Acts?**
 - A. They strengthened federal power**
 - B. They were necessary for national security**
 - C. They violated the Constitution**
 - D. They were supported by the Supreme Court**

- 6. What event occurred on April 18, 1775, that marked the beginning of hostilities between British troops and colonists?**
- A. First Continental Congress**
 - B. Battle of Lexington and Concord**
 - C. Boston Tea Party**
 - D. Signing of the Declaration of Independence**
- 7. What did the Coercive Acts of 1774 aim to do?**
- A. Punish the colonies for the Boston Tea Party**
 - B. Establish peace treaties with Native Americans**
 - C. Extend voting rights to more colonists**
 - D. Facilitate trade between the colonies and Britain**
- 8. What was the purpose of the Constitutional Convention in 1787?**
- A. To declare independence from Britain**
 - B. To promote economic reforms**
 - C. To revise the Articles of Confederation**
 - D. To draft the Bill of Rights**
- 9. What group consisted of those who remained loyal to the British crown during the American Revolution?**
- A. Patriots**
 - B. Neutralists**
 - C. Loyalists**
 - D. Revolutionaries**
- 10. Which document replaced the Articles of Confederation?**
- A. The Federalist Papers**
 - B. The Constitution**
 - C. The Declaration of Independence**
 - D. The Bill of Rights**

Answers

SAMPLE

1. A
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. B
7. A
8. C
9. C
10. B

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What type of legislature allows each state to have one vote?

A. Unicameral legislature

B. Bicameral legislature

C. Federal legislature

D. National legislature

The correct answer is a unicameral legislature. This type of legislature consists of a single chamber in which all legislative decisions are made. In a unicameral system, each state typically has equal representation, which means that every state gets one vote regardless of its population size. This structure contrasts with a bicameral legislature, where there are two chambers, often leading to different voting mechanisms based on population and representation. The concept of equal representation in a unicameral legislature was notably demonstrated during the Articles of Confederation period, where each state, regardless of size, had one vote in Congress. This design aimed to ensure that smaller states had an equal say in the governance of the nation. In contrast, choices like bicameral, federal, or national legislature refer to systems that incorporate more complex arrangements, often leading to variable voting power, representation, or structures that don't guarantee one state, one vote as a rule.

2. Which American political philosopher's ideas influenced the development of American political philosophy from Locke?

A. Montesquieu

B. Jean-Jacques Rousseau

C. Thomas Hobbes

D. David Hume

The development of American political philosophy, particularly in the context of the Enlightenment, was significantly influenced by the ideas of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Rousseau's concepts of the "social contract" and the general will offered a new perspective that expanded upon John Locke's theories regarding government and individual rights. Locke emphasized natural rights and the idea that government should be based on the consent of the governed. Rousseau built on these ideas by arguing that true political authority lies in the collective will of the people, rather than solely in individual rights. Rousseau's belief in participatory democracy and the importance of the community in shaping ethical and political decisions resonated with the framers of the American political system. His influence can be seen in the emphasis on popular sovereignty found in the foundations of American democracy, where the legitimacy of government is derived from the consent of the people. This philosophical background established a framework that encouraged the development of democratic ideals, making Rousseau's theories critical to the evolution of American political thought.

3. Which legislation allowed the president to deport those deemed dangerous during wartime?

A. Naturalization Act

B. Alien Act

C. Sedition Act

D. Immigration Reform Act

The Alien Act is the correct choice because it was part of a series of laws passed in 1798 during a period of rising tensions between the United States and France, known as the Quasi-War. This legislation specifically granted the president the authority to deport foreign nationals who were considered dangerous or a threat to national security during wartime. This act was justified by the federal government based on the perceived threat of foreign influence and espionage amid the conflict. The other options do not pertain directly to the power of deportation in the context of wartime threats. For instance, the Naturalization Act primarily dealt with the process by which immigrants could become U.S. citizens. The Sedition Act made it a crime to speak or write against the government, focusing on curbing dissent rather than deportation. The Immigration Reform Act is a more modern piece of legislation that pertains to the regulation of immigration processes and does not relate to the wartime context in the same way as the Alien Act.

4. Which delegate from Pennsylvania proposed a plan that aimed to reorder the colonies' relationship with Parliament?

A. George Washington

B. Joseph Galloway

C. Thomas Jefferson

D. John Adams

The correct answer is Joseph Galloway. He was a delegate from Pennsylvania who presented a comprehensive plan during the First Continental Congress in 1774, known as the Galloway Plan of Union. This plan proposed a reconceptualization of the relationship between the colonies and Great Britain, suggesting a union of the colonies under a central assembly that would operate in conjunction with Parliament. Galloway's plan aimed to ensure colonial interests were represented while addressing grievances, reflecting a desire for cooperation with Britain rather than outright independence. His approach highlighted the tensions of the time, emphasizing both loyalty to the Crown and the growing colonial discontent. This effort aimed at creating a more stable political structure in response to colonial dissatisfaction without severing ties with Britain completely.

5. What was one of the main arguments made by the Democratic-Republicans regarding the Alien and Sedition Acts?

- A. They strengthened federal power**
- B. They were necessary for national security**
- C. They violated the Constitution**
- D. They were supported by the Supreme Court**

The argument made by the Democratic-Republicans regarding the Alien and Sedition Acts centered on the belief that these laws constituted a violation of the Constitution, particularly the First Amendment, which guarantees freedoms related to speech and the press. The Democratic-Republicans, led by figures such as Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, viewed the acts as an infringement on civil liberties intended to suppress political dissent and opposition to the Federalist Party. They argued that the laws were framed in a way that granted the government excessive power to regulate speech and could lead to abuse against those who opposed the governing party. This opposition prompted them to draft the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions, which asserted that states had the power to declare laws unconstitutional and push back against what they perceived as overreach by the federal government.

6. What event occurred on April 18, 1775, that marked the beginning of hostilities between British troops and colonists?

- A. First Continental Congress**
- B. Battle of Lexington and Concord**
- C. Boston Tea Party**
- D. Signing of the Declaration of Independence**

The Battle of Lexington and Concord on April 18, 1775, is significant as it marked the official start of armed conflict between the British troops and American colonists. This confrontation resulted from tensions over British attempts to assert greater control over the colonies and enforce restrictive measures such as the Intolerable Acts. On that day, British troops set out to confiscate colonial military supplies stored in Concord, Massachusetts. However, local militia members received word of the British advance and assembled to defend their rights and liberties. The encounters in Lexington and then Concord culminated in a clash where shots were fired, famously described as "the shot heard 'round the world." This event galvanized colonial resistance against British rule and was pivotal in mobilizing support for the Continental Congress and the subsequent fight for independence. It marks the transition from political protest to military confrontation, laying the groundwork for the Revolutionary War. In contrast, the First Continental Congress took place in 1774, and while it was a critical step in colonial unity and response to British policies, it did not involve direct military engagement. The Boston Tea Party, occurring in 1773, was a protest against taxation without representation but not a military conflict. The signing of the Declaration of Independence took place

7. What did the Coercive Acts of 1774 aim to do?

- A. Punish the colonies for the Boston Tea Party**
- B. Establish peace treaties with Native Americans**
- C. Extend voting rights to more colonists**
- D. Facilitate trade between the colonies and Britain**

The Coercive Acts of 1774, also known as the Intolerable Acts, were specifically designed to punish the Massachusetts colony for its role in the Boston Tea Party, where colonists protested against British taxation by destroying a shipment of tea. This series of punitive measures included the Boston Port Act, which closed the harbor until the destroyed tea was paid for, and the Massachusetts Government Act, which significantly curtailed self-governance in the colony. The intent behind these acts was to assert British authority and discourage further acts of rebellion among the colonies. The British government aimed to demonstrate its resolve and deter any other acts of defiance against its rule. This historical context illustrates the relationship between the Boston Tea Party and the subsequent Coercive Acts, emphasizing their purpose as a form of punishment rather than any intention to foster peace or extend rights.

8. What was the purpose of the Constitutional Convention in 1787?

- A. To declare independence from Britain**
- B. To promote economic reforms**
- C. To revise the Articles of Confederation**
- D. To draft the Bill of Rights**

The Constitutional Convention in 1787 was primarily convened to address the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation, which had proven inadequate for governing the newly independent states. The Articles had created a loose confederation that lacked the authority to levy taxes, regulate trade, or provide for a strong central military, leading to various issues such as financial instability and interstate conflicts. As the delegates gathered in Philadelphia, their intent was to revise the existing framework of governance in order to create a more effective system. This resulted in the drafting of a completely new Constitution, which established a stronger federal government with distinct branches and greater powers than what was allowed under the Articles. The purpose of the Convention was not merely to tweak the Articles but rather to overhaul the entire governance structure to meet the needs of the growing nation. The other options provided do not accurately reflect the central aim of the Convention. Declaring independence and drafting the Bill of Rights were significant historical events but occurred at different times, while promoting economic reforms was not the primary focus of the delegates at this particular gathering. Thus, revising the Articles of Confederation correctly captures the essence and purpose of the Constitutional Convention.

9. What group consisted of those who remained loyal to the British crown during the American Revolution?

- A. Patriots**
- B. Neutralists**
- C. Loyalists**
- D. Revolutionaries**

The group that consisted of individuals who remained loyal to the British crown during the American Revolution is known as the Loyalists. These individuals, also referred to as Tories, believed in the legitimacy of British rule and opposed independence from Great Britain. They often faced hostility from their Patriot neighbors and were sometimes persecuted for their beliefs. The Loyalists represented a significant portion of the population who felt that staying loyal to the crown would ultimately serve their interests better than joining the revolutionary cause. Their presence and actions played a crucial role in the political landscape of the time, influencing both military and civil strategies during the conflict.

10. Which document replaced the Articles of Confederation?

- A. The Federalist Papers**
- B. The Constitution**
- C. The Declaration of Independence**
- D. The Bill of Rights**

The document that replaced the Articles of Confederation is the Constitution. The Articles of Confederation, which were the first governing document of the United States, proved to be ineffective in creating a strong federal government. They established a weak central authority that struggled to deal with various challenges, such as economic instability and interstate disputes. In response to these issues, the Constitutional Convention was convened in 1787 to draft a new framework for government. The result was the United States Constitution, which created a stronger federal government with an intricate system of checks and balances between the three branches: the legislative, executive, and judicial. This new Constitution was ratified by the states and officially replaced the Articles of Confederation, addressing many of the weaknesses that had been evident under the previous system. The Federalist Papers, while instrumental in promoting the Constitution, are not a governing document themselves. The Declaration of Independence declared the colonies' separation from British rule and is not a blueprint for government operation. The Bill of Rights, consisting of the first ten amendments to the Constitution, was added later to ensure individual liberties but did not replace the Articles of Confederation.