

AMSCO AP United States History Exam (APUSH) - Period 4 Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. Who was Charles Finney?**
 - A. A theologian who influenced landscape painting**
 - B. A minister known for emotional sermons during the Second Great Awakening**
 - C. A founder of a utopian community in Massachusetts**
 - D. The leader of the Mormon Church**
- 2. What work is recognized as a major critique of gender roles and a call for equal rights for women during the antebellum period?**
 - A. Declaration of Independence**
 - B. Letters on the Equality of the Sexes and the Condition of Women**
 - C. Seneca Falls Declaration**
 - D. The Feminine Mystique**
- 3. Who was the Protestant minister that launched the communal experiment at Brook Farm with the aim of uniting intellectual and manual labor?**
 - A. Henry David Thoreau**
 - B. George Ripley**
 - C. Ralph Waldo Emerson**
 - D. Margaret Fuller**
- 4. What was the Second Great Awakening?**
 - A. A religious revival that led to the establishment of new churches**
 - B. A period of artistic enlightenment in America**
 - C. A religious movement focused on scientific explanation of faith**
 - D. An economic reform movement against capitalism**
- 5. What organization was founded in 1833 by William Lloyd Garrison and other abolitionists, advocating for an end to slavery?**
 - A. American Anti-Slavery Society**
 - B. National Woman Suffrage Association**
 - C. The Liberator**
 - D. Underground Railroad**

- 6. Which policy declared U.S. opposition to European interference in the Americas?**
- A. Monroe Doctrine**
 - B. Roosevelt Corollary**
 - C. Manifest Destiny**
 - D. Open Door Policy**
- 7. Which abolitionist newspaper was published by William Lloyd Garrison?**
- A. The North Star**
 - B. The Liberator**
 - C. The Underground Railroad**
 - D. Abolitionist Herald**
- 8. What term describes the political strategy of promoting common people as candidates in elections?**
- A. Voter Mobilization**
 - B. Popular Campaigning**
 - C. Grassroots Movement**
 - D. Public Advocacy**
- 9. Who succeeded Joseph Smith as the leader of the Mormons and helped establish their settlement in Utah?**
- A. Brigham Young**
 - B. John Noyes**
 - C. Thomas Cole**
 - D. Charles Finney**
- 10. Who was the president of the Second Bank of the United States during Jackson's presidency?**
- A. Daniel Webster**
 - B. James Monroe**
 - C. Nicholas Biddle**
 - D. Henry Clay**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Who was Charles Finney?

- A. A theologian who influenced landscape painting
- B. A minister known for emotional sermons during the Second Great Awakening**
- C. A founder of a utopian community in Massachusetts
- D. The leader of the Mormon Church

Charles Finney was a prominent minister associated with the Second Great Awakening, a significant religious revival movement that swept across the United States in the early 19th century. His influence stemmed from his unique approach to preaching, which emphasized emotional engagement and personal conversion. Finney's sermons often encouraged individuals to experience a profound sense of personal responsibility for their spiritual state, leading to a large number of conversions during his revivals. He is well-known for his use of innovative techniques, such as "anxious benches," where individuals in distress could come forward during services to seek salvation. This personalized and emotionally charged method of preaching was a hallmark of Finney's contributions to American religious life, distinguishing him as a key figure in the revivalist movement of his time.

2. What work is recognized as a major critique of gender roles and a call for equal rights for women during the antebellum period?

- A. Declaration of Independence
- B. Letters on the Equality of the Sexes and the Condition of Women**
- C. Seneca Falls Declaration
- D. The Feminine Mystique

The work recognized as a major critique of gender roles and a call for equal rights for women during the antebellum period is "Letters on the Equality of the Sexes and the Condition of Women." Authored by Sarah Margaret Fuller in the 1840s, this text argued for women's education and their participation in all aspects of social life, challenging the prevailing norms that confined women to domestic roles. Fuller's writings marked a significant moment in the early women's rights movement, as she emphasized the intellectual and moral capabilities of women, asserting their right to equal opportunities and a life outside the constraints of traditional female roles. Although the Declaration of Independence laid the foundation for individual rights, it did not specifically address gender equality. The Seneca Falls Declaration, while crucial in the women's rights movement and drawing from Fuller's ideas, was established later in 1848. The Feminine Mystique, published in the 1960s by Betty Friedan, focused on the dissatisfaction of suburban housewives and can be considered a part of the modern feminist movement, rather than the antebellum period. Thus, "Letters on the Equality of the Sexes and the Condition of Women" is correctly highlighted as a pioneering critique during the time.

3. Who was the Protestant minister that launched the communal experiment at Brook Farm with the aim of uniting intellectual and manual labor?

- A. Henry David Thoreau
- B. George Ripley**
- C. Ralph Waldo Emerson
- D. Margaret Fuller

The correct answer is George Ripley, who was the Protestant minister that founded Brook Farm in the 1840s. Ripley's vision for Brook Farm was rooted in Transcendentalist principles, which emphasized the importance of both intellectual and manual labor as part of a harmonious and balanced life. He sought to create a community that would serve as a model of social reform, where individuals could engage in productive work while also fostering their intellectual and spiritual growth. Brook Farm became a symbol of the 19th-century utopian experiments in America, drawing a diverse group of intellectuals and artists who believed in the potential for societal improvement through cooperative living. The community aimed to transcend the social divisions of the time and was seen as an early effort to explore the possibilities of socialism in the United States, making it a significant part of American social and cultural history. The other figures mentioned had different roles or contributions to the Transcendentalist movement and the broader cultural landscape of that time but were not directly responsible for establishing the commune at Brook Farm.

4. What was the Second Great Awakening?

- A. A religious revival that led to the establishment of new churches**
- B. A period of artistic enlightenment in America
- C. A religious movement focused on scientific explanation of faith
- D. An economic reform movement against capitalism

The Second Great Awakening was indeed a religious revival that significantly influenced American society in the early 19th century, leading to the establishment of new denominations and revitalizing existing ones. This movement emphasized personal salvation and a direct, emotional connection with God, which resonated with many people across various social classes. Preachers traveled extensively, conducting camp meetings and revivals that attracted large audiences and encouraged individuals to seek a more personal form of faith. The enthusiasm generated by this revivalist spirit not only contributed to the growth of Methodist and Baptist congregations but also influenced other social reform movements, such as abolitionism and women's rights. Therefore, recognizing the Second Great Awakening as a catalyst for these developments underscores its significance in shaping American religious life and broader societal changes during this period.

5. What organization was founded in 1833 by William Lloyd Garrison and other abolitionists, advocating for an end to slavery?

A. American Anti-Slavery Society

B. National Woman Suffrage Association

C. The Liberator

D. Underground Railroad

The American Anti-Slavery Society was founded in 1833 by William Lloyd Garrison and a group of like-minded abolitionists who sought to end slavery in the United States through moral persuasion and political action. Garrison, who was an influential abolitionist, used his platform to advocate for immediate emancipation and equal rights for African Americans, which aligned with the society's mission. This organization played a crucial role in the abolitionist movement, providing support for various campaigns, utilizing pamphlets, speeches, and grassroots activism to spread awareness about the injustices of slavery. In contrast, the other options refer to different movements and organizations: The Liberator was a newspaper also founded by Garrison that published abolitionist content; the National Woman Suffrage Association focused on women's rights and the demand for voting rights; and the Underground Railroad was a network that helped enslaved individuals escape to free states. Each of these options plays a significant role in the broader context of social reform movements, but they do not represent the specific organization founded by Garrison in 1833 aimed directly at ending slavery.

6. Which policy declared U.S. opposition to European interference in the Americas?

A. Monroe Doctrine

B. Roosevelt Corollary

C. Manifest Destiny

D. Open Door Policy

The Monroe Doctrine is the correct answer as it was a significant U.S. policy established in 1823, articulating a clear stance against European colonialism and interference in the Americas. This doctrine asserted that any efforts by European nations to colonize or interfere in the affairs of the independent nations in the Western Hemisphere would be viewed as acts of aggression, warranting U.S. intervention. The Monroe Doctrine marked a turning point in American foreign policy, emphasizing the United States' growing sense of national identity and its commitment to preventing European powers from expanding their influence in the region. In contrast, the Roosevelt Corollary expanded upon the Monroe Doctrine many years later, asserting the right of the United States to intervene in Latin America to stabilize economic affairs, rather than opposing European interventions directly. Manifest Destiny was a belief that the United States was destined to expand across the continent, which was more focused on territorial expansion rather than foreign policy toward Europe. The Open Door Policy pertained to trade with China and aimed at ensuring equal trading rights for all nations, which does not address European interference in the Americas.

7. Which abolitionist newspaper was published by William Lloyd Garrison?

A. The North Star

B. The Liberator

C. The Underground Railroad

D. Abolitionist Herald

William Lloyd Garrison published "The Liberator," which was a pivotal abolitionist newspaper first issued in 1831. Garrison used this platform to advocate for the immediate emancipation of all enslaved people and to promote the abolitionist movement effectively. His radical views were published in a time of significant tension over the issue of slavery, and "The Liberator" became known for its uncompromising stance. Garrison not only reported on the struggles against slavery but also called out the moral implications of the institution, urging society to confront the injustices faced by African Americans. The newspaper played a crucial role in shaping public opinion and rallying abolitionist supporters, making it a cornerstone of the movement during the 19th century. Garrison's work with "The Liberator" also helped to inspire other activists and provided a forum for discussions surrounding issues of human rights and social justice that resonate even today.

8. What term describes the political strategy of promoting common people as candidates in elections?

A. Voter Mobilization

B. Popular Campaigning

C. Grassroots Movement

D. Public Advocacy

The term "Popular Campaigning" is appropriate here because it emphasizes the act of engaging the general populace in the electoral process by promoting candidates who are perceived as representing the interests and values of the common people. This strategy often involves making political campaigns accessible and relatable to the average voter, focusing on issues that resonate with everyday experiences, and encouraging grassroots participation in the political sphere. Understanding this term in the historical context of the 19th century, especially during the Jacksonian era, illuminates its significance. Andrew Jackson's presidency, for example, saw a shift towards appealing directly to the electorate, rather than relying solely on elite endorsement or traditional political structures. This marked a change in political dynamics, highlighting the importance of the popular vote and setting the stage for future democratic engagement. The other choices reflect activities related to political engagement but do not capture the essence of promoting common people specifically as candidates. Voter Mobilization refers to efforts aimed at getting people to participate in elections, Grassroots Movement describes a broader organizational effort typically centered on community activism, and Public Advocacy pertains more to public campaigns aimed at influencing policy or public opinion rather than directly presenting candidates for political office.

9. Who succeeded Joseph Smith as the leader of the Mormons and helped establish their settlement in Utah?

A. Brigham Young

B. John Noyes

C. Thomas Cole

D. Charles Finney

Brigham Young is recognized as the leader who succeeded Joseph Smith after Smith's assassination in 1844. Young played a pivotal role in guiding the Mormon community, formally known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, westward to Utah, where they would establish a prosperous settlement. Under his leadership, the Mormons faced significant challenges, including harsh environmental conditions and conflict with non-Mormon settlers, yet Young's organizational skills and commitment to the community allowed them to thrive in their new homeland. He has been credited with implementing effective governance, agriculture, and social structures that helped create a sustainable society in Utah, making his leadership instrumental in the establishment of Mormon settlement in the West.

10. Who was the president of the Second Bank of the United States during Jackson's presidency?

A. Daniel Webster

B. James Monroe

C. Nicholas Biddle

D. Henry Clay

The president of the Second Bank of the United States during Andrew Jackson's presidency was Nicholas Biddle. He played a significant role in the operations and policies of the bank, which was highly controversial during Jackson's administration. Biddle was known for his attempts to stabilize the national currency and to manage the bank's role in the economy, which included leveraging its resources and influence over state banks. Jackson was a staunch opponent of the Bank, viewing it as a symbol of elite financial power that favored the wealthy at the expense of the common man. His battle against the Bank, particularly his campaign to prevent its recharter, culminated in the famous bank war, resulting in a significant shift in American banking and economic policy. Biddle's leadership at the bank made him a key figure in this conflict, illustrating the broader tension between government power and economic interests during this period of American history.