

APUSH Immigration Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. How did immigrant labor impact the industrial growth of the United States?**
 - A. By providing a ready workforce for factories and railroads**
 - B. By increasing agricultural output**
 - C. By promoting international trade agreements**
 - D. By driving technological innovation**
- 2. Which labor organization aimed for an open-membership policy that included unskilled workers and women?**
 - A. Knights of Labor**
 - B. AFL**
 - C. American Federation of Labor**
 - D. Industrial Workers of the World**
- 3. Which author is known for writing about rags to riches success stories and promoting the American Dream?**
 - A. Emma Lazarus**
 - B. Frank Norris**
 - C. Henry Clews**
 - D. Horatio Alger**
- 4. What term describes the movement toward a singular American identity through assimilation of immigrants?**
 - A. Multiculturalism**
 - B. Cultural pluralism**
 - C. Melting pot**
 - D. Ethnic enclave**
- 5. Which historical movement is characterized by the belief in a national identity that included hostility towards immigrants?**
 - A. Nativism**
 - B. Progressivism**
 - C. Paternalism**
 - D. Socialism**

- 6. What was one of the goals of the Immigration Act of 1924?**
- A. To promote immigration from Asia**
 - B. To allow unlimited immigration from Europe**
 - C. To restrict immigration from certain countries**
 - D. To encourage refugees to enter the U.S.**
- 7. Which literary style was notably used by Bret Harte to convey the culture of the American West?**
- A. Regional Dialect**
 - B. Magical Realism**
 - C. Stream of Consciousness**
 - D. Epistolary Form**
- 8. What term describes the belief that the common people should have control over the government?**
- A. Jacksonian Democracy**
 - B. Jeffersonian Democracy**
 - C. Elitism**
 - D. Plutocracy**
- 9. Which of the following is NOT a function of USCIS in relation to immigration?**
- A. Naturalization assistance**
 - B. Immigration enforcement**
 - C. Providing citizenship education**
 - D. Overseeing immigration benefits**
- 10. What legislative act aimed to assimilate Native Americans by redistributing tribal lands to individuals?**
- A. Homestead Act**
 - B. Indian Reorganization Act**
 - C. Dawes Act**
 - D. Indian Removal Act**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

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Explanations

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1. How did immigrant labor impact the industrial growth of the United States?

- A. By providing a ready workforce for factories and railroads**
- B. By increasing agricultural output**
- C. By promoting international trade agreements**
- D. By driving technological innovation**

The impact of immigrant labor on the industrial growth of the United States can be primarily seen through the provision of a ready workforce for factories and railroads. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, massive waves of immigrants from Europe and other regions arrived in the U.S., seeking better economic opportunities. These immigrants were often willing to take on low-paying, labor-intensive jobs that many native-born Americans were reluctant to accept. This influx of labor was crucial in supporting the rapid expansion of industries such as textiles, steel, and manufacturing, as well as the development of extensive railroad networks that connected the country and facilitated commerce. Immigrants filled the labor shortage during this period of economic transformation, allowing industries to grow and meet the demands of a burgeoning economy. While increasing agricultural output, promoting international trade agreements, and driving technological innovation are important aspects of economic development, they do not directly capture the specific role that immigrant labor played in the industrial landscape at that time. The workforce supplied by immigrants was a foundational element that enabled industrial growth to accelerate, making it a central factor in the overall economic narrative of the era.

2. Which labor organization aimed for an open-membership policy that included unskilled workers and women?

- A. Knights of Labor**
- B. AFL**
- C. American Federation of Labor**
- D. Industrial Workers of the World**

The Knights of Labor was a pioneering labor organization established in the mid-19th century that sought to unify all workers, regardless of their skill level, race, or gender. This inclusivity was part of their philosophy that emphasized solidarity across the working class. The Knights advocated for broad social reforms, including an eight-hour workday, the abolition of child labor, and equal pay for women. Their open-membership policy was revolutionary for its time, as it actively sought to bring together unskilled workers and women into a labor movement that had previously focused mainly on skilled trades. In contrast, the American Federation of Labor (AFL) and the American Federation of Labor (also referred to as AFL) primarily focused on skilled labor and sought to represent the interests of labor unions for specific trades, typically excluding a vast number of unskilled workers and women. The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), while also inclusive, specifically emphasized the need for a revolutionary approach to labor organization, advocating for the overthrow of capitalism through direct action. However, the IWW emerged later and operated differently compared to the broader reformist goals of the Knights of Labor. Thus, the Knights of Labor represent a key turning point in labor history due to their commitment to inclus

3. Which author is known for writing about rags to riches success stories and promoting the American Dream?

- A. Emma Lazarus**
- B. Frank Norris**
- C. Henry Clews**
- D. Horatio Alger**

The author known for writing about rags to riches success stories and promoting the American Dream is Horatio Alger. Alger's work during the late 19th century is characterized by his numerous novels featuring young male protagonists who start from humble beginnings and, through hard work, perseverance, and moral virtue, achieve significant success. This theme encapsulates the idea of the American Dream, suggesting that anyone can succeed irrespective of their socioeconomic background. Alger's stories often took place in urban settings and highlighted the importance of a strong work ethic and personal integrity, reinforcing the belief in upward mobility that was central to American culture during that time. His characters typically faced various trials and hardships, but ultimately prevailed, embodying the notion that diligence and character lead to success. This narrative resonated with many readers during an era of rapid industrialization and immigration, making Alger a prominent figure in the promotion of the American Dream concept through literature.

4. What term describes the movement toward a singular American identity through assimilation of immigrants?

- A. Multiculturalism**
- B. Cultural pluralism**
- C. Melting pot**
- D. Ethnic enclave**

The term "melting pot" refers to the concept where various immigrant groups assimilate into a dominant American culture, creating a singular national identity. This metaphor suggests that, much like in a pot where different ingredients combine to create a new dish, immigrants from diverse backgrounds blend into a unified society. The idea is rooted in the belief that, through the process of assimilation, individuals from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds can contribute their unique qualities while ultimately adopting core aspects of American culture, thus forming a cohesive national identity. In contrast, multiculturalism emphasizes the preservation of distinct cultural identities within a society, rather than the blending into a single culture. Cultural pluralism acknowledges the coexistence of multiple cultures and promotes the idea that diversity can enrich society without necessitating assimilation into one dominant identity. Ethnic enclaves refer to neighborhoods or communities where immigrants maintain their cultural practices and languages, often resulting in limited interaction with the broader society. Overall, the "melting pot" concept reflects the historical narrative of American immigration as a process of blending diverse cultures into a unified American identity, distinguishing it from other approaches that prioritize cultural preservation over assimilation.

5. Which historical movement is characterized by the belief in a national identity that included hostility towards immigrants?

- A. Nativism**
- B. Progressivism**
- C. Paternalism**
- D. Socialism**

The correct choice, Nativism, is characterized by a strong belief in national identity that often includes hostility towards immigrants. This movement emerged particularly in the 19th and early 20th centuries in the United States as various waves of immigrants arrived from Europe and other parts of the world. Nativists viewed these immigrants as a threat to the American way of life, cultural values, and economic opportunities for native-born citizens. This resulted in significant social and political movements aimed at restricting immigration and promoting the interests of established American citizens over those of new arrivals. Nativism often involved promoting policies such as the Chinese Exclusion Act and the Immigration Act of 1924, which specifically targeted and limited certain immigrant groups. It was fueled by fears about job competition, cultural dilution, and societal change, painting immigrants as potentially dangerous or undesirable members of society. In contrast, the other movements listed—Progressivism, Paternalism, and Socialism—did not focus primarily on hostility toward immigrants. Progressivism, for example, was more about addressing social issues and advocating for reforms that aimed to improve conditions for all Americans, regardless of their immigrant status. Paternalism involved a sense of responsibility to care for others, often reflecting a hierarchy

6. What was one of the goals of the Immigration Act of 1924?

- A. To promote immigration from Asia**
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The goal of the Immigration Act of 1924 was to restrict immigration from certain countries, particularly those from Southern and Eastern Europe, as well as Asia. The Act established national origin quotas that favored immigrants from Northern and Western European countries, reflecting the prevailing nativist attitudes of the time. This legislation aimed to limit the number of immigrants who were considered "undesirable" according to the racial and ethnic prejudices held by many Americans in the 1920s. By implementing these restrictions, the Act played a significant role in shaping U.S. immigration policy and promoting a more homogenous American society during that era.

7. Which literary style was notably used by Bret Harte to convey the culture of the American West?

- A. Regional Dialect**
- B. Magical Realism**
- C. Stream of Consciousness**
- D. Epistolary Form**

Bret Harte is recognized for his use of regional dialect, which played a crucial role in authentically portraying the culture and characters of the American West during the late 19th century. In his stories, Harte captured the unique speech patterns, vocabulary, and mannerisms of his characters, reflecting their social and geographical backgrounds. This approach allowed readers to immerse themselves in the local settings and experiences of the Western frontier, making the stories relatable and vivid. By utilizing regional dialect, Harte effectively conveyed the spirit, struggles, and life of the diverse populations in the West, from miners to gamblers and pioneers. His works contributed significantly to the development of Western literature by showcasing the complexity of life in that region with rich, realistic dialogue. Other literary styles, such as magical realism, stream of consciousness, or epistolary form, do not align with Harte's techniques or objectives as a writer. Magical realism incorporates fantastical elements into realistic settings, which isn't a hallmark of Harte's direct narrative style. Stream of consciousness focuses on the flow of thoughts in a character's mind, a technique more commonly associated with modernist writers. The epistolary form, which uses letters or diary entries, does not reflect the storytelling style that Har

8. What term describes the belief that the common people should have control over the government?

- A. Jacksonian Democracy**
- B. Jeffersonian Democracy**
- C. Elitism**
- D. Plutocracy**

The term that describes the belief that common people should have control over the government is Jacksonian Democracy. This concept emerged in the 1820s and 1830s during the presidency of Andrew Jackson, who championed the idea of increasing political participation for the "common man" as opposed to the elite. Jackson's administration focused on expanding suffrage to all white males, reducing property qualifications for voting, and promoting the notion that government should reflect the will of the majority. Jacksonian Democracy also emphasized the importance of individual rights and personal liberties, setting the stage for greater political engagement among the general populace. This movement was characterized by a distrust of entrenched elites and institutions, advocating instead for a more direct representation of the people's will in the political sphere. In contrast, Jeffersonian Democracy, while also advocating for the common man, held a different vision that emphasized agrarianism and a more limited government role in the economy. Elitism refers to a system where a select group holds power, countering the idea of populist governance. Plutocracy denotes a society governed or controlled by the wealthy, further distancing itself from the ideals associated with Jacksonian Democracy.

9. Which of the following is NOT a function of USCIS in relation to immigration?

- A. Naturalization assistance**
- B. Immigration enforcement**
- C. Providing citizenship education**
- D. Overseeing immigration benefits**

The correct answer is based on the specific functions of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). USCIS primarily focuses on administering immigration and naturalization processes, which includes functions such as providing assistance for naturalization, offering educational resources regarding citizenship (which falls under providing citizenship education), and overseeing immigration benefits, such as work permits and visas. USCIS is not primarily engaged in immigration enforcement; that role falls to other government entities such as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Thus, while USCIS plays a vital role in helping individuals navigate the immigration system and ensuring proper processing of applications and petitions, it does not actively enforce immigration laws or conduct raids and detentions, which are associated with immigration enforcement activities. This distinction clarifies why the option related to immigration enforcement is not a function of USCIS.

10. What legislative act aimed to assimilate Native Americans by redistributing tribal lands to individuals?

- A. Homestead Act**
- B. Indian Reorganization Act**
- C. Dawes Act**
- D. Indian Removal Act**

The Dawes Act, passed in 1887, aimed to assimilate Native Americans into American society by breaking up tribal lands into individual plots. The legislation intended to transform Native Americans into independent farmers by allotting them smaller parcels of their tribes' communal land. Each Native American family was given a specific amount of land, typically 160 acres, while the surplus land was made available for sale to non-Native settlers. This act reflected the prevailing belief at the time that individual property ownership would encourage Native Americans to adopt Euro-American agricultural practices and abandon their communal lifestyles. The act also had significant negative consequences, as it led to a substantial loss of tribal land and further undermined the social structure of Native American communities. The government's push for assimilation often disregarded Native cultural practices and traditions, which were closely tied to communal land ownership. The Dawes Act is an important historical example of the U.S. government's policy toward Native Americans, emphasizing individualism at the expense of communal identity.