

OSAT U.S. History/Oklahoma History/Government/Economics (017) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. What marked the Union's first major victory in the Civil War?**
 - A. Battle of Gettysburg**
 - B. Battle of Bull Run**
 - C. Capture of Fort Henry**
 - D. Overland Campaign**
- 2. Who proposed the New Jersey Plan?**
 - A. James Madison**
 - B. Edmund Randolph**
 - C. William Paterson**
 - D. George Washington**
- 3. What was the function of the Erie Canal, completed in 1825?**
 - A. It provided a trade route to Canada**
 - B. It connected the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean**
 - C. It connected the Great Lakes with the Hudson River**
 - D. It served as a mining transport route**
- 4. What was included in President Wilson's Fourteen Points?**
 - A. Promotion of military alliances**
 - B. Outlining a plan for world peace**
 - C. Establishing new territories**
 - D. Preventing economic sanctions**
- 5. What technological advancement is Thomas Edison associated with besides the light bulb?**
 - A. Machine gun**
 - B. Motion pictures**
 - C. Television**
 - D. Airplane**

- 6. What was the outcome of the Sipuel v. Board of Regents case concerning Ada Lois Sipuel?**
- A. She was denied admission to the university**
 - B. She was allowed admission based on her academic merit**
 - C. She gained the right to attend a state school regardless of skin color**
 - D. Her case was dismissed without a ruling**
- 7. What event triggered the United States' decision to declare war in the Spanish-American War?**
- A. The establishment of the Rough Riders**
 - B. The explosion of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor**
 - C. A diplomatic incident with Spain**
 - D. The Cuban Revolt against Spanish rule**
- 8. What event marked the beginning of the oil boom in Oklahoma?**
- A. The discovery of oil in Glenpool**
 - B. The creation of oil refineries**
 - C. The drilling of the first oil well**
 - D. The establishment of oil companies**
- 9. How did Thomas Hobbes view the necessity of government intervention in society?**
- A. As unnecessary for a harmonious society**
 - B. As essential for societal stability**
 - C. As a limited power**
 - D. As a transient phase**
- 10. Which act imposed taxes on molasses brought into the colonies?**
- A. Sugar Act of 1764**
 - B. Stamp Act of 1765**
 - C. Declaratory Act**
 - D. Navigation Acts**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What marked the Union's first major victory in the Civil War?

- A. Battle of Gettysburg**
- B. Battle of Bull Run**
- C. Capture of Fort Henry**
- D. Overland Campaign**

The capture of Fort Henry is recognized as the Union's first major victory in the Civil War, occurring on February 6, 1862. This battle was significant because it opened up a pathway for Union forces to penetrate deeper into the Confederate territory along the Tennessee River. The successful assault not only boosted Northern morale, but it also represented a strategic gain, as it established control over crucial waterways that were essential for the transportation of troops and supplies. Furthermore, the victory at Fort Henry led to the subsequent capture of Fort Donelson, enhancing the Union's presence in the western theater of the war. The other battles mentioned, while important, occurred later or represented different contexts within the broader conflict.

2. Who proposed the New Jersey Plan?

- A. James Madison**
- B. Edmund Randolph**
- C. William Paterson**
- D. George Washington**

The New Jersey Plan was proposed by William Paterson during the Constitutional Convention in 1787. This plan was designed to address the concerns of smaller states regarding representation in the newly proposed government. Paterson's plan called for a unicameral legislature where each state would have an equal vote, thereby ensuring that smaller states had an equal say in legislative matters, in contrast to the Virginia Plan, which favored larger states by proposing a system based on population. Paterson's proposal emphasized the need for federal powers but retained the structure of the existing Articles of Confederation to appease smaller states. This plan sparked a significant debate on the issue of representation, ultimately leading to the Great Compromise, which resulted in a bicameral legislature with both equal representation for states in the Senate and proportional representation in the House of Representatives. Thus, William Paterson's contribution was crucial in shaping the outcome of the Convention and the overall structure of the U.S. government.

3. What was the function of the Erie Canal, completed in 1825?

- A. It provided a trade route to Canada**
- B. It connected the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean**
- C. It connected the Great Lakes with the Hudson River**
- D. It served as a mining transport route**

The Erie Canal, completed in 1825, was primarily designed to connect the Great Lakes with the Hudson River, which in turn facilitated access to the Atlantic Ocean. This connection allowed for the efficient transportation of goods and resources between the interior of the United States and the eastern seaboard, dramatically reducing shipping costs and time. The canal played a crucial role in bolstering trade and commerce, significantly contributing to the economic growth of New York City and the surrounding regions by making it easier to move agricultural products and manufactured goods. While the canal indeed provided access to the Atlantic, the more direct connection was through the Hudson River rather than a separate route to the ocean. The canal's construction allowed for increased trade between the Midwest and the East Coast, promoting a unified economy and encouraging westward expansion. The importance of this infrastructure project cannot be overstated, as it marked a significant advancement in early 19th-century American transportation.

4. What was included in President Wilson's Fourteen Points?

- A. Promotion of military alliances**
- B. Outlining a plan for world peace**
- C. Establishing new territories**
- D. Preventing economic sanctions**

President Wilson's Fourteen Points was a plan proposed in January 1918 aimed at establishing a framework for a just and lasting peace following World War I. The main focus of the Fourteen Points was to offer a vision for international relations that emphasized transparency, open diplomacy, and the self-determination of nations. By outlining a plan for world peace, Wilson sought to address the root causes of conflict and promote stability through principles that included reducing armaments, ensuring freedom of the seas, and advocating for the creation of a League of Nations to facilitate diplomatic dialogue and prevent future wars. This approach was a significant departure from the secret treaties and aggressive military pacts that contributed to the war. Wilson's vision ultimately aimed not just to end the current conflict but to reshape the global order in a way that prioritized cooperation and peaceful resolution of disputes.

5. What technological advancement is Thomas Edison associated with besides the light bulb?

- A. Machine gun**
- B. Motion pictures**
- C. Television**
- D. Airplane**

Thomas Edison is famously associated with many inventions that had profound impacts on society, and one significant advancement besides the light bulb is the development of motion pictures. Edison's work in the late 19th century included the creation of the Kinetoscope, which was an early motion picture exhibition device. This invention laid the groundwork for the film industry by allowing individual viewers to watch short films through a peephole in a cabinet containing the moving pictures. Edison's contributions to the field of motion pictures also encompassed the establishment of the first film studio, known as the Black Maria, which produced many of the earliest films. This innovation significantly influenced entertainment and media, leading to the modern film industry as we know it today, showcasing the importance of Edison's work beyond just electrical lighting.

6. What was the outcome of the Sipuel v. Board of Regents case concerning Ada Lois Sipuel?

- A. She was denied admission to the university**
- B. She was allowed admission based on her academic merit**
- C. She gained the right to attend a state school regardless of skin color**
- D. Her case was dismissed without a ruling**

The outcome of the Sipuel v. Board of Regents case was significant in advancing civil rights in the educational system. In this case, Ada Lois Sipuel, an African American woman, challenged the University of Oklahoma for denying her admission based on her race. The U.S. Supreme Court ultimately ruled in her favor, declaring that she had the right to attend a state school regardless of her skin color. This landmark decision was pivotal because it reinforced the principle that racial segregation in public education was unconstitutional and laid the groundwork for future legal challenges against segregation. The case underscored the importance of equal access to education for all individuals, setting a precedent that would contribute to the broader civil rights movement in the United States.

7. What event triggered the United States' decision to declare war in the Spanish-American War?

- A. The establishment of the Rough Riders**
- B. The explosion of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor**
- C. A diplomatic incident with Spain**
- D. The Cuban Revolt against Spanish rule**

The explosion of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor is the event that triggered the United States' decision to declare war in the Spanish-American War. This incident occurred on February 15, 1898, when the battleship Maine mysteriously exploded while anchored in the harbor. The explosion resulted in the deaths of 266 American sailors and caused widespread outrage in the United States. This event fueled public sentiment against Spain and was sensationalized by the press, leading to calls for military intervention. The explosion was interpreted as an attack by Spain, even though investigations later suggested it could have been caused by an accident on the ship. The cry for "Remember the Maine!" became a rallying cry for those advocating for war, and it contributed significantly to the U.S. Congress' decision to declare war on Spain on April 25, 1898. Thus, the sinking of the Maine served as the tipping point that transformed growing tensions over Cuba's struggle for independence and American interests in the region into a declaration of war.

8. What event marked the beginning of the oil boom in Oklahoma?

- A. The discovery of oil in Glenpool**
- B. The creation of oil refineries**
- C. The drilling of the first oil well**
- D. The establishment of oil companies**

The discovery of oil in Glenpool, Oklahoma, is widely recognized as the event that marked the beginning of the oil boom in the state. This discovery occurred in 1905 when a significant oil well was struck in the area, leading to a rapid influx of settlers and investors who aimed to capitalize on the newfound natural resource. The Glenpool field proved to be extremely productive, which not only boosted the local economy but also transformed Oklahoma into a major player in the oil industry. The resulting oil boom had far-reaching effects on the population growth, urban development, and economic landscape of Oklahoma, establishing it as one of the leading oil-producing regions in the country.

9. How did Thomas Hobbes view the necessity of government intervention in society?

- A. As unnecessary for a harmonious society**
- B. As essential for societal stability**
- C. As a limited power**
- D. As a transient phase**

Thomas Hobbes viewed government intervention as essential for societal stability due to his belief in the inherent nature of humans and the chaos that could arise without governing authority. In his work "Leviathan," Hobbes argued that in a state of nature—where there is no government—humans would act in their own self-interest, leading to a "war of all against all." This situation would ultimately result in insecurity and fear, as individuals would compete for resources and safety. To avoid this chaos, Hobbes asserted that individuals must agree to form a social contract, surrendering some of their freedoms to a central authority that could maintain order and protect them. In this framework, a strong government, with the power to enforce laws and ensure social order, is viewed as crucial for preventing conflict and fostering stability, making his perspective aligned with the belief that government intervention is fundamentally necessary in society.

10. Which act imposed taxes on molasses brought into the colonies?

- A. Sugar Act of 1764**
- B. Stamp Act of 1765**
- C. Declaratory Act**
- D. Navigation Acts**

The Sugar Act of 1764 imposed taxes specifically on molasses brought into the colonies. This act was designed to raise revenue for Britain after the costly Seven Years' War and aimed to decrease the smuggling of sugar and molasses from the French and Dutch West Indies by lowering the previous tax rate but strictly enforcing it. By taxing molasses, the British government sought to regulate trade and increase its control over colonial commerce, which created significant resentment among colonists who viewed it as an infringement on their rights. This act was one of the early catalysts for the growing tensions between the American colonies and the British government, eventually contributing to the American Revolution. The other acts listed do not specifically focus on taxing molasses. The Stamp Act of 1765 required revenue stamps on all legal documents and printed materials, aimed at raising funds directly from the colonies. The Declaratory Act asserted Britain's authority to legislate for the colonies but did not impose any duties or taxes. The Navigation Acts regulated trade and colonial commerce but were broader and not limited to the taxation of molasses specifically.