

Texas A&M University (TAMU) HIST106 History of the United States Exam 3 Practice (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 was the main outcome of the Treaty of Versailles?
 - A. It established peace without reparations
 - B. It imposed heavy reparations on Germany
 - C. It encouraged further European alliances
 - D. It led to the formation of NATO

2. What was a significant consequence of WWII in Korea?
 - A. The establishment of a united government
 - B. The formation of a democratic regime in the North
 - C. A vacuum that led to the division of Korea
 - D. The complete withdrawal of foreign powers

3. In what context did the Supreme Court case Citizens United v. FEC arise?
 - A. Voting rights
 - B. Corporate funding in political campaigns
 - C. Affirmative action
 - D. Healthcare access

4. What issue was addressed by the Roe v. Wade decision?
 - A. Affirmative Action
 - B. Voting Rights
 - C. Legalization of abortion
 - D. Gun control

5. In what year was the Revenue Act passed?
 - A. 1960
 - B. 1963
 - C. 1964
 - D. 1965

6. What triggered the Korean War?
- A. The invasion of North Korea into South Korea
 - B. A civil uprising in South Korea
 - C. Economic sanctions imposed on the North
 - D. The interference of Japan in Korean affairs
7. What role does the U.S. Constitution play in American governance?
- A. It serves as the country's first set of laws
 - B. It establishes the framework of government and protects individual rights
 - C. It sets regulations for foreign trade
 - D. It outlines penalties for criminal behavior
8. During the Yalta Conference, which leaders met to discuss post-war plans?
- A. Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin
 - B. Truman, Eisenhower, and Stalin
 - C. Churchill, Roosevelt, and Hitler
 - D. Stalin, Mao, and Truman
9. What was the significance of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?
- A. It granted women the right to vote
 - B. It established Medicare
 - C. It outlawed discrimination based on various factors
 - D. It abolished the draft
10. How was the economy during Truman's presidency generally characterized?
- A. In a severe recession
 - B. In relatively good shape
 - C. Experiencing a major downturn
 - D. Focus on wartime production

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What was the main outcome of the Treaty of Versailles?

- A. It established peace without reparations
- B. It imposed heavy reparations on Germany
- C. It encouraged further European alliances
- D. It led to the formation of NATO

The Treaty of Versailles, signed in 1919, primarily aimed to formally end World War I and establish a framework for lasting peace. A significant aspect of this treaty was the imposition of heavy reparations on Germany. These reparations were intended to hold Germany accountable for its role in the war and to compensate the Allied powers for the destruction caused during the conflict. The burdensome financial obligations placed on Germany would lead to extreme economic hardship, contributing to political instability in the country and setting the stage for the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party in the 1930s. While there were other elements within the Treaty, such as territorial changes and the establishment of the League of Nations, the reparations have often been highlighted as a critical factor that influenced the political landscape of Europe in the decades that followed. The heavy reparations and the overall punitive nature of the treaty are frequently cited as having fostered resentment in Germany, which ultimately undermined the goal of achieving a lasting peace.

2. What was a significant consequence of WWII in Korea?

- A. The establishment of a united government
- B. The formation of a democratic regime in the North
- C. A vacuum that led to the division of Korea
- D. The complete withdrawal of foreign powers

The division of Korea into the North and South is a significant consequence of World War II, resulting from the power vacuum left by the Japanese surrender in 1945. Prior to the war, Korea was a colony of Japan, and the end of WWII led to the occupation of Korea by the Soviet Union in the North and the United States in the South. This division was initially intended to be temporary; however, ideological differences between the Soviet-backed communists in the North and the American-supported government in the South solidified into a permanent division. The establishment of two separate governments, each aligned with opposing global superpowers, led inevitably to heightened tensions, eventually culminating in the Korean War. This division of Korea has had lasting implications, influencing geopolitical dynamics in East Asia and the ongoing conflict between North and South Korea. In summary, this consequence highlights how the immediate aftermath of World War II shaped the future of Korea and contributed to the larger Cold War context, distinguishing it from the other options, which do not accurately reflect the historical realities of post-war Korea.

3. In what context did the Supreme Court case Citizens United v. FEC arise?

- A. Voting rights
- B. Corporate funding in political campaigns
- C. Affirmative action
- D. Healthcare access

The Supreme Court case Citizens United v. FEC arose in the context of corporate funding in political campaigns, specifically examining how laws regulating campaign finance interacted with free speech rights under the First Amendment. The case centered on whether the government could limit independent expenditures by corporations and unions for political communication. In its ruling, the Court determined that corporations and unions have the same free speech rights as individuals, affirming that spending money to influence elections is a form of protected speech. This landmark decision allowed corporations and unions to spend unlimited amounts of money on independent political expenditures, significantly impacting the landscape of campaign finance in the United States and leading to the rise of Super PACs and increased corporate influence in politics. The ruling emphasized the importance of free speech and highlighted ongoing debates about the role of money in politics.

4. What issue was addressed by the Roe v. Wade decision?

- A. Affirmative Action
- B. Voting Rights
- C. Legalization of abortion
- D. Gun control

The Roe v. Wade decision, issued by the Supreme Court in 1973, fundamentally addressed the issue of the legalization of abortion in the United States. This landmark case established a woman's legal right to seek an abortion under the right to privacy, which the Court interpreted as being protected by the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The ruling effectively invalidated many state laws that restricted access to abortion, asserting that the decision to terminate a pregnancy was a personal choice between a woman and her physician, particularly during the first trimester. Consequently, Roe v. Wade became a pivotal moment in the ongoing debate surrounding women's rights and reproductive health, influencing legal and social discussions for decades to come.

5. In what year was the Revenue Act passed?

- A. 1960
- B. 1963
- C. 1964
- D. 1965

The Revenue Act was passed in 1964 as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's Great Society program, which aimed to reduce poverty and racial injustice. This act included significant changes to income tax and aimed to stimulate economic growth by cutting taxes. By reducing individual income tax rates, the legislation sought to increase consumer spending and thereby fuel the economy. The 1964 Revenue Act is often noted for its connection to the economic policies of the 1960s, specifically in the wake of the post-World War II economic boom, and reflects the broader goals of the Johnson administration to address social issues and improve the standard of living for many Americans.

6. What triggered the Korean War?

A. The invasion of North Korea into South Korea

B. A civil uprising in South Korea

C. Economic sanctions imposed on the North

D. The interference of Japan in Korean affairs

The Korean War was triggered by the invasion of North Korea into South Korea. This invasion occurred on June 25, 1950, when the North Korean military, supported by the Soviet Union and China, crossed the 38th parallel, which had been established as the dividing line between the two countries after World War II. The North sought to unify the peninsula under its communist government, leading to a rapid escalation of hostilities. Thus, the invasion marked the beginning of armed conflict, prompting a response from the United Nations, particularly the United States, which sought to defend South Korea and prevent the spread of communism in Asia. This event was a crucial flashpoint in the broader context of the Cold War, illustrating the intense geopolitical tensions of the era.

7. What role does the U.S. Constitution play in American governance?

A. It serves as the country's first set of laws

B. It establishes the framework of government and protects individual rights

C. It sets regulations for foreign trade

D. It outlines penalties for criminal behavior

The U.S. Constitution plays a crucial role in American governance by establishing the framework of government and protecting individual rights. It outlines the structure and powers of the three branches of government—executive, legislative, and judicial—defining their roles, responsibilities, and how they interact with each other. Furthermore, the Constitution ensures a system of checks and balances, which is essential to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful. In addition to governmental structure, the Constitution includes the Bill of Rights, which comprises the first ten amendments. These amendments safeguard fundamental rights and liberties, such as freedom of speech, religion, and the press, as well as the right to due process and protection from unreasonable searches. This dual function of establishing government and safeguarding individual rights is central to the Constitution's significance in American democracy, making it a foundational document for the nation. The other choices, while related to laws and governance, do not encapsulate the primary role of the Constitution in the same comprehensive way. The Constitution does set the legal groundwork for various laws and regulations, but it specifically acts more as a framework and protector of rights than just a mere set of laws.

8. During the Yalta Conference, which leaders met to discuss post-war plans?

- A. Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin
- B. Truman, Eisenhower, and Stalin
- C. Churchill, Roosevelt, and Hitler
- D. Stalin, Mao, and Truman

The Yalta Conference, held in February 1945, was a pivotal meeting between three of the main Allied leaders: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and Joseph Stalin. The purpose of this conference was to discuss the reorganization of post-war Europe and to strategize the final phases of World War II. The leaders focused on several crucial topics, including the fate of Germany, the establishment of the United Nations, and the political structures of Eastern European countries once Nazi Germany was defeated. Roosevelt and Churchill sought to ensure a stable and cooperative European landscape, while Stalin aimed to expand Soviet influence in Eastern Europe. The decisions made at Yalta were instrumental in shaping the post-war world and set the stage for subsequent geopolitical tensions during the Cold War. The other options do not represent the correct leaders associated with the Yalta Conference. Truman had not yet taken office at the time of Yalta, as he became president later in April 1945 following Roosevelt's death. Eisenhower played a significant military role rather than a diplomatic one at that stage. Hitler was not part of any Allied discussions, as he was the enemy being fought against. Mao Zedong, a key figure in Chinese communism, was not involved in the Yalta Conference discussions.

9. What was the significance of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?

- A. It granted women the right to vote
- B. It established Medicare
- C. It outlawed discrimination based on various factors
- D. It abolished the draft

The significance of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 lies in its comprehensive approach to outlawing discrimination in various areas, including race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. This landmark legislation was a crucial step in the civil rights movement, as it addressed systemic inequalities that had been pervasive in American society, particularly in the domains of employment, education, and public accommodations. By making discrimination illegal, the Act empowered individuals to challenge unjust practices and paved the way for greater social and economic opportunities for marginalized groups. This legislative achievement not only helped to dismantle segregation in schools and public places but also set the stage for future civil rights advancements and legislation aimed at promoting equality. In contrast, other options pertain to different vital issues in American history. The right to vote for women was achieved earlier with the 19th Amendment in 1920. Medicare, which provides health insurance for those aged 65 and older, was established later, in 1965, with the Social Security Amendments. The abolition of the draft took place in 1973, reflecting changing attitudes towards military service and citizens' rights. Thus, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 stands out specifically for its broad commitment to prohibiting discrimination and promoting civil rights for all.

10. How was the economy during Truman's presidency generally characterized?

- A. In a severe recession
- B. In relatively good shape
- C. Experiencing a major downturn
- D. Focus on wartime production

During Truman's presidency, the economy was generally characterized as being in relatively good shape, particularly in the immediate post-World War II period. The end of the war brought about a significant transition as the economy shifted from wartime production to a peacetime economy. This shift initially faced challenges, including inflation and labor strikes, but overall, the post-war era was marked by economic growth. Truman's administration implemented policies that supported the transition, such as the GI Bill, which helped veterans gain education and access to home loans, further stimulating economic growth and consumer spending. The economy's resilience and expansion during this time laid the groundwork for the prosperity experienced in the following decades, highlighting the significance of strategic governmental policies in fostering a stable economic environment. Overall, the positive trajectory of the economy demonstrates the effective management of the post-war transition and reflects broader trends of economic recovery and growth characteristic of Truman's presidency.