



## **Mississippi Academic Assessment Program (MAAP)**

# **U.S. History**

## **PRACTICE TEST**

The U.S. History Practice Test is a useful tool for Mississippi educators to use in preparing students for the format of the Mississippi Academic Assessment Program for U.S. History. The items were written and aligned to the 2018 Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards for the Social Studies. **This document contains 25 U.S. History items.**

1. This excerpt comes from a congressional act that was signed into law on February 8, 1887.

That in all cases where any tribe or band of Indians has been, or shall hereafter be, located upon any reservation created for their use, either by treaty stipulation or by virtue of an act of Congress or executive order setting apart the same for their use, the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, authorized, whenever in his opinion any reservation or any part thereof of such Indians is advantageous for agricultural and grazing purposes, to cause said reservation, or any part thereof, to be surveyed, or resurveyed if necessary, and to allot the lands in said reservation in severalty to any Indian located thereon in quantities.

Which statement describes a **major** effect of this legislation?

- A. American Indian land was sold to white settlers.
- B. American Indians were able to maintain tribal identity.
- C. American Indians were eager to gain American citizenship.
- D. American Indian tribes gained millions of acres of land in the West.

2. The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 overturned the National Origins Act of 1924, thereby eliminating the earlier national origins quotas. What was the long-term effect of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 on the population of the United States?
- A. It decreased the percentage of people of eastern Asian ancestry.
  - B. It increased the percentage of people of Latin American ancestry.
  - C. It decreased the percentage of people of Middle Eastern ancestry.
  - D. It increased the percentage of people of western European ancestry.

3. This list includes characteristics of life and work found in many large U.S. cities during the early 1900s.

- child labor
- tenement living
- high infant mortality rate
- dangerous working conditions

Which factor led to an increase in the characteristics shown in the list?

- A. an increase in trade among North American countries
- B. an increase in the number of immigrants from southern and eastern Europe
- C. an increase in job opportunities along the western coast of the United States
- D. an increase in the standard of living among immigrants from northwestern Europe

4. This summary describes the FBI's Racial Matters program.

Racial Matters was a secret program in which J. Edgar Hoover's FBI used covert surveillance and counterintelligence programs to follow, wiretap, and investigate African American leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr. during the 1960s.

Why did J. Edgar Hoover use the program described in the summary?

- A. He suspected that civil rights leaders were adversaries of his political party, and he hoped to intimidate them.
- B. He considered civil rights leaders to be allies in the war against drugs and hoped to recruit them to be agents.
- C. He considered civil rights leaders to be dangerous intellectuals who held too much influence over political machines.
- D. He suspected that civil rights leaders had communist sympathies, but he lacked evidence to charge them with a crime.

5. In what way was economics one cause of the Spanish-American War?
- A. Americans needed to eliminate competition from Cuban textile mills.
  - B. Spanish merchants wanted to control consumer goods entering Cuba.
  - C. Spanish traders needed Cuban raw materials to meet customer demand.
  - D. Americans wanted to protect their sugar and tobacco investments in Cuba.

6. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, American farmers faced new problems. Write the number representing the description in the correct column to indicate whether it was a problem for farmers or a solution proposed by farmers.

| <b>Problems for Farmers</b> | <b>Solutions Proposed by Farmers</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                             |                                      |
|                             |                                      |
|                             |                                      |

1. **crop overproduction**
2. **inflated freight rates**
3. **high protective tariffs**
4. **increased currency in circulation**
5. **government regulation of railroads**

7. Which factor **best** explains why the United States entered into the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1994?
- A. to reduce trade restrictions with neighboring countries
  - B. to standardize wages across the participating countries
  - C. to increase job opportunities for immigrants in the United States
  - D. to allow for the elimination of national borders with Canada and Mexico

8. This excerpt comes from the Tariff Act of 1930, also known as the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act.

An Act To provide revenue, to regulate commerce with foreign countries, to encourage the industries of the United States, to protect American labor, and for other purposes.

What effect did this act have on the U.S. economy?

- A. It bolstered the U.S. economy because it caused a rise in the demand for less expensive American goods and a decrease in the demand for European goods.
- B. It damaged the U.S. economy because it caused Mexico to increase exports to the United States and lower the number of American goods imported to Mexico.
- C. It bolstered the U.S. economy because other countries responded by lowering their tariffs on American goods, which caused a widespread increase in international trade.
- D. It damaged the U.S. economy because other countries retaliated by raising tariffs on American goods, which caused a significant decrease in the demand for American goods.

9. In 1962 Rachel Carson published the book *Silent Spring*, documenting the environmental effects of pesticides. Why did the U.S. government respond to the publication of *Silent Spring*?
- A. It was clear that environmental concerns would be eliminated as soon as wildlife returned to the area.
  - B. It was clear that an environmental crisis existed, so regulations were needed to protect the environment.
  - C. It was clear that environmental concerns would be best addressed by allowing the free market to self-regulate.
  - D. It was clear that an environmental crisis was causing a decrease in corporate profitability, so regulations needed to be relaxed.

- 10.** How did President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal increase the size and power of the federal government?
- A.** The New Deal allowed the federal government to take control of oil companies and set pricing for gasoline.
  - B.** The New Deal created new federal government agencies and passed legislation that regulated the economy.
  - C.** The New Deal nationalized the automobile industry and implemented federal government programs to protect workers.
  - D.** The New Deal created a new federal government agency that determined what crops farmers should grow and how the crops would be distributed.

11. This summary describes a World War II military strategy.

an offensive military strategy of coordinated land, sea, and air forces conducted against hostile shores such as during the D-Day invasion

Which World War II military strategy is described in the summary?

- A. blitzkrieg
- B. blockade
- C. island-hopping
- D. amphibious landing

12. Which **two** statements explain why stock market speculation played a part in the economic crisis of the late 1920s?
- A. Insider trading by government officials caused a shortage of available stocks for investors to purchase.
  - B. As more investors purchased stock, the prices rose to levels far beyond the true value of the companies.
  - C. Because most investors purchased bonds instead of stocks, they could not access their capital when the market crashed.
  - D. Investors purchased stocks on margin and were unable to repay bank loans on those stocks when the market crashed.
  - E. Government regulation of the stock market prevented investors from purchasing enough shares to stimulate business growth.

13. This excerpt comes from the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940.

302. Registration of male citizens and alien residents; age limitations.

Except as otherwise provided in this Act, it shall be the duty of every male citizen of the United States, and of every other male person residing in the United States, who . . . is between the ages of eighteen and sixty-five, to present himself for and submit to registration.

What impact did this law have on the demographics of the U.S. labor force during World War II?

- A. More women and minorities were employed in heavy-industry jobs.
- B. Most American Indians left their traditional economies to work in factories.
- C. Unskilled workers became unemployed with the introduction of automation.
- D. Reduced availability of factory jobs propelled Americans into the service industry.

14. How did the United States respond to the 1949 Communist takeover in China?
- A. by supporting the North Vietnamese government of Ho Chi Minh
  - B. by recognizing Chiang Kai-shek's government-in-exile in Taiwan
  - C. by declaring war on the government of Mao Zedong
  - D. by sending additional occupation forces to Japan

15. This list describes some of the effects of a technology that was introduced in the early 1900s.

- In 1920, radio station KDKA in Pittsburgh aired the world's first commercial broadcast.
- Radio sales rose from \$10 million in 1920 to \$852 million in 1929.
- By the end of 1922, there were 508 radio stations across the country.
- By 1927, national broadcasting companies NBC and CBS were founded.

Based on the list and your own knowledge, how did this new technology affect the United States?

- A. Businesses lost money as a result of increased advertising expenses.
- B. Regions of the country became more united through the development of mass culture.
- C. Political machines lost power as a result of investigative reports presented to the public.
- D. People became more conservative due to religious programming presented to the public.

16. This excerpt comes from *The History of the Standard Oil Company* written by Ida M. Tarbell in 1904.

. . . almost constantly since its organisation in 1870, the Standard Oil Company has been under investigation by the Congress of the United States and by the Legislatures of various states in which it has operated, on the suspicion that it was receiving rebates from the railroads and was practising methods in restraint of free trade.

Based on the excerpt and your own knowledge, which statement describes the effect publications such as this had on public opinion during the Progressive Movement?

- A. Investigative reports exposed corruption, swaying public opinion to support social and political reforms.
- B. Publications exposing corporate corruption swayed public opinion in favor of suppression of free speech.
- C. Corporations used investigative reports to increase their political power by swaying public opinion in their favor.
- D. Reporters used weekly and monthly publications to sway public opinion toward the support of corporate trusts.

17. This list describes an important person in the history of the United States.

- led the Allied invasion of North Africa
- led the Allied invasion of France (D-Day)
- named the supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force

Which person is described by the list?

- A. Harry S. Truman
- B. George S. Patton
- C. Franklin D. Roosevelt
- D. Dwight D. Eisenhower

18. The following excerpt is from President Theodore Roosevelt's 1904 annual address to Congress.

Chronic wrongdoing, or an impotence which results in a general loosening of the ties of civilized society, may in America, as elsewhere, ultimately require intervention by some civilized nation, and in the Western Hemisphere the adherence of the United States to the Monroe Doctrine may force the United States, however reluctantly, in flagrant cases of such wrongdoing or impotence, to the exercise of an international police power.

**Part A**

Why did Roosevelt propose this change in foreign policy?

- A. By proposing to police the Western Hemisphere, Roosevelt hoped to annex more territory for Americans.
- B. Roosevelt proposed this amendment to the Monroe Doctrine to decrease his own economic and political power.
- C. Roosevelt proposed this amendment to the Monroe Doctrine to protect American economic and territorial interests.
- D. By proposing to police the Western Hemisphere, Roosevelt hoped to protect European cultural and philanthropic interests.

**Part B**

How did the policy described in the excerpt affect America's geographic interests?

- A. Due to the threat of rebellion, Puerto Rico became a territory of the United States.
- B. The United States gained control of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines after a war with Spain.
- C. The United States gained territory in Latin America by ending a blockade of Venezuela by European creditor nations.
- D. Due to the threat of intervention by European creditor nations, the United States became a protector of Latin American countries.

- 19.** How did local, state, and federal governments react to the growth of suburbs that began in the 1950s?
- A.** by building infrastructure to support urban sprawl
  - B.** by providing tax incentives to support urban renewal
  - C.** by creating quality public education systems in inner cities
  - D.** by developing efficient mass transit systems in inner cities

20. This excerpt comes from President George H. W. Bush's January 29, 1991, State of the Union address.

For two centuries, America has served the world as an inspiring example of freedom and democracy. For generations, America has led the struggle to preserve and extend the blessings of liberty. And today, in a rapidly changing world, American leadership is indispensable. Americans know that leadership brings burdens and sacrifice.

Based on the excerpt and your own knowledge, why did the United States choose to enter the Persian Gulf War in 1991?

- A. to stop the spread of communism throughout the Middle East
- B. to create humanitarian programs that would improve living conditions
- C. to form alliances with European nations to increase the world's oil supply
- D. to liberate a sovereign nation from a neighboring country's military aggression

21. This excerpt comes from an official government document issued in 1948.

It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin.

From which document does this excerpt come?

- A. majority opinion in *Plessy v. Ferguson*
- B. majority opinion in *Brown v. Board of Education*
- C. President Harry S. Truman's Executive Order 9981
- D. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066

22. This list includes some provisions of an act passed by the U.S. Congress in 1882.

- prohibited Chinese immigrants from becoming U.S. citizens
- halted the immigration of Chinese laborers to the United States for ten years
- required certification from the Chinese government for non-laborers to enter the country

Which factor was **most** responsible for the passage of this legislation?

- A. concerns about increased political unrest and revolution spreading to the United States
- B. concerns about decreased access to housing on the East Coast for native-born Americans
- C. concerns about decreased access to employment and lower wages for native-born Americans
- D. concerns about increased demand for public assistance programs funded by the United States

- 23.** Why did the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) direct many of its efforts toward registering voters in the South?
- A.** SNCC understood that it needed to register voters to obtain equal pay for women.
  - B.** SNCC knew that registered voters were needed to increase its political power and effect change.
  - C.** SNCC hoped to encourage voters to support the Republican Party so that federal power would be limited.
  - D.** SNCC wanted to pass the Twenty-Sixth Amendment so that younger people could vote and change society for the better.

24. Underline the phrase that correctly completes each statement.

Langston Hughes, a poet and storyteller, was a voice of the (Lost Generation/Harlem Renaissance/  
Fugitive movement/Imagist school). Many of his poems and stories (celebrated his cultural heritage/  
focused on gothic themes/reflected his disillusionment with the outcomes of World War I/promoted  
American values.

25. This excerpt comes from section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

No voting qualifications or prerequisite to voting, or standard, practice, or procedure shall be imposed or applied by any State or political subdivision to deny or abridge the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color.

Which statement represents a long-term effect of the Voting Rights Act of 1965?

- A. African Americans gained electoral power.
- B. The number of major political parties increased.
- C. The number of federal and state elections increased.
- D. African Americans became the largest national voting body.

# U.S. History Practice Test

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COURSE



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