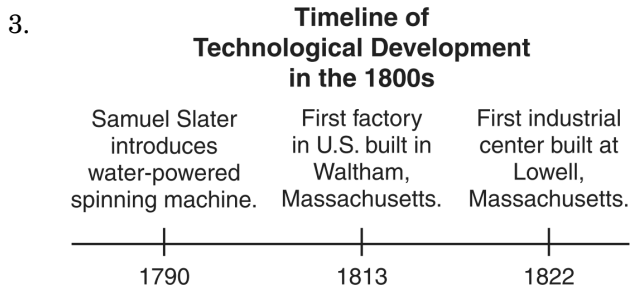


State Assessments Social Studies Samples

1. Why was Shays’s Rebellion important to the call for a Constitutional Convention in 1787?
- (A) It demonstrated the threat of slave revolts.
 - (B) It demonstrated the danger of a British army.
 - (C) It demonstrated the power of the British Colonial Office.
 - (D) It demonstrated the need for a stronger national government.

2. Which agency is primarily responsible for informing the public about a flu epidemic?
- (A) Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
 - (B) Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - (C) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
 - (D) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



- The timeline above represents development in the production of
- (A) oil.
 - (B) glassware.
 - (C) steel.
 - (D) textiles.

4. Which law enforcement agency would *most likely* respond to a conflict between neighbors who live outside the city limits?
- (A) sheriff ’s department
 - (B) city police
 - (C) state highway patrol
 - (D) state bureau of investigation

5. Australia, which is both a country and a continent, has a number of geographic regions. The variety of Australia’s regions has affected its overall development.
- a) Describe where most of Australia’s population has settled and built major industries. Support your answer with information from the maps and your knowledge of Australian geography.
 - b) Explain how the physical features and climate of Australia have influenced its settlement patterns and economic development. Support your answer with information from the maps and your knowledge of Australian geography.

6. In 1900 the United States declared an Open Door Policy that reflected which of the following beliefs?
- (A) The Chinese were secretly negotiating trade privileges with European countries.
 - (B) Japan might conquer China and cut off all foreign trade.
 - (C) All countries should have equal trading rights in China.
 - (D) American consumers would be hurt by international trade.

7. Use your own knowledge and the passage below to answer the following question(s).

We are called a democracy [because power] is in the hands of the many and not the few. . . . When it is a question of putting one person before another in positions of public responsibility, what counts is not membership of a particular class, but the actual ability which the man possesses. . . . We are prevented from doing wrong by respect . . . for the laws.

—Pericles, a government leader in Athens, Greece, in approximately 450 B.C.

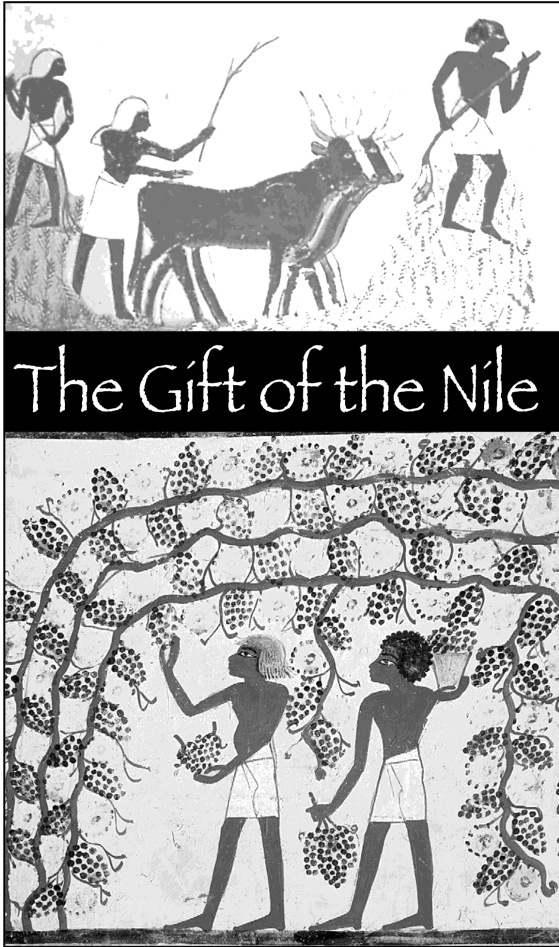
Fill in the chart below to provide examples of the way government operates in the United States that are consistent with the statements by Pericles.

Statement by Pericles	Examples of the way government operates in the United States that are consistent with the statements by Pericles
We are called a democracy [because power] is in the hands of the many and not the few.	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
When it is a question of putting one person before another in positions of public responsibility, what counts is not membership of a particular class, but the actual ability which the man possesses.	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

8. Due to large financial losses in the American automobile industry, the United States once set limits on the number of cars it imported. This response is *most likely* an example of government policy being shaped by
- (A) national interests
 - (B) international interests
 - (C) state interests
 - (D) regional interests

9. Which of these does the International Red Cross provide in time of war?
- (A) health care to prisoners of war
 - (B) trained personnel to assist in combat
 - (C) military protection to nations surrounding war zones
 - (D) ambassadors to help warring nations reach peaceful agreements

10.



The Gift of the Nile

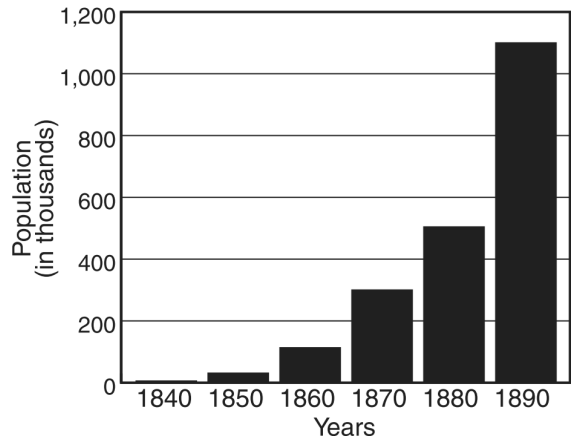
The Greek historian Herodotus referred to Egypt as “the gift of the Nile.” Annual flooding by the Nile River deposited new, fertile soil on the farmers’ fields. The regularity of this flooding prompted the Egyptians to create a calendar with 365 days. The consistent northward current and southward winds made the river a reliable transportation system. The Nile was a major source of water for washing, for drinking, and for irrigating fields. It also provided reeds and mud for building, and fish for eating.

Identify the two gifts of the Nile that produced the results shown in the paintings.

1. _____
2. _____

11.

Chicago Population



Which of these is the *best* explanation for the trend shown in the bar graph above?

- (A) availability of industrial jobs in Chicago
- (B) Chicago’s location on an important river
- (C) Chicago’s nearness to the gold fields
- (D) lack of regulation in the banks of Chicago

12. Read the information below.

In 1990, the United States government sued the state of Virginia at the request of a female student seeking admission to the all-male Virginia Military Institute (VMI). The Supreme Court ruled that VMI must admit women who meet the college’s admission requirements.

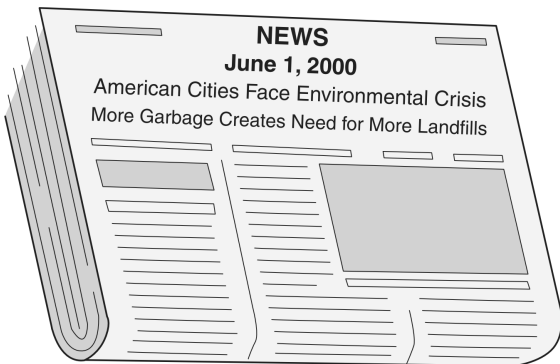
Which issue was addressed by the Supreme Court in this case?

- (A) limited government
- (B) economic scarcity
- (C) popular sovereignty
- (D) equal protection

13. One major purpose of the Yalta Conference in 1945 was to decide
- (A) when to open the second front against Germany.
 - (B) where to launch the final invasion of Japan.
 - (C) how to restructure Europe after the war.
 - (D) which countries to include in the United Nations.

14. Which statement about the Hindu caste system in India is accurate?
- (A) Different castes shared the same rules for governing their behavior.
 - (B) Foreigners were treated as members of the lowest caste.
 - (C) Castes were encouraged to interact with one another.
 - (D) People were required to stay in the same caste to which they were born.

15. Use the newspaper headline below to answer the following question.



Which action can *best* help solve the environmental problem this newspaper headline describes?

- (A) increasing the need for natural resources
- (B) supporting deforestation measures
- (C) increasing the demand for fossil fuels
- (D) starting local recycling programs

16. The United States signed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in order to

- (A) decrease trade with European and Asian countries
- (B) decrease American investment in overseas markets
- (C) increase tariffs placed on products made in Mexico
- (D) increase trade opportunities for domestic businesses

17. Use the information below to answer the following question(s).

- “Concerned parents address board of education”
- “Local citizens’ group demonstrates peacefully in front of town hall”
- “Local citizen describes serving on jury”
- “Record number turn out on Election Day”

The actions reflected in the newspaper headlines above are all examples of

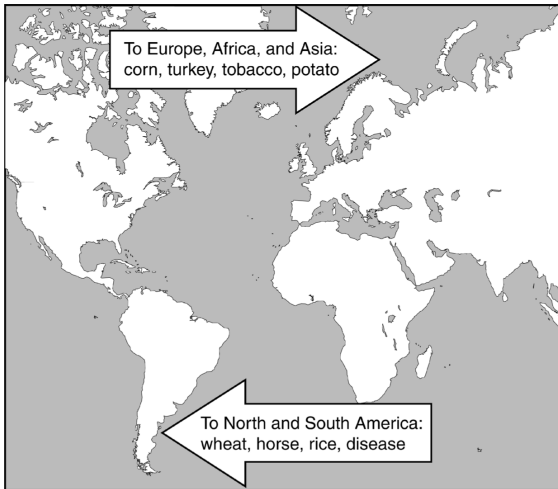
- (A) majority rule.
- (B) civil disobedience.
- (C) due process.
- (D) civic duty.

18. Enforcing the state laws of Ohio is the responsibility of the

- (A) General Assembly.
- (B) Governor.
- (C) Ohio Supreme Court.
- (D) representatives to Congress.

19. Use the information and map below to answer the following question, parts a and b.

The voyages of Christopher Columbus began an interaction between the Western Hemisphere and the Eastern Hemisphere known as the Columbian Exchange.



- Describe **two** benefits people in the Western Hemisphere or Eastern Hemisphere gained from the exchange of items shown on the map.
- The populations of North America and South America began to decline with the beginning of the Columbian Exchange. Identify **two** reasons for this decline in population.

20. Read the scenario below.

A citizen was arrested and questioned by police for 12 straight hours. The citizen requested a lawyer, but the police refused. While being questioned, the citizen confessed to a crime. Later, the citizen was convicted based on the confession. The citizen is appealing the conviction.

- What rights were denied the citizen that would justify an appeal?
- Include examples and details to support your answer.

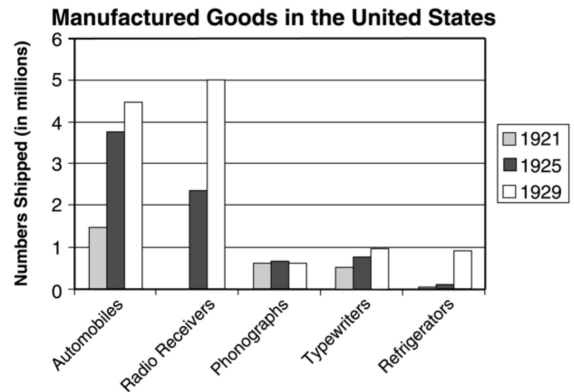
21. Consider the following changes that occurred in the United States in the late 19th century:

- improvements in agricultural production;
- increases in immigration from Europe;
- advancements in networks of railroad and streetcar lines.

These changes led to the

- rapid growth of urban areas.
- acquisition of overseas territories.
- elimination of large suburbs around many cities.
- movement of people from the urban to the rural areas.

- 22.

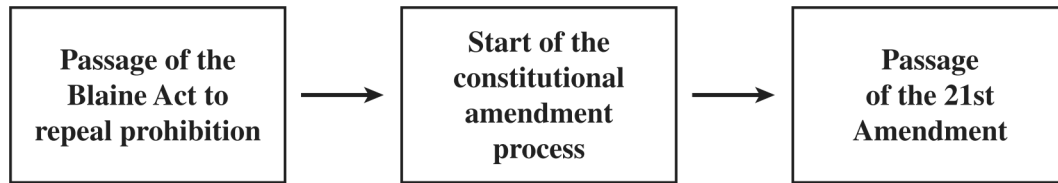


Source: Historical Statistics of the United States

Based on the chart above, which of the following statements is accurate?

- In 1921, more refrigerators were produced than typewriters.
- In 1921, more phonographs were produced than automobiles.
- In 1925, more refrigerators were produced than phonographs.
- In 1925, more automobiles were produced than radio receivers.

23. This diagram shows a sequence of events during the 1930s.



Which statement evaluates the impact of this process on the American political system?

- (A) Congress took action to overturn an earlier reform movement.
- (B) State governments influenced federal responses to public opinion.
- (C) A Supreme Court ruling reversed a claim to specific federal powers.
- (D) The federal government shifted important powers away from the states.

24. Bob is unsure whether he is qualified to vote in an Ohio election. Which of the following would disqualify him from voting?

- (A) He is a naturalized citizen of the United States.
- (B) He is a resident of another state.
- (C) He does not have a full-time job.
- (D) He has never contributed money to a political campaign.

25. To maintain the United States as an “arsenal for democracy” in World War II, Congress passed the—

- (A) Dawes Act.
- (B) Lend-Lease Act.
- (C) Open Door Policy.
- (D) Good Neighbor Policy.

26. In contrast to a democracy, which form of government uses the military to maintain power against the people’s consent?

- (A) monarchy (B) dictatorship
- (C) theocracy (D) oligarchy

27. What has been a significant effect of United States support for Israel?

- (A) The economic stagnation of Israel’s neighbors
- (B) Prolonged periods of American-led peaceful negotiation in the region
- (C) The creation of valuable trade partnerships for the United States in the region
- (D) Increased feelings of hostility toward the United States from Israel’s neighbors

28. Progressive reformers after 1900 sought federal legislation to regulate working conditions and to set a minimum age for child labor. The need for this legislation was prompted by

- (A) Civil War casualties leading to children taking the jobs of adults.
- (B) unions restricting membership to adult workers.
- (C) industrialists using child labor to keep production costs down.
- (D) lack of job opportunities for children seeking after-school jobs.

29. One way the Federal Reserve System seeks to influence the U.S. economy is by raising or lowering the rate of interest (discount rate) that member banks must pay to borrow money from the Federal Reserve.

- Considering that the inflation rate rose significantly from 1976 to 1980, identify the change (increase or decrease) the Federal Reserve System could have made in the discount rate to reverse that trend.
- Describe the expected impact this change in the discount rate would have had on:
 - consumer spending
 - business spending
- Explain why this change in the discount rate would produce the desired effects on spending.

Write your answer in the space provided.

30. According to 1990 census data, three continents provided over 80% of the foreign born population of the United States. Those continents were:

North America	39.4%
Asia	25.0%
Europe	22.2%

Based on this information, which of the following is a reasonable conclusion about the United States?

- (A) The size of the United States population is decreasing.
- (B) English is the only language spoken in the United States.
- (C) Immigration has no effect on the United States population.
- (D) People with diverse backgrounds continue to make up the United States.

31. The following statements are part of a debate over a proposed law to require dog owners to keep their dogs on leashes.

A pet owner who is against having a leash law:

“The proposed law that requires dogs to be on leashes should be defeated. A dog should never be put on a leash because a dog’s true nature is to roam free like a wolf. Dogs should be allowed to explore their environment without being locked up or put on leashes. Animals that are free are happier than animals that are confined.”

A veterinarian who is in favor of having a leash law:

“Wild dogs, like wolves, roam free in their natural surroundings, but pet dogs are domesticated. Pet dogs should be kept in fenced yards or on leashes for their own safety. A study done by the city found that the number of dogs run over by cars would be reduced by 80% if all dog owners kept their pets enclosed or on leashes.”

Based on the information above, which of the following statements is most accurate?

- (A) The pet owner’s viewpoint is based on facts.
- (B) The veterinarian’s viewpoint is based on opinions.
- (C) The pet owner’s viewpoint is supported by information that can be verified.
- (D) The veterinarian’s viewpoint is supported by information that can be verified.

32. *The Dred Scott Decision*

In 1857, the Supreme Court tried to settle the slavery controversy in its Dred Scott decision. In that decision, the Court ruled that:

- African Americans, whether slave or free, were not U.S. citizens;
- the Missouri Compromise, which banned slavery in the Louisiana Territory north of 36° 30', was unconstitutional; and
- slaveholders had the right to take slaves, like other property, into any U.S. territory.

For *each* of the following three groups of people, tell whether that group was most likely to support or oppose the Dred Scott decision and explain why.

- free African Americans
- southern slaveholders
- northern abolitionists

33. *Uniforms*

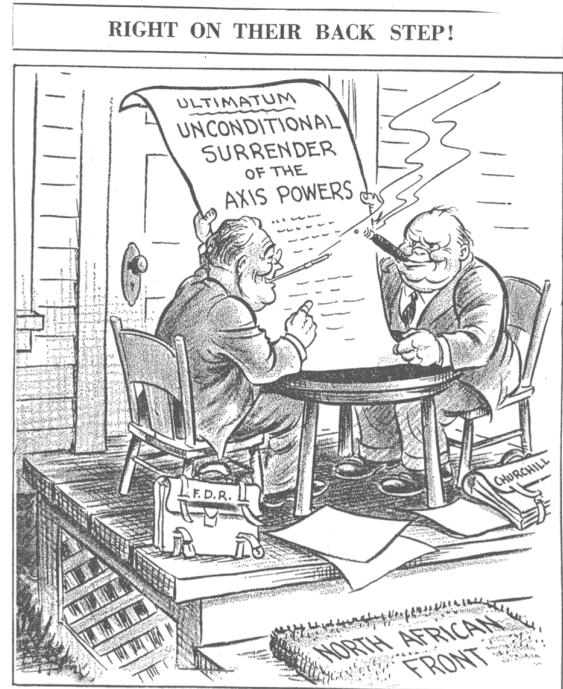
Many public schools are debating whether students should be required to wear uniforms.

- Discuss **two pros** and **two cons** of requiring school uniforms.
- Explain how requiring school uniforms relates to students' First Amendment rights.

34. During the presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which ended segregation in—

- the armed forces.
- public schools and colleges.
- private clubs.
- public facilities, such as hotels and restaurants.

35. The cartoon depicts negotiations during World War II.



Source: Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

How did the ultimatum expressed in this 1943 cartoon affect World War II?

- It led to the Battle of Britain.
- It resulted in the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
- It led to the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima.
- It resulted in the territorial divisions of Germany and Italy.

36. In the 1700s, under an economic system called mercantilism, Great Britain expected its American colonies to provide

- labor to work in British factories.
- manufactured goods to sell in British cities.
- citizens elected to serve in the British Parliament.
- raw materials and markets for British products.

37. This drawing shows the owner of a beach umbrella business who wants more customers to rent her umbrellas.



What might this owner do to get more customers to rent her umbrellas? Explain your answer.

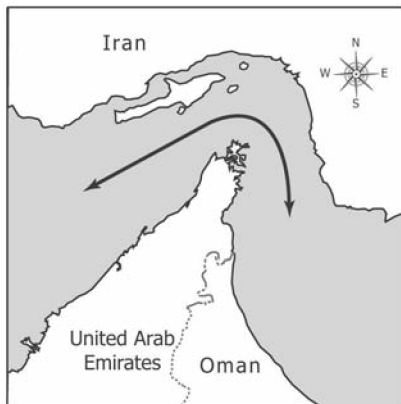
38. If the public safety be provided, liberty ... secured, justice administered ... the true interest of the nation advanced ...

Algernon Sidney, 1698

Which concept does this quote express?

- (A) democracy (B) common good
(C) taxation (D) isolationism

39. This map is shown in a DVD documentary about the global oil market.



What kind of physical feature is indicated by the arrows and line on this map?

- (A) strait (B) delta
(C) river (D) isthmus

40. How can the Union be saved? To this I answer ...by adopting such measures as will satisfy the States belonging to the Southern section that they can remain in the Union consistently with their honor and their safety. ...The South asks for justice, simple justice ... She has no compromise to offer but the Constitution ... If you are unwilling we should part in peace, tell us so.

John C. Calhoun, The Clay Compromise Measures. March 4, 1850

I wish to speak to-day, not as a Massachusetts man, nor as a Northern man, but as an American ... we live in the midst of strong agitations ... the North, and the stormy South combine to throw the whole sea into commotion ... I speak to-day for the preservation of the Union. ... Peaceable secession! Sir, your eyes and mine are never destined to see that miracle.

Daniel Webster, The Constitution and the Union Speech. March 7, 1850

The Compromise of 1850 attempted to calm sectional tensions that resulted when the United States acquired new territory after the Mexican War. How did Calhoun and Webster react to the possibility of a compromise?

- (A) Calhoun argued that the compromise failed to address the interests of Southern states, while Webster insisted that in the face of violent secession only compromise could save the union.
(B) Calhoun argued that slavery's expansion into newly acquired territories would lead to violent secession, while Webster insisted that secession was not possible.
(C) Calhoun argued that Southern justice was possible with the compromise, while Webster believed such justice was impossible with the compromise.
(D) Calhoun argued that he supported the compromise as a Southerner, while Webster did not support the compromise as an American.

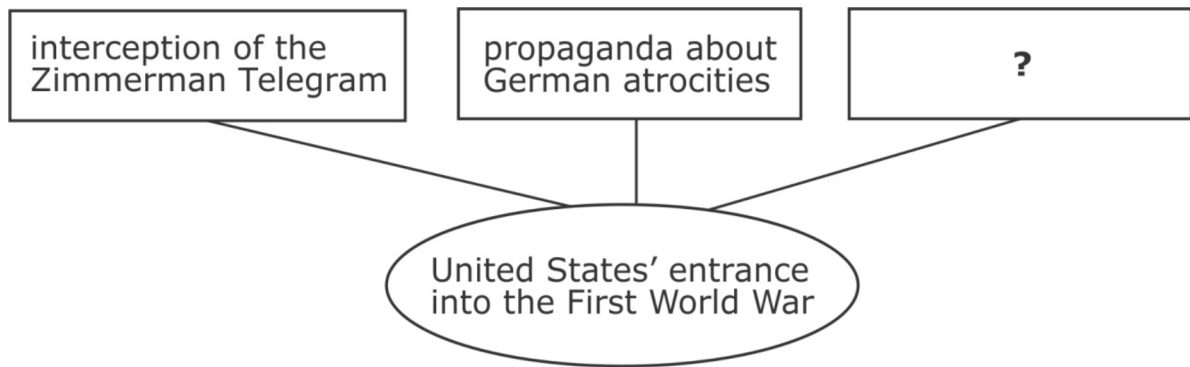
41. How did the government's policy of manifest destiny affect Native Americans living on the plains in the late 1800s?

- (A) Native Americans were forced to accept treaties and land east of the Mississippi River.
- (B) Native Americans were forced to give up reservations with the passage of the Monroe Doctrine.
- (C) Native Americans were forced to mine gold discovered by settlers.
- (D) Native Americans were forced onto reservations while settlers took their land.

42. An individual has been accused of taking the property of another person. Why would a judge require substantial evidence before issuing a search warrant?

- (A) to prevent law enforcement officials from having to testify in court
- (B) to guarantee an arrest by law enforcement officials
- (C) to avoid self-incrimination by the suspect who took the property
- (D) to ensure there was probable cause for conducting the investigation

43. This graphic organizer represents U.S. involvement in the First World War.



Which phrase *best* completes the graphic organizer?

- (A) sympathy for the Russian Empire
- (B) the British blockade of Germany
- (C) unrestricted submarine warfare
- (D) the invasion of Poland

44. Which of these excerpts from the United States Constitution *best* reflects the principle of checks and balances?
- (A) “This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States ... shall be the supreme Law of the Land...”
- (B) “All persons born or naturalized in the United States ... are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside.”
- (C) “Every Bill which shall have passed [Congress] shall, before it becomes a Law, be presented to the President of the United States.”
- (D) “The [listing] in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be [interpreted] to deny ... others retained by the people.”

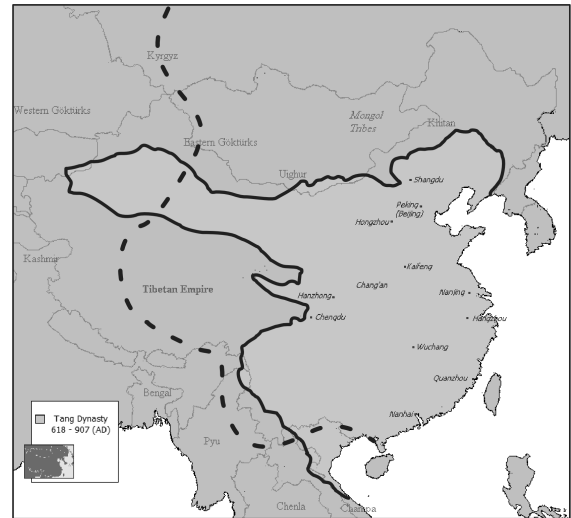
45. **Ancient Empire Economic Issues:**

- poor management by leaders
- hoarding of wealth
- too much debt

How did the economic factors listed affect the ancient empires?

- (A) Empires weakened and were eventually destroyed.
- (B) Empires forced wealthy citizens to forfeit money in taxes.
- (C) Armies searched other empires for new leaders to govern.
- (D) Armies of the empires were sent to other lands to increase wealth.
46. Which of these groups most favored immigration to the United States between 1880 and 1910?
- (A) unskilled workers
- (B) rural farmers
- (C) urban nativists
- (D) factory owners

47. This map shows both the Tang (618–907 AD) and Yuan (1271–1368 AD) ancient Chinese dynasties.



--- Yuan Dynasty
 — Tang Dynasty

Which statement best describes what is shown on the map?

- (A) The Yuan Dynasty expanded eastward during its reign.
- (B) The Tang Dynasty focused on expanding into desert areas.
- (C) The Yuan Dynasty more than doubled the size of the Tang Dynasty.
- (D) The Tang Dynasty’s territory matched the land area of the Yuan Dynasty.
48. Theodore Roosevelt’s “Speak softly and carry a big stick” policy relied on the United States having a
- (A) competitive economy.
- (B) system of military alliances.
- (C) strong navy.
- (D) tax on imports.

In the section below you will be using selected amendments from the Bill of Rights of the United States Constitution.

Selected Amendments from the Bill of Rights (1791)

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in Time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

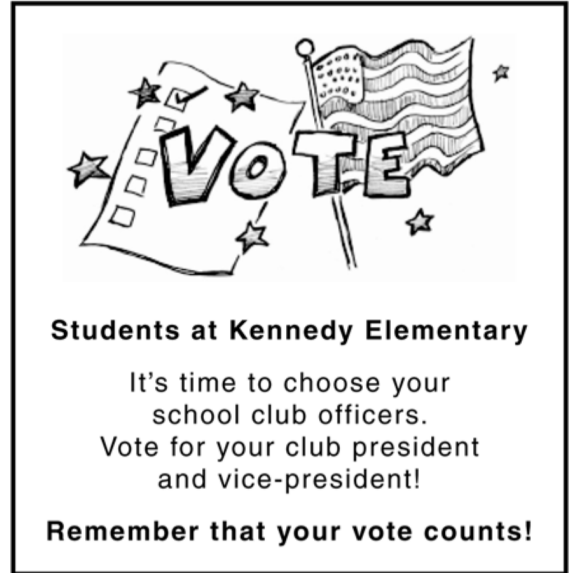
Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

49. On September 12, 1787, George Mason of Virginia asked the delegates to the Constitutional Convention to add a bill of rights to the new plan of government. They voted not to do so. Four years later, the first ten amendments were added to the Constitution as the Bill of Rights.

- a) Choose *one* amendment from the selected amendments from the Bill of Rights. Explain why most Americans in 1791 believed the right or rights outlined in the amendment you chose were important enough to make them a part of the Constitution. Support your answer with information from the Bill of Rights and your knowledge of U.S. history.
- b) Choose *another* amendment from the selected amendments from the Bill of Rights. Explain why most Americans in 1791 believed the right or rights outlined in the amendment you chose were important enough to make them a part of the Constitution. Support your answer with information from the Bill of Rights and your knowledge of U.S. history.

50. Use the picture and information below to answer the following question.



Kennedy Elementary School is deciding whether students should vote for the club president and vice-president, or whether the teachers and principal should choose the club president and vice-president.

- a) Describe *one* reason it might be best to have students vote for the person they want to be club president and vice-president.
- b) Describe *one* reason it might be best to have the school principal and teachers choose the club president and vice-president.