



U.S. History

PRACTICE TEST

2021-2022



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. Which Civil Rights group, from its earliest days, used any means necessary to protect itself in its effort to achieve racial equality?
 - A. Black Panther Party (BPP)
 - B. Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
 - C. Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)
 - D. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

- 2. Which statement **best** describes how the completion of the first transcontinental railroad lines affected the economy of the post-Reconstruction era in the United States?
 - **A.** It transformed human transportation by reducing the amount of time it took people to travel east.
 - **B.** It made commerce available on a vast scale by providing a faster and cheaper way to move goods from coast to coast.
 - **C.** It led to a growing confidence among Americans by inducing them to believe that they could take on even greater technological quests.
 - **D.** It changed the concept of reality for many Americans by allowing them the opportunity to see what other regions of the country looked like.

3. The following excerpt comes from the 1896 Democratic Party Platform.

We denounce arbitrary interference by Federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the Constitution of the United States . . . and we especially object to government by injunction as a new and highly dangerous form of oppression by which Federal judges, in contempt of the laws and rights of citizens, become at once legislators, judges, and executioners.

Which event is an example of "government by injunction" to which the Democratic Party objected?

- A. interference in the Pullman Strike
- B. subsidies for the transcontinental railroad
- **C.** spoils system of rewarding loyalists with political jobs
- **D.** restricting immigration from Cuba after the USS *Maine* exploded

- **4.** What effect did the formation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact have on Europe?
 - A. The alliances weakened the European economy.
 - **B.** The alliances created further divisions within Europe.
 - **C.** The alliances strengthened the economic power across all of Europe.
 - **D.** The alliances created more peaceful relationships between European countries.

5. This political cartoon shows John D. Rockefeller wearing a large crown and standing on an oil storage tank labeled "Standard Oil." The crown is adorned with railroad cars, oil tanks, and the names of four railroad companies and topped with a dollar sign.

LEHIGH VALLEY R.R.

OIL

ST. PAUL R.R

PREADING RAIL ROAD

TOLL

T

The King of the Combinations

Source: Library of Congress

This cartoon indicates that John D. Rockefeller became "The King of the Combinations" by

- **A.** limiting his oil sales to railroad companies.
- **B.** using his railroad profits to purchase oil companies.
- **C.** driving up oil prices to put the railroads out of business.
- **D.** forming an alliance to control railroad freight rates and oil prices.

6. This excerpt is from a resolution drafted during the United Nation's Genocide Convention. The resolution was adopted unanimously by the General Assembly of the United Nations, of which the United States is a member nation, on December 9, 1948.

Article I

The Contracting Parties confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which they undertake to prevent and to punish.

Article VI

Persons charged with genocide . . . shall be tried by a competent tribunal of the State in the territory of which the act was committed, or by such international penal tribunal as may have jurisdiction with respect to those Contracting Parties which shall have accepted its jurisdiction.

Why did the United States agree to adopt this resolution?

- **A.** to prevent being pulled into another international war
- **B.** to avoid being involved in the prosecution of international war criminals
- **C.** to avoid being a party to future trials resulting from international conflicts
- **D.** to prevent the attempted destruction of a human group from happening again

7. This chart lists some events that occurred during the Gilded Age, those turbulent years beginning after the Civil War and ending at the start of the twentieth century.

Year	Event
1880	The Republican party splits into factions over the "spoils system."
1880	Republican James Garfield, a reform candidate, is elected president.
1881	President Garfield is assassinated by Charles Guiteau.
1883	Congress passes the Pendleton Civil Service Act.

The events in the chart mainly relate to which problem of the Gilded Age?

- A. political patronage
- B. unregulated immigration
- **C.** bribery and graft scandals
- D. rapid urbanization and industrialization

8. The New York Evening World newspaper published this political cartoon on January 5, 1920.



Source: Library of Congress

With which statement would the cartoonist most likely agree?

- **A.** Americans supported increased government actions due to their fear of communism.
- **B.** Americans were becoming more open to such new political ideologies as communism.
- **C.** Americans feared that the League of Nations would increase the spread of communism.
- **D.** Americans began to welcome the wave of immigrants who fled communism in eastern Europe.

9. The Clayton Antitrust Act of 1914 was enacted to address certain practices that earlier antitrust legislation did not clearly prohibit. This excerpt comes from the Federal Trade Commission's website.

Section 7 of the Clayton Act prohibits mergers and acquisitions where the effect "may be substantially to lessen competition, or to tend to create a monopoly."

Based on the excerpt and your own knowledge, the Clayton Antitrust Act of 1914 differs from previous antitrust legislation in that its intention was to

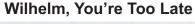
- **A.** limit the rights of corporations to diversify their stock.
- **B.** protect the consumer from fraudulent claims and advertising.
- **C.** prevent the development of combinations that might restrain trade.
- **D.** determine which businesses operate as illegal one-seller marketplaces.

- **10.** This list includes examples of efforts initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the early 1940s.
 - Alcoa, the aluminum company, manufactured airplanes.
 - The Lionel toy train company manufactured items for warships.
 - The Ford Motor Company produced B-24 Liberator bomber airplanes.
 - The Mattatuck Manufacturing Company, which had made upholstery nails, manufactured cartridge clips for rifles.

Which goal did President Roosevelt hope to accomplish through the efforts included in the list?

- **A.** bring the nation out of the Great Depression
- **B.** promote employment for women and minorities
- **C.** win support from corporations for entering the war
- **D.** provide military equipment for the United States and its allies

11. In this 1898 political cartoon, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany is pictured looking at a sign.





Source: New York Public Library

Part A

This political cartoon represents a consequence of

- **A.** World War I.
- **B.** World War II.
- C. the Russo-Japanese War.
- D. the Spanish-American War.

Part B

At the time this political cartoon was published, the United States had

- **A.** just emerged as a new world power.
- **B.** just mediated a peace treaty between two countries.
- **C.** declared neutrality as its foreign policy around the world.
- **D.** entered into a tense conflict with another nation over communism.

12. The resolutions in this list were developed by an international organization.

Year	Resolution
1948	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
1966	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
1968	Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
1984	Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace

Which international organization was responsible for the development of these resolutions?

- A. United Nations
- B. European Union
- C. League of Nations
- D. World Trade Organization

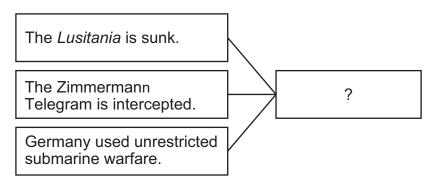
13. This chart describes different U.S. foreign policies toward Latin America during the early twentieth century.

President	Foreign Policy	Description
Theodore Roosevelt	Big Stick Diplomacy	used strong U.S. military to achieve diplomatic goals
William Howard Taft	Dollar Diplomacy	invested in foreign economies to increase U.S. influence
Woodrow Wilson	Moral Diplomacy	promoted human rights, national integrity, and opportunity

Based on the chart and your own knowledge, which statement **best** describes how the focus of Woodrow Wilson's foreign policy toward Latin America differed from those of his two predecessors?

- A. Wilson supported the spread of self-governance and democracy.
- **B.** Wilson increased armed intervention to restore order in the area.
- **C.** Wilson encouraged American businesses to infuse money in the area.
- **D.** Wilson proposed providing U.S. financial support to rebuild the war-torn region.

14. This cause-and-effect diagram includes some important events from the early twentieth century.



Which outcome best completes the cause-and-effect diagram?

- A. The United States enters World War I.
- **B.** The United States enacts strict neutrality policies.
- **C.** The United States withdraws from international treaties.
- **D.** The United States releases the Fourteen Points as a peace plan.

- **15.** This excerpt comes from the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930.
 - SEC. 338. Discrimination by foreign countries: (a) Additional Duties. The President when he finds that the public interest will be served thereby shall by proclamation specify and declare new or additional duties as hereinafter provided upon articles wholly or in part the growth or product of, or imported in a vessel of, any foreign country whenever he shall find as a fact that such country . . .
 - (2) Discriminates in fact against the commerce of the United States . . . in such manner as to place the commerce of the United States at a disadvantage compared with the commerce of any foreign country.

What impact did this additional duty have on the global economy of the 1930s?

- **A.** The global economy was strengthened by the demand for equal duties on American exports and goods imported from overseas.
- **B.** Because the amount of American exports increased, higher duties on imports of foreign goods led to the failure of the global economy.
- **C.** The global economy was weakened by the demand for lower import duties on American manufactured goods arriving at international ports.
- **D.** Instead of protecting American manufacturing interests, higher import duties led to the significant decline of all trade and weakened the global economy.

- **16.** Which statement describes an effect of the Watergate scandal?
 - **A.** Americans began to distrust the federal government.
 - **B.** Americans opposed limiting the power of the presidency.
 - C. Americans reelected Richard Nixon to a second term as president.
 - **D.** Americans became more supportive of Richard Nixon's administration.

- **17.** This list includes ways in which President Herbert Hoover responded to the onset of the Great Depression.
 - encouraged Americans to be more economical
 - encouraged the spirit of "rugged individualism"
 - encouraged the spirit of volunteerism among U.S. businesses

How did this response affect the American economy?

- A. The economy improved as stock prices stabilized.
- **B.** The economy declined as banks and businesses failed.
- **C.** The economy declined as citizens increased their savings.
- **D.** The economy improved as businesses hired more workers.

- **18.** What effect did Operation Iraqi Freedom, which lasted from 2003 to 2011, have on the role of the United States in the Middle East?
 - **A.** The U.S. role in the Middle East shifted from that of a trade partner to that of a peacekeeper.
 - **B.** The U.S. role in the Middle East shifted from that of a peacekeeper to that of an economic adviser.
 - **C.** The United States shifted to a less active role in the Middle East after deposing the former Iraqi dictator.
 - **D.** The United States shifted to a more active role in the Middle East by providing the new Iraqi government with security against insurgents.

19. This excerpt comes from the Lend-Lease Act passed on March 11, 1941.

The President may, from time to time, when he deems it in the interest of national defense, authorize the Secretary of War, the Secretary [o]f the Navy, or the [h]ead of any other department or agency of the Government -

(1) To manufacture in arsenals, factories, and shipyards under their jurisdiction, or otherwise procure, to the extent to which funds are made available therefor[e], or contracts are authorized from time to time by the Congress, or both, any defense article for the government of any country whose defense the President deems vital to the defense of the United States.

Which **two** statements describe consequences of the Lend-Lease Act?

- **A.** This law angered Germany and led it to invade Poland.
- **B.** This law led the United States to firmly commit to neutrality.
- **C.** This law caused the United States to shift away from isolationism.
- **D.** This law removed the power to declare war from President Roosevelt.
- **E.** This law allowed the United States to loan supplies and weapons to warring nations.

- 20. How did the Korean War affect the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union?
 - **A.** The Korean War decreased Cold War tensions because troops were removed from the 38th parallel.
 - **B.** The Korean War increased Cold War tensions because it changed a postwar competition into a military confrontation that lasted for years.
 - **C.** The Korean War increased Cold War tensions because it led the United States and the Soviet Union from a policy of interventionism to isolationism.
 - **D.** The Korean War decreased Cold War tensions because it led the United States and the Soviet Union to agree that nuclear weapons would never be used.

21. This excerpt comes from an eyewitness account by Father John A. Siemes of an event that occurred on August 6, 1945.

As a result of the explosion of the bomb at 8:15, almost the entire city was destroyed at a single blow. Only small outlying districts in the southern and eastern parts of the town escaped complete destruction. The bomb exploded over the center of the city. As a result of the blast, the small Japanese houses in a diameter of five kilometers, which [composed] 99% of the city, collapsed or were blown up. Those who were in the houses were buried in the ruins. Those who were in the open sustained burns resulting from contact with the substance or rays emitted by the bomb. Where the substance struck in quantity, fires sprang up. These spread rapidly.

What was one result of the event described by the excerpt?

- **A.** The devastation brought by the bomb led to Japan's unconditional surrender.
- **B.** The fear of having a similar bomb dropped on Berlin convinced the Germans to surrender.
- **C.** The fear of having a similar bomb dropped on the United States slowed the path to the end of war.
- **D.** The devastation brought by the bomb increased Japan's determination to defeat the Allied Powers.

- **22.** Which statement describes the significance of the 1994 party policy document referred to as the "Contract with America"?
 - A. It helped Democrats gain 12 governorships.
 - **B.** It helped Democrats gain control of 20 state legislatures.
 - **C.** It helped Republicans gain control of both houses of Congress.
 - **D.** It helped Republicans gain support of key Democratic strategists.

23. This excerpt comes from a statement to the American people made by President Harry S. Truman on August 6, 1945.

Sixteen hours ago an American airplane dropped one bomb on Hiroshima, an important Japanese Army base. That bomb had more power than 20,000 tons of T.N.T. . . . And the end is not yet. With this bomb we have now added a new and revolutionary increase in destruction to supplement the growing power of our armed forces. . . . It is an atomic bomb. . . .

We are now prepared to obliterate more rapidly and completely every productive enterprise the Japanese have above ground in any city. We shall destroy their docks, their factories, and their communications. Let there be no mistake; we shall completely destroy Japan's power to make war.

What was President Truman's **main** goal in ordering the actions described in the excerpt?

- **A.** to exact revenge on the Japanese government
- **B.** to demonstrate the military resources of the United States
- **C.** to save American lives by forcing the Japanese to surrender
- **D.** to prevent the Japanese military from acquiring a similar weapon

- 24. What effect did Reaganomics have on the U.S. economy during the 1980s?
 - **A.** This supply-side economic policy caused a decrease in the national debt and domestic spending.
 - **B.** This tax-and-spend economic policy caused an increase in corporate taxes and domestic spending.
 - **C.** This trickle-down economic policy caused a decrease in inflation and an increase in the national debt.
 - **D.** This laissez-faire economic policy caused a decrease in the national debt and an increase in inflation rates.

25. This photograph was taken in July 1942 at the Willow Run bomber plant.



Source: Library of Congress

How did the role of women like the one shown in the photograph change during World War II?

- A. They took over traditionally male manufacturing jobs while the men were at war.
- **B.** They aided the war effort by taking on leadership roles at factories and shipyards.
- **C.** They aided the war effort by planting victory gardens and training with the Red Cross.
- **D.** They took over traditionally male jobs in the National Guard while the men were at war.

U.S. History Practice Test

END OF COURSE





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The information for each item, including the objective, DOK level, item type, and correct answer, is located in this document. The items appear in the order as shown in the table.

Item Number	Objective	DOK Level	Item Type	Correct Answer
1	(US.11.4) Describe the development of a Black Power movement, including: the change in focus of the SNCC, the rise of Malcolm X, and Stokely Carmichael and the Black Panther movement.	1	Multiple Choice	А
2	(US.1.1) Illustrate the impact of Manifest Destiny on the economic and technological development of the post-Civil War West, including mining, the cattle industry, and the transcontinental railroad.	2	Multiple Choice	В
3	(US.2.1) Interpret the impact of change from workshop to factory on workers' lives, including: The New Industrial Age from 1870 to 1900, the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), the Pullman Strike, the Haymarket Square Riot, and impact of John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, Samuel Gompers, Eugene V. Debs, A. Philip Randolph, and Thomas Alva Edison.	2	Multiple Choice	A
4	(US.8.6) Identify the importance of the following on cold war tensions, including: Berlin Blockade, Berlin Airlift, NATO, Warsaw Pact, and Iron Curtain.	2	Multiple Choice	В
5	(US.2.4) Analyze the effects of laissez-faire economics on business practices in the United States and their effects, including: John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, JP Morgan, and Bessemer Process, horizontal and vertical integration, Sherman Antitrust Act.	2	Multiple Choice	D
6	(US.7.4) Analyze war crimes committed during World War II, including: The Holocaust, the Bataan Death March, the Nuremberg Trials, including: the post-war Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Genocide Convention.	2	Multiple Choice	D
7	(US.2.5) Trace the evolution from the power of the political machines to Civil Service reform, including: Spoils/patronage system, Tweed Ring, Thomas Nast, and Pendleton Civil Service Act.	2	Multiple Choice	А
8	(US.5.7) Debate the causes and effects of the social change and conflict between traditional and modern culture that took place during the 1920s, including: the role of women, the Red Scare, immigration quotas, Prohibition, and the Scopes trial.	2	Multiple Choice	А
9	(US.3.4) Trace national legislation resulting from and affecting the Progressive Movement, including: the Sherman Antitrust Act and the Clayton Antitrust Act.	3	Multiple Choice	С
10	(US.7.6) Describe the mobilization of various industries to meet war needs.	2	Multiple Choice	D

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Item Number	Objective	DOK Level	Item Type	Correct Answer
11	(US.4.3) Analyze consequences of the Spanish-American War, including: The Treaty of Paris of 1898, insurgency in the Philippines, and territorial expansion in the Pacific and the Caribbean.	2	Multi-Part	Part A: D Part B: A
12	(US.8.7) Evaluate the role, function, and purpose of the United Nations (UN).	2	Multiple Choice	А
13	(US.4.6) Compare the executive leadership represented by William Howard Taft's Dollar Diplomacy, Theodore Roosevelt's Big Stick Diplomacy, and Woodrow Wilson's Moral Diplomacy.	2	Multiple Choice	А
14	(US.4.7) Evaluate the factors that led to U.S. involvement in World War I.	2	Multiple Choice	А
15	(US.5.5) Compare and contrast the impact of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act on the global economy and the resulting worldwide depression.	3	Multiple Choice	D
16	(US.9.1) Analyze the domestic policies and events during the presidencies of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon, including: The New Frontier, Great Society, "the silent majority," the anti-war and counter-cultural movements, the Watergate scandal, including the Supreme Court case, U.S. v. Nixon.	1	Multiple Choice	Α
17	(US.6.2) Investigate how President Hoover's initial conservative response to the Great Depression failed.	2	Multiple Choice	В
18	(US.12.2) Describe global trade agreements, terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, Operation Iraqi Freedom and the War in Afghanistan, and the Patriot Act, global terrorism, global climate concerns, immigration, national debt and technological trends.	2	Multiple Choice	D
19	(US.7.1) Explain the isolationist debate as it evolved from the 1920s to the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the subsequent change in United States' foreign policy.	2	Multi-Select	C, E
20	(US.8.9) Summarize the Korean War and its impact on the Cold War.	2	Multiple Choice	В

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Item Number	Objective	DOK Level	Item Type	Correct Answer
21	(US.7.5) Analyze the reasons for and results of dropping atomic bombs on Japan.	2	Multiple Choice	А
22	(US.12.1) Examine the Contract with America, Impeachment Trial of William "Bill" Clinton, Eminent Domain issues, No Child Left Behind, Hurricane Katrina, and Affordable Care Act of 2010.	2	Multiple Choice	С
23	(US.7.5) Analyze the reasons for and results of dropping atomic bombs on Japan.	3	Multiple Choice	С
24	(US.10.1) Appraise the influence of the conservative movement on social, economic and environmental issues from 1974 to 1992, including: Moral Majority, Roe vs. Wade, Bakke Case, Love Canal, Three Mile Island, Reaganomics, PACTO, etc.	2	Multiple Choice	С
25	(US.7.9) Identify ways in which the roles of women and minorities changed during the war.	2	Multiple Choice	А