

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1–2 refer to the excerpt below.

“To oppose those hordes of northern tribes, singly and alone, would prove certain destruction. We can make no progress in that way. We unite ourselves into one common band of brothers. We must have but one voice. Many voices makes confusion. We must have one fire, one pipe and one war club. This will give us strength. If our warriors are united they can defeat the enemy and drive them from our land: If we do this, we are safe

“And you of the different nations of the south, and you of the west, may place yourselves under our protection, and we will protect you. We earnestly desire the alliance and friendship of you all”

—Chief Elias Johnson, *Legends, Traditions, and Laws of the Iroquois, or Six Nations, and History of the Tuscarora Indians*, 1881

1. According to Johnson, which of the following was the primary reason for the tribes to unite?
 - (A) To increase trade
 - (B) To provide for self-defense
 - (C) To gain additional land
 - (D) To make the Tuscarora leaders
2. Which of the following factors best explains why Native American efforts to unite were rare?
 - (A) Most tribes were isolated from each other
 - (B) Europeans discouraged tribes from uniting
 - (C) People had different foods and cultures
 - (D) Tribes had traditions of independence

Questions 3–5 refer to the excerpt below.

“Concerning the treatment of Native American workers:

When they were allowed to go home, they often found it deserted and had no other recourse than to go out into the woods to find food and to die. When they fell ill, which was very frequently because they are a delicate people unaccustomed to such work, the Spaniards did not believe them and pitilessly called them lazy dogs, and kicked and beat them; and when illness was apparent they sent them home as useless, giving them some cassava for the twenty- to eighty-league journey. They would go then, falling into the first stream and dying there in desperation; others would hold on longer, but very few ever made it home. I sometimes came upon dead bodies on my way, and upon others who were gasping and moaning in their death agony, repeating ‘Hungry, hungry.’”

—Bartolomé de Las Casas, priest and social reformer,
In Defense of the Indian, c. 1550

3. Which of the following best explains the underlying cause of the Spanish actions described by Las Casas?
 - (A) Racism
 - (B) Religion
 - (C) Desire for wealth
 - (D) Fear of native power

4. The primary audience that Las Casas hoped to influence by his writing was
 - (A) the monarchs of Spain
 - (B) the Roman Catholic Church
 - (C) the conquistadores
 - (D) the Native Americans

5. Which of the following factors that affected Native Americans is directly implied but not stated in this excerpt?
 - (A) Many Spaniards were sympathetic to the Native Americans
 - (B) The Catholic Church was trying to help the Native Americans
 - (C) European diseases were killing millions of Native Americans
 - (D) The Spanish faced strong resistance from Native Americans

Questions 6–7 refer to the excerpt below.

“Apart from his navigational skills, what most set Columbus apart from other Europeans of his day were not the things that he believed, but the intensity with which he believed in them and the determination with which he acted upon those beliefs. . . .

“Columbus was, in most respects, merely an especially active and dramatic embodiment of the European—and especially the Mediterranean—mind and soul of his time: a religious fanatic obsessed with the conversion, conquest, or liquidation of all non-Christians; a latter-day Crusader in search of personal wealth and fame, who expected the enormous and mysterious world he had found to be filled with monstrous races inhabiting wild forests, and with golden people living in Eden.”

—David E. Stannard, historian, *American Holocaust: Columbus and the Conquest of the New World*, 1992

6. Which of the following European nations would be the least likely to share the characteristics Stannard uses in describing Columbus?
- (A) England
 - (B) France
 - (C) Portugal
 - (D) Spain
7. Which of the following is a reason historians are most likely to criticize the view of Columbus expressed in this excerpt?
- (A) It ignores the period in which Columbus lived
 - (B) It displays a bias against Christians
 - (C) It skips over the progress brought by Columbus
 - (D) It uses highly charged language

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1–3 refer to the excerpt below.

“In this present crisis, government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem. From time to time we’ve been tempted to believe that society has become too complex to be managed by self-rule, that government by an elite group is superior to government for, by, and of the people. . . .

“It is my intention to curb the size and influence of the federal establishment and to demand recognition of the distinction between the powers granted to the Federal government and those reserved to the States or to the people. . . .

“In the days ahead I will propose removing the roadblocks that have slowed our economy and reduced productivity. . . . It is time to reawaken this industrial giant, to get government back within its means, and to lighten our punitive tax burden. And these will be our first priorities, and on these principles there will be no compromise.”

—President Ronald Reagan, Inaugural Address, January 20, 1981

8 Which of the following was an accomplishment by Reagan that fulfilled the pledges made in this excerpt?

- (A) Balancing the federal budget
- (B) Cutting military spending through greater efficiency
- (C) Strengthening environmental protections of federal lands
- (D) Reducing taxes for businesses and upper-income individuals

9 Which of the following individuals held political views that most closely resembled those expressed in this excerpt?

- (A) Alexander Hamilton
- (B) Abraham Lincoln
- (C) Theodore Roosevelt
- (D) Calvin Coolidge

10 Which of the following would best support President Reagan’s views on “removing roadblocks that have slowed our economy?”

- (A) Cutting restrictions on financial institutions
- (B) Improving mass transportation for workers
- (C) Promoting college education with student loans
- (D) Requiring older Americans to work longer

Questions 4–6 refer to the excerpt below.

“While the world waited, Saddam Hussein met every overture of peace with open contempt. While the world prayed for peace, Saddam prepared for war. . . . Tonight, 28 nations—countries from five continents, Europe and Asia, Africa and the Arab League—have forces in the Gulf area standing shoulder to shoulder against Saddam Hussein. . . .

“This is an historic moment. We have in this past year made great progress in ending the long era of conflict and cold war. We have before us the opportunity to forge for ourselves and for future generations a new world order—a world where the rule of law, not the law of the jungle, governs the conduct of nations. . . . [W]e have a real chance at this new world order, an order in which a credible United Nations can use its peacekeeping role to fulfill the promise and vision of the U.N.’s founders.”

—President George H. W. Bush, Address to the Nation,
January 16, 1991

11. Which of the following best explains the purpose of this speech?
- (A) Aid Iran and Saudi Arabia in their conflict with Iraq
 - (B) Force the Iraqi military forces out of Kuwait
 - (C) Promote democracy in the Middle East
 - (D) Remove weapons of mass destruction from Hussein’s Iraq
12. In this speech, Bush is most clearly expressing the concept in foreign policy called
- (A) collective security
 - (B) containment
 - (C) isolationism
 - (D) mutual assured destruction
13. Which of the following best explains the result of the foreign policy effort described in this excerpt?
- (A) Saddam Hussein, the dictator of Iraq, was removed from power
 - (B) The Soviet Union joined in support of the operation
 - (C) United States and its allies became bogged down in a lengthy war
 - (D) President Bush’s approval rating increased to 90 percent

Questions 7–8 refer to the excerpt below.

“Clinton was widely hailed, even by some of his detractors, as the most gifted politician of his generation—but the political task presented to him required continual bobbing and weaving, compromising and negotiation, retreating so as to advance. . . . Clinton was forced to establish a position independent of both the hostile Republican majority and the impotent Democratic minority. The ensuing confrontations that led to a federal government shutdown, Clinton’s recovery in the election of 1996, and the impeachment proceeding two years later all stemmed from the political realities surrounding the Clinton White House. . . .

Clinton and his advisors figured out a great deal on the run. . . . Clinton was also hunted and accused of wrongdoing as few previous presidents had been. . . . Under siege, though, Clinton survived to become, by the end of his second term, a singularly admired if controversial leader.”

—Sean Wilentz, historian, *The Age of Reagan: A History 1974–2008*, 2008

14. 7. Passage of which of the following is an example of Clinton’s success in “compromising and negotiation, retreating so as to advance?”
- (A) Bill ending discrimination against gays in the military
 - (B) Brady Bill and ban on assault rifles
 - (C) Health Care Reform Act
 - (D) Welfare and budget reform
15. 8. Which of the following best explains the general popularity of the Clinton presidency?
- (A) Clinton survived an unpopular impeachment effort led by his political opponents
 - (B) Clinton presided over eight years of prosperity and improved middle-class incomes
 - (C) Clinton organized successful peace-keeping efforts in the former Yugoslavia
 - (D) Clinton negotiated a plan to stabilize Social Security and Medicare for seniors

Questions 3–5 refer to the excerpt below.

“The fact is our economy did not fall into decline overnight. Nor did all of our problems begin when the housing market collapsed or the stock market sank. We have known for decades that our survival depends on finding new sources of energy. . . . The cost of health care eats up more and more of our savings each year, yet we keep delaying reform. Our children will compete for jobs in a global economy that too many of our schools do not prepare them for. . . .

A surplus became an excuse to transfer wealth to the wealthy instead of an opportunity to invest in our future. Regulations were gutted for the sake of a quick profit at the expense of a healthy market. People bought homes they knew they couldn’t afford from banks and lenders who pushed those bad loans anyway. . . .

Well that day of reckoning has arrived, and the time to take charge of our future is here.”

—Barack Obama, Speech to Congress, February 24, 2009

16. Which of the following would best support the text, “A surplus became an excuse to transfer wealth to the wealthy?”
- (A) The tax cuts in 2001 and 2003 under George W. Bush
 - (B) The 1996 budget compromise under Clinton
 - (C) The bailout of the savings and loans under George H. W. Bush
 - (D) The 25 percent tax cuts passed under Ronald Reagan
17. Among the issues identified in the speech, which of the following became the signature accomplishment of the Obama administration in the first term?
- (A) Legislation providing for energy independence in ten years
 - (B) Breakup of the banks that contributed to the recession
 - (C) Takeover of home mortgages to keep people in their homes
 - (D) Health insurance reform and expansion of the Americans insured
18. Which of the following was passed to stop banks and lenders from taking advantage of borrowers?
- (A) American Recovery Act
 - (B) Dodd-Frank Reform Act
 - (C) Obamacare
 - (D) the sequester

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

Questions 1–2 refer to the excerpt below.

“These militants are not just the enemies of America or the enemies of Iraq. They are the enemies of Islam, and they’re the enemies of humanity.

[I]t is cowardice that seeks to kill children and the elderly with car bombs, and cuts the throat of a bound captive, and targets worshipers leaving a mosque. It is courage that liberated more than 50 million people from tyranny. And it is courage in the cause of freedom that will once again destroy the enemies of freedom!

Islamic radicalism, like the ideology of communism, contains inherent contradictions that doom it to failure. By fearing freedom, by distrusting human creativity, and punishing change, and limiting the contributions of half a population, this ideology undermines the very qualities that make human progress possible and human societies successful. The only thing modern about the militants’ vision is the weapons they want to use against us. The rest of their grim vision is defined by a warped image of the past, a declaration of war on the idea of progress itself.”

—George W. Bush, Veterans Day Speech, November 11, 2005

19. Which of the following best explains the context for this speech by President Bush?
- (A) The attack on the Twin Towers in New York
 - (B) The resurgence of the Taliban in Afghanistan
 - (C) The challenge to control the violence in Iraq
 - (D) The breakdown of relations with Iran
20. Which of the following best supports President Bush’s comparison of Islamic radicalism to communism?
- (A) Neither saw universal education as a path to progress
 - (B) Neither valued freedom of the individual
 - (C) Both opposed cultural change
 - (D) Both opposed advances in personal communications