

AP United States History—Free Response Questions (FRQs)

1. Analyze the ways in which TWO of the following influenced the development of American society: Puritanism during the 17th century; the Great Awakening during the 18th century; or the Second Great Awakening during the 19th century.

Introductory Paragraph

- Prior the American Revolution during the late 1700s, the American society experienced a number of intellectual and evangelical renewals that affected a number of colonists
- **Thesis:** The Puritanism in the seventeenth century and the Great Awakening in the eighteenth century influenced the development of American society.

First Body Paragraph—Puritanism of the 17th Century

- The emigration of British citizens from England to the United States in the 1600s incited a movement titled Puritanism that stressed religious values
 - The Puritans sought religious freedom in the New World by openly practicing their Protestant faith
 - The Puritans held strict laws regarding laws of the Church and reinforced punishments for sins such as adultery, murder, and other laws breaking the Ten Commandments of the Christian faith
- Also called ‘Congregationalists’, the Puritans wanted to reform the Church of England instead of abandoning its practices
 - Puritans believed that only saved souls could be relinquished to a higher state of being
 - The Puritans also established a strict code for women, in which women were expected to be sexually committed only to their matrimonial duties
 - Other forms of worship, such as Roman Catholicism, and blasphemous practices such as witchcraft, were looked down upon in the Puritan society

Second Body Paragraph—The Great Awakening of the 18th Century

- In the eighteenth century, a religious crisis struck the English colonies in North America and a revivalist movement called the Great Awakening brought a number of colonists back to the law of the Church
 - The Great Awakening began in New England, the birthplace of Puritanism
 - Calvinist Reverend Jonathan Edwards said individuals could reach salvation if they recognized their own natures and surrendered their souls to God
 - George Whitefield, a clergyman from the Church of England, traveled throughout the colonies and preached of a greater being and an afterlife in heaven
- Opposition to the Great Awakening existed among neoconservative religious traditionalists and those of the new branch of the church
 - ‘Old lights’, wanted traditional religious views to be worshipped while ‘New lights’ consisted of evangelicals who branched from traditional views
- The Awakening had a great impact on American values and culture
 - The movement challenged traditional intellectualism
 - Followers divided the world into two groups without respect to gender, race, or orientation
 - The Awakening also challenged the emotional lack in American society and called for a heightened sense of individual understanding

Conclusions Paragraph

- The Puritan movement as well as the first Great Awakening in pre-revolutionary times set the stage for religious and cultural developments in the English colonies

2. Analyze the extent to which religious freedom existed in the British North American colonies prior to 1700.

Introductory Paragraph

- Prior to 1700, religious freedom in the British North American was sought by Puritans who sought to reform the Church of England
- **Thesis:** Religious freedom was open to Puritans in colonial North America but limited to other religious sects who formed a minority in the colonies.

First Body Paragraph—The Arrival of Puritanism

- New England was colonized by religiously motivated Englishmen devoted to the Puritan sect
 - Roman Catholicism and the Church of England had little impact on early colonists
- Puritans dedicated themselves to Bible study; family prayer; and daily examinations of their souls
- Puritans sought pureness, or freedom from sin, in order to be chosen for heaven
 - Puritans adopted a strict code of conduct and rules for prayers and personal belief
- Congregationalists were Puritans who wanted to reform the Church of England
- Separatists were also Puritans who thought that the Church of England was corrupt and wanted to start with a new congregation of devoted followers

Second Body Paragraph—Government and Religion Coincide

- John Winthrop was elected governor of the Massachusetts Bay Company in 1629
 - Winthrop preached sermons among the colonists, stressing the Puritan way of life and called for a Puritan America
 - Winthrop wanted to enforce a commonwealth of Puritan members who sought Christian love instead of greed and corruption
- Many colonists who were not Puritans were left as a minority as the Massachusetts Bay Colony reorganized its government structure based on Puritan values
 - Landowning male settlers changed the General court into a colonial legislature
 - A Judicial system was also enacted that modeled that of England's
- Puritan society did not accept converts who did not fully adopt European styles of life
- Catholicism and other religious factions, such as the Jesuits, could not practice as freely within the colonies due to the overruling power of the Puritans

Third Body Paragraph—Religion and Other Northern American Groups

- Puritans controlled governments of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, Plymouth, and Connecticut
 - Puritan governments only responded to congregationalism except in Rhode Island, which was formed by dissenters from Massachusetts
- In Massachusetts and New Haven, church membership was mandatory in order for an individual to vote in town meetings
- Members of other sects had no freedom of worship
- Puritan colonists tried to enforce strict moral codes of conduct
 - Couples who had a baby prior to their marriage were publicly humiliated and fined
 - Men who engaged in homosexual behavior were punished harshly
 - Men suspected of homosexual intercourse as well as bestiality, or sex with animals, were hanged in public
- New England was territory dominated by Puritans but furthermore, restricted to the limited beliefs of the Puritans

Conclusion Paragraph

- The Puritan society that emerged during the seventeenth century allowed Puritanism to flourish but did not allow other religious sects to thrive.

3. Throughout the colonial period, economic concerns had more to do with the settling of British North America than did religious concern. Assess the validity of the statement with specific references to economic and religious concerns.

Introductory Paragraph

- During the colonial era, British emigrants to North America sought economic successes rather than religious privileges.
- **Thesis:** The colonial period in North America was an era defined by economic rather than religious aspirations.

First Body Paragraph—Proprietorships

- To colonize North America, the restored monarchy of the British Stuarts sought to create a British colonies in the New World
 - The Stuarts developed thirteen colonists, the primary ones including New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and North and South Carolina
 - These regions were titled proprietorships; each had a type of governor who controlled both the land and government
- The proprietorships included other individuals who already inhabited the area, such as Africans, Germans, and French-speaking Walloons
- The Duke's Laws—established Dutch forms of government; Dutch land titles; and the allowance of Dutch residence

Second Body Paragraph—Establishment of Economy in Agriculture

- The proprietorship of New Jersey was controlled by proprietors Sir George Carteret and John Lord Berkeley
 - Promoted residence within New Jersey by promising land grants, limited freedom of religion, and a representative government
 - New Jersey's basis of economy were mainly farming, despite land that was not as fertile in the North New Jersey as in Southern New Jersey
- The proprietorship of New York also established its own economic trend through farming and fur trade
 - The Dutch, who previously occupied the New York area, had controlled the fur trade prior to British colonization
- The proprietorships of North Carolina and South Carolina specialized in farming crops like rice and indigo, as well as farming other cash crops
 - Tobacco and forest products were also popular in North Carolina

Third Body Paragraph—Merchants of the East Coast

- The colonial economy depended on both agriculture as well as the merchant system that existed along the Atlantic coast
 - Merchants thrived along coastal areas that had access to shipments and trade routes
 - Such cities included Boston; financial hubs that absorbed trade in-payments included New York City
- Merchants at times participated in smuggling acts that illegally brought in and exported goods into and out of North America
- Merchants became the wealthiest of colonists
- Other colonists that prospered in colonial North America included Southern landowners who owned a plantation and slaves

Conclusion Paragraph

- Due to the limited religious freedoms advocated by colonists still loyal to the British Parliament, economic advantages attracted more settlers to the New World rather than religious opportunity

4. For the period before 1750, analyze the ways in which Britain's policy of salutary neglect influenced the development of American society as illustrated in the following: legislative assemblies; commerce; and religion.

Introductory Paragraph

- The mercantilist system in colonial America prospered in the mid-eighteenth century and thus allowed merchants to flourish in their trade
- **Thesis:** Britain's practice of salutary neglect influenced the development of American society by allowing merchants to engage in smuggling and control colonial trade

First Body Paragraph—The Navigation Acts by James II

- James II of England looked down upon the growing power of New England merchants and resented the lessened control of England over its colonies
 - James targeted the merchant class who engaged in smuggling; to control such practices, James called for the Dominion of New England to levy taxes
- When James was overthrown in the Glorious Revolution by Mary and William of Orange, the new monarchs upheld a policy of salutary neglect in which authority would look away from illegal smuggling acts
 - The Navigation Acts that James had previously called for the increased control of goods from the colonies to other nations by England
 - Salutary neglect allowed merchants to overrun the Navigation Acts by looking the other way when smuggling was reported

Second Body Paragraph—Assemblies and Organized Government

- Stability was reached in the colonies at the beginning of the eighteenth century, especially when men from genteel families dominated the political structures of the colonies
 - Anglo American government figures tried to influence colonists to support the elected assemblies
- Assemblies began to resemble the British House of Commons and claimed powers similar to the English institution
 - Assemblies held rights to tax legislation as well as militia control
 - Assemblies developed ways of influencing British officials who were assigned to control the colonial government
- Assemblies saw themselves as defenders of the rights of colonists against the British Parliament
 - Rarely did such assemblies pass new policies or legislation that had great influence over colonial society

Third Body Paragraph—Religion in the Colonies

- The colonists valued religious rituals as the most important type of congregation, as such was in Britain
 - In Congregational Puritan churches, priests assigned seating to reflect reputation in society
 - In other New England churches, men and women sat in opposite sides in order to show rank, age, wealth, and church membership status
- Wealthy men and wives sat in private pews while their children and servants sat in segregated sections in the back of the Church
- Puritans controlled most of religious fervor in New England until the arrival of the Great Awakening
 - Orthodox Calvinists, Baptists, and other branches of the Christian faith spurred during the eighteenth century
 - Such ideals emphasized the soul and intellectual evangelism

- Puritans no longer controlled the majority of membership within colonial America

Conclusion Paragraph

- The salutary neglect allowed by British monarchs allowed the culture of colonial America to thrive with a new autonomy separate from the control of the English Parliament

5. Analyze the extent to which the American Revolution represented a radical alteration in American political ideas and institutions. Confine your answer to the period of 1775 to 1800.

Introductory Paragraph

- Due to the increasing amounts of legislation and authoritative control exerted by the English Parliament in mid-1700s, colonists developed a sense of autonomy that united a number of patriots
- **Thesis:** The American Revolution represented a radical alteration in American political ideas and institutions in the mid-eighteenth century

First Body Paragraph—The First Continental Congress

- The colonies' leading government figures attended the Philadelphia Congress in 1774 to discuss the rights and privileges held by colonists
- Due to the large amounts of acts enforced by Parliament, the colonists felt deprived of their rights
 - The political leaders sought to define American grievances; develop a plan for resistance; and articulate their relationship with Great Britain
- Conservative members like Joseph Galloway proposed a formal plan that called for joint meeting between colonists and British Parliament when creating laws
- Radicals wanted total separation from Parliament's grasp of power
- The compromise created at the congress was called the Congress's Declaration of Rights and Grievances
 - Here, Americans denounced Parliament's control of commerce and society in the colonies and stated that they would continue to fight against taxes

Second Body Paragraph—Battles of Lexington and Concord

- The first physical combat between colonists and the British militia that rang out in the colonists' cry for independence occurred in Lexington and Concord
 - General Thomas Gage of Boston ordered the arrest of revolutionaries like merchant John Hancock and Samuel Adams
- Messenger Paul Revere of Boston and companion Samuel Prescott organized a small militia of townsmen to confront the British soldiers coming for Hancock and Adams
 - Hancock and Adams had already escaped and by that time, Gage ordered the British troops to find stored arms in Concord
 - Revolutionaries responded by firing at the British from behind trees and bushes; 272 casualties resulted
- This battle exemplified the first bloodshed of the American Revolution
- The battle also stressed the new ideologies of independence that colonists strived for

Third Body Paragraph—The Declaration of Independence

- The Declaration of Independence called for the autonomy of colonial New England, separate from the control of England
 - The declaration stated grievances from colonists against George III
- The Declaration also expressed the growing individualism within the colonists' minds
 - Unalienable rights were desired, such as life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness
 - The greater control of colonial leaders, rather than foreign ones not representative in the colonies, was called for
- The document submitted the colonists to the commitment for independence

Conclusion Paragraph

- The American Revolution brought about a new ideological perspective for colonists regarding their own sovereignty

6. Analyze the degree to which the Articles of Confederation provided an effective form of government with respect to any TWO of the following: foreign relations; economic conditions; and western lands.

Introductory Paragraph

- After their triumph in the American Revolution, colonists came together as one to forge the United States of America and to reorganize the colonies after the war
- **Thesis:** The Articles of Confederation failed to protect economic stability and western expansion policies in the late eighteenth century.

First Body Paragraph—Economic Stability Threatened

- The Articles did not give the government the ability to raise revenue effectively or to enforce a uniform commercial policy
- The United States, under the Articles, advocated a “firm league of friendship”
 - Each state would retain its sovereignty, freedom and independence
 - Jurisdictions and rights also were protected
- Despite this, the Articles limited the control of government to agree on the vital issues
 - The document required unanimous consent of state legislatures for ratification or amendment
- Congress was denied the power to control commerce by the Articles
 - Foreign trade was not limited and thus imports flooded the American market
 - American goods and services were threatened because their goods were more expensive than abroad

Second Body Paragraph—Western Lands

- The Articles also limited the control of western lands by the government
- The clause troubled officials because of its surrender of power to the states
 - Congress allowed states to retain all land claims derived from their original charters
 - But, states with definite western borders in their charters wanted other states to cede to the national government their land holdings west of the Appalachians
 - Virginia refused to accept the Articles until 1781
- Such states’ decisions to refuse policies delayed the ratification of certain amendments and
 - The Second Continental Congress and Articles could not efficiently provide the nation a stable form of government

Conclusion Paragraph

- The United States felt instability in the late 1700s because the amendments that were part of the Articles of Confederation could not provide a pragmatic approach to government.

7. The Bill of Rights did not come from a desire to protect the liberties won in the American Revolution, but rather from a fear of the powers of the new federal government. Assess the validity of the statement.

Introductory Paragraph

- The Bill of Rights, which was formulated by House of Representatives member James Madison, enforced a code that protected Americans’ rights.
- **Thesis:** The Bill of Rights was created in order to preserve public satisfaction with the government and to remain true to Congress’ obligation to listen to the public in the Articles of Confederation.

First Body Paragraph—Federal Government Likened to Monarchy

- Prior to the Revolutionary War, American colonists engaged in an anti-Parliament disposition because of England's increasing amount of power
- Such power was executed through taxes and a deportment of military personnel from England to the colonies
- Thus, several parts of the Bill of Rights protect the individual rights of Americans against a higher power of government
 - The first amendment prohibits Congress from passing laws that limit freedoms of speech, press, and religion
 - The second amendment guaranteed individuals' rights to bear arms
 - The third amendment disallowed militia occupation in private homes
 - The fourth amendment did not approve of unreasonable searches and seizures
- The first four amendments thus protected the private citizen from government intervention

Second Body Paragraph—Representative Government and Court

- During the revolutionary years, colonists also engaged in anti-Parliament rulings that encouraged increased control over the colonies despite the lack of presence from an English executive
- The Sugar Act, for example, called for delinquent colonists to be tried not in colonial courts but in British courts in Canada
 - This admiralty court trials were biased against colonists
- The following amendments protect the accused of a crime by giving him or her rights when in trial
 - The fifth amendment and sixth amendment established the rights of criminals
 - The seventh specified conditions for jury trials in civil, not criminal, cases
- The ninth and tenth amendments reserved rights to the American people

Conclusion Paragraph

- The Bill of Rights protected the individual citizen from overarching powers of the federal government.

8. Evaluate the relative importance of domestic and foreign affairs in shaping American politics in the 1790s.

Introductory Paragraph

- The decade of the 1790s was one of both progression and struggle for the newly formed American Republic that emerged victorious after the Revolutionary War.
- **Thesis:** Domestic and foreign affairs shaped American politics in the 1790s because they allowed Americans to experience independence for the first time as an autonomous nation.

First Body Paragraph—The Government of the United States

- House of Representatives member James Madison pressed for immediate enactment of legislation from Congress in order to stimulate the recovery from the Revolutionary War
 - Madison persuaded Congress to pass the Revenue Act of 1789, which imposed a 5 percent tariff on certain imports in order to stimulate domestic business
 - Madison also called for constitutional amendments and also believed that Congress should respond to the public opinion in ratifying conventions
- The enactment of the Bill of Rights consisted of ten original amendments that assured the rights of the American citizen
 - Such rights included freedoms of speech and religion, as well as the rights of accused persons
- The first Congress also passed the Judiciary Act of 1789 that defined the jurisdiction of the federal judiciary and established a six-member Supreme Court

Second Body Paragraph—The Presidency of George Washington

- George Washington shaped the domestic and foreign politics of the newly created United States by setting standards for his successors to follow.

- George Washington denied any titles, such as “Your Highness,” when referred to or addressed
 - Washington created a Cabinet of executives to head different sectors of the government
- Washington’s Cabinet consisted of a War Department, headed by Henry Knox; a State Department headed by Thomas Jefferson; and a Department of the Treasury, which was headed by Alexander Hamilton
- Washington approved of the numerous financial ambitions of Hamilton
 - Under Washington, Hamilton’s financial plan and the first National Bank of the United States were established
- In his Farewell Address, Washington warned against American involvement in foreign affairs as well as the danger posed by partisanship within government

Third Body Paragraph—John Adams and his Administration

- As the successor of George Washington, John Adams was pressured to maintain the high level of political power that Washington had established
 - Adams did not maintain control of his Cabinet due to his animosity against Hamilton, whom the members of his Cabinet remained loyal to
- Adams’ dealings regarding foreign affairs was one of both positive and negative consequence
 - The XYZ affair, in which French agents nicknamed X, Y, and Z misinformed American diplomats, sparked anti-French sentiment
 - The affair led to the Quasi-War with France, in which Adams was regarded as wise because he avoided major conflict
- However, Adams’ enactment of the Alien and Sedition Acts sparked massive controversy
 - Three parts of the acts targeted immigrants, who Adams suspected to be Democratic-Republican
 - The fourth part targeted the American media and public who showed opposition the government

Conclusion Paragraph

- The different outcomes of both Washington’s and Adam’s presidencies, as well as the legislation established by Congress, shaped the foreign and domestic stability of America in the 1790s

9. Compare the expansionist policies of Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James K. Polk. To what extent did their policies strengthen the United States?

Introductory Paragraph

- As a key principle of American tradition, the policy of manifest destiny has contributed to the westward expansion of the United States as well as its transition from an agricultural to an industrial nation
- **Thesis:** Despite different strategies regarding expansion, Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James K. Polk strengthened the policies of the United States by allowing the United States to develop territorially and industrially

First Body Paragraph—Expansionist Policies of Thomas Jefferson

- Thomas Jefferson’s decision to follow through on the Louisiana Purchase nearly doubled the size of the United States
 - Jefferson allowed the purchase despite the constitutional amendment disallowing purchase of westward territory
 - Jefferson ordered an expedition of the westward lands by explorers Meriweather Lewis and William Clark
- William and Clark traveled via the complex river systems in the American heartland
 - The two men were joined by the Corps of Discovery, a group of young adventurers who agreed to join the expedition

- Jefferson sought to find more resources in the West, as well as to survey the types of land available for future settlers
- Jefferson's westward expansionism incited future exploration as well as the foundations of manifest destiny that were established after his presidency

Second Body Paragraph—Expansionist Policies of James K. Polk

- President James Polk strove to fulfill the concept of manifest destiny by pursuing the conquest of territories in the West
 - During his campaign in 1843, Polk called for annexation of Texas as well as the occupation of Oregon
 - Polk pressured the British to accept the 49th parallel as the border between United States territory and British territory in order to attain Oregon
- Polk was famous for his insistence on the annexation of Texas
 - Titled "Mr. Polk's War," Polk's earnestness to acquire Texas led him to provoke Mexican militia to cross the Texas border of the Rio Grande
 - Polk utilized such military incursions to his own advantage over the public and called for war
 - Polk's main objective for this war was for the United States to expand into Texas, New Mexico, and California
- Polk's expansionist policies differed from those of Jefferson because he defied Constitutional diplomacy in order to attain westward expansion

Conclusion Paragraph

- Both of Jefferson's and Polk's expansionist policies allowed the United States to become a more powerful nation imperialistically, economically, and militarily

10. Although historically represented as distinct parties, the Federalists and the Whigs in fact shared common political ideology, represented many of the same interest groups, and proposed similar programs and policies. Assess the validity of this statement.

Introductory Paragraph

- Despite George Washington's call for the avoidance of partisanship, the United States government divided into opposing parties
- **Thesis:** However, the Federalist Party and the Whig Party were extremely similar in their political and economic policies that they proposed for the United States.

First Body Paragraph—The Whig Party

- The Whig Party emerged in the mid-1800s as a party independent of either the Federalists or the Democratic-Republicans
 - The Whigs favored an economic expansionism through an aggressive government
 - Whigs supported charters; a national bank; and paper currency
- Whigs favored humanitarian reforms for schools, abolition, and capital punishment
 - Such policies sided more with the Federalists rather than the Democratic-Republicans' policies
- Whigs called for the general welfare of the public and endorsed enthusiast ideologies
- The Whig party also endorsed corporate activity in America
 - They believed that economic opportunity would benefit all laborers and farmers, as well as the general public

Second Body Paragraph—The Federalist Party

- The Federalist Party, with adamant members such as Alexander Hamilton and John Adams, called for the large authority granted to the federal government

- The Federalists supported policies that gave more power to the government of the country rather than those of the separate states
 - Federalists supported big business and the creation of enterprise corporations that ran the economy
 - Federalists supported domestic ideologies in contrast to foreign relations
 - Federalists desired full control of the national debt through a national bank
- Federalists also encouraged the notion of classical republicanism
 - They called for the separation among the legislative, executive, and judicial powers
 - Federalists believed in implied rights through “distinguished worthies” or the men of the elite class, who would be expected to run the nation

Conclusion Paragraph

- The policies supported by both the Whig Party and the Federalist Party encouraged the greater strength of the federal government and incited opposition from parties such as the Democratic Republicans

11. Discuss the impact of territorial expansion and unity between 1800 and 1850

Introductory Paragraph

- The concept of manifest destiny and territorial expansion throughout the west spread within the United States in the mid-19th century
- **Thesis:** Territorial expansion allowed for the extensive spread of the United States in terms of land but it divided the nation on the issue of whether slavery should be held in newly acquired territories

First Body Paragraph—Westward Expansion and Native Americans

- White settlers’ territorial expansion in the West brought them in constant conflict with the Native Americans, the original inhabitants of the western frontier
- The Shawnee Indian nation experienced forced removal after their fruitful lands in Kentucky were coveted by white settlers
 - The American government forced the Shawnees to retire from their homelands in Ohio and Kansas, as well as Texas
 - By 1853 the Shawnees lost seven-eighths of their land to white settlers
 - Such acts provoked anti-Anglo feelings from Native Americans and insensitive white responses in *Cherokee Nation vs. Georgia* and the Trail of Tears migration
- In the Second Seminole War, a small band of Seminole Indians continued to resist in Florida
 - This led to wars against white settlers as the Seminoles allied with Creeks and mixed Indian-African Americans

Second Body Paragraph—James K. Polk and Manifest Destiny

- President James Polk strove to fulfill the concept of manifest destiny by pursuing the conquest of territories in the West
- Polk was famous for his insistence on the annexation of Texas
 - Titled “Mr. Polk’s War,” Polk’s earnestness to acquire Texas led him to provoke Mexican militia to cross the Texas border of the Rio Grande
 - Polk utilized such military incursions to his own advantage over the public and called for war
 - Polk’s main objective for this war was for the United States to expand into Texas, New Mexico, and California
- The acquisition of such western lands fed northern fear of the Slave Power
 - Slave masters from the South held a conspiracy to maintain their traditional slaveholding ways when moving to acquired territory
 - The Southern white forced the gag rule in Congress in 1836 and threatened the idealism of the Missouri Compromise

Third Body Paragraph—The Wilmot Proviso and Compromise of 1850

- After the Mexican American War, Americans from the North and from the South clashed on the issue of slaveholding in the new territories
- In 1846, Pennsylvania Democrat David Wilmot proposed an amendment to military appropriations called the Wilmot Proviso
 - “Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist” in any territory from Mexican land
 - Southern slave holders denounced such an act, and Congress never passed it in order to maintain the Union
- The Compromise of 1850 organized the territorial and economic gains that followed after the Mexican American War
 - California became a free state while Texas boundary was set at its limits at the Rio Grande
 - The United States paid Texas \$10 million in compensation for the loss of New Mexico
 - New Mexico and Utah were organized on a basis of popular sovereignty

Conclusion Paragraph

- The United States’ expansion into the western frontier incited criticism from both Northerners and Southerners on the basis of slavery and imperialism

12. In what ways did the early 19th century reform movements for abolition and women’s rights illustrate both the strengths and weaknesses of democracy in the early American republic?

Introductory Paragraph

- The issues of slavery and women’s rights exemplified the continuation of frictional relationships between different citizen groups in the United States
- **Thesis:** The 19th century reform movements for abolition and women’s rights showed both the strengths and weaknesses of democracy because they revealed the dissatisfaction of numerous Americans with the American institution

First Body Paragraph—Women’s Rights

- The plight of women in the course of American society was first exemplified by the gender divisions displayed in the workplace and in the public
 - Women in textile industries, for example, asked for better hours and working conditions
 - The emergence of labor movement underscored the unhappiness of women in their positions in society
- Women fought for suffragist rights and equality with men
 - Early suffragists Lucretia Mott and Cady Stanton organized the Women’s Rights Convention at Seneca Falls, New York
 - They demanded political, social, and economic equality for women in comparison with men
 - The women’s Declaration of Sentiments stated the injustices faced by American women
- Women in the early 1800s also opposed the rising culture of alcohol and advocated temperance
 - Women were expected not to drink in public and were assumed to have a strong religious foundation
 - Temperance societies formed, such as the American Society for the Promotion of Temperance (1826)
 - Such societies wanted drinkers to sign a pledge of abstinence

Second Body Paragraph—Abolitionists

- In the 1800s, slavery continued to flourish in the South while racism and segregation persisted in Northern institutions
- Black abolitionists, such as David Walker, called for an immediate end to slavery, such as in his novel *Appeal to the Colored Citizens* (1829)

- Abolitionist Harriet Tubman promoted the direction for freedom by aiding in the escape of slaves from the South to the North through the Underground Railroad system
- Immediatist groups also called for an end to the racial situation of African Americans
 - They were sympathetic to African American rights
 - They formed the American Anti-Slavery Society in 1833
- Famous among abolitionists and many in the African American population, abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison advocated blacks' call for emancipation
 - Garrison appealed to the public through his newspaper *The Liberator*

Conclusion Paragraph

- The women's rights movement, as well as the abolitionist movement, inspired an outcry against the organized institution and highlighted the difficulties faced by numerous groups in the United States and the dissatisfaction of such groups

13. Analyze the ways in which supporters of slavery in the nineteenth century used legal, religious, and economic arguments to defend the institution of slavery.

Introductory Paragraph

- Slaveholders from the South continued unyieldingly to support the slave system by denouncing African Americans and declaring white superiority
- **Thesis:** Supporters of slavery in the nineteenth century used legal, religious, and economic arguments to defend the institution of slavery

First Body Paragraph—The Kansas Nebraska Bill

- Despite the Missouri Compromise prohibition of slavery above the 36°30' line, many slaveholders from the South pursued the continuance of slavery into newly acquired territories
- Southerners thus utilized their interpretations of the Compromise of 1850 to denounce the Missouri Compromise
 - Southerners' interpretation of 'popular sovereignty' allowed them to believe that territories above the 36°30' line could be slave states
 - Southerners attested to Stephen A. Douglas, an architect of the Compromise of 1850 who cared for an extension of a railway system and did not see slavery as a hindrance
- Southerners demanded a repeal of the Missouri Compromise
 - The Kansas Nebraska Bill was enacted and overturned the Missouri Compromise as void

Second Body Paragraph—Bleeding Kansas

- During the elections regarding 'popular sovereignty' in the territories of Kansas and Nebraska, Southern slave holders influenced the flawed voting results
 - Border Ruffians from Missouri jumped the border to Kansas in order to vote for slavery
 - Conflicts over land claims increased violence
- The Border Ruffians' invasion of the polls incited anger and violence
 - Radical abolitionist John Brown violently murdered five proslavery settlers living in Pottawatomie Creek
- Brown's reaction set off a reaction in which the government officials were involved
 - Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts denounced the crime in Kansas
 - Sumner assailed proslavery Senator Andrew P. Butler of South Carolina
 - Butler's cousin, also a Congressman, beat Sumner on the head with his cane

Third Body Paragraph—Dred Scott Case

- Dred Scott sued his owner's wife for freedom after she refused to release him while living in a free state

- Scott claimed freedom because he had once lived in the free state of Illinois unknowingly with his owner and then moved
 - Scott's claim for legislative justice raised fears among whites because of the grey space regarding African Americans' rights in court
- First, the Court decided to rule on the MO Compromise
 - Two justices said they would argue for Scott's freedom while Southern Congressmen denounced
- In 1857, Chief Justice Roger B. Taney delivered the majority opinion of the Court
 - Taney declared that Scott was not a citizen of either the United States or MO and that Congress had no power to bar slavery in the States

Conclusions Paragraph

- The tactics utilized by slave supporters drove the issue of slavery beyond negotiable reasoning and caused sectionalism between antislavery and proslavery forces in the United States

14. Analyze the extent to which TWO of the following influenced the development of democracy between 1820 and 1840: Jacksonian economic policy; changes in electoral politics; the Second Great Awakening; and Westward movement.

Introductory Paragraph

- Between 1820 and 1840, American democratic principles imbued politics and the public after such ideals were tested in this era
- **Thesis:** Jacksonian economic policy as well as the westward movement changed the economic, political, and social façade of the era

First Body Paragraph—Jacksonian Economic Policy

- The Congress in 1828 imposed high import duties on manufactured cloth and iron
 - The tariff raised the costs of these goods to southerners
 - Southern exports would thus decrease and lower their profit, thus angering them
 - South Carolinians called for nullification based on the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions
 - Democracy was tested as a large proportion of Americans turned against the government institution
- Jackson's Second Bank of the United States served as a depository for federal funds and was important to business credit
 - The bank acted as a clearing house for state banks and kept them honest by refusing to accept bank notes of any state bank without sufficient gold in reserve
- Specie Circular showed Jackson's opposition to paper money and feared the speculative chaos that would threaten economic stability
 - Only specie (gold or silver) or Virginia scrip would be accepted as payment for land

Second Body Paragraph—Westward Expansion

- Advancement of railroad construction continued to bring technological, economic, and settlement progression into the western frontier
 - Farm communities flourished as the railroads brought settlers into the Midwest and American heartland
- The discovery of gold in 1849 in California and the Pacific Coast encouraged thousands of settlers from the East to move West in search of wealth
 - Mining towns thrived during the mid-1800s, despite their desertions after the Gold Rush of 49ers
- Immigrants also found a new life in the western frontier through farming
 - Many came from Western Europe and Ireland, in which a potato famine ravaged the Irish countryside

Conclusion Paragraph

- Jackson's economic policy as well as the westward expansion encouraged Americans to test the traditional ideals of democracy and promote a new culture.

15. Although Americans perceived Manifest Destiny as a benevolent movement, it was in fact an aggressive imperialism pursued as the expense of others. Assess the validity of the statement with specific reference to American expansionism in the 1840s

Introductory Paragraph

- Throughout the mid-nineteenth century, the United States pursued expansionism into the American western frontier in hopes of attaining resources, profit, and power.
- **Thesis:** Manifest destiny was an aggressive imperialism because it provided gains for Americans at the expense of others and exploited the natural resources of the United States for profit.

First Body Paragraph—The Native Americans

- Driven mainly by racism, white expansion into the western frontier mainly affected Native Americans' land and culture.
- For example, in the early 1800s Native Americans in the lower Mississippi River valley attempted to adjust to white expansion by become economic partners.
 - Initially, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Creek traded hides, skins, and furs for ammunition and cloth
 - Could not pay off debt to whites and thus paid them through Native Americans lands
- In 1824, President Monroe exploited Native American dependency on whites by proposing to Congress an Indian Removal policy that would require Indians to relocate beyond the Mississippi River.
 - *Cherokee Nation vs. Georgia*—Chief Justice John Marshall declared the Cherokee tribe, although not a state, had rights to their land and could only voluntarily be removed.
- 1830 President Jackson promoted the Removal Act of 1830 in which Congress allowed Jackson to use funds in order to negotiate with Native Americans

Second Body Paragraph—The Republic of Texas

- Texas was Mexican territory after Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821
- In the Empresario System, American settlers in Texas who spoke the Mexican language and adhered to Mexican culture were given land to cultivate.
- When Mexico tightened its restrictions on slavery, religion, and settlement of white settlers, empresario Stephen Austin traveled to Mexico City to negotiate with President Santa Anna
 - When Austin is arrested, Sam Houston led the Texan Army to battle the Mexican army
 - Despite the Adams Onís Treaty, which gave the United States Florida, United States wanted Texas until the Rio Grande
- Under the Treaty of Velasco, white settlers gain control over Texas and named Sam Houston president of Lone Star Republic

Third Body Paragraph—Mexican American War

- During the 1840s, President John K. Polk established a new surge of American expansionism into the West that stretched from Texas to Oregon
- Adamant on attaining all of Texas until the Rio Grande River border, Polk devised a plan requiring General Zachary Taylor's troops to guard the Texan border
 - When Mexican troops arrived soon after, a standoff occurred for three weeks until Taylor reported back to Washington that the Mexican troops had crossed the US border
- With this news, Polk gained a declaration of war from Congress

- Colonel Steve Kearney gained Santa Fe in New Mexico and soon, Colonel Fremont declared California an American territory
- Wilmot Proviso—declaration after the war that annexed territory from Mexico would not have slavery
- Compromise of 1850—Devised by Henry Clay, the act declared California as a state while New Mexico and Utah would be determined by popular sovereignty due to the question of slavery established in the Missouri Compromise

Conclusion Paragraph

- Despite territorial gains and resource gains in the West, the United States' exploit of Western lands stemmed from conflicts for such expansionary rights.

16. Between the 1840s to the 1890s women's activities in the intellectual, social, economic, and political spheres effectively challenged the traditional attitudes about women's place in society. Assess the validity of the statement

Introductory Paragraph

- Between 1840 and 1890, American women gradually engaged in activities that defied the customary place of women.
- **Thesis:** American women effectively challenged traditional attitudes regarding women in the mid 19th century in the social, economic, and political spheres of the United States.

First Body Paragraph—Domesticity Reconsidered

- After women accompanied men in the settlement of the west, their roles at home, such as cooking and laundering were in high demand.
- However, such domestic skills limited women in the outside world. Early gains for women included those of owning property and in education.
 - In 1835, Arkansas passed a law that allowed married women to own property
 - In 1837, Mary Lyon, a women's activist in the early 1800s, established Mt. Holyoke College in western Massachusetts
 - Stressed studies away from domestic skills such as mathematics, history and language
- During the 1840s and 1850s, other colleges that were primarily for men like Oberlin College in Ohio admitted women, as well as universities such as Michigan

Second Body Paragraph—Women in the Workplace

- Women's protest in the workplace initiated within textile mills along the Northeastern coast
 - Women voiced complaints through newspapers such as *Factory Girl* in 1842
 - Organized into labor parties for better wages and work conditions
- By 1880, the Industrial Revolution allowed machines to replace skilled workers and thus hired women
 - Number of employed women increased from 2.6 million to 8.6 million
 - Number of women in domestic jobs such as cooks, maids, and laundresses dropped
 - Women in industrial sectors such as in clerical positions of typists, bookkeepers, and clerks rose
- Women in labor unions also fought for equal rights for female workers
 - In 1860, women in New York organized the Collar Laundry Union and successfully gained higher wages

Third Body Paragraph—Women's Suffrage

- Women abolitionists soon participated in an effort for female rights in America
 - 1848 Suffragists Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott organized the Women's Rights convention in Seneca Falls, NY

- They wrote a Declaration of Sentiments that denied injustices of women and promoted social, political, and economic equality for women
 - In 1850, Congress passed the 19th Amendment, which granted voting rights for women
- During the 1860s, the National Women Suffrage Association (NWSA) and the American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA) fought for suffrage
 - Advocates included Susan B. Anthony, who in 1978 tried to appeal for voting rights, was denied by the Senate
 - NAWSA, a combination of the two groups, successfully fought for suffrage in the 1890s and beyond
 - Eleven states legalized women's voting rights

Conclusion Paragraph

- The struggle for women's rights and equality gained momentum during the mid 1800s and continued to accelerate in the twentieth century

17. Although the economic development of the Trans-Mississippi West is popularly associated with hardy individualism, it was in fact largely dependent on the federal government. Assess the validity of the statement with specific reference to western economic activities in the 19th century

Introductory Paragraph

- Throughout the 19th century, the United States expanded into the western frontier as a continuation of the manifest destiny that persisted in American culture.
- **Thesis:** The economic development of the Trans-Mississippi West is owed to the individualism characterized by the American Dream but more so by the federal government.

First Body Paragraph—Native American Affiliations

- Seeking territorial gains and the resources that such lands provided, white settlers migrated west of the Mississippi River where they constantly clashed with Native Americans.
 - Between the 1860s and 1880s, the government adopted a reservation policy to confine Native Americans into isolated territories
 - The government promised Native Americans food and commodities while living on the reservation
- Seeing that reservation policy did not extract Native Americans entirely out of western lands, the government passed the Dawes Severalty Act in 1887.
 - Authorized dissolution of Indian-owned land and gave allotments to single Native American families
 - Reduced Native American control over their lands
 - United States successfully gained lands in West without resistance from Indians

Second Body Paragraph—Value of Natural Resources

- Aggressive individuals took advantage of the abundant resources and lands that the American frontier provided
 - Provided new markets domestically and in the foreign field
 - Mining and lumber industries increased in states such as Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Utah and Colorado
 - Miners, many of whom went to California, found some gold and silver but found much more copper, zinc, tin, quartz and lead
 - Timber and Stone Act of 1878 was meant to stimulate settlement in the West by allowing citizens to buy 160 acres of land for a cheap price
- Many settlers exploited the water resources in the west through different irrigation systems and government legislation

- Appropriation allowed people to dam and divert water downstream, which neglected those who needed water
- The “California Solution” of the 1880s upheld riparianism while allowing for some appropriation, thus putting irrigation at a disadvantage

Third Body Paragraph—Settlement of the Plains

- With settlement came new methods of transportation in the West
 - Railroads were constructed through two main companies, Central Pacific and Union Pacific
 - Many extended westward from Chicago to Omaha, Nebraska, shipping both goods and workers
 - Railroads spawned new industries as well and encouraged the creation of new towns that were initially intended to be stopovers
- Farming on the Great Plains proved to be a trying task for many new settlers who battled harsh weather conditions such as blizzards in the winter and harsh summers
 - Social isolation also tested the will of new settlers who tried to make a living
 - Thus, mail order companies and rural free delivery served as a medium of communication to the outside world
- Ranching allowed cowboys to make large revenues by driving cattle from the Southwest to final destinations such as Chicago

Conclusion Paragraph

- The settlement of the west and its development was instigated by the government’s desire for expansionism and accompanied by aggressive individuals who sought success in the American frontier.

18. Analyze the economic consequences of the Civil War with respect to any TWO of the following in the United States between 1865 and 1880: agriculture, labor, industrialism, transportation

Introductory Paragraph

- After the Civil War, the United States tried to reorganize itself and its people through Reconstruction, which affected the social, political, and economic landscape of post-war America.
- **Thesis:** The post-war period following the Civil War led to increased industrialism and labor markets and a decrease in agricultural success in the South.

First Body Paragraph—Agriculture

- After the Civil War, much of the Southern United States was ravaged by war.
 - Due to the Union’s, especially General Sherman’s, use of the scorched earth policy, the agricultural advantage of cash crops were diminished
 - Cotton no longer king in South
 - Attempted return to cotton resulted in reduced prices for cotton due to its lower quality
- Sharecropping—owners give land to African Americans and laborers for one year
 - Workers give a percentage of their crops to the owner and they keep the rest to themselves
- Tenant farming—farmers rent land from an owner and they grow crops, sell them, and give their owner portion of the revenue

Second Body Paragraph—Industry & Labor

- Industry in the South is paralyzed due to the destroyed cotton system and slave system
- Value of Southern land is equivalent to zero and private property is nonexistent
- Businesses that lent to the Confederate States of America (CSA) did not get loans back because of bankruptcy
- Roads, schools, and libraries virtually all state funded
- Tax increases ultimately hurt South

- Money stimulus granted by Federal government wants citizens to spend money and help the economy
- Carpetbaggers are pro-African American Northerners who travel to the South as hopeful entrepreneurs (teachers, businessmen)
- Scalawags—a Southerner who supports Reconstruction

Conclusion Paragraph

- The years after the Civil War led to a deterioration of Southern industry and agriculture due to the destruction of the cotton industry and Southern territory.

19. Assess the influence of THREE of the following in the American decision to declare war on Germany in 1917: German naval policy; American economic interests, Wilson's idealism, Allied propaganda, and America's claim to power.

A. Introduction

- In 1917, the United States experienced both national and international pressures, such as German naval policy, President Woodrow Wilson's idealism, and Allied propaganda that led the country towards war.
- **Thesis:** The external and internal pressures felt by the United States influenced Woodrow Wilson's decision to enter World War I.

First Body Paragraph—Woodrow Wilson's Idealism

- Wilson's strict interpretation of international law restricted him from prohibiting the boarding of belligerent ships by Americans
 - Said such restrictions were violations of the Constitution
- Wilson's refusal to ban Americans from belligerent ships resulted in nearly one hundred American deaths
 - Congressmen and other government officials began to complain
- Wilson's call of "peace without victory" resonated only in America
 - Both Allies and the Axis powers resorted to violent means to end the first World War

Second Body Paragraph—German Naval Policy

- Utilized unlimited submarine warfare wherein they sunk all ships: military, war, merchant, passenger
 - The United States tried to negotiate for free seas without submarines, but Germany refused
 - Allies, as well as Americans, died in sub warfare
- *Lusitania* was the US ship sunk by Germany
 - Nearly 1,000 died. Germany had sent warnings in newspapers warning of such attacks
 - Germany promised the United States to halt such attacks
- Wilson did not administer ban on Americans from boarding belligerent ships

Third Body Paragraph—Allied Propaganda

- "Poor little Belgium," or neutral Belgium, was invaded by Germany through a U-turn type of attack
 - Belgium defenseless, but United States and Allies adamant on supporting their ally
 - Wilson wants help for Belgium
- Germany and Belgium have similar institutions in terms of language, culture, so Germany desired such a possession
- Britain's trade with US and France allowed for increased support from those two nations to be administered to British war needs

Conclusion Paragraph

- Thus, the United States' bias towards the Allies, Wilson's idealism, and Germany's tenacious stand on unlimited submarine warfare influenced Woodrow Wilson's declaration of war.

20. Analyze the ways in which state and federal legislation and judicial decisions including those of the Supreme Court affected the efforts of any two of the following groups to improve their position in society between 1880 and 1920: African American, Farmers, Workers.

Introductory Paragraph

- Between 1880 and 1920, government decisions to limit the power of unions and labor movements provoked resistance, but little success, from African Americans, farmers, and workers.
- **Thesis:** Thus, federal legislation and judicial decisions helped workers achieve goals in the workplace but hindered the advancement of African American's position in society.

First Body Paragraph—Workers' Livelihood

- Sherman Anti Trust Act 1920, which called for no monopolies of major industries, was not enforced
 - Used against labor unions instead by
- Clayton Antitrust Act 1914 – stronger than Sherman Anti Trust & enforced more thoroughly by Wilson
- National Child Labor Committee 1904 – able to pass law that banned child labor (Overturned two years later, but still advanced efforts to protect children)
- Holden vs. Hardy (miners get less hours) & Muller vs. Oregon (women's work hours lessened)

Second Body Paragraph—African American Status

- Plessey v. Ferguson 1896 – “Separate but Equal” doctrine
- Williams v. Mississippi 1898– Literacy qualification test to vote
- Grandfather clauses lessened percentage of African Americans able to vote from 85% to 11%
- Jim Crow laws & lynching—revitalized violence and segregation against African Americans

Conclusion Paragraph

- African Americans' lifestyles did not improve until after the Fourteenth Amendment, Civil rights Act, and Voting Rights Act were passed in the mid 1900's. Prior to such improvements, African Americans' ability to vote and live on equal terms with white Americans was deterred.
- Worker conditions improved during the era due to the creation of labor unions and laws that broke monopolistic practices.

21. Analyze the impact of any two of the following on the American industrial worker between 1865 and 1900: government actions, immigration, labor unions, technological change.

Introductory Paragraph

- Due to several failed labor strikes, such as the Pullman Strike and Homestead Strike, and the influx of immigrants, American laborers found it difficult to improve their livelihoods.
- **Thesis:** Thus, the dual forces of immigration and labor unions hindered the advancement of the American industrial worker.

First Body Paragraph—Shortcomings of Labor Unions and Strikes

- National Labor Union 1866—disassembled due to lack of unity; only welcomed skilled workers
- American Federation of Labor 1886—Sam Gompers & union wanted short-term goals; only welcomed skilled workers
- Pullman Strike—Pullman town workers' had strike, arguing for higher wages and against high rents and prices
 - President Cleveland sends troops to kill strike
- Homestead Strike—Carnegie's temp Frick does not allow union to operate & sends Pinkerton Police to stop strikers

- Ends with unionists blacklisted and firings

Second Body Paragraph—Effects of Immigration

- Ellis Island and Angel Island were gateways were immigrants to enter the United States
 - Ellis Island was located in New York City while Angel Island was in California
- Inflow of immigrants endangered labor availabilities of American workers because immigrants allowed for shorter wages
 - This enhanced increased tension among immigrants and Americans
- 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act did not allow for the flow if Chinese immigration into the United States
 - Chinese influx in railroad industry saturated field
- Angel Island excluded many, especially Asians, in order to preserve work for American workers
- American Protection Society wanted to preserve Social Darwinism & were anti-Catholic

Conclusion Paragraph

- Because of the influx of immigrants and failed attempts of labor unions to achieve better conditions, the American industrial worker was not able to gain substantial advancements in their condition.

22. Compare and contrast the attitudes of Andrew Carnegie, Eugene V. Debs and Booker T. Washington toward the wealth that was created in the US during the 19th century.

Introductory Paragraph

- During the 19th century, Andrew Carnegie, Eugene V. Debs, and Booker T. Washington vocalized their contrasting ideals about the distribution of wealth in the United States.
- **Thesis:** Because the three men differed in their ideals regarding wealth, they each held dissimilar notions on how the wealth in the United States should be shared.

First Body Paragraph—Andrew Carnegie

- Rise to power occurred when he utilized the Bessemer Process for steel & merged Carnegie Steel with JP Morgan's US Steel in late 1800's
- Efficient use of vertical integration, in which he bought out competitors & own all parts to make most money
- Philanthropy & Gospel of Wealth were key components of Carnegie's persona.
 - Contribute money for betterment of society (libraries, schools, etc.) & rich man has a responsibility to educate those less fortunate

Second Body Paragraph—Eugene V. Debs

- Led Socialist group—wanted to overthrow the wealthy; communistic ideals exchanged
- Led the American Railway Union; during Pullman Strike, he led strikers for higher wages
- Wanted to get rid of capitalism and distribute money equally

Third Body Paragraph—Booker T. Washington

- Endorsed self-help and hard work; he viewed poverty to riches as a hard-work process
 - African Americans should prove to whites they are worthy
- Formed the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for African Americans who wanted to apply for manual labor occupations
 - He wanted it to be a way for African Americans to gain economic power
- Wanted wealth to be earned by the African Americans through hard work → differed from Carnegie and Debs, who wanted to distribute already fixed wealth

Conclusion Paragraph

- Based on their different perspectives and own personal experiences, each of the three men differed in their idea on how American wealth should be shared.
- Carnegie vied for the sharing of the rich with the poor, Debs called for an equal sharing of wealth, and Washington believed that money should be earned.

23. *The reorganization and consolidation of business structures was more responsible for the late 19th century American industrialization than was the development of new technologies. Assess the validity of this statement with specific reference to business structures and technology between 1865 and 1900.*

Introductory Paragraph

- Although new business practices, such as the formation of corporations and trusts, heightened the American business culture, the development of new technologies improved the American economy overall.
- **Thesis:** Thus, the development of technology was the main factor of 19th century American industrialization than the reformation of business structures.

First Body Paragraph—Henry Ford’s Assembly Line

- Increased efficiency of the worker—more cars per day, more money, higher profits
- Interchangeable parts and streamlining production process brought down price per unit resource of manufactured goods
- Increased demand for goods

Second Body Paragraph—Bessemer Process for Steel Production

- First applied in United Kingdom—Carnegie applied to steel
- Cheap way of making steel—thus lower prices for steel in US and more use of steel overall
- Created monopoly of Carnegie steel; the US became number one steel producer in the world

Third Body Paragraph—Innovation through Electricity

- Einstein used electricity to transmit sound, light, and images
- Invented light bulb—cheap and efficient use of electricity available to all households and businesses
- General Electric and Westinghouse Electric—power generation and distribution systems to provide power within large radius

Conclusion Paragraph

- Because of advancements in the consolidation of businesses, the American economy improved gradually.
- However, such improvement was made possible through the innovations of technology that included the assembly line, the Bessemer process, and the innovation through electricity.

24. *Analyze the reasons for the emergence of the Populist movement in the late 19th century.*

Introductory Paragraph

- The issues of farmer debt, long and short haul prices of the railroads, and merchant corruption during the nineteenth century led to the formation of the Populist movement.
- **Thesis:** Because of government legislation and the corrupt economic practices farmers experienced from merchants and landlords, the Populist movement emerged in order to help victim farmers.

First Body Paragraph—Merchant Practices

- Tenant farming and sharecropping systems allowed farmers to borrow money in exchange for the crops they grew on a landlord’s property
- Crop-lien system let merchants, men who swapped supplies for money, allowed farmers to borrow supplies in the condition that farmers pay a price

Second Body Paragraph—Silver vs. Gold Standard

- Industry augmented during the 1870s, making prices of goods and crops fell; farmers indebted to pay high interest rates on loans they borrowed
- Farmers supported the backing of currency with silver, along with gold, to increase the amount of currency.
 - Inflation helps them pay interest rates
- Addition of silver to the currency made interest rates decrease & allow value of crops to increase

Third Body Paragraph—Railroad Prices

- Competing for customers, various railroad companies continuously lowered rates until their own profits began to decline
- Rate increases inflated prices to such an extent that rates for short distances sometimes were greater than those for longer, more competitive routes
- Railways that favored particular companies and customers often charged farmers at inflated prices
 - Interstate Commerce Committee was created to overlook prices that were claimed to be higher for certain producers
 - Some favored customers received discounts from railroads

Conclusion Paragraph

- Due to the increasing prices and corrupt business practices of merchants and landlords, the Populist Party emerged to bring attention to the farmers' debt.

25. To what extent and why did the United States adopt an isolationist policy in the 1920s and the 1930s?

Introductory Paragraph

- In the post-war years of World War I, the United States sought a state of isolationism in order to avoid participation in foreign conflicts in Europe.
- **Thesis:** The United States wanted to stay away from foreign conflicts and thus adopted a state of isolationism in the early 1900s because of international disorder and a new domestic era.

First Body Paragraph—International Disorder

- After the war, the United States participated in the Paris Conference. Here, Woodrow Wilson engaged the United States in international affairs by proposing his Fourteen Points
 - Advocated the League of Nations, which reservationists and irreconcilables in Congress rejected in 1920 because they thought it opened doors for American involvement abroad
- United States was torn between collective security versus unilateralism
 - The United States emerged as an economic world power and called for arms control in foreign nations, as shown with the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)
- The international system was extremely unstable after the war
 - The United States wanted to isolate itself from the threats of Communism
 - The United States also wanted to untangle itself from the issue surrounding the reparations and demands of Germany that the Allies called for

Second Body Paragraph—Americans' Resentment of Foreigners

- After World War I, Americans resented the growing number of immigrants entering the United States and doubted the actions of minorities already present in the country
 - The Klu Klux Klan advocated white supremacy by threatening the livelihood of African Americans
 - Nativism, which advocated suspicion over foreigners, grew within the United States
 - Immigration Quotas were products of Nativism

- The Quota (Johnson) Act of 1921 discriminated against immigrants from southern and eastern Europe
- The Immigration Act (Johnson-Reid Act) of 1924 set quotas at 2 percent of each nationality residing in the United States in 1980

Third Body Paragraph—Neutrality Redefined

- Fearing American involvement in imperialist actions of foreign nations, the United States engaged in a series of neutrality acts in the 1930s.
 - The Neutrality Act of 1935 stopped American arms shipments
 - The Neutrality Act of 1936 forbade American loans to belligerents
 - The Neutrality Act of 1937 created cash-and-carry trade with warring nations

Conclusion Paragraph

- Fearing the influence of foreign instability in the home front, the United States attempted to isolate itself from the post-war troubles of World War I by promoting isolationism.

26. Although American writers of the 1920s and 1930s criticized American society, the nature of their criticisms differed markedly in the two decades. Assess the validity of this statement with specific reference to writers in both decades.

Introductory Paragraph

- As the United States descended from a decade of war, Americans ascended to a new generation of economic growth and cultural transformation.
- **Thesis:** New aspects of American culture inspired criticisms from writers of the 1920s and 1930s although their critiques differed in context and theme.

First Body Paragraph—Literature from the Lost Generation

- Certain writers and artists felt discomfort with society's infatuation with materialistic wealth and conformity.
 - Writers like Ernest Hemingway and poets like T.S. Eliot left the United States for Europe because they were disillusioned with the newly defined American Dream of wealth
 - F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel *The Great Gatsby*, written in 1925, portrayed the socialite society of America in a negative light and stressed the decaying of morals within the American people
 - Sinclair Lewis's *Babbitt*, written in 1922, exposed the American obsession with money
- Other writers called for the riddance of conformity by challenging the accepted authority
 - The play *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* highlighted writer Henry David Thoreau's plight for spiritual and emotional freedom by showing his arrest
 - Thoreau was arrested on grounds of teaching ideals against American conformity and his escape to the forests of Walden

Second Body Paragraph—The Harlem Renaissance

- African American writers and artists emerged as one through the literary movement of the Harlem Renaissance
- This movement symbolized the reenergized spirit of African Americans through their music, literature, and art
 - The "New Negro" mindset challenged white culture
 - The 1921 musical comedy *Shuffled Along* launched the Harlem Renaissance by featuring talented writers and songwriters like Florence Mills, Noble Sissile, and Mabel Mercer
 - Poets like Langston Hughes also encouraged an intellectual movement advocating black America's plight for freedom
 - Hughes also emphasized the new African American culture that created its separate identity from that of white America

Third Body Paragraph—The Literature of the Great Depression Era

- The Great Depression inspired literary works that questioned the American Dream and followed the obstacles faced by Americans
 - John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* traced the story of a family suffering through the Depression's hardships regarding money and unemployment
 - The novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee also stressed the increased tensions between minorities and white Americans during the Depression
 - The novel highlighted the intricate past of black American versus white America in a rural setting

Conclusion Paragraph

- During the 1920s and 1930s, writers of both decades called for a renewed sense of America by challenging the rising culture of both materialism and racism

27. Analyze the ways in which the Great Depression altered the American social fabric in the 1930s.

Introductory Paragraph

- During the Great Depression, all types of Americans throughout the country experienced new changes in their cultures and societies.
- **Thesis:** During the 1930s, the Great Depression inspired a movement of reform and new individualism that spread throughout the American social fabric.

First Body Paragraph—Industrial Workers

- As the Depression deepened, President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal program granted laborers the right to organize unions and discuss labor-management terms
 - Craft Unions like the American Federation of Labor (AFL) advocated that only skilled workers be included
 - Industrial Unions like the Committee for Industrial Organization (CIO) allowed all kinds of workers, skilled or unskilled, to be members; both types of unions fought for better wages and hours
 - Sit-down strikes, notably those in automobile plants in Michigan, were used as methods to earn recognition
 - In 1937, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (SWOC) participated in the Memorial Day Massacre to fight for an eight-hour work day

Second Body Paragraph—African Americans During the Great Depression

- The Great Depression hardened the lives of many African Americans by plunging them deeper into poverty and increasing the racist feelings against them by competitive white workers.
- President Herbert Hoover shared racist ideologies and did not want African American representation in his administration
 - Racism increased, as shown in the Scottsboro Trials, which convicted eight of nine African American men for rape under false allegations
- The NAACP was a form of organized opposition of African Americans who fought for rights in the workplace and in society
 - The organization was led by Charles Houston and Thurgood Marshall
- The Black Cabinet was a branch of the Roosevelt administration that catered to the demands of the African American population
 - Representatives, such as Mary McLeod Bethune, fought for first-class citizenship for African Americans
 - Eleanor Roosevelt also pushed for civil rights to be granted for the black population

Third Body Paragraph—Women in the Depression

- Many women, especially mothers and wives, strived to accommodate their families by saving money and supplies during the Depression
- Women also tried to earn extra income for their families despite job discrimination in the workplace
 - Men believed that women should work only for domestic purposes
 - Women faced job discrimination—women only received sixty-six percent of every one dollar a man was paid
- Women were often left by their husbands, or “deserters” to fend for their children
- Women began to enter jobs outside of the home such as clerical services and secretary positions

Conclusion Paragraph

- Despite the economic downturn that afflicted the United States, the social fabric of America was altered in terms of the different groups of people whose lives adjusted to the country’s financial hardships.

28. Identify *THREE* of the following New Deal measures and analyze the ways in which each of the three attempted to fashion a more stable economy and a more equitable society

Introductory Paragraph

- As the economic downturn worsened during the 1930s, Americans grew tired of the ineffective measures carried out by President Herbert Hoover’s administration and thus elected Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932.
- **Thesis:** The New Deal’s Emergency Banking Relief Act, National Recovery Administration (NRA), and Social Security Act attempted to stabilize the economy through government funds into the economy.

First Body Paragraph—Emergency Banking Relief Act

- In his first one hundred days, Roosevelt launched a flood of legislation, the first of which were aimed at enhancing the deteriorating banking system in the United States.
- By encouraging Americans’ trust and new deposits in banks through his fireside chats, Roosevelt took action by enacting the Emergency Banking Relief Bill
 - Provided for the reopening of banks under the Treasury Department license that were solvent
 - Organized and managed banks that were bankrupt
 - Prohibited the hoarding of gold supplies
- To supplement this bill, Roosevelt also hoped to balance the budget by signing the Economy Act
 - Reduced veterans’ pensions and federal employees’ payments

Second Body Paragraph—National Recovery Administration

- The National Industry Recovery Act established the NRA to promote the New Deal belief in national economic building in contrast to classical economics
- The NRA sought to stop competitive practices between businesses
- The NRA also wanted to reduce prices by speeding up production instead of limiting output
- The NRA organized meetings between businessmen and their workers to draft codes of fair business practices
 - Such codes set standards for production and established prices
- The NRA also allowed unions membership while encouraging collective bargaining between labor and management

Third Body Paragraph—Social Security Act

- Social security established insurance funds for the elderly at age sixty five
 - Workers who paid Social Security taxes through their payments, and were matched by their employers, got retirement benefits

- Welfare programs were also created, those of which included a cooperative federal-state system of unemployment compensation
- The Aid to Dependent Children (later the AFDC) helped poverty-stricken children and their families
- The Social Security Act allowed the government to take responsibility not only for the unemployed but also for other sectors of the people, such as needy children and their families

Conclusion Paragraph

- These acts and forms of legislation were enacted in order to help different Americans adjust to the financial troubles of the 1930s and to also revitalize the hurting economy.

29. How do you account for the appeal of McCarthyism in the United States in the era following the Second World War?

Introductory Paragraph

- After World War II, the United States plunged into an era of fear regarding the assumed threat of communism from Soviet Union and other war-plagued nations vulnerable to communism.
- **Thesis:** The appeal of McCarthyism in the United States spread throughout the government and grew unpopular among American workers.

First Body Paragraph—How McCarthyism Began

- The anti-communist McCarthyism movement stemmed from the increased fears of communism originating in the Soviet Union
- Demagogue Senator Joseph McCarthy from Wisconsin took advantage of such fears for his own political advantage in the presidential campaign by claiming that he had a list of 205 communists in the American government
 - Fears started after the First World War during the Red Summers of 1919 and 1920, during which the Bolshevik Revolution occurred in Russia
 - The Communist Party (CPUSA), although a small minority party, grew between the 1940s and 1950s from 55,000 to 83,000
 - The news of Soviet spies such as Ethel and Julius Rosenberg heightened distrust among Americans
 - The Rosenbergs supposedly gave plans relating to the Manhattan Project (atomic bomb) of the United States

Second Body Paragraph—Harry Truman's Loyalty Programs

- Despite little physical evidence of rising communism within the United States, President Truman enacted a program that falsely accused many government officials of being pro-communist
 - In 1950, the government began to layoff people who were "security risks" like alcoholics, debtors, and homosexuals
 - Victims of guilt by association grew in number
 - Republicans and Democrats alike blamed the opponent for being "soft on communism" in order to gain power in Congress
- Government officials' suspicions also spread to the media, such as in the movie industry and in education
 - In Hollywood, ten directors and writers were fired because they refused to reveal names of supposed communists
 - Teachers and college professors were released from their jobs by showing dissenting views against government actions to control Communism

Third Body Paragraph—Nixon and the Alger Hiss Case

- After the Soviet Union exploded its first atomic bomb in 1949, the United States and its people feared nuclear warfare and suspicions rose

- State Department official Alger Hiss was put on trial for perjury when he denied the accusation that he passed documents to American Communist spy Whittaker Chambers
- When Truman and Secretary of State Dean Acheson defended him, people began to suspect that the Democrats were being “soft on communism”
- Congressman Richard Nixon, a Republican, was a member of the House Committee of Un-American Activities
- He convinced the grand jury to try Hiss—Hiss was accused of espionage and indicted on accounts of perjury in 1950

Conclusion Paragraph

- The threat of Communism that originated from the Soviet Union and endangered emerging nations resulted in McCarthyism in the United States, which took a toll on American people whose loyalty was questioned.

30. Describe *THREE* of the following and analyze the ways in which each of the three affected the status of women in American society since 1940: changing economic conditions; the rebirth of an organized women’s movement; advances in reproductive technology; and the persistence of traditional definitions of women’s roles.

Introductory Paragraph

- As the United States shifted gears from the culture of the nineteenth century into the new developments of the twentieth century, the role of women in society altered as well.
- **Thesis:** New developments in women’s economic status, the feminist movement, and women’s fight to change traditional ideas redefined the American woman of the twentieth century.

First Body Paragraph—New Job Opportunities Opened to Women

- When World War II broke out in 1939, American women found new careers away from domesticity in the defense industry.
 - Women enlisted in different military positions in the Women’s Army Corps (WAC), Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES), and the Women Air Service Pilots (WASP)
 - They also joined the Marine Corps and Coast Guard, as well as jobs in the nursing field
 - Women were employed to working in industrial jobs, such as riveters, welders, crane operators, tool makers, etc.
 - The number of working women increased more than fifty percent
- Job discrimination still existed in some workplaces
 - Women only earned sixty five percent of what men earned and were allocated to “women’s work”
 - The sex-segregated labor market placed women in lower-paying jobs

Second Body Paragraph—Women’s Traditional Identity

- In the past, women were considered to be a mandatory part of the domestic scene at home.
 - Women were expected to be a full-time housewife who catered to the needs of her husband and growing children
 - During the post-war era, however, women took more individual initiative to work outside of the home in the labor force
 - Many women left because they had to provide supplement income for their families; this also implied that most women who worked outside the home were married
- The role of the mother in child-rearing was redefined by Dr. Benjamin Spock in his guide *Baby and Child Care*
 - Women should be the playmate, mother, teacher, etc. of their children
 - Those who did not follow such guidelines were “failures”

- “Momism” defined women as emotionally dependent on the affections showed to them by their children
- The image of women as being sexually aggressive was warned against by the Church, media, and family
 - Women were often blamed for scandals involving sex or lust
 - *Playboy* magazine, originated by Hugh Hefner, emphasized the lustful image of women

Third Paragraph—The Revived Feminist Movement

- After the Nineteenth Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, was ratified in 1920, the women’s suffragist movement for equal rights slackened
- Author Betty Friedan’s novel *The Feminine Mystique* in 1960 voiced out the growing discontent among women and their status in society
 - In 1961, President Kennedy created the Commission on the Status of Women, which gave a report, *American Women* (1963) that encouraged women to overcome obstacles in society
 - The 1966 National Organization of Women (NOW) battled for equal rights for women through government legislation
 - The word “sexism” was embraced by women as a feeling that women were inferior in the eyes of men
- “Personal Politics” was a part of feminism in which women used direct action to project their message
- In 1972, women won the Equal Rights Amendment, under which women could not be denied equality
- *Roe vs. Wade* court case made it legal for women to undergo child abortion, a victory that many women applauded

Conclusion Paragraph

- Women discovered new-found individualism in the post-war years of World War II that classified them as an equal to men and entitled to rights granted to men.

31. Analyze the influence of TWO of the following on American-Soviet relations in the decade following the Second World War: Yalta Conference, Communist Revolution in China, Korean War, or McCarthyism.

Introductory Paragraph

- After the Second World War, the United States and the Soviet Union clashed on political, economic, and social fields.
- **Thesis:** The Communist Revolution in China and McCarthyism increased tensions between both nations because of their conflicting ideologies of democracy and communism.

First Body Paragraph—Communist Revolution in China

- After World War II, both the United States and China raced to gain control of developing nations in the post-war world in order gain more allies
- One such nation was China, which had to opposing parties fighting to gain control; one was the Nationalist Party, led by Jiang Jieshi, and the Communist Party of Mao Zedong
 - The United States supported Jieshi, despite the leader’s unreliability and doubtful trust of the America, because of his proposed democratic ideals
 - The Soviet Union was not enthusiastic in aiding Mao Zedong because it was afraid that China would become the premier communist power in the Eastern Hemisphere
 - The Soviets did, however, help China because it wanted another communist ally to thwart of capitalistic threats from the United States
- In 1949, the Nationalist party was on the losing end of the rebellions in China
 - When Jieshi fled to Formosa Island, Mao gained control of China and proclaimed the nation as the People’s Republic of China
- President Harry Truman decided to pursue a policy of non-recognition of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of friendship

Second Body Paragraph—McCarthyism

- The fear of communism among Americans heightened after evidence of Soviet espionage within the United States was released
 - President Truman's Loyalty Programs acted like loyalty probes that investigated into more than three million government jobs
 - In 1950, the government began to release "undesirables" from the government, such as homosexuals, alcoholics, or debtors
 - In the Hollywood Ten issue, ten directors and writers lost their jobs in the movie industry because they refused to reveal names of alleged communists
- Certain individuals actually indicted of espionage ascertained several government officials that the anticommunist stand was favorable to follow
 - Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed for perjury when they denied to have supported a spy who gave confidential Manhattan Project plans to the Soviets
 - State Department official Alger Hiss was, as urged by Congressman Richard Nixon, indicted for perjury when he denied having given American Soviet Spy Chambers top secret documents

Conclusion Paragraph

- The triumph of the Communist Party in China and the anti-communist crusade of McCarthyism heightened tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union, both of which were adamant to gain world control through their conflicting ideologies.

32. To what extent did the decade of the 1950s deserve its reputation as an age of political, social, and cultural conformity?

Introductory Paragraph

- In the post-war decade of the 1950s, the United States experienced a surge of economic growth and prosperity that trickled down to all groups of Americans
- **Thesis:** The 1950s did deserve its reputation as an age of political, social, and cultural conformity because of a general consensus and participation in anti-communism, growing economic opportunity, and an age of identity.

First Body Paragraph—Anti-Communism Attains a General Consensus

- The threat of communism in the international stage that spread from the Soviet Union and East Europe imbued Americans with a feeling of responsibility to conquer such threats with democratic ideals.
 - The American Communist Party (CPUSA) grew in number from 55,000 to 83,000 during World War II, a time in which the United States and the Soviets were allies
 - President Truman's loyalty programs accentuated the fear of communism among government workers after nearly three million workers were investigated
 - The Alger Hiss case supported the doubts of anticommunists after Hiss was indicted for perjury when he lied about passing confidential documents to the Soviet Union
- The McCarthyism anti-communist movement in America, started by Senator Joseph McCarthy, heightened fears of communism among Americans after he announced that he knew 205 government communists
 - McCarthy soon met his downfall after he accused the army for protecting and advocating communists

Second Body Paragraph—Economic Opportunity

- After initial problems dealing with high inflation, the United States quickly recovered from post-war economic trauma and became an "affluent society"

- Increased purchasing power, or the per capita real income, rose by 15 percent, and then to 32 percent, by the 1960s
- Real GNP of the United States continued to rise until 1975 from \$212 billion to \$529 billion
- The post-war baby boom created more business for builders, manufacturers, and school systems
 - Due to the baby boom, the demand for housing increased among families with children; this led to a construction boom that leaked into the suburbs
 - The move of mainly white families from the urban community to the suburbs was aided by both a rise in income and the automobile
 - The automobile usage of the United States increased, thus prompting the government to enact the Highway Act of 1956
- Agribusiness also grew during this time
 - New machines increased productivity and thus brought in more revenue for farmers
 - However, only wealthy insurance companies and businesses that could afford capital could become farmers due to the expensiveness of machinery and fertilizer
 - The farm family population decreased

Third Body Paragraph—Consumerism and the Media

- The 1950s was a definitive era for the United States because of the new impact of television
 - The number of households with televisions increased from 8,000 in 1947 to 3 million in 1961
 - The television encouraged family togetherness because it allowed families to enjoy entertainment programs with each other
 - The television lessened the amount of people who went to the movies
- The music of the 1950s was also a stepping stone from slow, jazzy music to rock 'n roll
 - Many African American artists influenced rock 'n roll, and greats like Elvis Presley capitalized on such music among the youth of America
 - The motion picture industry also drew in teenagers through films that portrayed teens as mature, knowledgeable individuals
- Sexuality was also emphasized during the 1950s
 - Parents worried about the rise of sexual propaganda
 - Many women were blamed impending sexual incidents

Conclusion Paragraph

- New trends, economic prosperity, and a general consensus in the political field defined the 1950s as an age of conformity, free from depression and war and engulfed in an age of opulence.

33. Although the 1960s are usually considered the decade of greatest achievement for black civil rights, the 1940s and 1950s were periods of equally important gains. Assess the validity of this statement.

Introductory Paragraph

- In contrast to the 1960s, a time in which blacks took direct action to voice their discontent with domestic racism, the 1940s and 1950s symbolized the birth of an organized Civil Rights movement.
- **Thesis:** The 1940s and 1950s were periods of equal importance to the 1960s because the Civil Rights movement was able to establish itself and redefine the status of African Americans in society.

First Body Paragraph—Truman's Committee on Civil Rights

- As an ardent reformer, President Harry Truman took the civil rights issue seriously and established the President's Committee on Civil Rights in 1946
 - The committee's report *To Secure These Rights* (1947) organized an itinerary for the civil rights movement
 - The report called for anti-lynching laws and anti-segregation legislation
 - The act also wanted guaranteed voting rights and the establishment of a permanent commission on civil rights

- Truman also created the Employment Board of the Civil Service Commission to hear charges of discrimination
- The Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services also was created to oversee the desegregation of the armed forces
- Truman felt an obligation to give every American, regardless of race, should enjoy the full rights of citizenship

Second Body Paragraph—Supreme Court Decisions on Civil Rights

- After the NAACP established its Legal Defense Fund in the 1930s, judicial support for civil rights rose
 - In *Smith vs. Allwright* (1944), the Supreme Court outlawed the whites-only primaries held by the Democratic Party in some southern states
 - In *Morgan vs. Virginia* (1946), the Court struck down segregation in interstate bus transportation
 - In *Shelley vs. Kraemer* (1948) the Court said that racially restrictive covenants that violated the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment
- In the *Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954), desegregation in schools was itemized through a combination of different cases
 - Chief Justice Earl Warren made the Court's decision that concluded that "separate but equal" was not fair despite the law
 - Warren also said that such discrimination at school gave African American children a feeling of inferiority
 - In 1955, the government called for desegregation of all public schools in America

Third Body Paragraph—Martin Luther King Jr. and Civil Disobedience

- Especially in the South, government legislation outlawing segregation did not alleviate the de facto discrimination experienced by African Americans
 - African Americans, led by the influential Alabaman Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., encouraged civil disobedience, or opposition without violence
 - The Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955 began when Rosa Parks, a member of the NAACP, refused to surrender her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama
 - During the boycott, African Americans walked or carpooled to work
 - When the bus company began to go bankrupt, the Supreme Court said that Alabama's bus segregation law was unconstitutional
- The 1957 Civil Rights Act created the United States Commission on Civil Rights to investigate systematic discrimination, such as in voting
- African Americans also participated in sit-ins, in which blacks sat in at all-white public institutions to oppose segregation

Conclusion Paragraph

- The 1940s and 1950s represented a time of rebirth for the African American society because it allowed the black community to organize into a movement that systematically fought for equal, undeniable rights.

34. Foreign affairs rather than domestic issues shaped presidential politics in the election year 1968. Assess the validity of this statement with specific reference to foreign and domestic issues.

Introductory Paragraph

- After the prosperous decade of the 1950s, the United States struggled to overcome foreign issues that emerged from the Eastern Hemisphere.
- **Thesis:** Foreign affairs regarding the events of the Vietnam War shaped presidential politics in 1968 and left aftereffects in the domestic front for nearly a decade.

First Body Paragraph—My Lai Massacre

- On March 16, 1968, reporter Seymour Hersh informed Americans of the My Lai Massacre that took place in the My Lai hamlet in Vietnam.
 - Hersh revealed the atrocities conducted by Lieutenant Will Calley and his troops, who raped, sodomized, mutilated, and killed unarmed Vietnamese citizens for four hours
 - The tragedy had been hidden from the American public for nearly twenty months by the military
- Growing anti-war sentiment grew within the United States after news of the My Lai massacre was exposed through the American media
 - Teach-ins at universities and colleges began in 1965; such resistance was continued during street demonstrations by students
 - Senate member John Fullbright held televised hearings denouncing the Vietnam war in 1966, sparking debate about the true interests of the American people
 - Surprisingly, anticommunist advocate and government foreign ambassador George F. Kennan, who advocated containment during the Cold War, denounced the violence shown in Vietnam
 - Senator Robert Kennedy and Senator Eugene McCarthy both ran for the Democrat Party ticket on an antiwar basis

Second Body Paragraph—Tet Offensive in Vietnam

- In January 1968, the communist regime from North Vietnam aided the rebellious Vietcong in staging an attack throughout South Vietnam
 - The attack occurred during Tet, the Vietnamese holiday honoring the new year
 - The Vietcong plundered numerous South Vietnamese cities and even penetrated the United States embassy in Saigon
- Despite the United States' and South Vietnamese military's successful fight to triumph over the Vietcong and win back the numerous cities in South Vietnam, the American people grew concerned over foreign affairs
 - The United States' military felt psychologically defeated because both the Vietcong and North Vietnam were able to penetrate into South Vietnam and show off their strength
 - The communist and rebel forces won against the United States' in terms of territorial advantage
- The American public felt deceived by the government because they had been told, especially by presidents Johnson and Nixon, that the United States was winning
 - CBS television network's broadcaster Walter Cronkite established antiwar sentiment after he questioned the reliability of the government

Third Body Paragraph—The Dollar and Gold Crisis

- The American economy began to suffer after foreign nations and their citizens began to pull out money from American banks
 - President Johnson's advisers were aware of an oncoming financial crisis prompted by deficit spending from the governments' expenditures to finance the Vietnam War
 - Foreign investors grew fearful for their assets in the United States and exchange their US dollars for gold at a fast rate
 - Most of these fearful investors were Europeans, who in March, redeemed \$372 million from American banks
- The crisis limited the governments' involvement in foreign economics during the war
 - This also caused a derailment of the budget, panic in foreign investments, and a failing economy

Conclusion Paragraph

- The American people were hit with numerous challenges in 1968 that were prompted by foreign issues that dealt primarily with the war in Vietnam.

35. 1968 was a turning point for the United States. To what extent is this an accurate assessment? In your answer, discuss TWO of the following: national politics; Vietnam War; or Civil Rights.

Introductory Paragraph

- In 1968, the American people were confronted with domestic and foreign issues dealing with the Vietnam War and Civil Rights
- **Thesis:** The year 1968 was a turning point for the United States because it heightened tensions regarding the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement and split American's opinions

First Body Paragraph—Vietnam War

- In the foreign field, the United States was entangled in the country's longest war in Vietnam, wherein American lives were spent and domestic opinions shifted
- The My Lai massacre, exposed by journalist Seymour Hersh to Americans twenty months after it occurred, incensed Americans
 - The murder of nearly four hundred, unarmed Vietnamese citizens showed Americans the increasing decay of morality within the American army
 - Antiwar sentiment increased within the United States
 - College demonstrations and publicly televised debates questioned the responsibilities of the American government in mindless war acts abroad
- The Tet Offensive enforced by communist North Vietnam and the Vietcong rebel group lowered United States' confidence in winning the war
 - Despite the Americans' triumph in regaining captured South Vietnamese cities, the Americans felt defeated mentally by the communists
 - Many Americans felt that the government had lied about the United States' success in Vietnam, especially after televised attacks by the communist groups showcased Americans' show of weakness

Second Body Paragraph—Civil Rights

- In 1968, the Civil Rights movement transcended from its usual practice of civil disobedience and embarked on a new program of increased violence
 - Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., the leader of the SNCC and most provocative advocate of civil disobedience, was killed in 1968
 - MLK's murder incited anger within the African American community and produced violent uprisings within cities in both the Northern and Southern halves of the United States
 - Riots erupted in Newark, New Jersey, as well as in Illinois
- Black Power, or Black Pride, arose before and during 1968 and advocated the ideal that blacks were superior to the white race
 - The Black Panthers consisted of young African Americans who carried weapons and tried to organize black communities
 - Leaders such as Malcolm X, Stokely Carmichael, and Huey Newton called for physical involvement within the movement in order to achieve rights for African Americans
 - In this phase of the movement, African Americans now began to riot in contrast to whites beginning the riots in the red summers of 1919 and 1920

Conclusion Paragraph

- Domestic and foreign problems that plagued the United States in 1968 split public opinion and cast doubt upon the government's position as the head authority