

U.S. History End-of-Course Practice Exam

For each multiple-choice question, circle the correct answer.

SS.912.A.2.1

The Kansas-Nebraska Act concerned which issue?

- A. the right of Northerners to own slaves
- B. the sale of federal lands to slave owners
- C. the expansion of slavery into new territories
- D. the return of slaves who had escaped from the South

SS.912.A.2.1

Which of these was a direct consequence of the Civil War?

- A. the disintegration of the Whig Party
- B. the addition of new states to the Union
- C. the use of popular sovereignty to decide the issue of slavery
- D. the extension of voting rights to African American men

SS.912.A.2.2

What was the main accomplishment of the Freedmen's Bureau?

- A. providing aid and education to emancipated slaves
- B. helping Confederate states get readmitted to the Union
- C. securing protections for African Americans' voting rights
- D. preventing violence against African Americans in the South

SS.912.A.2.4

The passage below is an excerpt from the Fourteenth Amendment:

No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

This amendment was proposed by Congress in response to which of the following?

- A. the rise of violence against emancipated slaves
- B. the passage of Black Codes throughout the South
- C. the emergence of white resistance to the civil rights movement
- D. the attempts of Democrats to limit the voting rights of African Americans

SS.912.A.2.6

What was the main effect of the system of debt peonage that emerged in the South during the late 19th century?

- A. African Americans were unable to afford to work agricultural jobs.
- B. African Americans left the South in large numbers to escape their debts.
- C. African Americans labored in a system that was nearly the same as slavery.
- D. African Americans had to work for low wages to pay off their emancipation costs.

SS.912.A.2.6

The excerpt below was printed in a magazine in the South in 1866:

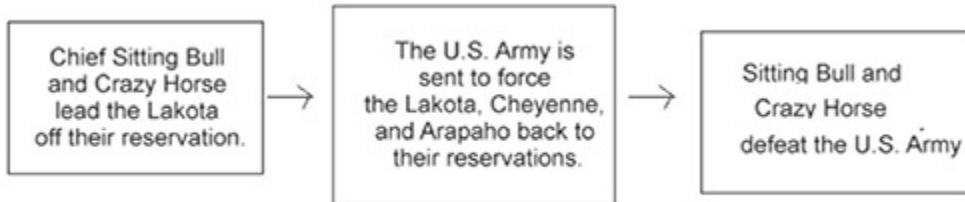
We should be satisfied to compel them to engage in coarse, common manual labor, and to punish them for dereliction of duty or non fulfillment of their contracts with such severity, as to make them useful, productive laborers.

Source: <http://home.gwu.edu/~jjhawkin/BlackCodes/rptBlackCodes.pdf>

Which of the following would the author of this excerpt most likely have supported?

- A. the formation of the Freedmen's Bureau
- B. the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment
- C. the passage of Black Codes and Jim Crow laws
- D. the relocation of emancipated slaves to colonies in Africa

SS.912.A.2.7



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What event is described in this diagram?

- A. The Battle of Sioux Falls
- B. The Sand Creek Massacre
- C. The Battle of Little Bighorn
- D. The Wounded Knee Massacre

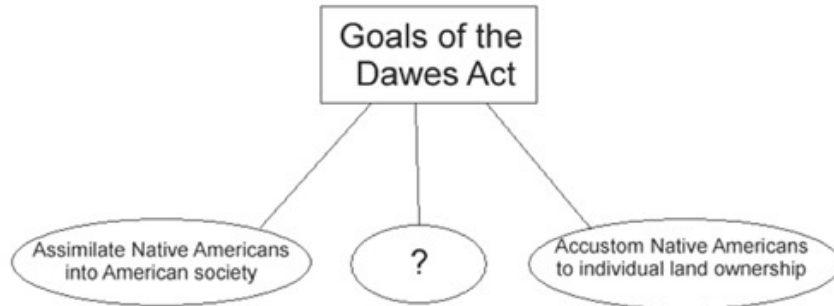
SS.912.A.2.7

Which of the following was the main reason that the federal government created a method for Native Americans to become U.S. citizens?

- A. to reduce the amount of money spent supporting Native Americans
- B. to encourage Native Americans to assimilate into mainstream society
- C. to undermine the legal basis of the treaties made with Native American tribes
- D. to guarantee that Native Americans enjoyed constitutionally protected civil rights

SS.912.A.2.7

The diagram below shows the various goals of the Dawes Act of 1877



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Which phrase best completes the diagram?

- A. Lure Native Americans to migrate to the frontier
- B. Entice Native Americans to move to urban areas
- C. Give Native Americans jobs in the federal bureaucracy
- D. Push Native Americans to adopt an agricultural lifestyle

SS.912.A.3.1

What was the main purpose of the Interstate Commerce Act of 1887?

- A. to ensure the spread of manufacturing across the frontier
- B. to remove import taxes for goods shipped from one state to another
- C. to protect American agriculture and industry from foreign competition
- D. to prevent railroads from charging farmers and merchants high shipping rates

SS.912.A.3.1

This quote is from Farmer's Alliance member Mary Elizabeth Lease in the late 1800s:

"The great common people of this country are slaves, and monopoly is the master. . . . The politicians said we suffered from overproduction. Overproduction, when 10,000 little children, so statistics tell us, starve to death every year in the United States. . . . We will stand by our homes and stay by our fireside by force if necessary, and we will not pay our debts to the loan-shark companies until the government pays its debts to us."

Source: [http://people.hofstra.edu/alan\\_j\\_singer/294%20Course%20Pack/7.%20Workers/112.pdf](http://people.hofstra.edu/alan_j_singer/294%20Course%20Pack/7.%20Workers/112.pdf)

Based on this quote, with which statement would Lease agree?

- A. Although slavery has been abolished in this country, African Americans still find themselves held in bondage.
- B. Greater control over large corporations will help agricultural workers reclaim their livelihood and regain their financial footing.
- C. Farmers produce more food than the population can handle, but they are not permitted to sell their surpluses to other markets.
- D. Although child labor is a severe problem in the country, government leaders have done nothing to prevent children from working.

SS.912.A.3.2

The map below shows routes taken by African Americans who participated in the Great Migration:



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What describes a pull factor that drew African Americans during the Great Migration?

- A. the availability of good jobs in the North and West
- B. the sale of inexpensive land by the federal government
- C. the construction of low-cost government housing in growing cities
- D. the absence of segregation and racial discrimination outside the South

SS.912.A.3.2

The political cartoon below is from the late 1800s:



Library of Congress 25503

This political cartoon is a criticism of which practice in the 19th century?

- A. vertical integration
- B. monopolization
- C. industrialism
- D. laissez-faire capitalism

SS.912.A.3.3

Which statement describes both the First and Second Industrial Revolutions?

- A. Both revolutions resulted in migration from urban to rural areas.
- B. Both revolutions led to an increase in the number of farmers.
- C. Both revolutions produced technologies that improved productivity.
- D. Both revolutions relied on steel and oil resources to promote growth.

SS.912.A.3.5

Which entrepreneur had a significant impact on the cosmetics industry?

- A. Harriet Beecher Stowe
- B. Emily Dickinson
- C. Sojourner Truth
- D. Madame C.J. Walker

SS.912.A.3.6

The map below shows the growth of the urban population in the United States from 1870 to 1930:



© 2012 The Exploration Company

Which statement explains one reason for the change in urban population in the Northeast from 1870 to 1900?

- A. Thousands of veterans returned home from the Civil War
- B. Millions of people from the rural Midwest moved to cities.
- C. Millions of immigrants arrived from Southern and Eastern Europe.
- D. Thousands of immigrants arrived in the United States from China.



SS.912.A.3.7

The Gentleman's Agreement between President Theodore Roosevelt and Japan resulted in a decrease of which of these?

- A. Japanese troops stationed in Manchuria
- B. Japanese immigration to the United States
- C. tariffs between Japan and the United States
- D. U.S. and Japanese fleets in the Pacific Ocean

SS.912.A.4.1

The cartoon below was published in the early 1900s:



Public Domain

Why does this cartoon depict Roosevelt carrying his “big stick” through the Caribbean?

- A. Roosevelt believed that an aggressive foreign policy was needed to prevent Caribbean nations from incurring major debts with European nations.
- B. Roosevelt believed that a strong military presence in the Caribbean was needed to protect the United States from attack by Latin American nations.
- C. Roosevelt felt that the United States had a moral responsibility to protect citizens from civil unrest in Caribbean nations.

D. Roosevelt wanted to seize control of resources available in the Caribbean to promote U.S. business interests.

SS.912.A.4.2

The U.S. acquisition of which of the following territories limited Spain's influence in the Western Hemisphere?

- A. Samoa
- B. Hawaii
- C. Puerto Rico
- D. the Virgin Islands

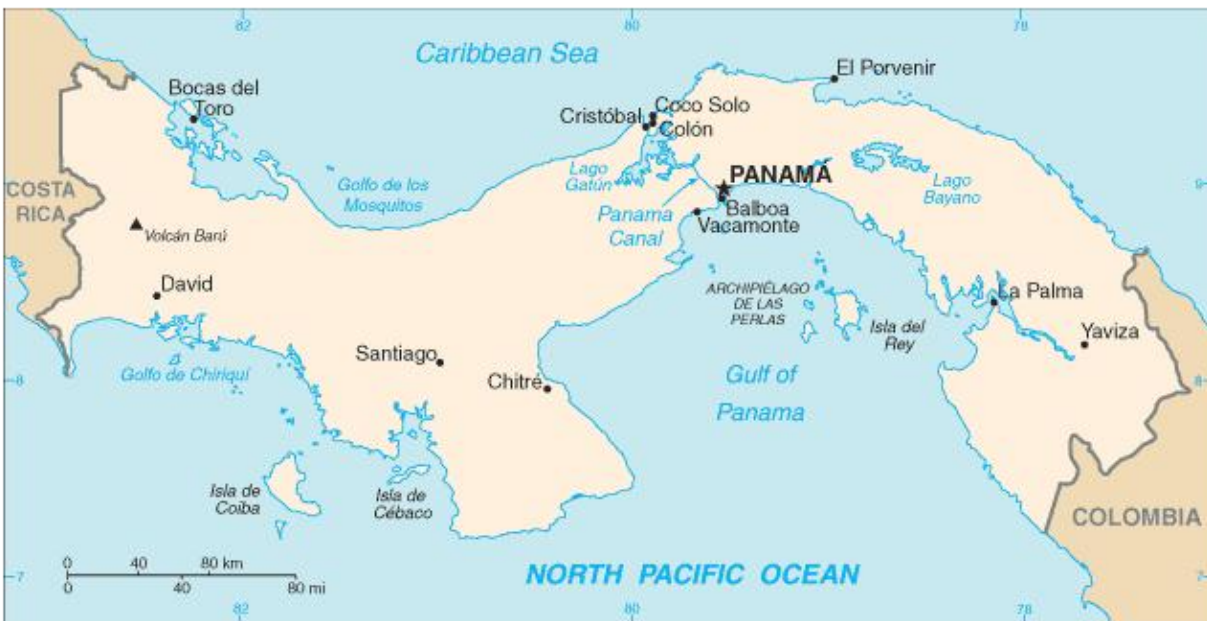
SS.912.A.4.3

Which statement describes the role played by the U.S. journalists during the Spanish-American war?

- A. Journalists provided frequent reports of the fighting, allowing the public to follow a foreign war closely for the first time.
- B. Journalists focused on bad news rather than good news in order to criticize the decisions made by the president and military leaders.
- C. Journalists ignored the signs of impending war until it was too late to inform the public of the government's intentions to declare war on Spain.
- D. Journalists exaggerated events to build support for the war, giving the president and Congress little chance to resolve the conflict diplomatically.

SS.912.A.4.4

The map below shows the location of the Panama Canal:



Public Domain



What does this map show about the importance of completing the Panama Canal?

- A. It made it easier for the U.S. Navy to patrol Latin America.
- B. It shortened shipping routes between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
- C. It created a security buffer between South America and the United States.
- D. It prevented cheap Latin American goods from flooding the U.S. market.

SS.912.A.4.5

Which of the following describes a reason for U.S. involvement in World War I?

- A. U.S. citizens worried that the Central Powers might be swayed to adopt a non-democratic form of government.
- B. U.S. citizens were persuaded by German propaganda that placed Britain and France's cruelty on display.
- C. U.S. leaders feared that Germany might gain too much control and negatively affect American security and trade.
- D. U.S. leaders argued that the stage of war might shift from European soil to territory in the United States.

SS.912.A.4.5

The excerpt below comes from a speech given by President Woodrow Wilson in 1917:

"The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty. We have no selfish ends to serve. We desire no conquest, no dominion. We seek no indemnities for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifices we shall freely make. We are but one of the champions of the rights of mankind. We shall be satisfied when those rights have been made as secure as the faith and the freedom of nations can make them."

What was the purpose of this speech?

- A. to justify the acquisition of overseas territories
- B. to convince Congress to declare war on Germany
- C. to persuade the Senate to ratify the Treaty of Versailles
- D. to reassure the public of his commitment to U.S. neutrality

SS.912.A.6.14

Which president pursued a policy of Vietnamization?

- A. Gerald Ford
- B. Richard Nixon
- C. Lyndon Johnson
- D. John F. Kennedy

SS.912.A.6.14

The quote below is part of the 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution:

"The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age. "

Which of these contributed to the ratification of this amendment?

- A. race riots in American cities
- B. efforts of Civil Rights leaders
- C. protests against the draft
- D. media coverage of the Watergate scandal

SS.912.A.4.6

The image below is a poster from World War I



Public Domain

What was the main purpose of this poster?

- A. to create public distrust of Germans
- B. to encourage young men to enlist in the army
- C. to demonstrate the reason for entering the war
- D. to generate financial support for the war effort

SS.912.A.4.9

Which movement benefited the most from its members' contributions to the war effort during World War I?

- A. populism
- B. civil rights
- C. temperance
- D. women's suffrage

SS.912.A.5.2

What was the purpose of the Palmer Raids?

- A. to find and deport illegal immigrants
- B. to break the power of the Ku Klux Klan
- C. to identify and punish suspected communists
- D. to undermine the Civil Rights movement

SS.912.A.5.3

The timeline below shows changes in U.S. tariff policy between 1920 and 1930:

May 1921— Emergency Tariff increases import taxes on agricultural products

September 1922— Fordney-McCumber Tariff raises tariffs on farm and manufactured goods

June 1930— Smoot-Hawley Tariff increases tariff levels to record high level

What conclusion can be drawn from this timeline?

- A. The American economy was almost entirely self-sufficient throughout the 1920s.
- B. During the 1920s, Congress supported domestic producers with a protective trade policy.
- C. During the 1920s, the United States shifted from an export-based economy to an import-based economy.
- D. Crop prices and corporate profits increased steadily during the 1920s as a result of government policy.

SS.912.A.5.4

The table below compares the average weekly wages of various workers from 1920 to 1925:

Year	Skilled Workers	Unskilled Workers	Female Workers	Farmworkers
1920	29.16	22.28	15.14	16.92
1921	26.19	19.41	14.96	11.76
1922	28.73	20.74	16.19	12.24
1923	30.93	22.37	17.31	14.16
1924	30.61	22.45	16.78	14.40
1925	30.57	22.41	16.78	14.16

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

Based on the chart, which statement describes the economic condition of American farm workers during the 1920s?

- A. The entry of more women into the workforce meant fewer women were available for farm work.
- B. Overproduction reduced crop prices and kept farm workers from enjoying the general prosperity of the times.
- C. Subsidies and other government programs allowed farm workers' incomes to match those in industry.
- D. Higher prices for farm products resulted in a higher standard of living for all farm workers.

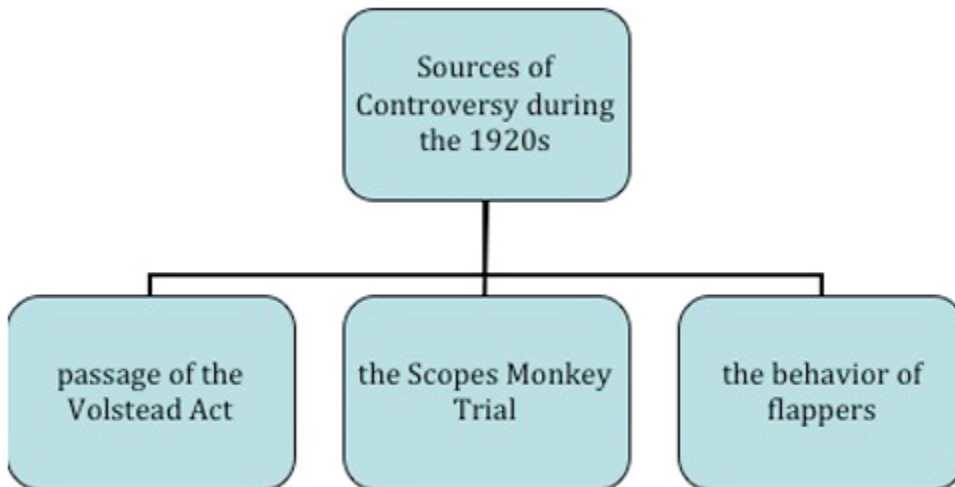
SS.912.A.5.5

Why did the United States participate in the Washington Conference (1921) and the Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928)?

- A. to reduce barriers to international trade
- B. to work with other nations to prevent future wars
- C. to form military alliances as a defense against aggression
- D. to expand American influence over Asia and Latin America

SS.912.A.5.6

The diagram below shows some of the sources of controversy during the 1920s:



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The controversies surrounding these issues were all signs of what aspect of American life?

- A. the need for government intervention during economic crises
- B. the benefits of new technologies introduced by popular inventors
- C. the tension between traditional and modern values and beliefs
- D. the importance of fighting against communism at home and abroad

SS.912.A.5.8

The quote below is from an African American leader in the early 1900s:

"So far as [he] preaches Thrift, Patience, and Industrial Training . . . we must hold up his hands and strive with him . . . But so far as [he] apologizes for injustice, North or South, does not rightly value the privilege and duty of voting, belittles the [devastating] effect of caste distinctions, and opposes the higher training and ambition of our brighter minds . . .we must unceasingly and firmly oppose [his ideas]."

The ideas in this quote reflect the beliefs of which leader?

- A. Booker T. Washington
- B. Ida B. Wells
- C. Marcus Garvey
- D. W.E.B. DuBois

SS.912.A.5.11

What did President Franklin Roosevelt focus on during his First Hundred Days?

- A. creating welfare programs to relieve public suffering
- B. increasing government spending to stimulate production
- C. establishing agricultural subsidies to relieve farmers
- D. regulating banks to solve the root causes of the economic crisis

SS.912.A.5.11

The following quote is from President Roosevelt in the early 1900s:

"This Second New Deal Act gives "contributors a legal, moral, and political right to collect their pensions and unemployment benefits."

Based on this quote, to which Second New Deal Act is Roosevelt referring?

- A. Social Security Act
- B. Volstead Act
- C. Wealth Tax Act
- D. Agricultural Adjustment Act

SS.912.A.6.2

Passage of which of these represented a shift from the foreign policy that dominated American politics between the two world wars?

- A. the Wagner Act
- B. the Espionage Act
- C. the Lend-Lease Act
- D. the Taft-Hartley Act

SS.912.A.6.4

The quote below comes from the Supreme Court ruling in *Korematsu v. United States*, handed down in 1944:



"The properly constituted military authorities feared an invasion of our West Coast and felt constrained to take proper security measures.... Congress, reposing its confidence in this time of war in our military leaders—as inevitably it must—determined that they should have the power to do just this."

Source: [http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/historics/USSC\\_CR\\_0323\\_0214\\_ZO.html](http://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/historics/USSC_CR_0323_0214_ZO.html)

What security measures are being referred to in this case?

- A. internment of Japanese Americans
- B. dropping of atomic bombs on Japan
- C. deportation of all recent immigrants from Japan
- D. exclusion of Japanese Americans from the draft

SS.912.A.6.9

How did the formation of the United Nations resemble the formation of the League of Nations?

- A. It was created to prevent the spread of communism.
- B. It was set up to promote international efforts to stop war.
- C. It was intended to prevent another global Great Depression.
- D. It was boycotted by both the United States and the Soviet Union.

SS.912.A.6.10

What was the name given to the 1940s policy of providing economic and military support to "free people" fighting against "outside pressures"?

- A. the Marshall Plan
- B. the Declaration of Human Rights
- C. the Truman Doctrine
- D. the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty

SS.912.A.6.13

Which of these was used to justify U.S. support for South Vietnam?

- A. internationalism
- B. McCarthyism
- C. the domino theory
- D. the nuclear arms race

SS.912.A.6.13

Which of these contributed to increasing tensions between the United States and the communist world at the beginning of the Cold War period?

- A. the United States' participation in the Korean War
- B. the efforts of the Soviet Union to place nuclear missiles in Turkey
- C. the United States' construction of a wall dividing East and West Berlin
- D. the military intervention in Hungary by NATO forces

SS.912.A.7.1

What effect did the Eisenhower Interstate System have on American society in the 1950s and 1960s?

- A. It contributed to suburbanization.
- B. It slowed down the post-war baby boom.
- C. It shifted the economy away from agriculture.
- D. It increased Americans' reliance on government aid.

SS.912.A.7.10

This photograph was taken at a demonstration in 1967:



© 2012 The Associated Press

Which of these was a long-term effect of events such as this that took place throughout 1960s?

- A. Americans became more willing to question government decisions.
- B. Government leaders refocused government policies to serve social needs.
- C. Future wars suffered from low levels of public support.
- D. Young people began voting at rates higher than other groups.

SS.912.A.7.4

The quote below comes from a speech given by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964:

"I submit, for the consideration of the Congress and the country, the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. The Act does not merely expand old programs or improve what is already being done. It charts a new course.... It can be a milestone in our one-hundred-eighty year search for a better life for our people."

Source: Fordham University Modern History Sourcebook

President Johnson gave this speech because the United States faced which of these problems?

- A. a high level of poverty
- B. failure to pass a minimum wage law
- C. widespread unemployment
- D. unequal pay for women

SS.912.A.7.6

What did Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., urge his followers to do in order to bring about racial justice?

- A. file lawsuits against segregationists
- B. engage in acts of civil disobedience
- C. lobby Congress for reparations payments
- D. vote only for African American candidates

SS.912.A.7.7

What was the goal of African American and white volunteers during the Freedom Summer?

- A. to train African Americans in job skills
- B. to integrate state-supported universities
- C. to protest segregated eating establishments
- D. to register African American voters

SS.912.A.7.8

Police have to say which of the following as a result of the Supreme Court ruling in *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966)?

- A. "License and registration, please."
- B. "You are hereby under arrest."
- C. "You have the right to remain silent."
- D. "Keep your hands where I can see them."

SS.912.A.7.9

Which of these efforts by the women's rights movement was similar to the Civil Rights movement's support for an end to poll taxes?

- A. the attempt to get the Equal Rights Amendment ratified
- B. the attempt to have women included in the Voting Rights Act of 1965
- C. the attempt to promote equal pay for equal work
- D. the attempt to raise awareness about women's underrepresentation in Congress

SS.912.A.7.11

The following is a quote from a nationally televised address by President Ronald Reagan in 1987:

"A few months ago, I told the American people I did not trade arms for hostages. My heart and my best intentions still tell me that's true, but the facts and evidence tell me it is not."

Source: <http://www.shmoop.com/reagan-era/quotes.html>

What was the event that forced President Reagan to make this address?

- A. Iran Contra affair
- B. Iranian hostage crisis
- C. Marine barracks bombing in Lebanon
- D. invasion of Grenada

SS.912.A.7.12

The bombing of the World Trade Center in New York City in 1993 was an example of the growth of which of the following issues at the end of the 20th century?

- A. genocide
- B. poverty
- C. terrorism
- D. pollution

SS.912.A.7.13

Which Great Society program continued to receive significant public and political support in the 21st century?

- A. Medicare
- B. food stamps
- C. Affirmative Action
- D. guaranteed student loans

SS.912.A.7.14

The pursuit of which economic foreign policy objective cost President Clinton the support of labor leaders?

- A. blocking immigration from poor countries
- B. decreasing trade barriers among all nations
- C. preventing labor outsourcing to developing nations
- D. using sanctions to punish enemies of the United States

SS.912.A.7.16

Which region has contributed the most to immigration to the United States in the 21st century?

- A. Latin America
- B. Southeast Asia
- C. Eastern Europe
- D. the Middle East

SS.912.A.7.11

Why did the United States send military forces to the Balkans during the 1990s?

- A. to capture terrorists who had attacked U.S. embassies in Europe and Africa
- B. to prevent ethnic conflict from resulting in broader political and economic instability
- C. to restore democracy after several elected governments had been overthrown by dictators
- D. to deliver humanitarian aid to populations suffering from the effects of genocide