

REGENTS REVIEW ASSIGNMENT #5 – PART II

Answers to the essay question are to be written in the separate essay booklet.

Part II

THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

Theme: Influence of Geographic Factors on Governmental Actions

Actions taken by the United States government have often been influenced by geographic factors. Some of these factors include location, climate, natural resources, and physical features.

Task:

Identify *two* actions the United States government that have been influenced by geographic factors and for each:

- State *one* reason the United States took the action.
- Describe how a geographic factor influenced the action.
- Discuss the impact of the action on the United States.

You may use action taken by the United States government that was influenced by a geographic factor. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include the Lewis and Clark expedition (1804-1806), issuance of the Monroe Doctrine (1823), Mexican War (1846-1848), Commodore Perry's opening of Japan (1853), passage of the Homestead Act (1862), purchase of Alaska (1867), construction of the Panama Canal (1904-1914), entry into World War II (1941), passage of the Interstate Highway Act (1956), and involvement in the Persian Gulf War (1991).

You are not limited to these suggestions.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

In developing your answer to Part II, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

- (a) *discuss* means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”
- (b) *describe* means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”

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THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

Theme: Government – Supreme Court Decisions

The United States Supreme Court has played a major role in United States history. The Court's decisions have had a significant impact on many aspects of American society.

Task:

Select *two* Supreme Court cases that have had an impact on American society and for *each*

- Describe the historical circumstances surrounding the case.
- Explain the Supreme Court's decision in the case.
- Discuss an impact this decision has had on American society.

You may use any appropriate Supreme Court case from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832), *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857), *Northern Securities Co. v. United States* (1904), *Korematsu v. United States* (1944), *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954), *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States* (1964), *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), *Roe v. Wade* (1973), and *United States v. Nixon* (1974).

You are not limited to these suggestions.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

In developing your answer to Part II, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

- (a) *discuss* means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”
- (b) *describe* means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”
- (c) *explain* means “to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationships of”

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Part II

THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

Theme: Foreign Policy

Since 1900, United States foreign policy actions have often been based on national self-interest. These actions have had immediate and long-term results.

Task:

Select *two* important United States foreign policy actions since 1900 and for *each*

- Discuss the historical circumstances surrounding the action.
- Discuss *one* immediate or *one* long-term result of the action.
- Evaluate the extent to which the action promoted the nation's self-interest.

You may use any important foreign policy action since 1900 from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include Theodore Roosevelt's Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine (1904), Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points (1918), the Lend-Lease Act (1941), the Marshall Plan (1947), the blockade of Cuba (1962), the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) agreements (1972), and the Persian Gulf War (1991).

You are not limited to these suggestions.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

In developing your answer to Part II, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

- (a) *discuss* means "to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail"
- (b) *evaluate* means "to examine and judge the significance, worth, or condition of; to determine the value of"