

AP U.S. History – Period 9: Unit – 9 - 1980-Present Practice Test

Question 1:

“It is no accident that this unmatched potential for progress and prosperity exists in three countries with such long-standing heritages of free government. A developing closeness among Canada, Mexico, and the United States—a North American accord—would permit achievement of that potential in each country beyond that which I believe any of them—strong as they are—could accomplish in the absence of such cooperation.”

-Source: Ronald Reagan, at his announcement for Presidential Candidacy, 1979

The ideas in the excerpt most directly contributed to which of the following?

- A. the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to protect the interests of North America
- B. the enactment of tariffs on all foreign goods to support the production of American industries
- C. the development of a free trade agreement between Canada, Mexico, and the United States
- D. the reduction in citizenship requirements for undocumented immigrants from Mexico and Canada

Question 2:

Read the excerpt and answer the following question.

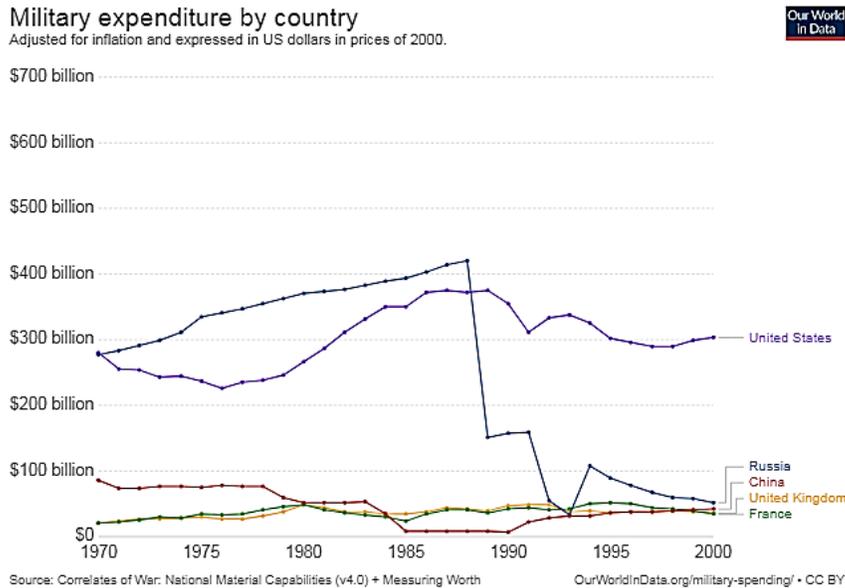
“The Sunbelt boom of the late 1970s paralleled the popularization of country music and auto racing; the expansion and relocation of professional sports franchises into the region; and even the country’s mythical love affair with the National Football League’s Dallas Cowboys, dubbed ‘America’s Team’ in 1976. In sum, the Sunbelt became fashionable in the 1970s.”

-Source: Sean P. Cunningham, historian, *American Politics in the Postwar Sunbelt: Conservative Growth in a Battleground Region*, 2014

The excerpt best illustrates which of the following developments?

- A. the rise in leisure time as productivity increased
- B. the spread of American culture to other countries
- C. the cultural influence of the southern and western regions
- D. the migration of middle class families to the suburbs

Question 3:



Which of the following was a significant cause of the trend from 1970 to 1990 shown in the graph?

- A. creation of the GI Bill
- B. involvement in the Cold War
- C. start of the War on Terror
- D. end of the Vietnam War

Question 4:

Read the excerpt and answer the following question.

“We’re not cutting the budget simply for the sake of sounder financial management. This is only a first step toward returning power to the states and communities, only a first step toward reordering the relationship between citizenship and government. We can make government again responsive to people not only by cutting its size and scope and thereby ensuring that its legitimate functions are performed efficiently and justly.”

-Source: President Ronald Reagan, in a speech to the Conservative Political Action Conference, 1981

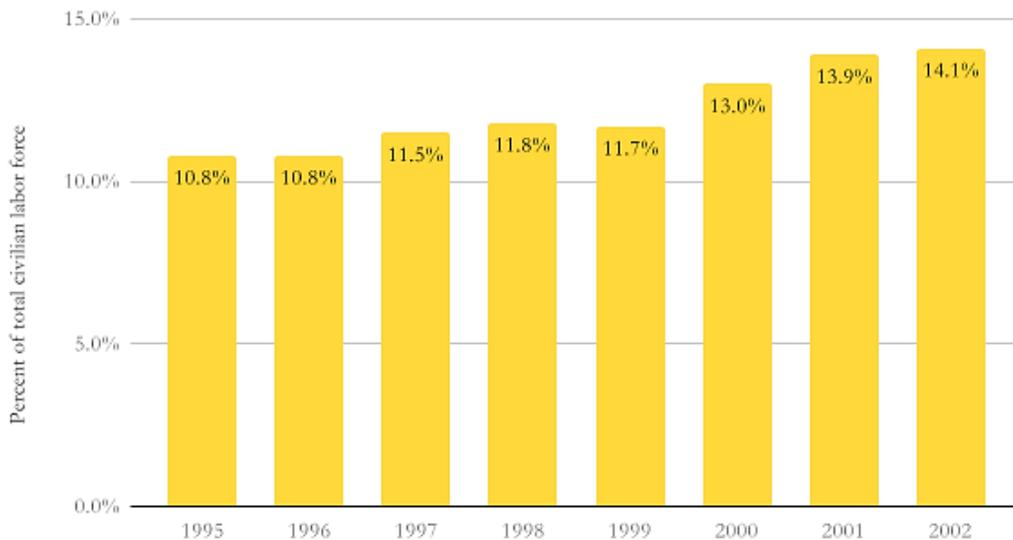
The policies described in the excerpt contributed most directly to debates in the United States about the:

- A. hiring process for civil servants in the federal government.
- B. end of government social programs like Medicare.
- C. financial support given to foreign nations resisting communism.

D. president's power to influence the federal budget.

Question 5:

Immigrant Labor Force Participation for Individuals 16 and older



-Source: Elizabeth Grieco, "The Foreign Born in the U.S. Labor Force: Numbers and Trends," Migration Policy Institute, 2004

Which of the following best explains the overall demographic trend shown in the chart?

- A. the rise in the number of immigrant members of labor unions
- B. the surge in immigration as the American economy improved
- C. the increase in unemployment as manufacturing jobs dwindled
- D. the growth in the number of immigrants working in American industry

Question 6:

In his 1985 State of the Union Address, Reagan articulated his foreign policy goals in what has come to be known as the Reagan Doctrine. Like Truman, Reagan pledged to

- A. support anticommunist resistance movements, particularly in the Third World
- B. ease tensions between the Soviet Union and the United States
- C. sponsor covert military operations to overthrow communist regimes in Eastern Europe
- D. broker peace agreement between Palestinians and the Israelis

Question 7:

“American decline is real, though the apocalyptic version of it reflects the familiar ruling-class perception that anything short of total control amounts to total disaster. Despite the piteous laments, the United States remains the world’s dominant power by a large margin, with no competitor in sight, and not only in the military dimension, in which, of course, the United States reigns supreme.”

-Source: Noam Chomsky, historian, “Who Rules the World?” 2016

Which of the following most likely contributed to the rise in belief of the “American decline” referred to in the excerpt?

- A. the search for and subsequent death of Osama Bin Laden, who led Al-Qaeda during September 11
- B. the election of Barack Obama, the first black man to serve as President of the United States
- C. the September 11 attacks, which included orchestrated attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon
- D. the Great Recession of 2008, a period of global financial crisis that affected the American economy

Question 8:

Who came to prominence in the Middle East and formed al-Qaeda after the Persian Gulf War?

- A. Sadaam Hussein
- B. Osama bin Laden
- C. Ayatollah Khomeini
- D. Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi

Question 9:

Who became the first (and as of right now the only) female Speaker of the House?

- A. Sonya Sotomayor
- B. Sandra Day O’Conner
- C. Nancy Pelosi
- D. Condaleeza Rice

Question 10:

President Obama opened up diplomatic ties with Cuba for the first time since

- A. the Eisenhower Administration
- B. the Kennedy Administration
- C. the Truman Administration
- D. the Nixon Administration

Question 11:

What happened to Bill Clinton's plan for affordable health care for all Americans?

- A. Congress approved the plan
- B. Congress denied the plan
- C. The Supreme Court outlawed the plan
- D. The Supreme Court approved the plan

Question 12:

How was the Iran Hostage Crisis resolved?

- A. the hostages were all killed
- B. the hostages were released as part of the agreement ending the Vietnam War
- C. the hostages were freed upon Reagan's inauguration
- D. the Camp David Accords led Israel to release the hostages

Question 13:

What religious group formed to promote family values and support conservative politicians?

- A. Great Society
- B. New Right
- C. Moral Majority
- D. Social Gospel

Question 14:

During the 1990s, President George H.W. Bush

- A. signed the welfare reform bill
- B. sent troops to fight in the Persian Gulf War
- C. persuaded Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin to sign the Camp David Accords
- D. raised taxes

Question 15:

In the late twentieth century, liberals believed that _____.

- A. taxes should be reduced for all Americans
- B. the national defense system should be strengthened
- C. the federal government should limit regulation of industry
- D. the federal government should intervene to help the needy

Question 16:

What is the primary aim of the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001?

- A. To limit the amount of foreign investment in the United States
- B. To prevent acts of terrorism across the United States
- C. To promote the growth of locally owned small businesses
- D. To increase funding for military contracts

Question 17:

What event led to the War on Terror?

- A. The Gulf War
- B. September 11th (9/11)
- C. The Cold War
- D. The Watergate Scandal

Question 18:

Which of the following did NOT contribute to the emergence of the New Right of the 1970s and 1980s?

- A. The Moral Majority Movement
- B. The popularity of Ronald Reagan
- C. The "stagflation" economic condition of the 1970s
- D. A sudden drop in the stock market

Question 19:

Which was true of Republicans in the 1980s?

- A. They supported quotas to ensure equal employment opportunities
- B. Their core was upper-middle class white Protestants
- C. They opposed government inaction in social welfare issues
- D. To save money, they wanted to cut defense spending

Answer Key:

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. B
5. D
6. A
7. D
8. B
9. C
10. B
11. B
12. C
13. C
14. B
15. D
16. B
17. B
18. D
19. B