

## Practice Test – Grade 8 Social Studies Answer Key

Item Number	Item Type	TEKS	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)
1	Multiple Choice	3.18.A	1	B
2	Multiple Choice	2.25.C	1	D
3	Multiple Choice	3.19.A	1	D
4	Hot Spot	2.10.A	1	See Appendix 1.1
5	Multiple Choice	4.14.B	1	A
6	Multiple Choice	3.22.B	1	C
7	Multiple Choice	1.5.D	1	C
8	Multipart	4.28.A	2	B, D
9	Multiple Choice	2.23.E	1	D
10	Multiple Choice	4.12.B	1	B
11	Drag and Drop	1.1.A	2	See Appendix 1.2
12	Multiple Choice	2.26.B	1	C
13	Multiple Select	1.7.D	2	A, D
14	Multiple Choice	3.15.C	1	C
15	Multiple Choice	1.5.B	1	B
16	Multiple Choice	1.6.A	1	A
17	Short Constructed Response	3.15.D	2	See Appendix 1.3
18	Multiple Choice	1.5.A	1	B
19	Multiple Choice	4.12.C	1	C
20	Multiple Choice	2.24.B	1	B
21	Multiple Choice	4.27.A	1	A
22	Multiple Choice	1.2.B	1	D
23	Multiple Choice	1.3.A	1	A
24	Multiple Choice	3.19.B	1	C
25	Drag and Drop	2.10.B	2	See Appendix 1.4
26	Multiple Choice	2.24.A	1	A
27	Multiple Choice	2.23.D	1	D
28	Multipart	1.9.C	2	A, D
29	Multiple Choice	1.5.C	1	C
30	Multiple Choice	1.8.B	1	A
31	Multiple Choice	1.4.A	1	B
32	Multiple Select	1.3.C	2	C, D
33	Multiple Choice	3.21.C	1	A
34	Short Constructed Response	2.11.A	2	See Appendix 1.5
35	Multiple Choice	1.4.D	1	C
36	Multiple Choice	3.16.B	1	B

37	Multiple Choice	1.1.B	1	D
38	Hot Spot	3.17.A	2	See Appendix 1.6
39	Multiple Choice	4.13.B	1	B
40	Multiple Choice	1.6.C	1	D

# Practice Test – Grade 8 Social Studies

## Appendix

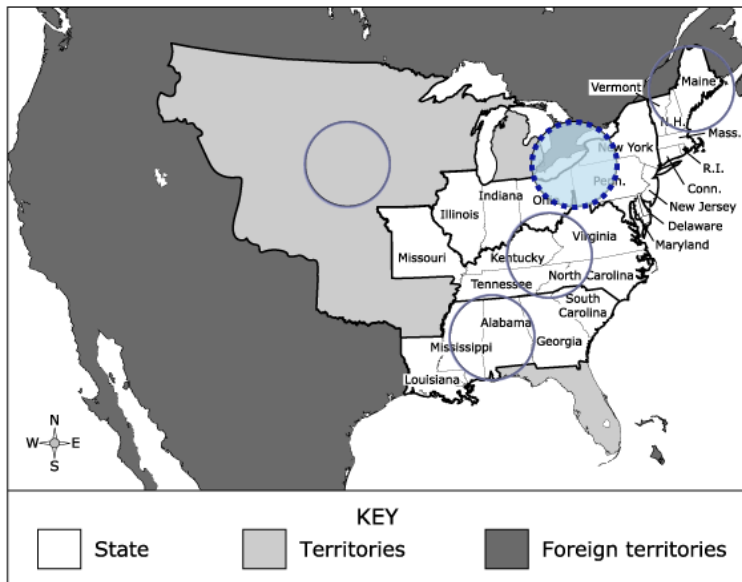
### 1.1

This map shows the U.S. states and territories in 1830.

Which region experienced the **MOST** immediate economic impacts as a result of construction of the Erie Canal?

Select the correct answer.

U.S. States and Territories, 1830



### 1.2

Which characteristics **MAINLY** describe either the era of European colonization or the era of westward expansion?

Move the answers to the correct boxes.

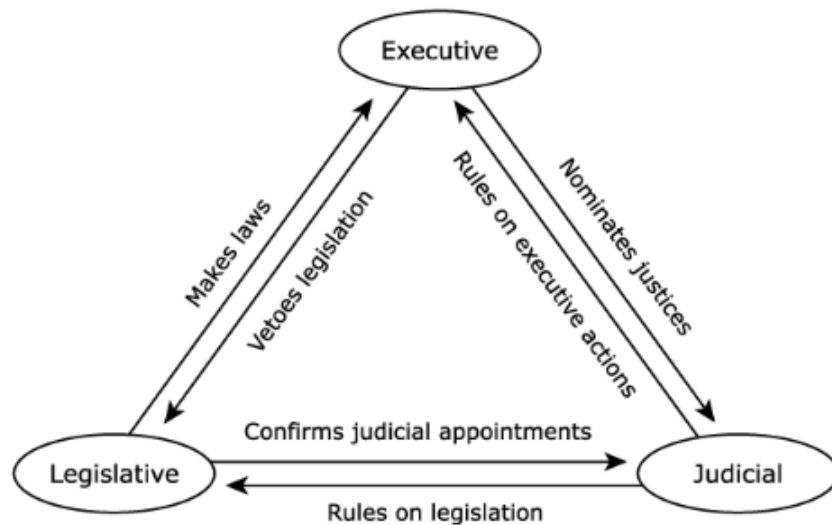
- Construction of the railroad connected different regions.
- Settlers migrated to seek religious freedom.
- Principles of self-governance were established.
- Settlers sought individual wealth through minerals or ranching.

#### Eras

European Colonization	Westward Expansion
Settlers migrated to seek religious freedom.	Construction of the railroad connected different regions.
Principles of self-governance were established.	Settlers sought individual wealth through minerals or ranching.

## 1.3

This diagram describes select actions of the U.S. government.



Which principle outlined in the U.S. Constitution is represented by this diagram **AND** what is its purpose?

Think about the question carefully. Then enter your answer in the box provided.

Score 2 points for correct answers that include identification of one of the two principles below **AND** an explanation for that principle's purpose:

- Identification of checks and balances as the principle being shown
- An explanation of the purpose of this principle:
  - Each branch watches over the others to prevent one branch from holding too much power.
  - Checks and balances restricts the overall power of government and prevents tyranny.
  - This creates a balance of power within the federal government.
- Identification of separation of powers as the principle being shown
- An explanation of the purpose of this principle:
  - This prevents any one branch from holding too much power.
  - This provides for checks and balances within government.

## 1.4

Which physical characteristic **BEST** describes each of the three regions in the table?

Move the correct answer to each box. Not all answers will be used.

Broad coastal plains

Deep harbors

Arctic climate

Grassy plains

### Select Physical Characteristics of Three U.S. Regions

<b>New England</b>	<b>South</b>	<b>West</b>
Deep harbors	Broad coastal plains	Grassy plains

## 1.5

The Mississippi River has played an important role in the development of the United States.

What are **TWO** ways that access to this waterway has supported economic activities in the United States?

Think about the question carefully. Then enter your answer in the box provided.

Score 2 points for correct answers that include two of the following:

- Provides water for farming
- Floodplain has excellent soil for agriculture
- Provides transportation to bring resources to market (barges, steamboats)
- Provides transportation to bring goods to consumers (barges, steamboats)
- Major port in New Orleans
- Helps with cultural diffusion throughout the country

## 1.6

Which arguments were made by Anti-Federalists during the debates over ratification of the U.S. Constitution?

Select **THREE** correct answers.

<p>A Bill of Rights is unnecessary. We could not possibly list all the rights people have.</p>	<p>A strong central government is needed to maintain order.</p>
<p>Power should remain with the states as in the Articles of Confederation.</p>	<p>States may have some powers, but the central government must be supreme.</p>
<p>Giving too much power to a central government will lead to tyranny.</p>	<p>A Bill of Rights is needed to protect people from the abuses of government.</p>