

## SAT US History Practice Paper 16

### The Closing of the Frontier, 1876–1900

1. Which of the following was NOT a major reason for the movement of large numbers of people from the east of the Mississippi River to the west of it during the second half of the 19th century?

- A. People were interested in the free land provided by the Homestead Act.
- B. The completion of the first transcontinental railroad made doing business out west economically feasible.
- C. People were trying to escape the air and water pollution common in the cities of the East.
- D. Soil was becoming depleted in the East.
- E. Strikes of gold and silver lured prospectors out west.

2. The Dawes Act

- A. forced Native Americans to be removed from their traditional homelands.
- B. allowed Native Americans to practice their traditional ways within the confines of their reservations.
- C. encouraged Native Americans to own individual plots of land, which they and their families would cultivate.
- D. allowed Native Americans to establish gambling casinos on their land.
- E. outlawed the ceremonial Ghost Dance.

3. The purpose of the Homestead Act was to

- A. attract people to settle in the West.
- B. promote the development of railroad building in the West.
- C. raise revenue for the federal government.
- D. preserve open lands in the West for future generations to enjoy.
- E. transfer large tracts of land to giant agricultural concerns.

4. "Exodusters" were

- A. Mormons who made the journey from the East to Utah.
- B. ministers who were part of the Second Great Awakening.
- C. Native Americans who were forced off their land by the Indian Removal Act.
- D. African Americans who fled the South in the post–Civil War period.

E. farmers who fled the "Dust Bowl" during the 1920s and 1930s.

## Industry, Big Business, and Labor Unions, 1865–1900

### 1. "Yellow-dog" contracts

- A. required African Americans to agree to work as sharecroppers.
- B. were the result of collective bargaining by unions and owners.
- C. were part of the strategy used by owners to prevent the establishment of unions.
- D. were welcomed by craft unions.
- E. were emblematic of Gilded Age corruption.

### 2. The Bessemer process created an inexpensive way to

- A. refine oil.
- B. assemble the parts of an automobile.
- C. create steel.
- D. harvest corn and wheat.
- E. generate electricity.

### 3. The Sherman Antitrust Act

- A. was used successfully to break up trusts.
- B. was welcomed by Andrew Carnegie.
- C. was consistent with the philosophy of social Darwinism.
- D. was used most effectively against striking unions.
- E. strengthened the Clayton Antitrust Act.

### 4. An important trend that characterized American society during the Gilded Age was

- A. harmony and peace at industrial sites.
- B. clean, efficient government.
- C. a decline of rail transportation and an increase in truck and automobile use.
- D. the continuation of rural traditions.
- E. a growing economy.

## Society and Culture in the Gilded Age, 1865–1900

1. Pick the choice that matches the author with the book he or she wrote.

X) Stephen Crane

Y) Willa Cather

Z) Henry James

1) My ántonia

2) The House of Mirth

3) The Bostonians

4) The Red Badge of Courage

Answer choices:

A. X-4; Y-2; Z-1

B. X-2; Y-1; Z-3

C. X-4; Y-1; Z-3

D. X-3; Y-2; Z-4

E. X-2; Y-1; Z-4

2. The "new immigrants" of the late 19th and early 20th century were primarily

A. Anglo-Saxons.

B. Irish refugees from the potato blight.

C. from within the Western hemisphere.

D. Eastern and Southern Europeans.

E. exiles leaving the United States.

3. Pick the answer that matches the person with the idea or movement he or she is associated with.

X) Charles Graham Sumner

Y) Jane Addams

Z) Andrew Carnegie

1) the gospel of wealth

2) social Darwinism

3) pragmatism

4) the settlement house movement

Answer choices:

- A. X-1; Y-2; Z-3
- B. X-2; Y-3; Z-4
- C. X-2; Y-4; Z-1
- D. X-3; Y-4; Z-1
- E. X-3; Y-1; Z-2

**4. Urban political machines during the Gilded Age**

- A. were scorned by immigrant groups, who were cheated by graft and corruption.
- B. were usually associated with the Republican Party.
- C. often formed alliances with the Women's Christian Temperance Union.
- D. often provided a social safety net in an age when welfare did not yet exist.
- E. were eliminated by the Pendleton Act.

## Politics of the Gilded Age, 1877–1900

**1. The term spoilsmen is most appropriately applied to**

- A. politicians who supported civil service reform.
- B. miners who destroyed important natural areas.
- C. generals who profited off of America's victory in the Spanish-American War.
- D. urban "bosses" who received kickbacks from contracts between the government and private firms.
- E. party loyalists who expected jobs in exchange for their political work.

**2. Coxey's Army was**

- A. a disgruntled band of poor farmers and indentured servants in colonial Virginia.
- B. a group of farmers who protested the excise tax on whiskey during Washington's administration.
- C. an African American regiment that fought in the Civil War.
- D. an agrarian protest movement against the government's inaction in the wake of the Panic of 1893.
- E. World War I veterans who marched to Washington, D.C., during the Depression to demand their bonus payments.

**3. A major source of farmers' problems in the late 19th century was**

- A. the inability to attain new, mechanized farm equipment.

- B. a declining urban market for their goods.
  - C. inflation due to an increase in the money supply.
  - D. the unwillingness of the next generation to stay in farming.
  - E. overproduction and lowered prices on their crops.
4. Granger laws, passed in several states in the 1870s and 1880s,
- A. outlawed the sale and consumption of alcohol on a county-by-county basis.
  - B. increased the supply of money.
  - C. established homesteading on the Great Plains.
  - D. regulated the rates railroads could charge farmers.
  - E. reformed electoral practices.