

Practice Test – Grade 8 Social Studies Answer Key

Item Position	Item Type	TEKS Alignment	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)
1	Multiple Choice	8.3.18.A	1	B
2	Multiple Choice	8.2.25.C	1	D
3	Multiple Choice	8.3.19.A	1	D
4	Grid Hotspot	8.2.10.A	1	See Appendix 1.1
5	Multiple Choice	8.4.14.B	1	A
6	Multiple Choice	8.3.22.B	1	C
7	Multiple Choice	8.1.5.D	1	C
8	Evidence Based Selected Response	8.4.28.A	2	B, D
9	Multiple Choice	8.2.23.C	1	D
10	Multiple Choice	8.4.12.B	1	B
11	Hot Text Gap Match	8.1.1.A	2	See Appendix 1.2
12	Multiple Choice	8.2.26.B	1	C
13	Multiple Select	8.1.7.D	2	A, D See Appendix 1.3
14	Multiple Choice	8.3.15.C	1	C
15	Multiple Choice	8.1.5.B	1	B
16	Multiple Choice	8.1.6.A	1	A
17	Text Entry Simple	8.3.15.D	2	See Appendix 1.4
18	Multiple Choice	8.1.5.A	1	B
19	Multiple Choice	8.4.12.C	1	C
20	Multiple Choice	8.2.24.B	1	B
21	Multiple Choice	8.4.27.A	1	A
22	Multiple Choice	8.1.2.B	1	D
23	Multiple Choice	8.1.3.A	1	A
24	Multiple Choice	8.3.19.B	1	C
25	Hot Text Gap Match	8.2.10.B	2	See Appendix 1.5
26	Multiple Choice	8.2.24.A	1	A
27	Multiple Choice	8.2.23.D	1	D
28	Evidence Based Selected Response	8.1.9.C	2	A, D
29	Multiple Choice	8.1.5.C	1	C
30	Multiple Choice	8.1.8.B	1	A
31	Multiple Choice	8.1.4.A	1	B
32	Edit Task Inline Choice	8.1.3.C	2	freedom of worship, accepting of See Appendix 1.6
33	Multiple Choice	8.3.21.C	1	A

Item Position	Item Type	TEKS Alignment	Maximum Number of Points	Correct Answer(s)
34	Text Entry Simple	8.2.11.A	2	See Appendix 1.7
35	Multiple Choice	8.1.4.D	1	C
36	Multiple Choice	8.3.16.B	1	B
37	Multiple Choice	8.1.1.B	1	D
38	Grid Hotspot	8.3.17.A	2	See Appendix 1.8
39	Multiple Choice	8.4.13.B	1	B
40	Multiple Choice	8.1.6.C	1	D

Practice Test – Grade 8 Social Studies

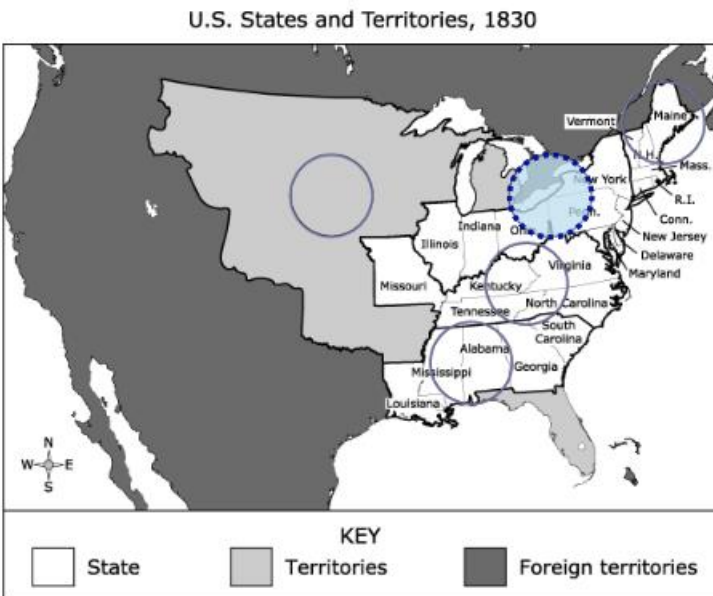
Appendix

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.



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.

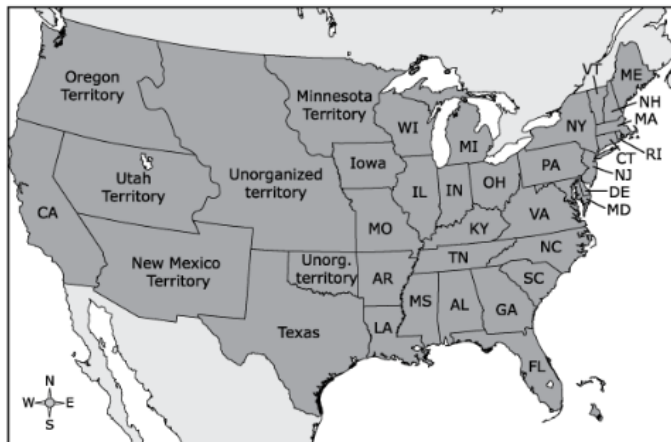
Eras

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 map shows the United States following the Compromise of 1850.

U.S. States and Territories, 1850



Based on the map and your knowledge of U.S. history, which outcomes resulted from this compromise?

Select **TWO** correct answers.

California was admitted into the union as a free state.

A parallel was designated as the boundary between free and slave states.

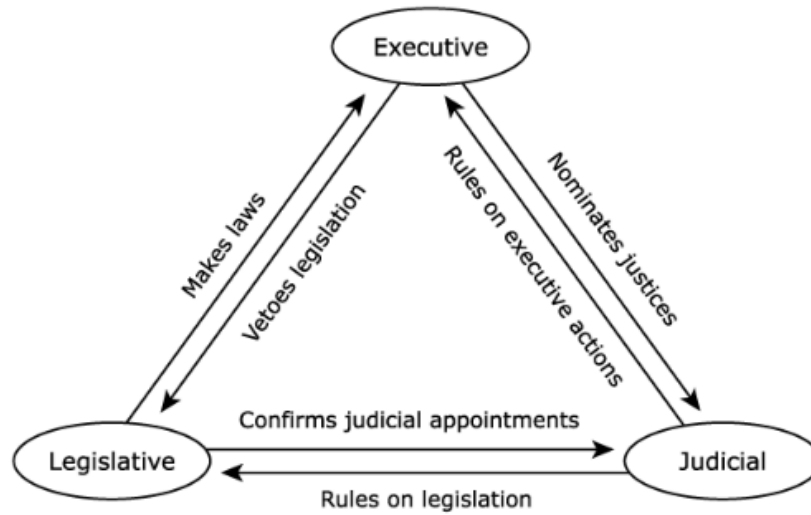
Southern state legislators failed to get a new fugitive-slave law passed.

New territories were given the power to decide the issue of slavery.

The Florida territory was purchased from Spain and admitted as a free state.

1.4

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.

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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.

1.5

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

New England	South	West
Deep harbors	Broad coastal plains	Grassy plains

1.6

This excerpt describes the Quaker leader William Penn in 1681.

Seeing limited prospects for religious toleration or political reform at home in England, Penn directed his energies toward America. Having recently helped to fund the Quaker colonization effort of West New Jersey, in 1681 Penn obtained a large grant of land from King Charles II in payment of a debt owed his father. This land grant would become Pennsylvania.

—“William Penn and His Holy Experiment,” Library of Congress

Choose the correct answer from each drop-down menu to complete the sentences.

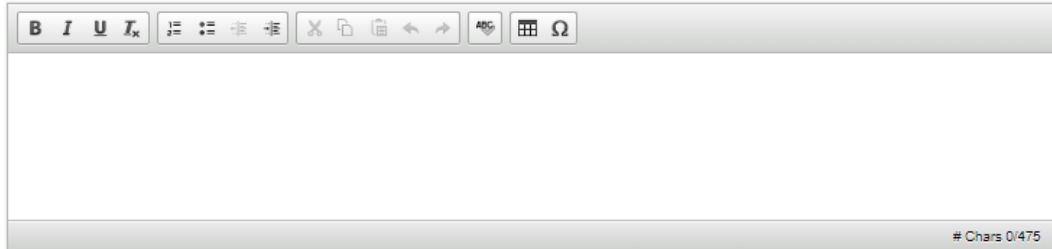
William Penn founded the colony of Pennsylvania based on the idea of . As a result, Penn’s colony was more other religions, as well as women and American Indians.

1.7

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

1.8

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

Select **THREE** correct answers.

