

US II Benchmark I

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. “I have always been fond of the . . . proverb: ‘Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far.’”

— Theodore Roosevelt

This philosophy was used by President Roosevelt primarily to

- A. deal with problems of racial segregation
- B. conduct his foreign policy
- C. expand the western frontier
- D. win the Spanish-American War

2. Which statement best describes American immigration patterns from 1880 to 1920?

- A. Increasing proportions of immigrants came from western and northern Europe.
- B. American industries recruited skilled immigrants from industrialized European cities.
- C. Decreasing European immigration caused the United States to relax restrictions on immigrants.
- D. Relatively poor, rural Europeans immigrated to industrial cities of the United States.

3. “The public mood zigzagged from one extreme to the other: first hysteria over radicalism, then complacency over good times, and finally gloom when economic catastrophe occurred.”

Which decade is being described?

- A. 1860’s
- B. 1890’s
- C. 1920’s
- D. 1930’s

4. Europeans who came to the United States between 1880 and 1920 have been described as new immigrants mainly because they

- A. were considered physically and mentally superior to earlier immigrants
- B. arrived before the closing of the frontier and settled farms in the West
- C. came generally from different countries than most earlier immigrants
- D. came chiefly from northern and western Europe

5. Prior to the United States entry into both World War I and World War II, United States foreign policy changed from isolationism to involvement mainly because

- A. the United States felt obligated to honor its commitments to its allies
- B. United States interests were threatened
- C. the public has elected Presidents who supported expansionism
- D. American manufacturers lobbied for sales to belligerents

6. Which change in the buying habits of American consumers occurred during the 1920's?

- A. The number of credit purchases increased.
- B. Locally made products were preferred over national brands.
- C. Preferences for imported goods greatly increased.
- D. Homemade products experienced a revival in popularity.

7. Which aspect of life during the 1920's most likely caused the decade to be labeled the "Roaring Twenties"?

- A. technological improvement
- B. social change
- C. political reform
- D. territorial expansion

8. "I took the Canal and let Congress debate."

— Theodore Roosevelt

This quotation best demonstrates

- A. an effort by a President to maintain a policy of isolationism
- B. a decline in the use of militarism as a defense policy
- C. an increased reliance on the legislative process
- D. a Presidential action that achieved a foreign policy objective

9. A major difference between the philosophy of President Herbert Hoover and that of President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning solutions to the depression was that President Hoover believed in

- A. strictly regulating stock market operations
- B. encouraging local charities to be the major providers of money, food, and clothing for the unemployed
- C. greatly increasing the power of the executive branch to speed up economic recovery
- D. raising taxes to encourage economic growth

10. The Tennessee trial of John T. Scopes in 1925 illustrated a conflict concerning

- A. free competition in the marketplace
- B. due process of law
- C. freedom of the press
- D. religious beliefs and scientific theories

11. The muckrakers provided a service to the public in the early 20th century by

- A. advocating a strong military
- B. exposing abuses in business and government
- C. calling for a stronger use of executive power to strengthen civil rights laws
- D. arousing states to resist Federal authority

12. President Franklin D. Roosevelt hoped his plan to “pack” the Supreme Court would

- A. prevent New Deal legislation from being declared unconstitutional
- B. weaken the Fair Labor Standards Act
- C. discourage legal challenge to his foreign policy proposals
- D. end the debate on the limits of Presidential power

13. Antitrust laws attempted to protect the public against the activities of big business by

- A. maintaining competition
- B. encouraging government ownership of business
- C. establishing government regulation of wages and hours
- D. confining business activities to a single state

14. An important factor contributing to the start of the Great Depression in the United States was the

- A. increase in military spending
- B. failure to maintain the gold standard
- C. reduction of tariff rates
- D. uneven distribution of wealth

15. The “flappers” of the 1920’s gained public attention mainly because they

- A. often refused to confirm society’s expectations
- B. fought for the right of women to vote
- C. fled the United States to live in Europe
- D. worked for equal status in employment

16. The women's rights movement in the early 20th century focused its efforts primarily on securing
- A. a cabinet position for a woman
 - B. reform of prisons
 - C. civil rights for all minorities
 - D. suffrage for women
17. A primary aim of the United States Open Door Policy was to
- A. encourage the Chinese to emigrate to other nations
 - B. prevent European powers from dividing up China
 - C. develop China's industrial capacity
 - D. introduce democratic government into China
18. The Harlem Renaissance can best be described as a
- A. renewal of religious fundamentalism
 - B. revival of Dutch culture in New York City
 - C. new era in Broadway musicals
 - D. black expression of racial heritage

19. Which was a major obstacle to the formation of labor unions in the United States during the period 1860–1900?
- A. prohibition of labor organizations by the Constitution
 - B. general government support of management
 - C. excellent working conditions in United States factories of the time
 - D. status of factory workers as equal partners with management
20. A belief shared by President Theodore Roosevelt, William Taft, and Woodrow Wilson is that the Federal Government should
- A. allow the free-enterprise system to work without regulation
 - B. use its power to regulate unfair business practices
 - C. provide jobs for unemployed workers
 - D. support unions in labor-management disputes
21. A writer who published articles revealing political corruption might be called a modern-day
- A. nativist
 - B. muckraker
 - C. philanthropist
 - D. abolitionist

22. During the period from 1880 to 1920, the majority of immigrants to the United States settled in urban areas in the North mainly because

- A. the Populist Party was successful in preventing immigrants from buying farmland
- B. rapid industrialization had created many job opportunities
- C. labor unions gave financial help to immigrants willing to work in the factories
- D. most immigrants have lived in cities in their native countries

23. What was the main reason the United States did not limit immigration during most of the 19th century?

- A. Political parties wanted to gain new voters.
- B. Most immigrants arrived with large amounts of capital to invest in American industries.
- C. The expanding economy needed a supply of cheap labor.
- D. Immigrants were more willing to serve in the military than native-born Americans.

24. An accurate statement about the Great Depression of the 1930's is that

- A. agriculture was the only sector of the economy to escape the effects of the Depression
- B. the trade barriers erected by major nations helped to keep the Depression confined to the United States
- C. a variety of factors combined to bring about the economic collapse
- D. a massive response by the Federal Government under the Hoover administration failed to bring about recovery

25. In the 19th century, industrialization in the United States became concentrated in the Northeast primarily because

- A. this region had the greatest supply of capital and labor
- B. the climate in the South was not conducive to industrial development
- C. other regions of the country lacked good water transportation
- D. the West and South had few natural resources

26. The main reason President Theodore Roosevelt supported a Panamanian rebellion against Colombia in 1903 was to

- A. increase the number of democratic nations in Latin America
- B. gain the right to complete a canal linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans
- C. reduce European colonialism in the Western Hemisphere
- D. prevent a foreign power from seizing land in Central America

27. The strongest opposition to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs came from

- A. western farmers B. business leaders
- C. factory workers D. recent immigrants

28. In a United States history textbook, one chapter discusses the *Maine*, yellow journalism, Admiral Dewey, and Cuba. This chapter most likely concerns

- A. Manifest Destiny
- B. the Spanish-American War
- C. World War I
- D. the Good Neighbor policy

29. In the United States, a major cause of the Great Depression was

- A. excessive government spending on the military
- B. the rapid increase in consumer demand and purchasing power
- C. the large deficits resulting from World War I
- D. increased government spending on social welfare programs

30. The "dust bowls" described by John Steinbeck in *The Grapes of Wrath* had the greatest impact on

- A. residents of urban slums
- B. workers in factory sweatshops
- C. plantation owners in the rural south
- D. farmers on the Great Plains

31. **“Public Ignores Prohibition Restrictions”
“Evolution and Creation Debated in Scopes Trial”
“Women Bring Change to the Industrial Workforce”**

What do headlines such as these from the 1920s illustrate?

- A. conflict between traditional and modern values
- B. trend toward mass consumption of consumer goods
- C. hostility of certain groups toward ethnic minorities
- D. debate over the role of government in the economy

32. From 1865 to 1900, how did the growth of industry affect American society?

- A. The United States experienced the disappearance of the traditional “family farm.”
- B. Population centers shifted from the Northeast to the South.
- C. Restrictions on immigration created a more homogeneous culture.
- D. The percentage of Americans living in urban areas increased.

33. President Theodore Roosevelt’s policy regarding big business was to

- A. replace private ownership with public ownership
- B. encourage a laissez-faire attitude toward business
- C. support the deregulation of business
- D. distinguish between “good” and “bad” trusts

34. Participants in the Harlem Renaissance encouraged black Americans to

- A. demand political supremacy
- B. take pride in their culture
- C. take violent action against the government
- D. leave the South and come to the North

35. During the Great Depression, expressions such as *Hoovervilles* and *Hoover blankets* showed that President Hoover

- A. was seen as a role model
- B. used the military to aid the unemployed
- C. was blamed for the suffering of the poor
- D. supported relief and public housing for the needy

36. A major weakness in the prosperity of the 1920's was that it was
- A. confined to the industrial states of the Northeast
 - B. accompanied by runaway inflation
 - C. based on large Federal expenditures
 - D. unevenly distributed through the population
37. Which statement best describes the role of railroads in the industrialization of the United States?
- A. They were the earliest form of commercial transportation.
 - B. They are more important to industry today than they were 100 years ago.
 - C. They provided an efficient means of transportation during the Age of Big Business.
 - D. They were unable to compete in areas that had good water transportation.
38. The Chinese Exclusion Act (1882) and the Gentlemen's Agreement (1907) were early actions of the Federal Government that led to
- A. the development of democracy in Asia
 - B. moderate reductions in the number of imported goods
 - C. severe limits on immigration
 - D. the establishment of naval bases in the Pacific Ocean area
39. Which statement describes a result of the Industrial Revolution in the United States?
- A. Farm production decreased.
 - B. Slavery in the South increased.
 - C. The population of the cities decreased.
 - D. Immigration to the United States increased.
40. In the late 19th century, anti-immigration feelings developed in the United States primarily because
- A. immigrants were seeking elective office in the National Government
 - B. immigrants competed with native-born Americans for jobs
 - C. the Government's social welfare programs for immigrants were becoming too expensive
 - D. most immigrants were richer and better educated than the native-born citizens
41. Latin American relations with the United States have often been strained as a result of the United States
- A. policy of neutrality in Latin American affairs
 - B. failure to implement the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine
 - C. interference on behalf of European colonial powers
 - D. intervention in the internal affairs of Latin American countries

42. The Sherman Antitrust Act and the Clayton Antitrust Act were both designed to
- A. establish safe working conditions in factories
 - B. promote fair competition in business
 - C. force industry to use natural resources wisely
 - D. decrease Federal income taxes on corporations

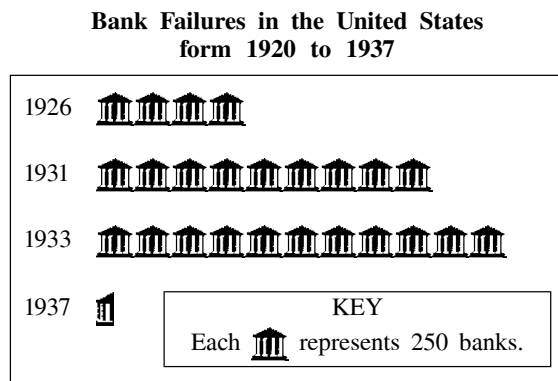
43. In 1933, President D. Roosevelt announced the Good Neighbor policy primarily to
- A. increase immigration from Latin America
 - B. grant diplomatic recognition to the Soviet Union
 - C. promote free trade with the nations of Europe
 - D. improve relations with Latin American nations

44. Which event of the early 1900's is evidence that Upton Sinclair's novel *The Jungle* had an important impact on the United States?
- A. adoption of reforms in public education
 - B. passage of legislation limiting immigration
 - C. adoption of the 18th amendment establishing Prohibition
 - D. passage of legislation requiring Federal inspection of meat

45. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's controversy with the Supreme Court was a result of
- A. the requirement that all judges must retire at age 70
 - B. his belief that the Court was too liberal in its interpretations
 - C. the Court's unwillingness to accept difficult cases
 - D. the Court's opposition to several New Deal laws

46. *How the Other Half Lives* by Jacob Riis and *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck were written mainly to
- A. expose the desperate lives of poor people
 - B. encourage Federal legislation to protect consumers
 - C. increase awareness about the deteriorating environment
 - D. describe the social problems caused by alcoholism

47. Base your answer to the following question on the accompanying graph and on your knowledge of social studies.



Visualized American Government, 1957

The major reason for the change in the number of bank failures between the early 1930's and 1937 is that by 1937

- A. new banking laws had restored public confidence in the nation's banks
 - B. most people were too poor to have any savings
 - C. the government had purchased and was now operating the nation's banks
 - D. most Americans had transferred their savings to European banks
48. The Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine assumed the right of the United States to
- A. intervene in the internal affairs of a country in the exercise of international police power
 - B. grant special privileges to big business in its economic transactions in Latin America
 - C. grant financial aid to less developed countries
 - D. disregard any or all parts of the Monroe Doctrine

49. The American Federation of Labor became the first long-lasting, successful labor union in the United States mainly because it

- A. refused to participate in strikes against employers
- B. concentrated on organizing workers in industries in the South
- C. formed its own political party and elected many prolabor public officials
- D. fought for the rights of skilled workers

50. Collective bargaining, mediation, and arbitration are best describes as

- A. methods used to resolve labor-management disputes
- B. means the government uses to enforce safety standards in factories
- C. efforts by lobbyists to bring about passage of consumer-protection laws
- D. weapons used mainly by employers in labor disputes

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1.		21.	
Answer:	B	Answer:	B
2.		22.	
Answer:	D	Answer:	B
3.		23.	
Answer:	C	Answer:	C
4.		24.	
Answer:	C	Answer:	C
5.		25.	
Answer:	B	Answer:	A
6.		26.	
Answer:	A	Answer:	B
7.		27.	
Answer:	B	Answer:	B
8.		28.	
Answer:	D	Answer:	B
9.		29.	
Answer:	B	Answer:	B
10.		30.	
Answer:	D	Answer:	D
11.		31.	
Answer:	B	Answer:	A
12.		32.	
Answer:	A	Answer:	D
13.		33.	
Answer:	A	Answer:	D
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Answer:	D	Answer:	B
15.		35.	
Answer:	A	Answer:	C
16.		36.	
Answer:	D	Answer:	D
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Answer:	B	Answer:	C
18.		38.	
Answer:	D	Answer:	C
19.		39.	
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Answer: D
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Answer: A