

**GRADE 8**  
**Social Studies**

**Administered May 2016**

**RELEASED**

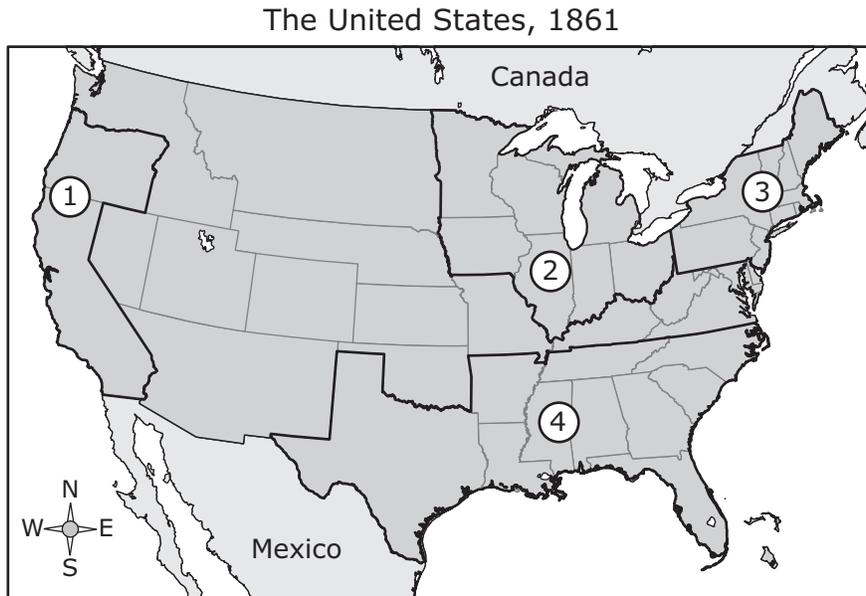


# SOCIAL STUDIES

## DIRECTIONS

Read each question carefully. Determine the best answer to the question from the four answer choices provided. Then fill in the answer on your answer document.

1



Which region's primary economic activity in 1861 was the cultivation of cotton?

- A 1
- B 2
- C 3
- D 4

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2 Which of these occurred as a result of the Fifteenth Amendment?

- F African American families divided by slavery were reunited.
- G Newly free men and women moved west to claim land.
- H African American men voted in the 1872 presidential election.
- J Newly free men and women were allowed to apply for U.S. citizenship.

3

I was the conductor of the Underground Railroad for eight years, and I can say what most conductors can't say—I never ran my train off the track and I never lost a passenger.

—1904

Who made this statement?

- A Harriet Beecher Stowe
- B Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- C Harriet Tubman
- D Phillis Wheatley

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4 During the Constitutional Convention of 1787, George Mason argued —

- F against increased power for the national government
- G for the dissolution of state governments
- H against the passage of a bill of rights
- J for the creation of a strong executive branch

5

Characteristics of California and Florida

- Good climates for agriculture
- Long coastlines with natural harbors and bays
- Originally inhabited by American Indians

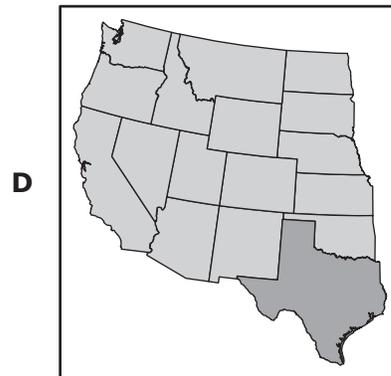
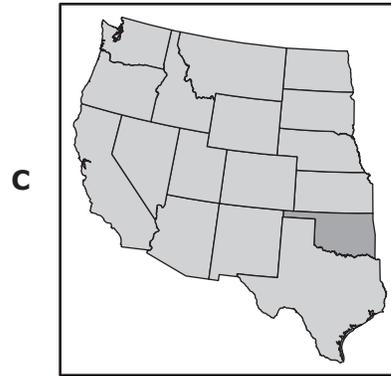
Which of these characteristics also describes these two states?

- A** Founded as work colonies for debtors
  - B** Former slave states
  - C** Were havens for religious dissenters
  - D** Former Spanish colonies
- 

6 What was one result of the Treaty of Paris of 1783?

- F** Great Britain recognized the United States as an independent country.
- G** Competing Seminole and Spanish claims in West Florida were resolved.
- H** The British navy agreed to stop pressing American sailors into service.
- J** British territory in eastern Canada was ceded to France.

7 Which shaded state was the main destination of American Indians forced to relocate as part of the Trail of Tears?



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8 Which of the following was an argument made against slavery in the Thirteen Colonies?

- F** Manufacturers argued that slavery discouraged the development of industry.
- G** Farmers argued that using slave labor was expensive and inefficient.
- H** Quakers argued that slavery violated Christian principles.
- J** Puritans argued that the slave trade encouraged materialism.

- 9 How did the War of 1812 most affect the U.S. economy?
- A Disruption in trade contributed to domestic industrial growth.
  - B Small farmers benefited from higher export prices for grain crops.
  - C The sale of treasury bonds to international companies was prohibited.
  - D New trade alliances resulted in increased foreign investment.

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10

The Cotton Gin



How did this invention contribute to the expansion of the plantation system?

- F By reducing the number of slaves needed for growing cotton
- G By increasing the time needed to cultivate cotton
- H By increasing the profitability of slavery
- J By reducing the demand for raw cotton

**11** Which of these occurred during early U.S. industrialization?

- A** Manufacturers instituted a five-day workweek.
  - B** Labor laws required factories to provide a safe working environment.
  - C** Workers were required to attend schools to develop technical skills.
  - D** Production of goods transitioned from homes to factories.
- 

**12** What was one reason James K. Polk won the presidential election of 1844?

- F** He was against removing American Indians from their native lands.
  - G** He favored the policy of popular sovereignty in the Kansas and Nebraska territories.
  - H** He was committed to fulfilling the goals of Manifest Destiny.
  - J** He opposed the extension of slavery west of the Mississippi River.
- 

**13**

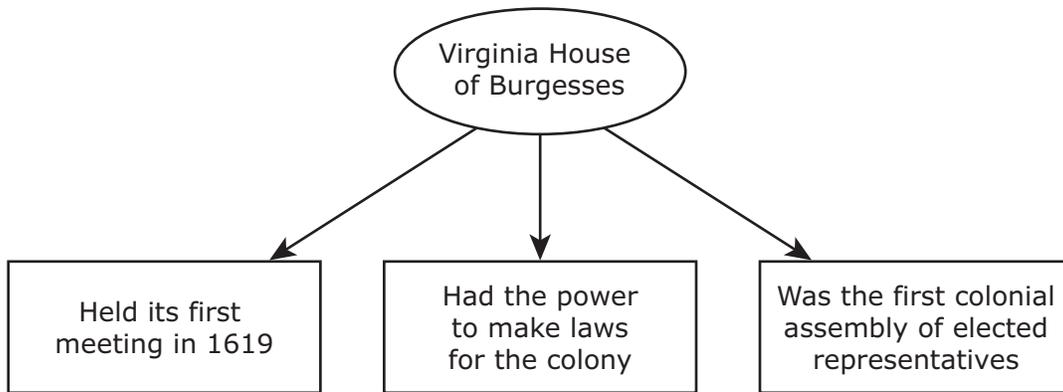
- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Daughters of Temperance</li><li>• Women's Christian Temperance Union</li></ul> |
|--|

How did the growth of these organizations most affect the role of women in U.S. society?

- A** By providing economic opportunities for women in urban areas
- B** By expanding the participation of women in social reform
- C** By increasing the number of women teachers in rural areas
- D** By securing the establishment of private universities for women

- 14** Which of these correctly describes an effect of the Compromise of 1850 on escaped slaves and freedmen?
- F** Members of both groups were captured under the Fugitive Slave Law.
  - G** Unlike freedmen, escaped slaves were welcome in the gold mines of California.
  - H** Members of both groups could be sold in Washington, D.C., slave markets.
  - J** Unlike escaped slaves, freedmen could vote in the territories of the Mexican Cession.
- 

**15**

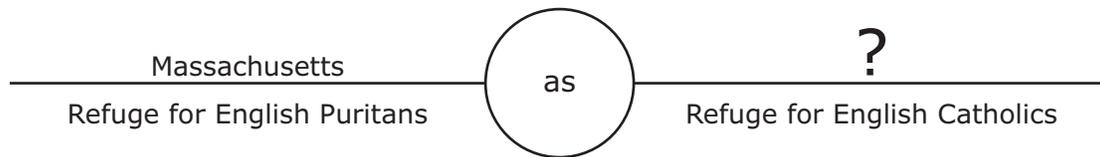


Which statement explains the significance of this colonial institution?

- A** The assembly served as a model for other colonial legislatures.
- B** Colonists used the assembly to overrule decisions of the royal governor.
- C** The assembly sent delegates to Parliament to represent Virginia.
- D** The king revoked Virginia's charter because the assembly became too powerful.

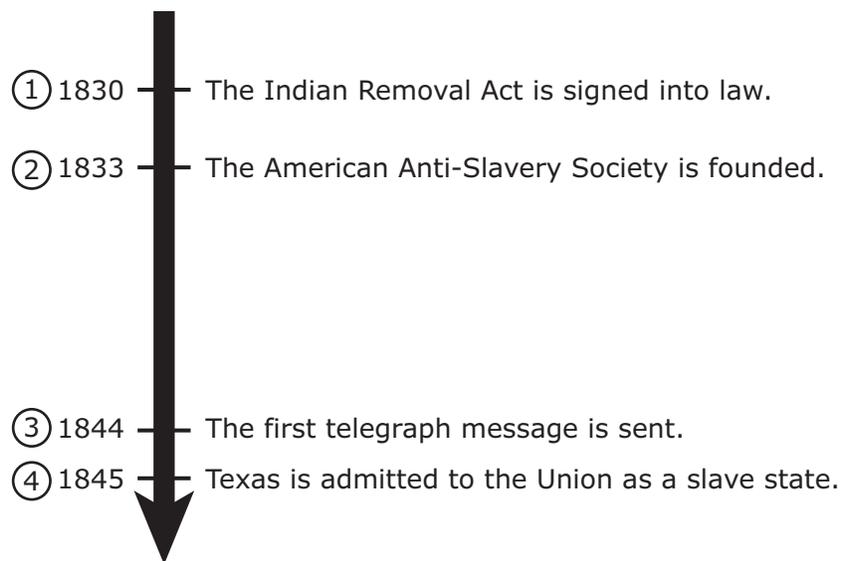
- 16** The Northwest Ordinance established guidelines for the orderly expansion of the United States by instituting a —
- F** method to purchase territory from foreign powers
  - G** procedure for military takeovers of existing countries
  - H** process through which states could be added to the Union
  - J** compromise line that prohibited slavery in the West
- 

**17**



Which colony correctly completes this diagram?

- A** Maryland
- B** Virginia
- C** South Carolina
- D** Georgia



Which event on the time line contributed most directly to the outbreak of the U.S.-Mexican War?

**F** 1

**G** 2

**H** 3

**J** 4

**19** This information was included in a slide-show presentation to a high school history class.

Strengths

- Ability to declare war
- Ability to make treaties
- Authority to operate post offices

Which document was the focus of this presentation?

- A** The Mayflower Compact
  - B** The Articles of Confederation
  - C** The Virginia Declaration of Rights
  - D** The Declaration of Independence
- 

**20** After the Civil War, southern states adopted Black Codes to —

- F** punish plantation owners for the use of slavery
  - G** support Radical Reconstruction objectives in the South
  - H** promote the activities of the Freedmen’s Bureau
  - J** limit the impact of the Thirteenth Amendment
- 

**21** How did the loss of its control of the Mississippi River contribute to the defeat of the Confederacy?

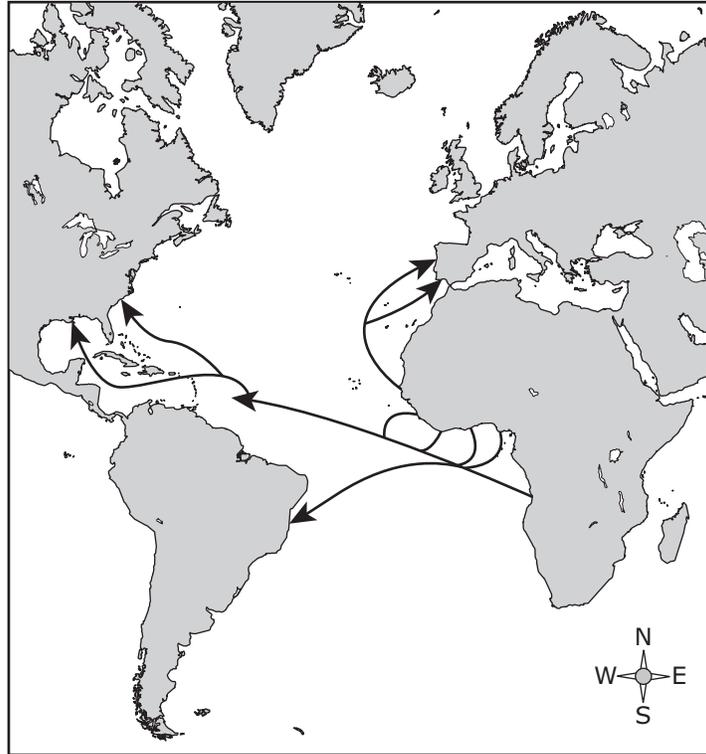
- A** The river had provided direct access to the Union’s base of military operations.
- B** Losing control of the river removed the physical barrier between slave and free states.
- C** The river had provided the Confederacy with a power source for factories and mills.
- D** Losing control of the river divided the Confederacy in two and cut off its supplies.

- Unreasonable searches and seizures are illegal.
- Search warrants may not be issued without probable cause.
- The place to be searched and the people or items to be seized must be described in a warrant.

Which amendment provides for the protections described in this list?

- F** First Amendment
- G** Fourth Amendment
- H** Fifth Amendment
- J** Tenth Amendment

## Transatlantic Slave Trade



Which of the following was a major reason for the flow of the transatlantic slave trade shown on the map?

- A** The economic demands of the plantation system
- B** The construction needs of the railroad
- C** Increased textile manufacturing
- D** Increased western migration

**24** Which excerpt from the U.S. Constitution best illustrates the principle of popular sovereignty?

- F** "Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members. . . ."
- G** "The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States. . . ."
- H** "The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore. . . ."
- J** "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof."

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**25**

No free man shall be seized or imprisoned, or stripped of his rights or possessions, or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any other way, nor will we proceed with force against him, or send others to do so, except by the lawful judgement of his equals or by the law of the land.

—*Magna Carta, 1215*

Which political idea was influenced by this provision of the Magna Carta?

- A** Federalism
- B** Due process
- C** A bicameral legislature
- D** The social contract



**29** During the 1830s public servants and officials were widely perceived to be unqualified. What practice reinforced that perception?

- A** The public voting for candidates based on religious affiliations
  - B** The president rewarding political supporters with appointments to desirable positions
  - C** The federal government recruiting volunteers to serve abroad as ambassadors
  - D** Legislators awarding government contracts to the lowest bidders
- 

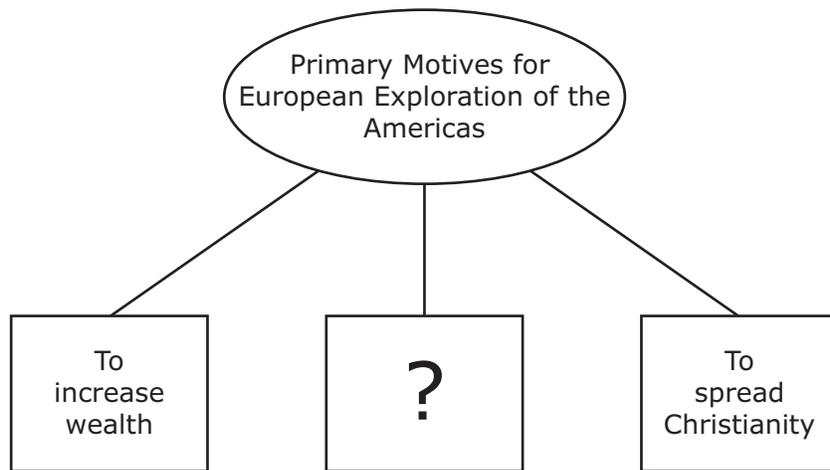
**30**

That all Men are . . . equally free & independent, & have certain . . . Rights, of which they can not by any Compact, deprive or divest [remove] their Posterity [future generations]; among which are the Enjoyment of Life and Liberty, with the Means of acquiring and possessing Property, and pursuing and obtaining Happiness and Safety.

—*Virginia Declaration of Rights, 1776*

In this excerpt, the authors of the Virginia Declaration of Rights are describing rights they consider —

- F** granted to citizens by their government
- G** natural and possessed at birth
- H** protected under religious doctrine
- J** defined by the courts



Which motive best completes the diagram?

- A To promote free enterprise
- B To extend democracy
- C To expand empires
- D To found utopian communities

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**32** The Twelfth Amendment established a new process for choosing a president and a vice president. The purpose of this amendment was to —

- F prevent the concentration of power in the executive branch
- G ease the eligibility requirements for holding federal office
- H keep state officials from exerting undue influence on presidential elections
- J reduce the likelihood of disputed outcomes in presidential elections

## Industries of the New England Colonies

- Shipbuilding
- Fishing
- Fur trapping and trading
- Lumber milling

Which physical characteristics made these economic activities possible?

- A** Tall mountains, a long shoreline, and fertile soil
  - B** A temperate climate, vast grasslands, and plentiful lakes
  - C** Dense forests, natural harbors, and swift rivers
  - D** Natural harbors, an arid climate, and rocky soil
- 

**34** One effect of the Dawes Act was that it —

- F** caused many American Indian tribes to create written constitutions
- G** provided education to American Indians through locally run schools
- H** limited the voting rights of American Indians
- J** harmed the communal structure of American Indian society

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved for the states respectively, or to the people.

—*Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution*

Conflicting interpretations of this amendment played a major role in the —

- A Bank War
- B Nullification Crisis
- C Corrupt Bargain
- D XYZ Affair

- Worked in California goldfields
- Helped build the western section of the Transcontinental Railroad
- Established distinct communities in California cities
- Faced intense nativism

This list describes the nineteenth-century experiences of immigrants from —

- F Italy
- G China
- H Germany
- J Japan

- 37** The first political parties in the United States formed mainly in response to disagreements over —
- A** taxation without representation
  - B** the doctrine of judicial review
  - C** territorial expansion to the west
  - D** the extent of federal power
- 

- 38** A historian is writing an article for a history website. The article is divided into the following topics:

- The division of the South into military districts
- The impeachment of the president
- The ratification of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments

Which era in U.S. history is the focus of this article?

- F** The Jacksonian era
- G** The antebellum era
- H** The Federalist era
- J** The Reconstruction era

## Regional Economic Activity in the United States in the Early 1800s

The Northeast	The Midwest	The South
Produced manufactured goods	Supplied food resources	Provided raw materials

What was one result of these regional differences?

- A** Cities in the South emerged as centers for textile mills.
  - B** Immigrants settled in the Midwest to establish small farms.
  - C** Slavery increased in the Northeast as industrialization expanded.
  - D** Plantation systems in the South were replaced by large businesses.
- 

- 40** The Hudson River School artists were influenced by the —
- F** success of social reform movements in the United States
  - G** migration of settlers to the U.S. frontier
  - H** natural landscape of the United States
  - J** environmental effects of U.S. industrialization

41

Speaker 1: A strong central government will provide order and stability.  
Speaker 2: We have just left the control of one tyrant; let us avoid an American tyrant.  
Speaker 3: The strength of our union lies in the independence of our states.  
Speaker 4: We were led into a war by a minority who desired independence.

Which speaker is in favor of ratifying the Constitution?

- A Speaker 1
  - B Speaker 2
  - C Speaker 3
  - D Speaker 4
- 

42

- Blasting tunnels through mountains
- Building bridges across rivers
- Leveling hills and filling in hollows

These environmental modifications were made in order to construct —

- F permanent housing for immigrants in urban areas
- G canals that linked the Midwest to the Northeast
- H a transcontinental railroad
- J a harbor on the Mississippi River

- 43** What was a major result of the Missouri Compromise?
- A** It increased the number of immigrants settling in northern states.
  - B** It provided financing for canal construction.
  - C** It rapidly expanded railroad construction in southern states.
  - D** It temporarily relieved sectional tensions.
- 

**44**

'Tis our true policy to steer clear of \_\_\_\_\_ with any portion of the foreign World—So far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it. . . . But in my opinion, it is unnecessary and would be unwise to extend them.

—President George Washington's Farewell Address, 1796

Which phrase completes this excerpt?

- F** colonial Settlements
- G** protective Tariffs
- H** permanent Alliances
- J** territorial Disputes

45 Which of these is a guarantee in the First Amendment?

- A States have the power to regulate public education.
- B People can choose whether and how to participate in religious services.
- C Persons accused of a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty.
- D Citizens have the right to be judged by a jury of their peers.

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46

Rural Population of  
the United States

Decade	Percentage
1820	93%
1830	91%
1840	89%
1850	85%
1860	80%
1870	74%
1880	72%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Which factor accounts for this trend?

- F The Second Great Awakening motivated people to join reform movements.
- G Manifest Destiny inspired many people to become homesteaders.
- H Jacksonian Democracy allowed more people to vote in elections.
- J The Industrial Revolution encouraged people to pursue jobs in cities.

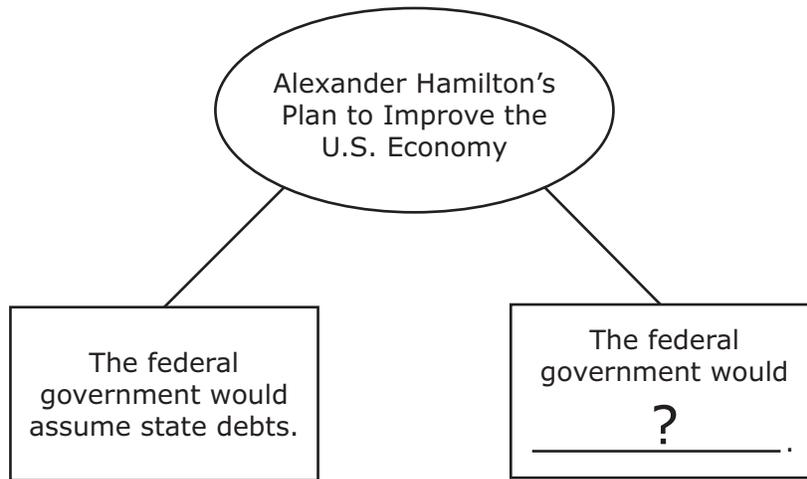
All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States. . . .

—*U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 1*

This provision is a response to which grievance from the Declaration of Independence?

- A** “For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever . . .”
- B** “For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government . . .”
- C** “He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records.”
- D** “He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners.”

- 
- 48** In *Marbury v. Madison*, the Supreme Court established a principle that would eventually be used by all courts to —
- F** strike down any law that the court deems unconstitutional
  - G** decide the outcome of contested election results
  - H** overturn any impeachment that the court deems unsupported by evidence
  - J** mediate disputes related to commerce between states



Which action completes this diagram?

- A** oversee state government agencies
- B** regulate the creation of new businesses
- C** establish a national bank
- D** eliminate protective tariffs

### Fundamental Orders of Connecticut

- Defined and limited the powers of government
- Created a general assembly
- Granted government the right to levy and collect taxes

Which statement best describes the influence of this document?

- F** It helped establish the tradition of self-government.
- G** It was the first attempt to combine political and religious laws.
- H** It established the concept of unalienable rights.
- J** It outlined a plan for independence from British rule.

**51** Which of these was a goal shared by many advocates of Manifest Destiny?

- A** Abolishing slavery throughout the United States
  - B** Occupying all of North America
  - C** Withdrawing from foreign affairs
  - D** Returning to an agrarian economy
- 

**52**

Major Nineteenth-Century Innovations

Agriculture	Industry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mechanical reapers</li><li>• Combine harvesters</li><li>• Steel plows</li><li>• Grain drills</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Interchangeable parts</li><li>• Power looms</li><li>• Steam engines</li><li>• Bessemer process</li></ul>

These innovations in agriculture and industry resulted in —

- F** higher consumer costs
- G** decreased profits for investors
- H** less consumer choice
- J** more efficient production of goods



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