

HiSET Social Studies Practice Test Answers

Section: HiSET Social Studies Exams • Total Questions: 10 • Format: Verified Q&A

1. In each of these six court cases, the courts tried to

Selected Court Cases in United States History

Commonwealth v. Hunt (1842)

1 In the 1790s workers began forming unions to bargain collectively with employers for higher wages and other benefits. Employers generally resisted these efforts. This decision, handed down by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, strengthened the union movement by ruling that workers had the right to form a union and that doing so did not constitute a criminal conspiracy against their employer.

Muller v. Oregon (1908)

2 In the early 1900s, Progressive reformers in Oregon overcame business apposition and helped to pass a law protecting working women. The law prohibited businesses from requiring women to work for more than ten hours a day. The U.S. Supreme Court supported these Progressive reformers by declaring that the law was constitutional.

Schenck v. United States (1919)

3 After the United States entered World War I, Congress passed the Espionage Act of 1917 to punish antiwar behavior and ban antiwar materials from the mail. It also passed the Sedition Act of 1918, which outlawed speech, writing, and behavior that the government deemed dangerous to the war effort. Charles Schenck was convicted of mailing antiwar pamphlets that urged men to seek repeal of the Conscription Act. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld his conviction, ruling that the First Amendment's right to free speech did not include speech that was "a clear and present danger to the safety of the country."

- (A) reflect what the majority of citizens believed.
- (B) balance individuals' rights and the needs of society.
- (C) protect business interests.
- (D) protect states' rights

2. What is the effect of a debit on a person's checking account?

- (A) The account's balance increases.
- (B) The account's balance decreases.
- (C) The account's interest rate increases.
- (D) The account's interest rate decreases.

3. As president, what power did Woodrow Wilson have to prevent Congress from raising tariffs?

*President Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points*In a message delivered to Congress in early 1918, President Wilson presented a program of fourteen points. Eight of the fourteen points addressed specific territorial issues among enemy nations. Five of the other six concerned general principles for a peaceful world: open treaties or agreements, freedom of the seas, free trade, reduction of weapons, and the adjustment of colonial claims based on the principles of self-determination. The fourteenth point proposed what was to become the League of Nations.

- (A) The power to appoint officials
 - (B) The power to enforce the law
 - (C) The power to make treaties
 - (D) The power to veto bills
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4. Which point on this PPF graph represents a currently unobtainable output level for this economy?

- (A) V
 - (B) X
 - (C) Y
 - (D) Z
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5. Based on the obituary, what type of jobs were the focus of Taylor's writings and lectures?

Frederick Winslow Taylor

The following is an obituary from March 21, 1915, announcing the death of Frederick Winslow Taylor.

1 PHILADELPHIA, March 21: Frederick Winslow Taylor, originator of the modern scientific management movement, died here today from pneumonia. He was 59 years old, and was a former President of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Among his numerous inventions and discoveries was the Taylor-White process of treating modern high-speed tools. He was the author of articles on scientific efficiency, and installed his system in many large industrial establishments.

2 The writings and lectures of Frederick Winslow Taylor formed the basis of the recent reorganization of methods of handling labor in many of the largest industries in the country. The articles of Mr. Taylor on "Scientific Management" in 1911 had a good deal to do with giving its new, special meaning to the word "efficiency" and making it the watchword which it has become since that time.

3 One of his leading doctrines which has made a deep impression on business and industry in this country since that time is that a man who proves incompetent at one job should be fitted in where he can give good service, instead of being discharged. His life work was chiefly devoted to the simplification of industrial processes to reduce costs and increase outputs.

4 Mr. Taylor was born at Germantown, Philadelphia, on March 20, 1856, and was graduated from Stevens Institute of Technology in 1883. He won the doubles championship of the United States at tennis at Newport in 1881. He entered the employ of the Midvale Steel Company at Philadelphia in 1878 and was successively gang boss, assistant foreman, foreman of the machine shop, master mechanic, chief draughtsman, and chief engineer.

5 In 1889 he began his special work of re-organizing the management of

- (A) Engineering
- (B) Accounting
- (C) Sales
- (D) Manufacturing

6. Which statement best describes a key aspect of the trade relationship between Grand Coast and Toland?

Trade and Opportunity Costs

This passage and table describe the opportunity costs faced by two countries.

1 The countries of Grand Coast and Toland are trading partners. The two main goods traded are timber and fish. Every year the ministers of trade from each country attend an international conference to discuss issues related to foreign trade and decide how each country should specialize. The table provides economic data for one year.

- (A) Grand Coast has the advantage in both timber and fish.
- (B) Toland has the comparative advantage in fish.
- (C) Toland can produce timber at a lower opportunity cost than Grand Coast.
- (D) Grand Coast can produce fish at a lower opportunity cost than Toland.

7. A police department allows a person suspected of committing a crime to refuse to answer questions asked by the investigating officer. Which amendment protects this right?

Selected Amendments from the Bill of Rights

This passage consists of five amendments from the Bill of Rights.

Amendment 1

1 Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment 4

2. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment 5

3 No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger, nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law: nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment 6

4 In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his

- (A) Amendment 1
- (B) Amendment 4
- (C) Amendment 5
- (D) Amendment 6

8. What is the most likely reason the St. Louis did not return to Hamburg?

The St. Louis

This passage describes the journey of the ship St. Louis, which attempted to leave Germany with immigrants wishing to escape Nazi rule.

1 In January, 1933, Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany. The country's first concentration camp opened two months later, to be followed by many more. They were originally built to house "enemies of the state" that threatened Nazi political control or were accused of socially deviant behavior. But when side-scale arrests of Jewish German and Austrian citizens began after Germany's annexation of Austria in 1938, many of these individuals were sent to the camps. A growing number of Germany's Jewish population, fearful of increasing anti-Semitism, left or tried to leave Germany.

2 A few months before the start of World War II, the ship St. Louis left Hamburg, Germany, with 937 passengers, mostly Jewish refugees. Headed to Havana, Cuba, they were unaware that Cuba's president had invalidated all recently issued landing certificates. He claimed certificates had been sold by a corrupt government official. Although most of the St. Louis passengers had applied for U.S. visas and planned to be in Cuba only temporarily, they now faced an uncertain future.

3 When the ship arrived in Havana, the Cuban government refused to allow 908 of the passengers to leave the ship. After six days the ship was ordered to leave Cuba. It began a slow, 4 day journey along the Cuba and Florida coasts, the passengers hoping they would be permitted to enter the United States. Direct appeals were made to President Roosevelt, but he and State Department officials decided to not take any special exceptions for the passengers. Immigration at the time was strictly limited by quotas established in the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act of 1924. The German-Austrian immigration limit of 27,370 for 1939 had been quickly filled.

4 The St. Louis headed back to Europe but not to Germany. Jewish organizations

- (A) The start of World War II made it too dangerous to travel that far.
- (B) Most of the passengers were originally from Belgium, not Germany.
- (C) The ship did not have enough fuel after being at sea for so long.
- (D) The passengers could have ended up being sent to concentration camps.

9. The government provides a lawyer to a person accused of committing a felony if that person does not have the money to hire one. Which amendment supports this?

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- (A) Amendment 4
- (B) Amendment 5
- (C) Amendment 6
- (D) Amendment 10

10. Based on the obituary, what was one result business owners could expect if they put into place Taylor's doctrines?

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- (A) Loyal employees
- (B) Increased outputs
- (C) Managers doing more work
- (D) Laborers becoming company presidents