

Problems of American Democracy

Adopted 2022

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1. Examine the historical, economic, and political factors that played a role in the shaping of the U.S. Constitution. PAD.1

1. Compare and contrast the concepts of state and national sovereignty as illustrated in the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution. PAD.1.1
2. Describe the monetary and trade practices of U.S. states in the 1780s and their consequences. PAD.1.2
3. Analyze challenges that emerged in the 1780s and how the enumerated powers in the Constitution aimed to correct these issues. PAD.1.3
4. Analyze the use of the separation of powers as a mechanism for federal accountability and limited powers. PAD.1.4

2. Describe the patterns of conflict and cooperation between the emerging United States and Native Americans from colonial times through the antebellum period. PAD.2

1. Trace the major interactions between early American settlers and indigenous tribes during the colonial period that impacted the relationships between the U.S. and native groups following the revolution. PAD.2.1
2. Explain the various treaties between the United States and native groups under the Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution and the political and practical limitations to their enforcement. PAD.2.2
3. Identify and describe major events and turning points in the relationship between the United States and Native Americans in the early nineteenth century, including the Indian Removal Act. PAD.2.3
4. Assess the impact of westward expansion on Native American populations. PAD.2.4

3. Trace the historical factors and institutions that gave rise to the current financial policies, practices, and systems of the U.S. government. PAD.3

1. Compare the arguments of Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and Thomas Jefferson in the debate over the establish of the Bank of the United States in 1791. PAD.3.1
2. Outline the key economic processes and events that shaped the emerging banking systems in the United States in the early 1800s including the Second Bank of the United States and the Panic of 1837. PAD.3.2
3. Analyze the economic factors that led to the Panic of 1907 and the Federal Reserve Act of 1913. PAD.3.3
4. Describe the economic conditions that led to the Great Depression and the federal interventions and safety net programs that developed as a result. PAD.3.4
5. Examine Franklin D. Roosevelt's use of Keynesian economics over laissez-faire economic policies to attempt to solve the issues of the Great Depression. PAD.3.5
6. Compare and contrast the mechanisms of governance and response of the Federal Reserve to periods of financial instability in the late 1900s and early 2000s. PAD.3.6

4. Assess the development of a system of public education in the United States and its role in facilitating civic, political, and economic engagement. PAD.4

1. Describe the origins and development of early public education in New England from the Colonial Period to the mid-1800s. PAD.4.1
2. Explain the conditions and prevailing perspectives in New York State leading up to the passage of the Free Schools Law in 1849. PAD.4.2
3. Trace the spread and development of public education throughout the U.S. through the late 1800s and 1900s, including the Committee of Ten. PAD.4.3
4. Examine the impact of contemporary policies on public education in the U.S., including the No Child Left Behind Act and the emergence of charter schools (e.g., Brown vs Board of Education (1954), No Child Left Behind Act, emergence of charter schools, Every Student Succeeds Act, etc.). PAD.4.4

5. Examine the political, economic, and cultural conditions that led to the U.S. Civil War. PAD.5

1. Describe the economic characteristics of the North and South in the early-to-mid-nineteenth century that contributed to sectional political conflict specifically the American institution of slavery and its role in southern antebellum economy. PAD.5.1
2. Trace measures taken during the early 1800s to maintain the balance of power between free and slave states including policies related to the admittance of states into the Union and the management of the western territories. PAD.5.2
3. Assess the response of the U.S. government to the secession of southern states following the election of Abraham Lincoln as president. PAD.5.3

6. Analyze the effectiveness of Reconstruction policies in the United States following the Civil War. PAD.6

1. Evaluate the efforts to rebuild the Union and restore southern states during Reconstruction. PAD.6.1
2. Identify and describe the significance of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the U.S. Constitution. PAD.6.2
3. Assess efforts by former Confederate states to disenfranchise black voters during the late 1800s including the use of poll taxes and literacy tests. PAD.6.3
4. Assess economic and cultural conditions in the North that impacted Reconstruction policies. PAD.6.4

7. Evaluate the impact of industrialization of the living conditions of U.S. citizens. PAD.7

1. Explain the geographic and social changes that resulted from industrialization in the U.S. in the late 1800s and early 1900s. PAD.7.1
2. Assess challenges faced by workers, especially immigrants, in factories during the early twentieth century, and the creation of labor unions to address these issues. PAD.7.2
3. Define muckraker and describe the role of journalism in bringing awareness to concerns and abuses related to industrialization. PAD.7.3
4. Identify and explain federal policies created in the early 1900s and then again in the mid-twentieth century to regulate domestic food and drug safety. PAD.7.4

8. Examine how and under what circumstances state governments and the federal government have expanded or constrained the civil and political rights of African Americans and other groups since the Civil War. PAD.8

1. Trace accomplishments and setbacks related to the enfranchisement of African Americans during Reconstruction. PAD.8.1
2. Describe the social, economic, and political disenfranchisement of African Americans under the Jim Crow laws. PAD.8.2
3. Examine the rise of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and the goals, strategies, and accomplishments of the movement. PAD.8.3

9. Describe the major events in U.S. history related to the rights and status of women. PAD.9

1. Survey the rights of women in the United States during the Revolutionary Period and the role of women in the war effort. PAD.9.1
2. Trace the major accomplishments of the Women's Rights Movement in the mid-nineteenth century and identify the contributions of the movement's leaders including Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Sojourner Truth. PAD.9.2
3. Trace the events and conditions that led to the ratification of the 19th amendment to the Constitution in 1920 and the efforts of the Women's Rights Movement to address other social and economic inequalities in the years that followed. PAD.9.3
4. Describe the push for equality for women starting with the 18th Amendment through Title IX. PAD.9.4

10. Examine contemporary challenges faced by American democracy as a result of political, economic, and technological changes. PAD.10

1. Analyze how developments in communication technologies including radio, television, and the internet offer challenges in American democracy and how American society and government have responded to those challenges. PAD.10.1
2. Trace the development of campaign finance laws from 1907 to present and explain the significance of the Citizens United decision in 2010. PAD.10.2
3. Survey problems in American society related to socioeconomic stratification, immigration, and ethnic and religious strife, and evaluate competing perspectives on those problems. PAD.10.3
4. Assess the historic impact of journalism and the media on the development of American democracy and describe the role of citizens in determining the reliability and utility of various forms of journalism in civil discourse. PAD.10.4