

Past-paper walk-through

Politics in the Gilded Age ■ 6.13

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 1 Q4
- 2024 Set 1 Q2
- 2024 Set 2 Q4
- 2023 Set 1 Q4

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 4

2025 Set 1 ■ Q4

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Briefly describe one political development during Reconstruction from 1865 to 1877.
- (b)** Briefly describe one effect of the end of Reconstruction from 1877 to 1900.
- (c)** Briefly explain how one group responded to debates about the federal government from 1900 to 1945.

Solution 4

(a)

Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one political development during Reconstruction from 1865 to 1877. (1 point) — accept any: During Reconstruction politicians debated whether to extend suffrage to formerly enslaved men.; Congress ratified the Thirteenth Amendment.; African American men held political office.; Reconstruction resulted in debates over the process of readmitting states back into the Union.; The Compromise of 1877 resulted in the end of Reconstruction.

Solution 4

(b)

Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one effect of the end of Reconstruction from 1877 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: The end of Reconstruction resulted in the passage of segregation laws throughout the South.; The Democratic Party regained its political power in the South as a result of the end of Reconstruction.; Sharecropping remained the dominant agricultural system in the South as African Americans' access to land decreased.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one group responded to debates about the federal government from 1900 to 1945. (1 point) — accept any: Progressives responded to debates about the federal government by arguing that the federal government had additional powers to intervene in the economy, and they called for the federal government to regulate big business.; The Supreme Court believed the federal government had asserted too much power and handed down rulings that limited its power.; Labor unions called for the federal government to better protect workers during the New Deal.; Women believed the federal government should pass a constitutional amendment granting them the right to vote.; The NAACP believed the federal government should provide more protection for the civil rights

Solution 4

of African Americans.; Conservationists believed that the federal government had the responsibility to protect natural resources.

Question 2

2024 Set 1 ■ Q2

Source: Poster promoting Social Security, a federally funded social insurance program to reduce poverty for people over the age of sixty-five, 1936 Courtesy of Library of Congress #LC-DIG-ppmsca-07216

Using the image, respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Briefly describe one historical situation in which the image was created.
- (b)** Briefly explain how the image reflected a change in ideas about the role of government from 1877 to 1936.
- (c)** Briefly explain how beliefs about the role of government such as the one reflected by the image continued after 1945.

Solution 2

(a)

Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one historical situation in which the image was created. (1 point) — accept any: There was mass unemployment during the Great Depression.; The New Deal created new federal government programs to aid in recovery from the Great Depression.; Franklin Delano Roosevelt was elected president and passed many new government programs.

Solution 2

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how the image reflected a change in ideas about the role of government from 1877 to 1936. (1 point) — accept any: In 1877, government economic policy was laissez-faire, and by 1936 the government was more involved in the economy.; During the Progressive Era many Americans argued for a more active government role in the economy.; The stock market crash and the Great Depression convinced many Americans that government intervention was necessary.; Herbert Hoover encouraged voluntary charitable efforts to address the Great Depression as opposed to government programs.; The government allowed boom and bust cycles caused by the industrial economy as opposed to intervening during economic downturns.

Solution 2

(c)

Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how beliefs about the role of government such as the one reflected by the image continued after 1945. (1 point) — accept any: Some Americans believed that the government should assist people through Great Society programs.; After the Second World War the G.I. Bill extended benefits to aid veterans, just as earlier government provided aid to older Americans.; Government intervention in the economy continued in the 1960s and 1970s through the enactment of new environmental regulations on businesses.

Question 4

2024 Set 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Briefly describe one economic development from 1865 to 1900.
- (b)** Briefly explain one similarity OR difference in how two groups responded to economic change from 1865 to 1900.
- (c)** Briefly explain how one historical development from 1900 to 1940 contributed to government involvement in the economy.

Solution 4

(a)

Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one economic development from 1865 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: The number of immigrant workers in the United States increased.; Corporate trusts emerged as a new business structure.; New technologies increased the efficiency of industrial production.; New technologies contributed to new processes for the production of goods such as steel.; Federal policies encouraged the growth of railroads.; Some policy makers looked beyond United States borders for new markets.; Labor unions emerged for improving working conditions.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain one similarity OR difference in how two groups responded to economic change from 1865 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: Populists and some Progressives called for increased federal regulation of the economy.; Some groups supported a laissez-faire approach to government involvement with the economy, while other groups called for increased economic regulation.; Industrial capitalists argued that their accumulation of wealth was the result of natural forces [Social Darwinism], while laborers advocated for workers' rights through unions.; Socialists and some Progressive journalists called for ending economic inequality.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one historical development from 1900 to 1940 contributed to government involvement in the economy. (1 point) — accept any: The Great Depression contributed to the passage of the New Deal.; The expanded extraction of natural resources led preservations and conservationists to push for the establishment of national parks.; The United States entry into the First World War led the federal government to ration food and other supplies to support the war effort.; The rapid expansion of corporate control over the economy contributed to efforts at trust-busting by leaders such as President Theodore Roosevelt.; The growth of corporate monopolies led Progressive political leaders to seek expanded government regulation of businesses.

Question 4

2023 Set 1 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Briefly describe one way that agricultural interests influenced societal debates in the United States from 1865 to 1900.
- (b)** Briefly explain one similarity in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in the United States from 1865 to 1900.
- (c)** Briefly explain one difference in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in the United States from 1865 to 1900.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one way that agricultural interests influenced societal debates in the United States from 1865 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: Western farmers demanded more government regulations of transportation.; Westward expansion by farmers led to increased debates over access to Native American lands.; Economic instability inspired agrarian activists to support the People's Party, which called for a stronger governmental role in regulating the American economic system.; Acquisition of land from Mexico before the Civil War led to continued debates about American farmers' access to land owned by Mexican Americans.; The need for labor on plantations led to debates about the treatment of formerly enslaved people after the Civil War.; The high cost of shipping farm goods led to

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debates about government regulation of the railroads.; After the end of the Civil War, there were debates about whether the government should provide land for African Americans or if White plantation owners should continue to own most land in the South.; The South's heavy dependence on agriculture led to debates about whether the region should focus on industrialization.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain one similarity in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in the United States from 1865 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: Farming was a major economic activity in the South and West, so there was not as much industrialization in these regions.; The economic hardship faced by sharecroppers in the South and homesteaders in the West led to the rise of agrarian activists in both regions. Examples that earn this point might include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:; The impact of the dependence on agriculture on urbanization in both the South and West; The role of agriculture in the displacement of Native American peoples in multiple areas of the West; The changes brought to farming by technology in multiple regions of the West

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain one difference in how agriculture influenced the development of two regions in the United States from 1865 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: Plantation farming in the South led to the rise of sharecropping, but this did not happen in the West, where there were more independent farmers.; Agriculture in the West was more diverse, leading to an economy that depended heavily on farming and ranching. However, the South remained mostly dependent on growing cotton.; The expansion of agriculture led to the acceleration of the government forcibly relocating Native Americans in the West to reservations from 1865 to 1900; however, in the Southeast, the government had already removed most Native Americans by this time. Examples that earn this point might include

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the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided;; Differences in support for the Populists in various regions; Impact of the New South; Ranching vs. farming in different areas of the West