

Past-paper walk-through

Society in Transition ■ 8.14

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q4
- 2024 Set 1 Q2
- 2024 Set 2 Q1
- 2023 Set 2 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 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Briefly describe one political debate in the United States between 1910 and 1929.
- (b)** Briefly describe one effect of the New Deal from 1932 to 1945.
- (c)** Briefly explain how one group responded to debates about government power from 1945 to 1970.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one political debate in the United States between 1910 and 1929. (1 point) — accept any: A growing Progressive movement led to political debates about the federal government's role in society.; The First Red Scare resulted in political debates about labor, socialism, and free speech.; The First World War contributed to larger political debates about civil rights during wartime.; Americans debated whether to restrict immigration to the United States.; Americans argued over whether to support joining the League of Nations or whether to return to a policy of isolationism.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one effect of the New Deal from 1932 to 1945. (1 point) — accept any: The New Deal established a Civilian Conservation Corps [CCC] that had a lasting impact on public lands.; The New Deal created a limited welfare state in many ways, including through the passage of the Social Security Act in 1935.; The New Deal increased jobs by employing people to build infrastructure.; People were paid to paint murals by New Deal programs.; The New Deal increased government spending on public infrastructure, including such projects as the construction of hydroelectric power plants by the Tennessee Valley Authority [TVA].

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one group responded to debates about government power from 1945 to 1970. (1 point) — accept any: Conservatives criticized the expansion of the welfare state by calling for limiting the role of the federal government.; Supporters of the Great Society praised President Lyndon Johnson and the federal government for waging a War on Poverty.; Members of the New Left argued that political leaders were not doing enough to transform the racial and economic status quo.; Communities questioned the federal government's role in desegregation efforts following the decision in *Brown v. the Board of Education* [1954].

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 1

2024 Set 2 ■ Q1

“Why did millions of citizens become activists, take to the streets, and participate in the movement [of social activism in the 1960s]? . . . Activists felt that problems existing in the nation were inconsistent with the American ideal, with ideas expressed in the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution. . . . Social activism developed as a response to numerous problems that had been festering in the nation for many years, and protesters revolted in their own way to reform what they considered was a corrupt system. “. . . When most people contemplate [the 1960s] they recall demonstrations and protests. . . . It would be difficult to find more significant issues than those the activists raised and confronted: equality or inequality, war or peace, . . . personal behavior versus community standards. Indeed, the protesters questioned the very nature and meaning of America.” Source: Terry H. Anderson, historian, *The Movement and the Sixties*, “During the 1960s, . . . conservatives methodically . . .

Question 1

became a dominant force in national politics by gaining control of the Republican Party. . . . The [New] Right evolved into a complex, organized, and effective political force that dominated the [Republican Party] by 1968 and eventually secured the election of a staunch conservative as president in 1980. “Beginning in the 1960s . . . , a one-dimensional view of the 1960s as a decade of radical movements drew the focus away from other important developments during that time. . . . Feeling isolated from mainstream society and ignored by the press and politicians, conservative Americans from different economic, educational, and social backgrounds resolved to make their voices heard by their party, their elected officials, and their country.” Source: Mary C. Brennan, historian, *Turning Right in the Sixties*, 1995

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

(a) Briefly describe one major difference between Anderson’s and Brennan’s historical interpretations of social change in the 1960s.

Question 1

(b) Briefly explain how one development from 1945 to 1980 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Anderson's argument about social change in the 1960s.

(c) Briefly explain how one development from 1945 to 1980 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Brennan's argument about social change in the 1960s.

Question 1



Question 1



Solution 1

(a)

Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one major difference between Anderson's and Brennan's historical interpretations of social change in the 1960s. (1 point) — accept any: Anderson focuses on social activism, whereas Brennan focuses on conservatism.; Anderson argues that protests were central to social change in the 1960s, whereas Brennan argues that conservative activism caused social change in the 1960s.; Anderson says the actions of the political left defined the 1960s, while Brennan says the actions of the political right were important.

Solution 1

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one development from 1945 to 1980 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Anderson's argument about social change in the 1960s. (1 point) — accept any: Martin Luther King Jr. led a variety of protests against racial discrimination as part of the African American Civil Rights movement.; Black and White student activists collaborated closely in the African American Civil Rights movement working together for social change.; Debates among civil rights activists about the efficacy of nonviolence increased in the second half of the decade as other civil rights groups, like the Black Panthers, became more prominent.; Feminists who participated in the counterculture of the 1960s rejected many of the social, economic, and political values of their parents'

Solution 1

generation.; The sexual revolution of the 1960s led to major changes in sexual norms, including the Gay Rights movement.; Americans debated the appropriate power of the executive branch in conducting foreign and military policy.; Student activists led movements in the early part of the 1960s against nuclear weapons and in the middle and later parts of the decade against the Vietnam War.

Solution 1

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one event or development from 1945 to 1980 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Brennan's argument about social change in the 1960s. (1 point) — accept any: The election of Ronald Reagan in 1980 demonstrated the rise of conservatism.; The rise of the New Right demonstrated conservatives' desire for significant tax cuts and the deregulation of many industries.; Conservatives sought to limit the role of the federal government.; Anticommunist sentiment during the Cold War contributed to the growth of conservatism.; In the 1960s, conservatives challenged liberal laws and court decisions.; In the 1960s, conservatives challenged perceived moral and cultural decline.; Conservatives clashed with liberals over social and cultural

Solution 1

issues, the power of the federal government, race, and movements for greater individual rights.

Question 4

2023 Set 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Briefly describe one way in which economic development influenced migration within the United States from 1890 to 1945.
- (b)** Briefly explain one similarity in how economic development influenced two regions of the United States from 1945 to 2000.
- (c)** Briefly explain one difference in how economic development influenced two regions of the United States from 1945 to 2000.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one way in which economic development influenced migration within the United States from 1890 to 1945. (1 point) — accept any: Migration to the North was prompted by the availability of industrial jobs.; The increased demand for war production and labor during World War I led many Americans to migrate to urban centers in search of economic opportunities.; Migration to the Northeast accelerated as the region experienced a significant increase in defense industry jobs during the World War II.; People moved to the Sunbelt as the region developed new large agricultural businesses to produce farm goods between 1890 and 1945.; Migration out of the South was influenced by the lack of economic development because of a continued focus on sharecropping and cash-crop

Solution 4

agriculture.; Migration to cities in the South was driven by increased textile manufacturing and the encouragement of industrialization and urbanization in the New South.; The Midwest experienced population growth due to the development of the iron and steel industries.; The growth of mechanized and commercial agriculture in the Midwest and South led people to migrate to urban areas or to leave the regions entirely seeking new employment.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain one similarity in how economic development influenced two regions of the United States from 1945 to 2000. (1 point) — accept any: Road construction led to suburbanization in both the Northeast and the West.; As higher education opportunities and new technologies rapidly expanded, increasing social mobility encouraged the migration of many Americans to the South and West, contributing to the emergence of these regions as a significant political and economic force.; Both the South and the West saw growth in manufacturing industries because of the draw for businesses of low state tax rates and low levels of unionization.; African Americans migrated to both northern and southern urban cities in search of manufacturing and industrial jobs.; The Midwest and Northeast

Solution 4

declined as a percentage of the nation's overall population as a result of declining industry in the "Rust Belt."; The Sun Belt and Northwest experienced population growth due to expanding employment in Cold War defense industries. Examples that earn this point might include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:; Impact of the Baby Boom on various regions

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain one difference in how economic development influenced two regions of the United States from 1945 to 2000. (1 point) — accept any: The influence of the South increased as manufacturing industries grew in the region, while the influence of the North declined.; The economic development that came with population shifts to the South and West led to an increase in these regions' cultural and political influence, a development that did not occur in the Northeast.; While the Sun Belt grew rapidly in population as a result of jobs, the Midwest and Northeast declined as a percentage of the nation's overall population as a result of declining industry in the "Rust Belt."; The decline of jobs in many sectors, including industrial and manufacturing, and continuing racial tension, led

Solution 4

some African Americans to move from Rust Belt cities to the western Sun Belt.; The states in the Sun Belt generally restricted unions, while Northern states still protected labor rights to organize. Examples that earn this point might include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided;; The influx of retirees moving to the Sun Belt; A “reverse Great Migration” as African Americans began moving back to the South; Impact of air conditioning on migration