

**History 101 U.S. History to 1877  
Placement Exam Questions**

**Exams should be proctored by a teacher and results should be sent to HSCP at [hscp@umkc.edu](mailto:hscp@umkc.edu).**

**Section I. True/False**

1. The Maya, Aztec and Inca gave great monetary value to gold. \_\_\_F\_\_\_\_\_
2. An important source of information for Paleolithic people comes from their art and artifacts left behind at their dwellings and burial sites. \_\_\_\_T\_\_\_\_\_
3. The Quakers wore extravagant dress and expensive jewelry. \_\_\_F\_\_\_\_\_
4. President Andrew Jackson agreed with Supreme Court Justice Marshall regarding the Cherokee. He honored their land claims and did not remove them to Oklahoma. \_\_\_F\_\_\_\_\_

**Section II. Multiple Choice.**

1. Which of the following was NOT a motivation for European colonization of the New World?
  - a) religious freedom
  - b) economic opportunities
  - c) escape Chinese invaders
  - d) adventure seekers

**c is the correct answer**

2. Which of the following does NOT describe the Louisiana Purchase of 1803?
  - a) the United States purchased Louisiana from France for \$15,000,000.
  - b) French power expanded in the Western Hemisphere.
  - c) Jefferson expanded the powers of the presidency.
  - d) the United States doubled in size.
  - e) the treaty of cession left some of the boundaries vague.

**Correct answer is b**

4. The American Industrial Revolution during the early 1800s resulted from all of the following developments EXCEPT?
  - a) technological advanced imported from England.
  - b) the appearance of better transportation systems.
  - c) monetary assistance from the federal government to new factories.
  - d) new inventions such as the cotton gin.

**C is the correct answer**

5. After 1830, which of the below reform movements dominated national headlines?:

- a) antislavery.
  - b) women's rights.
  - c) temperance.
  - d) education.
  - e) prison and penal reform
- a is the correct response

6. Large numbers of Irish immigrants came to the United States in the 1840s because of the?:

- a) persecution of Irish Catholics in the rest of Europe.
- b) massive failure of the potato crop in Ireland.
- c) lure of gold in California.
- d) civil war between North Ireland and the rest of the country.
- e) British military aggression in Ireland.

B is the correct answer

7. What was the significance of Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*?:

- a) it contradicted prevailing stereotypes that described dark-skinned blacks as docile and submissive and light-skinned blacks as aggressive and intelligent.
- b) by presenting a dynamic slave society, the book challenged the common notion that slavery tore apart the black family.
- c) it provoked a more aggressive anti-southern and anti-slavery position in the North.
- d) all of these choices are correct.

D is correct

**Section III. Essay. Choose one of the following questions and write a three-four paragraph essay.**

1. Discuss slavery and the constitution. How was it addressed? What compromises were made?  
Why? In your opinion, did the founding fathers do all they could at the time or did they hope that future generations would be able to find a more equitable solution?
2. Discuss the many factors that led to the Civil War. Which of those do you consider to be the most important? Why?
3. Despite his opposition to slavery, Lincoln embraced emancipation as a war objective late and with great caution. Why? In your answer, you should trace the progression of Lincoln's position, considering how legal, political, military, and moral concerns influenced his policies

These are subjective questions and the ability of the student to write an essay at this level should be assessed by the HSCP instructor. If the student provides an introduction, covers important points and makes every attempt to address the topic, the grade should reflect that effort.