

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

4A

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Thomas Jefferson had bought the Louisiana Territory and Mexican War finished with acquisition of land toward another side of ocean. Now, the Manifest Destiny prompted all the Americans to expand ~~westward~~ to the west, enjoying with the economic and social fortunes over there. The general trend about the west ~~is~~ seemed very simple. Government prompted people to go the west and some succeeded and some failed. However, other issues including the Railroad and the Indian issue doesn't make the truth that simple. Indeed, the fortune if the un covered land was not opened to the everybody. Although ~~educating~~ the westward as a barren ~~land~~ with fortune and gold, it was not for the every one.

The government after the Civil war prompted people to go west for almost no charge. The farmers and successful ~~farmers~~ have steadily urged people to go west and just build the house, and live. The land was almost free if one just lived in one place over 5 years.

This act, although some had been taken by the speculators, largely moved many to the west. The Morrill Land Act was the bill that gave land to the states for public and private buildings. States built the universities, colleges and gave sold the land to the people, enhancing the circumstance of living in the west. This was an unbearable ~~infinite~~ temptation to many people.

Starting with the gold rush in California, the ~~west~~ rush toward the west had started. According to

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the increased population, new industries are organized. The very first and fundamental industry of farming. Many farmers gathered around the great plain, enjoying the community life. However, many did not achieve big success. Except for the bonanza farms with technology and labor sources, many farmers ended up feeding themselves and the local community. Another industry was raising the animals. Started with ranching animals, the industry of animals grew around the Great Plains. However, free rangeland caused some trouble with farmers and Native Indians who ate buffalo for their food. This free rangeland, the era of cowboy is over. Finished with the invention of barbed wire and sort of "cattle" industry. Mining was the most famous but was a hard-to-succeed industry in the west. Prompted by the Gold of California, massive groups of people just ran and ran for the gold. This "gold rush" made many ghost towns in the west, but not the same time through the development of the manufacturing industry. However, ~~it~~ also except for the ~~the~~ big mining company, many people failed to find the gold and just became the worker for the company.

The industries that had grown in the western area — farming, raising, mining, and manufacturing — were restricted to limited amount of people because of the over ~~population~~ over-competition and harsh climate. However, ironically, the

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west which was closed for many westerners was opened to many northerners. The Railroad which connected the two area, west and east, made this possible.

The very first industry of the east that acquired success in the west was railroads. Some railroads companies formed an oligopoly and reaped the ~~big~~ ~~big~~ big bonnet and cost. This brought a huge amount of revenue to the country. Also, the nature of railroad itself — the only "fast and stable" transportation at that period — helped people to use railroad much and give profit to the owners much. ~~Then~~ Carnegie's steel industry famous for the horizontal integration, also made profit from the expanded area. For the mining industry, the steel was necessary to dig more and find more. With the new technology ~~called~~ ~~called~~ called "Bessemer", the Carnegie company produced large amount of steel with the low cost. This steel is transported to the west, ~~and~~ back with profits. ~~The food and for the customers were largely transported~~

~~The food and for the customers were largely transported~~ from the upper south where the food crop was dominant. Also, the manufacturing north profited much from new market. ~~The~~ With the development of transportation, the whole country benefited from the expansion.

In conclusion, the homestead act and Morrill land act which brought hundreds and thousands of easterners ~~to~~ to the west was not the 100% insurance for

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the success. The farming industry met the harsh climate that frustrated many. The cattley made some contact with the farmers and Native Indians. The mining industry was full of the stories of the failed. However, the new transportation, rail road served as a distributor of the benefit of the west, the north, industry, the seed and machinery industry and south both benefited from the new market of the west.

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Frederick Jackson Turner lamented the closing of the frontier in 1890, and this may be attributed to the loss of "democratic opportunities." Aided by John Sullivan's theory of manifest destiny, Americans and even foreigners spilled to the frontier.

Firstly, it was a big opportunity for foreigners. ~~and~~ The Chinese, who had initially come to California along with the miners to reap benefits from the Gold Rush, met increasing opportunities as trans-continental railroads were rapidly being built. While "coolies" and "paddies" were certainly not treated amicably, ~~the~~ the massive number of jobs ~~was~~ definitely aided them economically and their families.

Big companies also benefited greatly. When Cornelius Vanderbilt made the steel railway possible, the plan of connecting the east and the west became feasible. The federal government granted massive lands to railroad companies, such as the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific companies. By the time the two met at Promontory Point, Utah, railroad owners had amassed wealth beyond imagination. Robber Barrons such as Jay Gould gained national fame.

Also classified in the top; speculators also benefitted. By buying federally granted lands to individuals by the Homestead Act of 1862, speculators saw their assets increasing in value by the hour.

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The frontier also provided dreams for the more general people. Farmers ~~who had~~ enthusiastically trekked the Oregon trail now became frontier farmers. Admittedly, some gave up and returned home ~~from~~ adverse weather conditions, but the story of the ^{because of} "Sodbusters" who worked diligently to achieve the American Dream lives on in novels and paintings. African Americans also ~~shared~~ led similar dreams. "Exodusters," led by Ben Singleton, marched from the deep south to the frontier to see their dreams of "forty acres and a mule" come true. Such efforts of the people instilled in the American public growing confidence for their strengths. James Fenimore Cooper's glorified tales of the ~~life~~ lives of American pioneers in his works such as the "leatherstocking" ~~in~~ works further aided this sentiment.

This land of opportunity can be said to have ~~an~~ effect on ~~even~~ Americans a near century later. Did not President Kennedy promise an opening of the "New" frontier that would bring the dreams of Turner back in place? The "moving frontier" of the latter half of the nineteenth century was not only an opportunity for its contemporaries but also for our contemporaries.

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4C
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The years 1865 to 1890 marked an important time in American History. Slavery had ended due to the 13th Amendment, ~~and~~ peace was at peace, and the American West was open to all Americans. The American West, ~~as~~ the presented a new opportunity to many Americans seeking to start over again. Anybody could move to the West to pursue ~~with~~ their dream. From the years 1865 to 1890, the American West was a land of opportunity for freed slaves, farmers, and people seeking wealth.

Abraham Lincoln had already issued the Emancipation Proclamation which freed ~~the~~ ^{slaves} in states of Rebellion. After the Civil War, Congress enacted the 13th Amendment which ~~freed~~ ^{freed} all slaves in the south. Although this was ~~a~~ ^a significant event in American History, many freed slaves could only continue working as indentured servants to their former slaveholders. However many freed slaves still ~~move~~ ^{move} to the American West. There they could settle and raise a family. Many freed slaves settle in the south west and led good lives. They became ranchers and farmers away from the aggression. ~~to~~ Many freed slaves also became cowboys and achieved a considerable amount of wealth.

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Another group which moved to the American West were farmers. The soil in the east was already worn, and the west offered the opportunity to grow better and more profitable crops. Ranching also was popular in the west. The farmers would generally settle in the Midwest, and ranches in ~~the~~ the southern areas such as Texas. In the west there was more open land, and more land allowed cattle to graze more, and the farmers to plant more crops. Another prospect which enticed the people of the east was the prospect of finding gold. Many embarked on the journey west to California. There they would invest their money in mining, and as a result many would "strike rich."

One of the most realistic reasons for the American West being a land of opportunity, was the fact that industrialization was playing a larger role in America. Railroads were in construction, and new cities were growing quickly such as Chicago. These businessmen could travel and quickly set up a business which would make more money as people moved in. As a result many men were motivated to start large companies. The industrialization and railroads offered opportunities to many people seeking to become wealthy.

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The American West offered many opportunities to the people of the east. These people included freed slaves, farmers and ranchers, and men wishing to start a ~~business~~ profitable business. The west allowed them to easily settle ~~there~~ and quickly begin their new lives.

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2006 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)

Question 4

Sample: 4A

Score: 9

This essay has a thesis statement that sets out the key premise of the relative opportunities in the West—it “was not for everyone.” It notes that the West was a land of opportunity linked to economic interest in the South and Northeast as well as for those drawn by homesteading opportunities and the educational institutions funded by the Morrill Land Grant Act. Yet the essay stresses that “many did not achieve big success.” Similarly balanced points of success and setbacks are then made regarding ranchers, cowboys, miners, and manufacturers. The very strong conclusion emphasizes the competition, harsh climate, and other conditions that made it clear that there was no “100% insurance for the success.” It is a well-written and well-organized essay with no significant errors.

Sample: 4B

Score: 7

This essay has an interesting opening paragraph suggesting a Turnerian view of the closing of the West as related to the loss of ““democratic opportunities”” for both Americans and foreigners. It discusses such opportunities for foreigners, “Big companies” that benefited from western expansion, speculators acquiring land grants, farmers, and African American “Exodusters.” However, the analysis of the extent of opportunities is unevenly pursued, keeping the essay out of the top category.

Sample: 4C

Score: 3

This essay attempts to illustrate that the West was a land of opportunity by focusing on three groups: “freed slaves, farmers, and people seeking wealth.” It contains erroneous information on the freed slaves moving into the West, concluding that most “became cowboys and achieved a considerable ammount [*sic*] of wealth.” It is mostly vague about farmers, and confuses things by adding ranchers to the discussion. The essay has many errors and is often simply too vague and unfocused with weak analysis and poor organization.