

**AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY**  
**2010 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)**

**Question 5**

Analyze the effects of the Vietnam War on TWO of the following in the United States in the period from 1961 to 1975.

- The presidency
- The population between 18 and 35 years old
- Cold War diplomacy

**The 8–9 Essay**

- Articulates a clear, well-constructed thesis that explains how the Vietnam War affected two of the three elements (the presidency, the population between 18 and 35 years old, Cold War diplomacy) between 1961 and 1975.
- Supports the thesis with substantial, relevant information that illustrates how the war in Vietnam affected the two features selected.
- Effectively analyzes how the Vietnam War affected those items between 1961 and 1975.
- Provides a balanced treatment of the two subjects.
- Is well organized and well written.
- May contain minor errors.

**The 5–7 Essay**

- Contains a clear thesis, which may be partially developed, that explains how the Vietnam War impacted two of the three elements between 1961 and 1975.
- Provides ample, relevant information that illustrates how the war in Vietnam affected the two features selected.
- Analyzes the Vietnam War's effects on the items selected.
- May be unbalanced in its coverage.
- Is acceptably organized and written.
- May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the essay.

**The 2–4 Essay**

- Presents a thesis that may be simplistic, confused or undeveloped in terms of explaining how the Vietnam War affected the element(s) selected.
- Provides little or no relevant information to support the thesis.
- Has little analysis or is largely generalized or descriptive.
- May treat only one aspect of the question.
- May be poorly organized and poorly written.
- May contain major errors.

**The 0–1 Essay**

- Lacks a thesis or merely restates the question.
- Includes no relevant information.
- Contains no analysis.
- Is poorly organized and/or poorly written.
- May contain numerous errors, both major and minor.

**The — Essay**

- Is completely off topic or blank.

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## 2010 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

### Question 5 — Information List

#### The Presidency

- Although U.S. participation in Vietnam dates from 1950, the years between 1961 and 1975 occupy center stage in the Vietnam narrative. During these years four presidents — two Democrats and two Republicans — are responsible for U.S. conduct in Vietnam, and each hands off to his successor a situation that is worse than the one he inherited.
- The Vietnam War diminishes Americans' faith in their government. It shatters the liberal consensus and ends the Age of Roosevelt, making possible the Age of Reagan and the conservative resurgence of the 1980s and 1990s.
- The war raises social tensions by contributing to the culture wars that have characterized U.S. politics for nearly four decades, making it difficult for Americans to make common cause to address challenges.
- Dwight Eisenhower articulates the “domino theory” regarding Vietnam.
- Congress approves the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, giving Lyndon Johnson carte blanche to pursue war against North Vietnam without a formal declaration of war.
- Johnson begins considering a policy of détente toward the Soviet Union and China with the hopes of affecting the Vietnam War.
- Richard Nixon embraces the notions of limits, realpolitik and détente regarding the Vietnam War. He issues the Nixon Doctrine, indicating that nations must be willing to shoulder responsibility for defending their own areas.
- The Pentagon Papers are published, revealing a legacy of deception on the part of the executive branch and the U.S. military. The Nixon administration sues to halt publication, but that effort is denied by the Supreme Court.
- Congress passes the War Powers Act, curtailing the president's ability to commit U.S. forces, in hopes of scaling back the imperial presidency.
- White House staffers H. R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman resign due to Watergate revelations. The existence of a White House taping system is revealed. John Dean reports that Nixon was intimately involved in the Watergate affair. Nixon refuses to turn over White House tapes to investigators. Nixon fires the special prosecutor in the “Saturday Night Massacre.” A gap of 18½ minutes is discovered in the revealed White House tapes.
- The Senate committee investigating Nixon, headed by Sam Irvin, demands complete disclosure from the president.

#### The Population between 18 and 35 Years Old

- More than 58,000 Americans are killed, another 300,000 wounded and countless others irrevocably changed by the war.
- The war in Southeast Asia produces a crisis of the spirit that will gnaw at Americans for over 25 years. Vietnam leads Americans to question their history in ways that cast doubt on many of the country's core beliefs. Vietnam challenges notions of American exceptionalism and the morality of its behaviors.
- Some 40,000 Americans protest the escalation of the Vietnam War in a “March on Washington.”
- The first “teach-in,” featuring seminars, rallies and speeches, is held at the University of Michigan.
- The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) reports that conscription falls most heavily on the poor and minorities. The group calls for a withdrawal of all U.S. military forces from Vietnam.
- At the University of Wisconsin students demand that recruiters from Dow Chemical, the producer of napalm, no longer be allowed on campus.
- At Kent State University members of the National Guard open fire on, and kill, four students during demonstrations protesting the war.

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**Question 5 — Information List (continued)**

**Cold War Diplomacy**

- Vietnam suddenly is seen as vital to U.S. security and international credibility.
- Vietnam alienates the United States from much of the world, unravels Cold War solidarity, and, for a time, discredits the U.S. military.
- Lyndon Johnson considers a policy of détente toward the Soviet Union and China with the hopes of affecting the Vietnam War.
- Nixon embraces the notions of limits, realpolitik and détente regarding the war. He issues the Nixon Doctrine, indicating that nations must be willing to shoulder responsibility for defending their own areas.
- To force North Vietnam's hand in the peace negotiations, Nixon orders expanded bombing of targets in and around Hanoi and Haiphong and lets it be known that no part of North Vietnam will escape attacks by B-52s.
- Nixon travels to Russia and China. He attempts to use both to end the Vietnam War.

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**Question 5 —Timeline**

**1945**

- Ho Chi Minh creates provisional government, declares independence.
- British forces land in Saigon and return authority to the French.
- First American killed by Viet Minh (case of mistaken identity).

**1946**

- France recognizes Vietnam as a “free state” within the French Union.
- Negotiations between French and Viet Minh break down; war begins.

**1949**

- France commits to Bao Dai, emperor of Vietnam, and works to build anticommunist army.

**1950**

- China offers Viet Minh support.
- United States pledges \$15 million and sends military advisors to assist the French in Vietnam.

**1954**

- French forces defeated at Dien Bien Phu.
- Eisenhower articulates the domino theory regarding Vietnam.
- Geneva Accords: Hostilities cease, Vietnam is divided at seventeenth parallel, and nationwide elections are scheduled for 1956.
- Bao Dai and the United States do not accept the accords.

**1955**

- Ngo Dinh Diem becomes leader of South Vietnam; defeats Bao Dai in a rigged election.
- Diem rejects Geneva Accords and refuses to participate in nationwide elections.
- Diem refuses to negotiate with the North despite urgings from the United States, Britain and France.

**1956**

- French leave Vietnam; U.S. Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) takes over the training of South Vietnamese forces.

**1957**

- Communist insurgency in South Vietnam begins. Thirty-seven armed companies are organized along the Mekong Delta and begin guerrilla activities.
- Terrorist bombings in Saigon; 13 Americans are injured.

**1959**

- North Vietnam forms Group 559; begins infiltrating men and weapons into South Vietnam on the Ho Chi Minh Trail.
- U.S. servicemen killed in guerrilla attack at Bien Hoa.
- Diem begins crackdown on communists and dissidents.

**1960**

- John Kennedy elected president of the United States.
- Diem survives coup attempt.

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**Question 5 —Timeline (continued)**

- North Vietnam begins universal military conscription.
- National Liberation Front for South Vietnam (NLF) organized in Hanoi. Diem dubs them “Viet Cong” (Vietnamese communists).

**1961**

- Vice President Lyndon Johnson tours Vietnam; assures Diem that Vietnam is vital to U.S. interests in Asia and refers to Diem as the “Churchill of Asia.”

**1962**

- U.S. military begins use of Agent Orange.
- Diem’s palace is bombed in coup attempt.
- Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield reports to Kennedy that Diem is wasting U.S. money; raises doubts about Vietnam policy.
- Pacifists protest the Vietnam War in New York and Philadelphia.

**1963**

- Viet Cong defeat South Vietnamese Army at Ap Bac.
- Buddhists begin protests against Diem after he removes Buddhists from key posts and replaces them with Catholics; protests include self-immolation by fire.
- Diem is overthrown and murdered by members of the South Vietnamese military; United States tacitly approves the coup.
- Kennedy is murdered in Dallas; responsibility for Vietnam passes to Johnson.

**1964**

- Junta leader General Van Minh is overthrown by General Khanh; Van Minh is placed under house arrest and becomes a political figurehead.
- On August 2 the U.S.S. *Maddox* is attacked in what comes to be known as the Tonkin Gulf Incident.
- A second “incident” occurs on August 4.
- On August 7 Congress approves the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, giving Johnson carte blanche to pursue war against North Vietnam without a formal declaration of war.
- Viet Cong attack Bien Hoa air base.
- Lyndon Johnson elected president in a landslide; his victory is based in part on the appearance that he is leaning toward de-escalation in Vietnam.

**1965**

- Operation Rolling Thunder begins in February, marking the beginning of continuous air raids over North Vietnam that go on for three years.
- The first U.S. combat troops, the 9th Marine Expeditionary Brigade, arrive in South Vietnam; they are assigned to defend the airfield at Da Nang.
- The first conventional battle of the Vietnam War takes place in the Ia Drang Valley. The U.S. First Air Cavalry defeats the North Vietnamese Army (NVA), with heavy casualties on both sides.
- U.S. troop levels exceed 200,000.
- Some 40,000 Americans protest the escalation of the Vietnam War in a “March on Washington.”
- The first “teach-in,” featuring seminars, rallies and speeches, is held at the University of Michigan.
- In May a nationally broadcast teach-in reaches faculty and students at over 100 college campuses.

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**Question 5 —Timeline (continued)**

**1966**

- U.S. B-52s are used for the first time to bomb North Vietnam and disrupt movement along the Mugia Pass, a main route used by the NVA to send men and supplies into South Vietnam via Laos.
- Johnson meets with South Vietnamese Premier Nguyen Cao Ky in Hawaii; Johnson promises continued aid contingent on government progress toward political democracy and economic opportunity.
- Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) reports that conscription falls most heavily on the poor and minorities; calls for a withdrawal of all U.S. military forces from Vietnam.
- Veterans of previous wars stage a protest rally in New York City. Veterans symbolically burn discharge and separation papers to protest U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

**1967**

- Operation Cedar Falls, a joint effort by U.S. and South Vietnamese troops, attempts to destroy Viet Cong forces and operational sites around Saigon.
- In an area referred to as the Iron Triangle, a massive tunnel complex is discovered that is thought to be the headquarters of the Viet Cong.
- Ellsworth Bunker replaces Henry Cabot Lodge as U.S. ambassador to South Vietnam.
- Secretary of Defense McNamara commissions the Pentagon Papers.
- Martin Luther King Jr. speaks out against the Vietnam War, calling the United States “the greatest purveyor of violence in the world.” He urges resistance to the draft and a merging of civil rights and antiwar groups
- At the University of Wisconsin students demand that recruiters from Dow Chemical, the producer of napalm, no longer be allowed on campus.
- Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara testifies before a Senate subcommittee that U.S. bombing of North Vietnam has failed to achieve its objectives.
- McNamara adds that supply movements have not been stopped, and that neither the economy nor the morale of the North Vietnamese has been broken.
- Johnson begins considering a policy of détente toward the Soviet Union and China, with the hopes of affecting the Vietnam War.

**1968**

- January — Prince Sihanouk allows the United States to pursue Viet Cong into Cambodia. North Vietnam launches the Tet Offensive. Tet is a military victory for the United States but a political defeat as Americans question the military’s assessment that the “end of the tunnel” is near.
- February — Battle of Hue takes place; General William Westmoreland requests 206,000 more troops.
- March — My Lai Massacre occurs. Following a strong showing by Eugene McCarthy in the New Hampshire primary, Lyndon Johnson announces he will not seek re-election.
- April — Martin Luther King Jr. is murdered in Memphis; rioting ensues.
- May — Paris Peace Talks begin on May 10. Averell Harriman represents the United States; Xuan Thuy speaks for North Vietnam.
- June — Robert Kennedy is assassinated in Los Angeles.
- August — Upheaval occurs at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago; the nation watches as the area around the convention erupts in violence.
- November — With the inclusion of third-party candidate George Wallace in the presidential race, Richard Nixon barely defeats Hubert Humphrey.

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**Question 5 —Timeline (continued)**

**1969**

- Nixon begins Operation Breakfast, the secret bombing of Cambodia, to destroy communist supply routes and base camps. The campaign lasts 14 months.
- Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird announces that the U.S. military's role in Vietnam will be down scaled in a policy of "Vietnamization" of the conflict.
- The United States inaugurates a lottery system for the Selective Service draft.
- Ho Chi Minh dies at age 79.
- Nixon embraces the notions of limits, realpolitik and détente regarding the Vietnam War. He issues the Nixon Doctrine, indicating that nations must be willing to shoulder responsibility for defending their own areas.
- The journalist Seymour Hersh breaks the story of the My Lai massacre. Lieutenant William Calley is charged with murder.
- A massive antiwar demonstration is held in Washington, D.C.

**1970**

- Nixon rekindles the antiwar movement by announcing that U.S. forces have invaded Cambodia.
- The president expands domestic intelligence agencies to gather information on his political opponents.
- Prince Sihanouk's attempts to maintain Cambodia's neutrality through opportunistic alliances ends when he is ousted in a coup by Defense Minister Lon Nol.
- At Kent State University members of the National Guard open fire on, and kill, four students during demonstrations protesting the Vietnam War.
- Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho begin secret talks to try to end the war.
- U.S. troop strength in Vietnam falls below 280,000.

**1971**

- William Calley is convicted of murder for his role in the My Lai massacre.
- The Pentagon Papers are published, revealing a legacy of deception on the part of the executive branch and the U.S. military. The Nixon administration sues to halt publication, but the Supreme Court denies that effort.
- The office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist is burglarized by the "Plumbers," a group organized by members of the Nixon White House.

**1972**

- Nixon orders U.S. troop strength reduced by 70,000 in reaction to Democratic charges that he is not moving fast enough to end U.S. involvement in Vietnam.
- The existence of the secret negotiations between the United States and North Vietnam is revealed.
- The Christmas bombing takes place; to force North Vietnam's hand in the peace negotiations, Nixon orders expanded bombing of targets in and around Hanoi and Haiphong and lets it be known that no part of North Vietnam will escape attacks by B-52s.
- Nixon travels to Russia and China and attempts to use both to end the Vietnam War.
- The Watergate break-in occurs.
- *Washington Post* reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein reveal complexities of the campaign of political sabotage undertaken by the Committee to Re-elect the President (CREEP) to ensure Nixon's re-election.

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**Question 5 —Timeline (continued)**

- Kissinger and Le Duc Tho reach an agreement on principle in several areas leading to a cease-fire in Vietnam; Kissinger announces that “peace is at hand.”
- South Vietnamese President Thieu comes out publically against the agreement penned by Kissinger and Le Duc Tho.
- Nixon wins reelection in a landslide.

**1973**

- Cease-fire is signed in Paris. Nixon announces that the agreement arrived at between Kissinger and Tho “brings peace with honor in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.”
- The United States ends conscription and begins the era of the all-volunteer military.
- The last U.S. troops leave Vietnam.
- The Senate Armed Services Committee opens hearings on the U.S. bombing of Cambodia. Revelations about the episode result in a congressional order to end all further attacks.
- Kissinger and Le Duc Tho are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Tho declines the prize, insisting that true peace does not yet exist; Kissinger accepts the award.
- Congress passes the War Powers Act, curtailing the president’s ability to commit American forces, in hopes of scaling back the imperial presidency.
- White House staffers H. R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman resign due to Watergate revelations. The existence of a White House taping system is revealed. John Dean reports that President Nixon was intimately involved in the Watergate affair. Nixon refuses to turn over White House tapes to investigators. Nixon fires the special prosecutor in the “Saturday Night Massacre.” A gap of 18½ minutes is discovered in revealed White House tapes.
- The Senate committee investigating Nixon, headed by Sam Irvin, demands complete disclosure from the president.
- Trials related to the Watergate scandal are overseen by Judge John Sirica.

**1974**

- President Thieu announces a renewal of the war against the NLF.
- The National Academy of Sciences reports on the long-term environmental damage that has been done to Vietnam as a result of the use of Agent Orange and other chemicals.
- Inquiries begin to focus on the connection between Agent Orange and reports of cancer and other diseases among U.S. military personnel who were exposed to it.
- Communist forces take control of the Mekong Delta.
- Nixon is forced to resign as a result of the inquiry into the Watergate scandal; Gerald Ford becomes president.
- NLF forces begin organizing for a major offensive in the South.

**1975**

- Communist forces capture Phuoc Long Province, a key area north of Saigon. The lack of a U.S. response is seen as an indication that the communists can progress more aggressively in the South.
- The city of Hue falls to the communists.
- The NVA begins the Ho Chi Minh Campaign to “liberate” Saigon, under the leadership of General Dung.
- Anticipating the fall of Saigon, President Ford announces that the Vietnam War is “finished.”



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**Question 5 —Timeline (continued)**

- South Vietnamese President Duong Van Minh delivers a document of unconditional surrender to the communists in April. As the remaining Americans evacuate, the final two U.S. military personnel to die in Vietnam are killed in a helicopter crash.

**1976–1980**

- Pham Van Dong is chosen as the first prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The nation's capital is Hanoi.
- Jimmy Carter is elected president of the United States. He pardons draft evaders from the Vietnam conflict.
- Vietnam is admitted to the United Nations.
- Relations between China and Vietnam sour. China invades, then withdraws from, Vietnam.
- Swarms of Vietnamese “boat people” flee Vietnam.
- The U.S. General Accounting Office, following years of Defense Department denials, releases a report detailing the impact of Agent Orange on American forces.
- Ronald Reagan is elected president.

**1981–1985**

- Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., is dedicated.
- Reagan promises to make Americans missing in action (MIA) in Vietnam the nation's “highest national priority.”
- Dow Chemical knowledge of the dangers of Agent Orange is acknowledged.
- “Unknown Soldier” of the Vietnam War is laid to rest.
- Vietnamese political prisoners are offered asylum in the United States.

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5A  
1 of 4

The Vietnam War had an extensive and profound influence on the United States during the period from 1961 to 1975. Presidential elections were heavily ~~dependent~~ influenced by this war, and the population between 18 and 35 years old - in other words, college students - were also profoundly influenced by the Vietnam War.

The early part of the Vietnam War started as President Eisenhower and Kennedy sent "military advisors" to Vietnam, and their continuous engagement in the war. When President Johnson won the presidency, he was given the burden of the Vietnam War, and his re-election depended heavily on ~~the~~ his taking care of the war. Unfortunately, Johnson didn't handle the Vietnam War very well. Accused by the people that he "dragged the country in ~~the~~ the war," Johnson was heavily criticized by the people. Despite Johnson's hardworking efforts toward the "Great Society" and his implementation of education policies, Economic Opportunity Act, VISTA, Head Start, Medicare and Medicaid, and other policies that surely ~~brought a~~ brought the country a step towards "the Great Society," his failure in the Vietnam War cost his re-election. The opponent of Johnson was Nixon, who promised that he would stop American engagement in the war and that he spoke for the "silent majority." Nixon won the

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5A

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presidency, ~~was~~ most likely because of his promise to end the Vietnam War. ~~Although later the Pentagon Papers and the Watergate incident severely damaged~~ ~~Nixon's~~ ~~reputation~~ Although Nixon was questioned his morality when he was the running mate of Eisenhower - which he did successfully defend with the Checkers Speech - his victory in presidency shows how much influence the war had over presidential election: America was ~~going~~ <sup>risking</sup> to accept a president with questionable ethics if the Vietnam War could be stopped. Later the Pentagon Papers and Watergate scandal ~~was~~ proved Nixon's immorality.

The population between 18 and 35 years old was also affected by the Vietnam War. ~~The 1960s was an era of~~ ~~movements~~. Although the Anti-Vietnam War, which was intensified due to the Tet offensive, was a common sentiment shared by the ~~population~~ <sup>majority</sup> of the population in general, students were particularly most active during this era. The free speech movement, which ~~was~~ became even more active due to Mario Savio's speech, was a student ~~lead~~ led movement, and led to the establishment of the Vietnam Day Committee. In this organization students actively criticized the United States' war with Vietnam, and argued for the withdrawal from Vietnam. There were also sit-ins and teach-ins about the Vietnam War.

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3-94

in many school during this time. Students would learn about Vietnam and the Vietnam War, and through this, hoped that the people would be able to view the Vietnam War with an objective viewpoint. Since the government's ~~credit~~ collapsed due to the Tet offensive and the Pentagon Papers, people shouldn't expect the government to provide them with the truths of the war. By teaching the truth, students ~~helped~~ counteracted the government's attempt at concealing the situation in Vietnam, which they told the public ~~was~~ that it will be over soon but apparently was not. The formation of the hippies was also the influence of the Vietnam War. The hippies were an association of young people who opposed to conformity as well as the Vietnam War.

The government of the United States interfered in the Vietnam War primarily ~~because~~ to "contain" communism. They established a puppet regime, and sent in "military advisors" to ~~defend~~ defend it. The reason for the Vietnam War was not wrong. What was wrong was that the US didn't know when to pull out from the war. When they resorted to methods such as napalm or defoliation by agent orange, they should've realized that the war was getting out of hand. As the Vietnam leader said, the US may

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kill ten ~~##~~ people for each soldier, but at that rate the Vietnam war was still going to win. The guerrilla tactics, the Ho Chi Minh Trail, help of civilians — these all amounted up to the US's ~~the~~ defeat of the war. Because Johnson didn't know when to back up, he lost his election despite his efforts and, ~~success~~ in to a certain degree, success in building a "Great Society." The students in America supported movements against the Vietnam War as well. As these two elements show, the United States was profoundly influenced by the Vietnam War in many aspects.

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The Vietnam War ~~truly~~ had a tremendous impact on America ~~during~~ <sup>throughout</sup> its duration, and truly was one of the defining events of the 1960's and '70's. ~~Announced~~ It particularly influenced ~~the presidency during 1961 to 1975, with~~ ~~the~~ ~~overan~~ ~~man~~. From 1961 to 1975, it influenced the presidency, <sup>and the youth to</sup> ~~the~~ varying degrees, ~~which simultaneously~~ not affecting ~~the~~ ~~then~~ having as great an impact in the early years, defining both the president and the youth in the ~~the~~ mid-to-late sixties, and eventually impacting the beginnings of ~~the~~ ~~seventies~~ before fading from the American consciousness. ~~The~~ ~~ear~~ Though the seeds of later dissent were sown in the early 60's, ~~at~~ Vietnam did not yet mean much to America. From 1961 to 1963, Vietnam did not have much impact on the presidency or on the population from 18-35. Kennedy's actions regarding Vietnam were not known to the public, and as such his ~~the~~ national image was not influenced a lot by these decisions. Though he in fact sent the first troops to Vietnam ("advisors" <sup>under the name</sup>), it was a ~~small~~ ~~amount~~ ~~of~~ number of soldiers. Kennedy's ~~the~~ high approval rating and ~~his~~

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favorable legacy were not ~~dear~~ lessened by Vietnam. The youth during this time was also not influenced much by Vietnam, as they were preoccupied by the civil rights movement. Events such as the March on Washington and the ~~un-~~ "I have a dream" speech by Martin Luther King took up their attention. Also, the young people were involved in other reforms and protests such as the ~~Pro~~ Students for a Democratic Society and their ~~goals as stated in the~~ ~~Port~~ ~~document~~ <sup>goals as stated in the</sup> ~~Port~~ <sup>document</sup>. All in all, the Vietnam War ~~did not~~ impacted neither JFK nor the youth to a great extent during the early sixties.

This changed ~~at~~ from 1964 to 1968, for in that time the Vietnam War had a large impact on the president, Lyndon B Johnson, and on the youth. ~~That~~ <sup>Though</sup> ~~Johnson~~ Johnson actually was more interested in domestic affairs and his Great Society programs, the Vietnam War and the escalation of troops would come to define his presidency. ~~That~~ ~~he~~ is remembered for the Tonkin Bay Resolution and the increased <sup>American</sup> commitment to a war which soon became a quagmire instead of for his substantial domestic

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reforms. In fact, LBJ did not run for reelection in 1968 because of the Vietnam conflict—the war had such a great impact that it "claimed a presidency." His decision was also based on the ~~next~~ huge protests against the war, which showed the huge impact the Vietnam War had on the people 18-35 during 1964 and 1968. These protests would come to define the youth, and ~~the~~ events such as the Washington Demonstration ~~was~~ where ~~the~~ tens of thousands of young people protested show the degree <sup>to which</sup> the war was on their mind. ~~The war~~ They were also impacted by the draft, which would ~~be~~ call 6,000 to service. The draft was one of the ~~as~~ reasons the youth protested, as they did not want to fight in a war they did not support. ~~The war~~ had a large impact during these middle years.

~~In the end of~~ Towards the end of the Vietnam War, it still had a great effect on the presidency and the youth, but this effect waned after 1973. ~~Nixon was~~ ~~they~~ ~~is~~ ~~was~~ The war ~~also~~ impacted the presidency at first, for Nixon



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5B  
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was elected and for his promise to end the war. Also, ~~he was supported~~ his program of Vietnamization was a large part of his foreign policy. He was held in favor by the public for ending the war in 1973, and until then the war had a large impact on his presidency. The protests also increased his paranoia and influenced his decision to start spying. However, the war was overshadowed by Watergate and Nixon's impeachment showing that by 1975, the war no longer influenced the presidency. As for the youth, the war ~~at~~ had a large impact on them until its end, as evidenced by the 1970 Kent State killings deaths of 4 protesters and the large dumber striations. However, by 1974 and 1975 the youth were focused on Watergate, and ~~protest~~ the removal of the draft also lessened the impact of the conflict on them.

~~AD~~ The Vietnam War significantly impacted the 60s and 70s, but the impact was lesser towards the beginning and end than the large impact in the mid years.

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5C  
1082

The Vietnam war was long, drawn out and leaked American budgets and support. During the time period of 1961 to 1975 it lost support on all fronts except the president. The Vietnam war ~~was~~ affected the presidency by making him unpopular, the draft took away America's youth, and the public withdrew its support of expansionism.

The Vietnam war influenced the presidency by making the public oppose all presidents supporting the war. When the war started, Lyndon B. Johnson had created mixed feelings about an unprovoked war, but had a good amount of supporters due to the public's confidence in US military to win against the 'uneducated' Vietnamese. As the war dragged on it became apparent that the Vietnamese were tougher to beat than expected; presidential policy approval ratings ~~was~~ suffered. After the Tet offensive, where Ho Chi Minh led a series of successful attacks on South Vietnam, the public's opinion soured greatly.

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

Mandatory <b>1</b>	Part B — Circle one <b>2 or 3</b>	Part C — Circle one <b>4 or 5</b>
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5C  
2 of 2

The population of 18 to 35 year olds, especially the draft was affected by the war. The countries main work force, fathers, and consumers left the country, and many soldiers died. The women ~~women~~ in this age group took on more jobs usually reserved for men, combined with the desire to prove themselves made them surprise and please employers. The My Lai Massacre; a soldier that went AWOL and killed a village of women, children, and the infirm, showed <sup>the effect of</sup> ~~the effect of~~ the terrors of war had done to many of the soldiers.

A result of the war was the public's support of isolationism. In the last years of the war, the army showed no defining victories that would signal the end of the war. The Cold War and The Vietnam war combined made ~~the~~ Americans want to focus internally on it's own issues, not waste anymore valuable American lives for someone else's benefit, and help their own country before others. The Vietnam war helped America realize when to admit defeat and how to balance domestic and foreign affairs.

**AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY**  
**2010 SCORING COMMENTARY (Form B)**

**Question 5**

**Sample: 5A**

**Score: 8**

This is a well-organized essay with a clear thesis that effectively analyzes the impact of the Vietnam War on the presidency and on the population of 18- to 35-year-olds. Substantial relevant information includes mention of Dwight Eisenhower, John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, the Great Society, Richard Nixon, the silent majority, the Pentagon Papers, Watergate, the Tet Offensive, the Free Speech Movement, Mario Savio, teach-ins, Yippies, containment, napalm and Agent Orange. One strength of the essay is the focus on presidential elections as a chosen definition of the presidency category. Lack of information specific to events and details of Vietnam with regard to elections and presidential authority, as well as a limited chronology that does not cover the whole period, kept the essay from receiving the top score.

**Sample: 5B**

**Score: 5**

This essay meets the minimum standards necessary to be included in the 5–7 scoring group. Addressing the issue of change over time, the essay posits that the Vietnam War affected the presidency and the nation’s young people in the 1960s and 1970s, with its most profound impacts occurring in the earlier period. This claim is fleshed out by ample information both general and specific (John Kennedy, the March on Washington, Students for a Democratic Society, Lyndon Johnson, the Tonkin Gulf Resolution, Richard Nixon, Vietnamization, Watergate, impeachment), and a degree of analysis that demonstrates an understanding of the period addressed by the question. The essay is acceptably organized and well written, but it does have minor flaws that kept it from receiving a higher score.

**Sample: 5C**

**Score: 2**

This essay begins with a confused thesis in the opening paragraph. Lyndon Johnson is the only president discussed, though the thesis suggests that the effects of the war on the presidency would be one area of focus. The impact of the war on the population between 18 and 35 years old is treated briefly. There are errors (My Lai involved “a soldier that went AWOL”; the public stopped supporting expansionism and began supporting “isolationism”). There is also some relevant historical information (Ho Chi Minh, My Lai, the Tet Offensive, the president’s lost popularity), but it was insufficient to raise the essay to a higher score.