

# AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY

## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question

Analyze the international and domestic challenges the United States faced between 1968 and 1974, and evaluate how President Richard Nixon’s administration responded to them.

#### The 8–9 Essay

- Contains a clear, well-developed thesis that:
  - Analyzes the international and domestic challenges the United States faced between 1968 and 1974.
  - Evaluates the Nixon administration’s responses to those challenges.
- Presents an effective analysis of the:
  - International and domestic challenges the United States faced between 1968 and 1974.
  - Nixon administration’s responses to those challenges.
    - Treatment of international and domestic components may be somewhat uneven.
    - Treatment of some aspects of international and domestic components may be intermingled.
- Effectively uses a substantial number of documents.
- Develops the thesis with substantial and relevant outside information.
- May contain minor errors that do not detract from the overall quality of the essay.
- Is well organized and well written.

#### The 5–7 Essay

- Contains a thesis that:
  - Addresses the international and domestic challenges the United States faced between 1968 and 1974.
  - Provides limited evaluation of the Nixon administration’s responses to those challenges.
  - May be only partially developed.
- Provides some analysis of the:
  - International and domestic challenges the United States faced between 1968 and 1974.
  - Nixon administration’s responses to those challenges.
    - Treatment of international and domestic components may be somewhat uneven.
    - Treatment of some aspects of international and domestic components may be intermingled.
- Effectively uses some documents.
- Supports the thesis with some relevant outside information.
- May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the overall quality of the essay.
- Has acceptable organization and writing.

#### The 2–4 Essay

- Contains an unfocused or limited thesis, or simply paraphrases the question.
- Deals with the question in a general manner; simplistic, superficial treatment of the subject.
- Merely paraphrases, quotes, or briefly cites documents.
- Contains little outside information, or lists facts with little or no application to the question.
- May have major errors.
- May be poorly organized and/or written.

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

#### The 0–1 Essay

- Contains no thesis or a thesis that does not address the question.
- Exhibits inadequate or incorrect understanding of the question.
- Has little or no understanding of the documents, or ignores them completely.
- Has numerous errors.
- Is organized and/or written so poorly that it inhibits understanding.

#### The — Essay

- Is completely off topic or blank.

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

#### Potential Domestic Topics for Examination

##### American Indian Movement

occupation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alcatraz, and Wounded Knee; Indian Self-Determination Act

##### Antiwar movement

Moratorium Day, SDS, Weatherman, Kent State University

##### Civil rights movement/white backlash

court-ordered busing, increased militancy, Black Panthers, Voting Rights Act extension, affirmative action

##### Energy crisis

Arab oil embargo, OPEC, stagflation

##### Environmental concerns

Environmental Protection Agency, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act

##### Gay liberation

Stonewall riot

##### Hispanic-American protest

Chavez, grape boycott, agreement with grape producers

##### Inflation/stagflation

wage and price controls, revenue sharing, impoundment, stagflation

##### Judicial activism

rights-of-the-accused cases, law-and-order campaign, Warren Court, busing

##### Presidential power

executive privilege/imperial presidency, tapes controversy, impoundment

##### Scandals in government

Watergate; Pentagon Papers; use of FBI, CIA, IRS, “plumbers”

##### Welfare reform

guaranteed annual income

##### Women’s liberation

Equal Rights Amendment, inclusion of women in the administration

##### Workplace safety

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

#### Potential Foreign Policy Topics for Examination

##### Chile

undermining of Salvador Allende

##### China

normalization of relations, Nixon’s visit, Sino-Soviet conflict

##### India and Pakistan

subtle support for Pakistan

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

#### Middle East

Yom Kippur War, OPEC, Arab oil embargo, shuttle diplomacy, U.S. support for shah of Iran

#### Philippines

support for Ferdinand Marcos

#### South Africa

support for white supremacist government

#### Soviet Union

détente, SALT I, ABM treaty, Nixon's visit to Moscow, Sino-Soviet conflict

#### War in Vietnam

Vietnamization, bombing, Paris Peace Accords, Cambodia

### Time Line of Events, 1968–1974

#### January 1968

- Tet Offensive

#### March 1968

- My Lai massacre occurs

#### November 1968

- Nixon elected president

#### March 1969

- Nixon orders secret bombings of Cambodia

#### May 1969

- Nixon orders FBI wiretaps to track the sources of leaks revealing secret bombings of Cambodia
- Nixon nominates Warren Burger as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

#### June 1969

- Stonewall riot

#### July 1969

- Apollo 11 lands on the moon
- Nixon Doctrine outlined

#### August 1969

- Family Assistance Plan (FPA) proposes welfare reform (does not pass in Congress)

#### October 1969

- "Moratorium" protests against the war in Vietnam

#### November 1969

- Nixon outlines "Vietnamization" policy
- Native Americans seize Alcatraz Island

#### April 1970

- First Earth Day celebrated
- Invasion of Cambodia

#### May 1970

- Kent State University, Jackson State College

#### December 1970

- Environmental Protection Agency established
- Clean Air Act of 1970

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

February 1971

- Nixon begins secretly taping conversations in the Oval Office and in the Cabinet Room

March 1971

- William Calley convicted of the My Lai massacre

April 1971

- *Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board*, court-ordered busing

June 1971

- Nixon opens trade with China
- *New York Times* publishes the “Pentagon Papers”
- 26th Amendment ratified

August 1971

- U.S. taken off the gold standard
- Wage and price controls implemented

February 1972

- Nixon visits People’s Republic of China

March 1972

- Congress approves the Equal Rights Amendment

May 1972

- Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I) signed

June 1972

- Watergate burglars arrested
- “Smoking gun” conversation between Nixon and Haldeman

November 1972

- Nixon is reelected

December 1972

- Christmas bombings of North Vietnam

January 1973

- *Roe v. Wade*
- Paris Peace Accords signed

February 1973

- American Indian Movement (AIM) seizes the site of the Wounded Knee massacre

July 1973

- Alexander Butterfield testifies to the existence of the White House taping system
- Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox requests specific tapes

October 1973

- Arab–Israeli War (Yom Kippur War)
- Arab oil embargo begins
- Saturday night massacre

November 1973

- War Powers Act passed
- “I am not a crook” speech

December 1973–May 1974

- House Judiciary Committee holds televised hearings on impeachment

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

July 1974

- *U.S. v. Nixon* decided
- House Judiciary Committee approves three articles of impeachment

August 1974

- “Smoking gun” tape made public.
- Nixon announces his resignation (August 8)

September 1974

- Nixon pardoned by Gerald Ford (September 8)

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

#### Potential Outside Information

affirmative action  
Agent Orange  
Agnew, Spiro  
Alaskan oil pipeline  
Alcatraz occupation, 1969  
Allende, Salvador, overthrown in Chile  
American Independent Party  
American Indian Movement  
Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty  
Apollo 11  
Arab oil embargo, 1973  
Armstrong, Neil  
Articles of impeachment  
Bernstein, Carl  
Black Panther Party  
block grants  
Bork, Robert  
Calley, William  
Cambodia invasion, 1970  
Chavez, Cesar  
Christmas bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong, 1972  
Clean Air Act, 1970  
Clean Water Act, 1972  
Columbia University (student takeover, 1968)  
Committee to Reelect the President (CREEP)  
Comprehensive Employment and Training Act  
court-ordered busing  
Cox, Archibald  
credibility gap  
Deep Throat  
deindustrialization  
Democratic National Convention, 1968  
détente  
devaluation of the dollar  
domino theory  
“doves”  
draft lottery system  
Earth Day, 1970  
Eastern liberal establishment  
eighteen-and-a-half-minute gap on Nixon tape transcript  
election of 1968  
election of 1972  
Ellsberg, Daniel  
enemies list  
energy czar  
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), 1970  
Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), 1971  
Ervin, Sam  
executive privilege  
“expletive deleted”  
Family Assistance Plan (FAP), 1969  
Felt, W. Mark  
“fire in the streets”  
Freedom of Information Act, 1974  
gold standard, U.S. removed from, 1971  
Gray, L. Patrick  
Guam Doctrine  
Gulf of Tonkin Resolution repealed, 1970  
“hawks”  
House Judiciary Committee  
Humphrey, Hubert  
Hunt, E. Howard  
Huston Plan  
“I am not a crook” speech (Nixon), 1973  
“I am now a Keynesian” speech (Nixon), 1971  
imperial presidency  
impoundment  
Indian Self-Determination Act, 1974  
Jackson State College  
Jaworski, Leon  
Johnson, Lyndon  
judicial activism  
Kennedy, Robert, assassination of  
Kent State University  
King, Jr., Martin Luther, assassination of  
Kissinger, Henry  
law-and-order campaign  
Le Duc Tho  
Liddy, G. Gordon  
“long hot summers”  
Marcos, Ferdinand  
McCarthy, Eugene  
McCord, James  
McGovern, George  
Moratorium Day, 1969  
My Lai massacre, 1968  
napalm  
National Environmental Protection Act, 1970  
National Liberation Front  
“nattering nabobs of negativism”  
New Federalism  
*New York Times v. the United States*, 1971

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Newton, Huey  
Nixon Doctrine  
Nixonomics  
Nixon pardoned by Ford, September 1974  
Nixon's vacation homes (San Clemente, Key Biscayne)  
Nixon's visit to China, 1972  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), 1970  
October War, 1973  
OPEC  
Operation Rolling Thunder  
Oval Office taping system  
paranoia  
Paris Peace Accords, 1973  
"peace is at hand"  
"peace with honor"  
Pentagon Papers, published 1971  
People's Park (Berkeley demonstrations, 1969)  
People's Republic of China  
"Philadelphia plan" (affirmative action)  
"ping-pong diplomacy"  
"plumbers"  
*Realpolitik*  
Red China  
revenue sharing  
Richardson, Elliot  
*Roe v. Wade*, 1973  
Saturday night massacre  
Seale, Bobby  
secret plan to end the war  
service strategy vs. income strategy  
shah of Iran  
shuttle diplomacy (Cairo, Tel Aviv, Damascus)  
Sino-Soviet conflict  
Sirica, John  
"smoking gun"  
"solid South"  
Southern Strategy  
space race  
special prosecutor  
spring mobilization (antiwar protests), 1968  
stagflation

State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act, 1972  
"stonewalling"  
Stonewall Riot (gay liberation, 1969)  
Strategic Arms Limitation Talks  
Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT I), 1972  
Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)  
Swann v. Charlotte/Mecklenberg Board of Education  
tape transcripts  
"Tears in the snow" speech (Edmund Muskie)  
Tet Offensive  
"The whole world is watching" (Democratic National Convention, 1968)  
*Tinker v. Des Moines*  
triangulation (Chinese-Soviet-U.S. diplomacy)  
26th Amendment, ratified 1971  
"unpardonable pardon"  
*U.S. v. Richard Nixon*  
Viet Cong  
Vietnamization  
Voting Rights Act of 1965 extension  
wage and price controls  
Wallace, George  
War Powers Act, 1973  
Watergate scandal  
Weatherman  
"white backlash"  
White House tapes controversy  
Woodstock festival, 1969  
Woodward, Bob  
Wounded Knee seizure, 1973  
Yom Kippur War

(Note: First names not contained in Document G may count minimally as outside information.)

Dean, John  
Ehrlichman, John  
Haldeman, H. R.  
Krogh, Egil "Bud"  
Magruder, Jeb Stuart  
Mitchell, John

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## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

#### Sources of the Documents

##### Document A

Richard Nixon, Acceptance Speech at the Republican National Convention, August 8, 1968.

##### Document B

President Richard Nixon's letter to Ho Chi Minh, July 15, 1969.

##### Document C

Consumer price index for 1968–1975. The consumer price index is a measure of changes in the prices paid by urban consumers for goods and services.

##### Document D

Richard Nixon, Address to the Nation on the War in Vietnam, November 3, 1969.

##### Document E

Kevin Phillips, Nixon strategist and author of *The Emerging Republican Majority* (1969), in an interview published in *The New York Times*, May 17, 1970.

##### Document F

Richard Nixon, Second Inaugural Address, January 20, 1973.

##### Document G

A cartoon by Herblock [Herbert L. Block], October 24, 1973.

##### Document H

Richard Nixon, Address to the Nation about National Energy Policy, November 25, 1973.

##### Document I

Marquis Childs, journalist, "The White House and the Media," speech at Johns Hopkins University, excerpt in *The Washington Post*, April 27, 1974.

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

1A  
1 of 4

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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When he took office in 1969, returning with vengeance after his defeat at the hands of Kennedy, Richard Nixon took control of a nation struggling under the weight of a foreign war without end and conflict within. Nixon campaigned with a promise to travel to Asia to bring about the end of the Vietnam war and this promise followed him heavily for the beginning of his presidency. The Nixon administration was plagued by the costly Vietnam War, a worrisome embargo on oil against the U.S.; and a stream of scandals and failed cover-ups that embarrassed the government and disgusted the American people.

The first, and possibly the greatest, problem that Nixon inherited was a long and costly war in Vietnam with no clear objective and no plans for an exit strategy, the war threatened to go on endlessly as an embarrassing stalemate. This was a success in itself for the guerillas, as proving that they could hold off the U.S. and continuing to fight was their only objective, but for the U.S. it was a divisive and disheartening war at home. The Nixon administration ~~worked to~~ strategy in Vietnam involved carpet bombing the North Vietnamese to bring them to the negotiating table (Doc B). This strategy brought about controversy at home as Vietnam was the first "living room war" where families could watch the casualties and horrors every night on their

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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1  
1A  
2 of 4

television sets. The prevalence of black and other minority soldiers working on the frontlines also alienated the African Americans from the Republican camp (Document E). Nixon's determination to find a way to "win" Vietnam eventually resulted in a weak treaty, which allowed the North Vietnamese to keep their troops on Southern soil and the American abandonment of South Vietnam followed by a cheap declaration of ~~peace~~ the administration's creation of a "lasting peace" which was almost immediately vitiated by the North Vietnamese (Document F). The Nixon administration's management of the Vietnam war ended in a long and costly failure due to a loss of public support, despite his appeals to the "silent majority" that ostensibly supported him.

The Nixon administration also struggled under the weight of an oil embargo by OPEC (the organization of oil producing countries) against the US. that caused a massive rise in the prices of fuel, food, and transport (Document C). This embargo, brought upon America as a result of its support of the state of Israel, hurt the economy at home despite Nixon's assurances. The Nixon administration worked to rise to the occasion imposing a national speed limit and gas holidays beginning the as yet unfulfilled presidential crusade to reduce American dependency on foreign oil (Document H). The American people's reaction to this

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

Mandatory ①	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1A

3 of 4

call, as it has always been, was lackluster. Despite the Nixon administration's rather able handling of this crisis, it lost political favor with the American people.

Nixon's presidency was, several times, rocked by scandal as sensitive information about its activities came to light. The administration's attempts to cover its tracks in these scandals often backfired horribly causing disgust with the political machine among the people. Misleading information over the war in Vietnam such as the Pentagon Papers, the Tet offensive, and the secret bombings in Cambodia led to a loss in confidence over the honesty of the American government (Document I). This revealed the suspicious beginnings, growing resistance of the Viet-Cong and Viet-Minh forces, and the misinformation used to hide these actions. <sup>However,</sup> the ~~final~~ scandal that was the final nail in the coffin of Nixon's presidency, ~~was~~ was the Watergate Scandal. In an attempt to spy on the Democratic headquarters in the Watergate Building, to ~~a~~ ~~secret~~ ~~the~~ ex-CIA agents were arrested. Through the investigation it was first revealed that many Nixon aides had known about this illegal activity and that the CIA had ~~illegally~~ tried to cover it up. The conspiracy finally worked its way back to Nixon despite his attempted evasions through sacrificing cronies

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

1A

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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and eventually giving up taped conversations. Document G). Nixon was forced to resign the presidency and submit to enormous backlash from the American people.

Despite its adept handling of the energy crisis in 1973, the Nixon administration was overshadowed by the failings of the ~~war~~ Vietnam war and the scandals and cover-ups that came to light. To its peril, the Nixon administration failed to hold the trust of the "silent majority" or satisfactorily resolve the conflict in Vietnam or Cambodia. These failures darken all of Nixon's successes and hang over history's recollection of him to this day.

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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1 of 3

The United States faced several internal and external conflicts between the years 1968 and 1974. During this time, President Richard Nixon and his administration attempted to resolve those challenges. However, they appeared to do better with international issues compared to the handling of domestic affairs.

A large international dispute that plagued the United States during the Nixon era was the stalemate Vietnam War. At the start of his presidency, the Vietnam war had thousands of ~~troops~~ American troops in it for several years. As presented in Document B, many citizens of the U.S., including the president, felt that the war had "gone on too long" and should be brought to an end. In order to slowly and effectively hand the war over to the South Vietnamese and get the American soldiers out of the country, President Nixon used Vietnamization. He cleverly used this plan by training the people of Southern Vietnam how to fight while more and more Americans left the warfront. President Nixon handled the Vietnam war well in the sense of how to get his people out of the never-ending conflict.

In addition to the Vietnam War, <sup>tension</sup> ~~tension~~ ~~between~~ among the communist countries of China and the Soviet Union with the United States was still an international issue. Nixon and his administration responded to this by using the diplomatic strategy of Détente. This strategy included the president making appearances in both communist countries to negotiate and, therefore, <sup>create</sup> ~~creating~~ suspicion and doubt between the Soviets and Chinese. The plan worked in the idea that the countries signed ~~disarmament~~ treaties to reduce their arms and the amount of hostility towards the United States; it was an intelligent plan on Nixon's part.

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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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During the Nixon presidency, there was also an Energy Crisis that occurred internationally. OPEC created an embargo of oil on the United States. President Nixon responded well to try and keep America's economy up while this crisis occurred. To Document H, it states that Nixon increased the supply of heating oil, closed gasoline stations on the weekends, and established a speed limit throughout the country in order to save the economy by saving money and energy. In addition to these steps, he also created odd/even days for license plates in order to only have so many people to fill up their automobile at gas stations during this time. Even though the American people were frustrated, <sup>Nixon</sup> he kept the United States out of a depression by implementing these steps.

Unfortunately, President Nixon and his administration did not have as much luck with domestic affairs that went on between 1968 and 1974. For example, when the president ~~chose~~ <sup>ordered</sup> the bombing of Cambodia in order to help the Vietnam War, the American people were furious, especially college students. Protests against the war broke out on several university campuses; a famous one is the student protest that was at Kent State University. In response, the president sent the National Guard to the campus to quiet the rioting, however the troops didn't just quiet the <sup>crowd</sup> ~~campus~~. An open fire resulted in four students being shot and killed and more anger erupted from American citizens.

Also domestically, was the Watergate Scandal that happened during Nixon's presidency. Government officials broke into Watergate to tap the lines of the Democratic party and were caught. The president tried to cover up the whole incident by doing things like <sup>trying</sup> ~~paying~~ to bribe CIA officials not

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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1B  
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to investigate certain things. Eventually, it was discovered that Nixon recorded meetings in the White House on tapes. While put on trial for the Watergate Incident, however, he claimed "executive privilege" saying that he didn't have to show the tapes and they couldn't be used for evidence. The political cartoon of Document G, shows Nixon withholding tapes from Congress and leaving "bones" for them to go after instead. Because of all this, the American people were determined that they could not trust the government anymore. They were full of anger and frustration towards the secrets the president kept from the public. As described in Document I, the secrets and cover-ups paid a "heavy price" on the minds and feelings of the American people; President Nixon did not handle the situation well.

President Richard Nixon ~~struggled~~<sup>was</sup> faced with many conflicts during his presidency and he attempted to respond to them in a way that would benefit not harm his country. In respect to international disputes, he handled them ~~the~~ in the right way in order to get America out of ~~the~~<sup>disputes</sup>. However, domestically his decisions weren't as good at keeping peace, which is why he had to resign from his position even though his foreign affairs ideas were ~~not~~ successful.

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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Between 1968 and 1974, the Vietnam war, difficulty with home policies and commerce, and relations with communist countries plagued the U.S. President Nixon's administration responded to each of these through force or negotiation for peace. Nixon's primary "... desire to work for a just peace" (Doc. B) was portrayed through his actions. As he stated in his first Acceptance Speech on August 8, 1968, "... when the President of the United States cannot travel abroad... without fear of a hostile demonstration — then it's time for new leadership for the United States of America. (Doc. A). Throughout his presidency, Nixon worked to create better relations and improve peace for the country.

The Vietnam War began with the Communist North Vietnamese invasion of South Vietnam. With the U.S.'s policies of containment and massive retaliation, troops were dispatched to the area. When Nixon became president, the Vietnam war had stretched on for four years. While Nixon continued the fighting, he made attempts to negotiate with North Vietnamese leader Ho Chi Minh. In a letter to the President, Ho Chi Minh stated, "... the United States must cease the war... and withdraw their troops from South Vietnam." (Doc. B). This, the unwillingness to compromise was shown by the Communist nation. The Vietnam War

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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also caused problems in the U.S.. Riots broke out across the country as people protested the troops being in the war. This spawned Nixon's new approach as being for the "Silent Majority." However, even these supporters of Nixon were alarmed with "... the secret bombing of Cambodia..." (Doc. I). While North Vietnam had been using the country, Nixon had formally announced Cambodia would not be harmed. This action threw the people in confusion and caused distrust towards politicians.

Various policies were instituted during this period, including the Voting Rights Act of 1970 and the National Energy Policy in 1973. The Voting Rights Act caused worry within the Republican Party over too much Democratic support (Doc. E). Yet, the Act was never weakened and was fully enforced. On the other hand, this did not prevent "... unprecedented racial violence." (Doc. A.), not only from natives of America but immigrants as well. The National Energy Policy in 1973 reduced "... the amount of gasoline ... across the Nation by 15 percent." (Doc. H.). This was Nixon's defense against the energy crisis beginning to envelope the United States. In addition to an energy crisis, there was ~~also~~ a small crisis in commerce. Prices of goods during these

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

1C

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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years sky-rocketed and wages didn't increase. Nixon did not politically respond to this problem.

Relations with communist countries were a large issue. The Cold War was ending, and Nixon was trying to create better relations with China and Russia. While the U.S. still advocated containment and massive retaliation, Nixon sent a delegate to Peking, China and himself went to Moscow, Russia. During those negotiations, Nixon was able to bring about a shaky peace. With Russia, he passed such acts as SALT, which helped against danger of a nuclear war. As Nixon stated in his second Inaugural Address, "... we were to establish the base for a new and more durable pattern of relationships among the nations of the world." (Doc. F).

Though Nixon was faced with the Vietnam War, difficulty in home policies and commerce, and relations with communist countries, he was able to diplomatically keep peace. During the period between 1968 and 1974, the Nixon administration passed various bills and Acts from SALT with Russia to the Voting Rights Act to protect African American suffrage. While not all of his policies were successful, Nixon helped set the base for relations with China and Russia in the future and aided Civil Rights in the U.S.

# AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES HISTORY 2011 SCORING COMMENTARY

## Question 1

### Overview

The document-based question asked students to analyze the international and domestic challenges the United States faced between 1968 and 1974 and to evaluate how Richard Nixon's administration responded to them. The question measured students' grasp of international and domestic issues between 1968 and 1974 and the Nixon administration's reaction to those challenges.

### Sample: 1A

**Score: 8**

This clearly organized and well-written essay uses a range of documents effectively, addressing and analyzing both challenges and responses in Nixon's foreign and domestic policies. It also accurately incorporates rich outside information (OPEC, Israel, Pentagon Papers). Minor errors do not detract from the overall strength of this essay.

### Sample: 1B

**Score: 6**

This essay is very comprehensive in scope, with a good deal of outside information (détente, Kent State, executive privilege, Vietnamization). However, the presence of several minor errors (Nixon's "trying to bribe CIA officials," for example) kept it from the top of its category.

### Sample: 1C

**Score: 3**

This is a superficial essay that uses some of the documents — occasionally incorrectly. Analysis is slight, and the essay contains errors about Cambodia, infers Nixon's support of the "Voting Rights Act of 1970," and presents a fundamental misunderstanding of Document E, all of which cumulatively and substantially detract from its attempt at incorporating some partial outside information.