

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY

2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 3

Analyze how western expansion contributed to growing sectional tensions between the North and South. Confine your answer to the period from 1800 to 1850.

The 8–9 Essay

- Contains a clear, well-developed thesis that addresses how western expansion contributed to sectional tensions between the North and South from 1800 to 1850.
- Develops the thesis with substantial and relevant historical information about how western expansion contributed to growing sectional tensions between the North and South from 1800 to 1850.
- Provides effective analysis of how western expansion contributed to growing sectional tension between the North and South from 1800 to 1850; coverage of the time period may be somewhat uneven.
- 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 partially developed thesis that addresses how western expansion contributed to sectional tensions between the North and South from 1800 to 1850.
- Supports the thesis with some relevant historical information about how western expansion contributed to growing sectional tensions between the North and South from 1800 to 1850.
- Provides some analysis of how western expansion contributed to sectional tension between the North and South from 1800 to 1850; coverage of the time period may be uneven.
- May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.
- Has acceptable organization and writing.

The 2–4 Essay

- Contains an unfocused or limited thesis or simply paraphrases the question.
- Provides minimal relevant information or lists facts with little or no application to the question.
- May address the question only partially, with limited or no analysis.
- May have major errors.
- May be poorly organized, poorly written, or both.

The 0–1 Essay

- Lacks a thesis or simply restates the question.
- Demonstrates an incompetent or inappropriate response or is off topic (zero).
- Has numerous errors.
- Is organized or written so poorly that it inhibits understanding.

The — Essay

- Is completely blank.

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Question 3 (continued)

Potential Outside Information

1800–1819

- James Monroe and Robert Livingston were instructed to buy New Orleans and as much land as they could get for \$10 million (1803); if they were unsuccessful they could open talks for an alliance with Great Britain.
- Toussaint L' Ouverture thwarted Napoleon's plans to reconquer Santo Domingo, with Louisiana serving as a food source and a staging area.
- Louisiana Purchase (1803):
 - President Thomas Jefferson (1801–1809) — issue of strict construction
 - Napoleon
 - Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804) (Corps of Discovery)
- Steamboat travel (1807) — Robert Fulton built the first American steamboat; led to the success of the Midwest's water transportation system.
- National Road or Cumberland Road (1811) was the first major improved highway in the United States to be built by the federal government; Cumberland, MD, to Vandalia, IL. This road facilitated westward migration and the shipment of products. Construction ended following the Panic of 1837.
- War of 1812 — War Hawks wanted Canada and Florida and an end to American Indian raids on the western frontier.
- American System of Henry Clay (1816) supported a high tariff to protect American industries and generate revenue for the federal government; continuation of the Bank of the United States; development of a system of internal improvements to tie the nation together, which would be financed by profits from the tariff, the bank, and the sale of western lands.
- Erie Canal (1817–1825) was built entirely with New York state funding; connected Troy (near Albany, New York) on the Hudson River with Buffalo and the Great Lakes; helped to cement an East/West alliance furthered by transportation improvements; aided settlers traveling west; began the canal era (1820–1850) in the United States, which connected farms and towns of the Great Lakes region with cities in the East.
- Rush-Bagot Agreement (1817) was made between the United States and Great Britain, demilitarizing the Great Lakes.
- Convention of 1818, a treaty between the United States and Great Britain, established the boundary between the United States and Canada at the 49th parallel between the Lake of the Woods and the Rocky Mountains; provided for a 10-year joint occupation of the Oregon Territory by the United States and Great Britain.
- Adams-Onís Treaty (1819) was a treaty between the United States and Spain negotiated by Secretary of State John Quincy Adams; the United States acquired Florida from Spain, and the treaty established a boundary line between Spanish territory and the United States.

1820–1830

- Missouri sought admission to the Union as a slave state (1819); it was the first state asking to be created from the Louisiana Purchase.
- Tallmadge Amendment (1819) was proposed by Representative James Tallmadge, Jr.; amendment was passed by the House of Representatives but defeated by the Senate. Tallmadge proposed that no more slaves could be brought into Missouri and that the children of slaves already there should be emancipated.
- Missouri Compromise/Compromise of 1820 (11 slave and 11 free states when Missouri asked to be admitted to the Union as a slave state) was authored by Henry Clay, "the Great Compromiser."

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Question 3 (continued)

- Maine was admitted as a free state; Missouri, as a slave state; all future states north of 36 degrees 30 minutes, with the exception of Missouri, would come into the Union as free states.
- “Fire bell in the night” — “but this momentous question, like a fire bell in the night, awakened and filled me with terror” (quote by Thomas Jefferson in 1820).
- Tariff issues arose, from the Tariff of Abominations (1828) to the Compromise Tariff of 1833, particularly if used to explain that money from the tariff could be used to fund western internal improvements.

1830–1839

- Abolitionist movement took on new momentum (1830s and forward). William Lloyd Garrison published *The Liberator* (1831–1866); Frederick Douglass published *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845); *The North Star*; Harriet Tubman.
- Railroads begin to replace canals as the heart of the American transportation system (1830s and forward); most railroads ran east to west, helping to cement the North/West alliance.
- Webster–Hayne Debate (1830) took place in the United States Senate between Senator Daniel Webster of Massachusetts and Senator Robert Y. Hayne of South Carolina on the topic of protectionist tariffs. The heated speeches derived from debate over a resolution to stop the introduction of new lands onto the market.
- Gag rule was adopted (1836); this informal rule in Congress allowed slavery petitions to the House of Representatives to be automatically tabled, thus putting off divisive debates over the issue of slavery. The use of the gag rule lasted until 1844.
- Texas War for Independence (1835–1836) — Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren proposed recognition of independence but declined to annex Texas to the Union, partly because of the outcry by Whig abolitionists in the North who were dismayed by the number of slaveholders already in Texas.
- Indian Removal — “Trail of Tears” took place in 1838–1839.

1840–1850

- Liberty Party (1840) was an antislavery party whose first candidate for president (1840) was James G. Birney.
- Webster–Ashburton Treaty (1842) settled the dispute regarding the northern boundary of Maine along the Canadian border.
- “Oregon Fever” (1842 and forward) saw settlers move to the Willamette Valley, south of the Columbia River; Oregon Trail was created.
- Term “Manifest Destiny” was coined by John L. O’Sullivan, editor of the *Democratic Review*. O’Sullivan wrote of “our manifest destiny to overspread and to possess *the whole of the continent* which Providence has given us for the development of the great experiment of liberty and federated self-government entrusted to us.”
- Election of 1844 — “a mandate for annexation”:
 - James K. Polk (Democrat) favored westward expansion.
 - “54 40 or fight”
 - “Re-annexation of Texas and the Reoccupation of Oregon”
 - Henry Clay (Whig) straddled the slavery issue, losing him votes; initially was against the annexation of Texas but changed his mind.
 - James G. Birney (Liberty) cost Clay the election by taking away votes in New York; opposed expansion of slavery.

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Question 3 (continued)

- Annexation Resolution for Texas (1845) — President John Tyler convinced Congress to pass a joint resolution that annexed Texas and admitted it to the Union as a slave state; he signed the resolution three days before he left office.
- Boundary disagreements took place between Mexico and the United States (1846) — Nueces, Rio Grande; Zachary Taylor at the Rio Grande.
- Oregon Treaty (1846) resulted in the British–American boundary being set at the 49th parallel.
- Mexican–American War (1846–1848) — Conscience Whigs, or antislavery Whigs, were opposed to the war but Cotton Whigs favored the war; Polk’s opponents charged him with provoking the war to satisfy a “slave power” in the South.
 - Bear Flag Republic was established in California (1846) — John C. Fremont.
 - Wilmot Proviso (1846) was proposed by David Wilmot, representative from Pennsylvania; said that “slavery shall never exist in any territory acquired from Mexico”; passed in the House but not in the Senate; symbolized the issue of slavery in the territories.
 - Spot Resolutions — Abraham Lincoln, a Whig representative from Illinois, requested President Polk to delineate the exact spot on American soil on which blood was spilled to begin the Mexican–American War. Lincoln’s resolutions were a direct challenge to the power of the Democratic president, James K. Polk; “American Blood Spilled on American Soil”; “Mr. Polk’s War.”
 - Military leaders: Generals Zachary Taylor (Old Rough and Ready, “hero of Buena Vista”); Winfield Scott (Old Fuss and Feathers):
 - Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848) was signed by Nicholas Trist; confirmed the United States title to Texas and gave the United States the Mexican Cession, which included California; the United States agreed to pay \$15 million for the land and assumed a \$3,250,000 payment to United States citizens with claims against Mexico.
- Election of 1848:
 - Lewis Cass (Democrat) — popular sovereignty or squatter sovereignty; popular sovereignty left it to the people in the territories to decide whether they wanted to enter the union as citizens of free or slave states.
 - Zachary Taylor (Whig)
 - Martin Van Buren (Free Soil) opposed the expansion of slavery; in 1848 antislavery Whigs joined with members of the Liberty Party to form the Free Soil Party, a third party that opposed the idea of popular sovereignty proposed by Lewis Cass. The party’s slogan was “Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Labor, and Free Men.” Its ideas were absorbed by the Republican Party in 1854.
- California Gold Rush (1848) — Forty-niners soon increased California’s population to 100,000; spurred westward migration.
- Henry David Thoreau published “Civil Disobedience” (1849).
- California applied for statehood as a free state (1849).
- Compromise of 1850 (Henry Clay, “Omnibus Bill”; Stephen Douglas supported Clay’s proposed compromises):
 - California was to be admitted as a free state (16 free states and 15 slave states).
 - New Mexico and Utah territories were opened to popular sovereignty.
 - Texas lost land (to the northwest) that would probably become free territory and was paid \$10 million by federal government.
 - Slave trade (not slavery) was banned in Washington, D.C.

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Question 3 (continued)

- A stricter Fugitive Slave Law was passed, with heavy fines and jail sentences for those who helped runaway slaves escape, as the South was losing about a thousand runaway slaves a year. Personal liberty laws were passed in the North as a response; fugitive slaves were rescued.
- Clay/Webster/Calhoun Senate debates (1850) took place; Calhoun rejected Clay's compromise because it did not protect Southern rights: "The South! The South! God knows what will become of her!" Daniel Webster (7th of March Speech) was called a traitor to the North when he urged all reasonable concessions to the South: "Let us not be pygmies in a case that calls for men." President Taylor died in the middle of the Senate debates, and the new president, Millard Fillmore, signed the compromise measures into law.

The antebellum period from 1800 to 1850 marked a time of ~~exposed~~ ^{immerse} sectionalism in American history, which grew ever more intense due to the added conflict of how to embrace new territories gained during Western expansion. While philosophies of Manifest Destiny ~~and~~ were widespread among the whole country, the South wanted new slave territories while the North wanted to contain the spread of slavery. Western expansion contributed to growing sectional tensions between the North and the South moderately between 1800 and 1820 and intensely in the period from 1820-1850.

The period from 1800 to 1820 marked a time of large Western territorial expansion that only moderately increased the sectionalism of the United States North and South. President Jefferson ^{obtained} ~~purchased~~ the Louisiana purchase from France around 1803, gaining land East of the Mississippi River. As Lewis and Clark explored this area ~~and~~ others began to populate it, tensions between the North and South did not increase greatly. An act was passed stating that states with a certain number of inhabitants could be added to the union, and ~~new~~ states peacefully joined the original 13 colonies. During the Adams-Onís treaty with Spain, Florida was also added to the United States peacefully ~~and~~ too much increased tension. Though the cotton gin, created by Whitney in the 1790s, and king cotton made the South dependent on slaves while proponents like Garrison and Douglas in the North grew support for the containment of slavery, sectionalism was only moderately increased by

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

territorial expansion before 1820. Many Americans were more focused on the war of 1812 than the issue of slavery.

The period from 1820 to 1850, however, marked a period of great sectionalism resulting from western expansion. The Missouri compromise of 1820, promised by Henry Clay, allowed ^{free state} Maine to be added to the union as well as slave state Missouri. It also banned slavery above the 36° parallel and stated that states below this Mason-Dixon line could decide their legality of slavery by popular sovereignty. This demonstrated the sectionalism that existed due to the acquisition of Missouri because it took a significant compromise for the country to peacefully add Missouri as a state, with neither side (the North or the South) wanting the other section to have more states and thus more representation in the senate. Further sectionalism was demonstrated by the need for the gag rule, which disallowed congress from discussing the issue of slavery for 30 years (it lasted ~~for~~ over a decade). The issue was reopened, however, with the western expansion of Polk and the Mexican War. Polk, a large proponent of Manifest Destiny, aimed to expand the U.S. to include Oregon and California. ~~In 1845~~ ~~for the first time~~ The United States successfully added Oregon from the French Canadians up to the 54° parallel. The Mexican American war, which occurred after the ^{freeing} ~~annexation~~ of Texas from ^{Mexico} ~~the U.S.~~, resulted in land acquired through the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in 1848, which gave the U.S. much new territory.

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

3A

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

Though members of the house tried to pass the Wilmot proviso to bar slavery in the Mexican session territory, southerners opposed this. Sectionalism over how to decide the slavehood of new land created gridlock and bitter tension. One congressman named Sumner has even cared by a southern congressman in a debate related to the issue of slavery. Finally the compromise of 1850 was passed, which declared that popular sovereignty would determine the slavery of land in the Mexican session, that a fugitive slave law force allow the South to collect runaway slaves, that the slave trade in D.C. would be abolished, that California would be added as a free state, and that Texas would pay \$10 million to the federal government. Still sectionalism prevailed, and the U.S. grew closer and closer to civil war with each land-related debate.

The South even tried to pass the Ostend Manifesto in an effort to add Cuba to the Union as a slave state. This secret conspiracy failed, but still represents sectionalism, as an entire portion of the country acted autonomously to secretly purchase an additional state as a method of gaining power over their northern neighbors and countrymen.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

Between the Election of 1800 (later^{also} known as the "Revolution of 1800") and the compromise of 1850, westward expansion was high and very controversial. Tensions between the North and South began to rise as the question "slavery or not?" was asked as more people settled in the West. With new land, new people, and new ideas floating around, the North and South began to break.

First, Thomas Jefferson, the writer of the Declaration of Independence + 3rd president of the United States, purchased the Louisiana Purchase of 1803 from Napoleon Bonaparte ~~and the French Republic~~ for \$15 million. This not only led to political division between the North and South United States, but also led to the major question of slavery, which also ~~was~~ was a breaking factor between the North and South. Since new land meant new orders and new laws, many new ideas for what the land might be used for arose. Out of these ideas came different compromises, including the Missouri Compromise of 1820.

The Missouri Compromise of 1820 was very controversial. Since ~~the~~ Missouri wanted to become a ~~free~~ slave state, Southerners automatically supported it. However, making Missouri a slave state would upset the ratio of free to slave states in the U.S. A compromise had to be reached in order to make both sides happy. In the end, Missouri was admitted as a slave state, and Maine was admitted as a free state. This also led

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

Part A — Mandatory
1

Part B — Circle one
2 or (3)

Part C — Circle one
4 or 5

3B
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to the new creation of laws out west. From then on (until the compromise was "thrown out"), any state above the Missouri border at the 36° 30" parallel was to be free in the west, while any state below could be slave.

When the Missouri Compromise began to be questioned with the Kansas-Nebraska Act, changes for westward land expansion had to come about again. This act led to a major controversy between the North and South because of popular sovereignty— to allow states to vote to see whether or not they should be admitted as slave or free. Tensions were now almost to a boiling point, and were beginning to become more prominent.

Lastly, the compromise of 1850, written ~~and~~ by Stephen Douglas was another major benefactor from westward expansion causing tension in the United States. Even though it (as a whole) ended in an omnibus Bill, it was still very controversial to the North and South. It held more of a northern opinion to the compromise, which angered southerners. Also, the idea of popular sovereignty was questioned and made southerners even angrier.

Westward expansion was one of the major contributors to growing tensions between the North and South because it was so controversial. ~~and~~ With many compromises made to try and keep everyone happy and also to help out the west, it only made tensions worse.

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

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or ③

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

3C
1 of 2

Western expansion began with Pres. Thomas Jefferson's decision to purchase the Louisiana ~~territory~~ territory from Napoleon for \$15 million dollars. The United States need more land to farm in order to achieve partial independence from British mercantism. The issue of slavery came more controversial in 1820 with the Missouri Compromise. The compromise drew a $36^{\circ} 30'$ line that would keep land ~~below~~ below that line slave states and above the line free, with the exception of Missouri. Maine would also be admitted into the country as a free state. The main purpose of the compromise was to keep a balance between ~~the~~ free and slave states. A main reason why the North did not have slavery was because it was based on an industrial economy and slaves ~~to~~ hurt job opportunities. Northerners wanted their jobs, thus leading to the outlaw of slaves and the Free-Sailer party. §

The U.S. encouraged the western expansion more by passing the Homestead Act which gave ~~the~~ the opportunity to purchase large pieces of land at low prices. Many Americans were excited to have their own property and moved west.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or **(3)**

Part C — Circle one

4 or **5**

3C

The Homestead Act brought the U.S. a lot of money, the land purchased for \$15 mil was sold to Americans for \$100 mil. Moving westward meant expansion of slavery into this territory which increased tensions. The idea of Manifest Destiny led the U.S. into the Mexican-American war which was fought for land of south-western territories. The Free-Soiler party was opposed to the war because according to the Missouri Compromise, any land won from Mexico would end up ~~being~~ becoming slave states. Republicans proposed the Wilmot Proviso which stated that any land won from Mexico would be free states. This passed through the Senate, but not the House. The Wilmot Proviso heightened tensions because Southern Democrats were angered by the Republicans ~~intent~~ intent to reverse the Missouri Compromise.

In the Compromise of 1850, the North was victorious because the Fugitive slave law only angered Northerners into wanting to go to war with the South. California also is admitted as a free state, permanently tipping the balance between free and slave states.

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY 2012 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 3

Overview

This question asked students to analyze how western expansion contributed to growing sectional tensions between North and South in the period 1800–1850. It required students to discuss the people, places, and events that were involved with western expansion during this period and to show how western expansion contributed to the growing tensions between North and South. The question tested the historical thinking skills of cause and effect, chronological reasoning, and change over time.

Sample: 3A

Score: 7

This essay has a well-developed thesis accompanied by analysis and substantial relevant information that reveal an understanding of the issues (“containment of slavery”; “gridlock and bitter tension”). Although there is limited treatment of the Compromise of 1850, coverage of the other topics is strong. Minor errors (“French Canadians”) and information after 1850 do not detract from the overall argument.

Sample: 3B

Score: 5

This essay’s strength is its discussion of the Louisiana Purchase and the Missouri Compromise. It appropriately links the Kansas-Nebraska Act to the Missouri Compromise. The discussion of the Compromise of 1850 is limited, but the connections between westward expansion and sectional tensions are enough to have put the essay in the 5–7 category.

Sample: 3C

Score: 2

This essay begins appropriately with information on the Missouri Compromise but offers further supporting evidence (e.g., the Homestead Act, references to Republicans) that is erroneous or outside the time period. Confused chronology put this essay in the 2–4 category.