Short Answer Question 1

Using the graph above, answer (a), (b), and (c).

a) Briefly explain how ONE major historical factor contributed to the change depicted on the graph.

b) Briefly explain ONE specific historical effect that resulted from the change depicted on the graph.

c) Briefly explain ANOTHER specific historical effect that resulted from the change depicted on the graph.

**Scoring Guide**

0–3 points

Score 3
Response accomplishes all three tasks set by the question.

Score 2
Response accomplishes two of the tasks set by the question.

Score 1
Response accomplishes one of the tasks set by the question.

Score 0
Response accomplishes none of the tasks set by the question.

Score NR
Is completely blank
Scoring Notes

a) Briefly explains how ONE major historical factor contributed to the change depicted on the graph.

Examples of responses to (a) that would earn the point:

- Expanding market economy in the United States in the antebellum period
- Opportunities for land
- Homesteading, farming, and pioneering in the West
- Domestic service and factory positions (textiles, shoes, etc.) in the East and Midwest
- Contract immigration labor also brought over in this period
- Attraction of religious freedom and/or economic opportunity for Irish and Germans
- Push factors from Europe (e.g., religious persecution, Irish potato famine, lack of opportunity)

b/c) Briefly explains ONE specific historical effect that resulted from the change depicted on the graph.

Examples of responses to (b) and (c) that would earn the points:

- Demographic concentration of immigrants in northeastern cities.
- Growing nativist (anti-immigration) movement in the United States.
- Anti-Catholic movement.
- Concerns about ethnic enclaves and political power of immigrants.
- Formation of political parties that had a nativist platform (e.g., Know-Nothings) while other parties sought to capitalize on immigrant vote, in particular urban Democrats in New York City and Boston.
- Immigrants became the labor force that built the canals and antebellum regional railroads, and they helped shaped the infrastructure of the country.
- Immigration increased divisions between the North and the South: North and Upper Midwest characterized by free, immigrant labor while South and Southwest by enslaved labor.
- Immigration helped shape a new national culture.
- Immigrants created their own ethnic cultures within the United States.
- Irish and German consumption and production of beer and wine contributed to early temperance activism.
a. The increase in immigration during the late 1800s was a result of hardships in other countries. In Ireland, the potato famine occurred when a disease ruined all the potatoes so Irish immigrants fled to the northeastern United States. This occurred in 1848. The Irish fled in hopes of a better life, such as getting their own farm.

b. A result from the influx of immigrants was the rise of xenophobia. Americans feared the growing population of immigrants would disrupt American culture. Many factories put up signs saying NINA, No Irish Need Apply, and the nativist attitude led to the creation of the Know Nothings, which would eventually become a political party.

c. Another effect of the increase in immigration is cheap labor. Many new immigrants would go work in factories for lower wages and longer hours. Also whenever workers would go on strike, (like in the Gilded Age) for example the Homestead strike, the company would hire temporary workers, or scabs, and the majority of the time these workers were immigrants. The availability of cheap labor from immigrants led the country to become more industrialized.
Write your answer to SECTION I: PART B, QUESTION 1 on this page only.

One major change that caused an influx of immigration was the increase of job availability. As the industrial revolution progressed, more and more factory jobs were available. Immigrants often came over to fill these factory jobs.

One major effect of the influx of immigration was an increase of negative feelings towards immigrants. The "true Americans" which had been living here for a long time thought the immigrants were stealing their jobs.

Another major effect was the creation of new legislation to handle this issue. An example is the 1910 limit applied to immigration. The immigrants were seen as a problem, which the government officials were trying to contain.
A. Because slavery was so popular in the south, many slaves were beginning to find passages other than just running away such as the Underground Railroad which took them to the North.

B. When the Great Depression had taken place in the mid 1800's people (Americans) were being to lose hope. Then after new government policies were passed notions from around the world began to see that America was great again and started to come.

C. America was becoming a more industrialized economy and had the rising of many industrial type jobs that immigrants would accomplish for a lower rate such as factory jobs.
Overview

This question asked students to evaluate a graph that depicts the rapid rise of immigration between 1820 and 1859 in order to explain what groups immigrated and what pushed and pulled them to the United States. Additionally, students were asked to briefly explain two historical effects of the immigration depicted (tasks b and c). The question assessed the historical thinking skill related to causation through both the evaluation of the graph and the explanation of historical effects. It additionally required students to evaluate and use historical information from across Period 4 (1800–1844) and Period 5 (1844–1877).

Sample: 1A
Score: 3

a) 1 point: This well-written response earned a point for identifying increased immigration in the given time period as a result of the potato famine in Ireland.

b) 1 point: The response earned a point as it connects xenophobia to the fear that “immigrants would disrupt American culture” thereby leading to the Know-Nothings.

c) 1 point: In spite of the reference to specific examples outside the period, the answer earned a point for noting that increased immigration made for “cheap labor.”

Sample: 1B
Score: 2

a) 1 point: This brief response earned a point for identifying that due to the Industrial Revolution “more and more factory jobs were available,” causing “an influx of immigration.”

b) 1 point: The response earned a point for the stating that “‘true Americans’” developed “negative feelings towards immigrants.”

c) 0 points: No point was awarded for this response because it incorrectly asserts that a “3% limit applied to immigration” during this period.

Sample: 1C
Score: 1

a) 0 points: This response did not earn a point since it discusses slavery, which is not connected to the information depicted on the graph.

b) 0 points: This confused response, locating the Great Depression in the 1800s, did not warrant a point.

c) 1 point: The response received a point for its mention of immigrants working factory jobs for lower wages in America’s “more industrialized economy.”