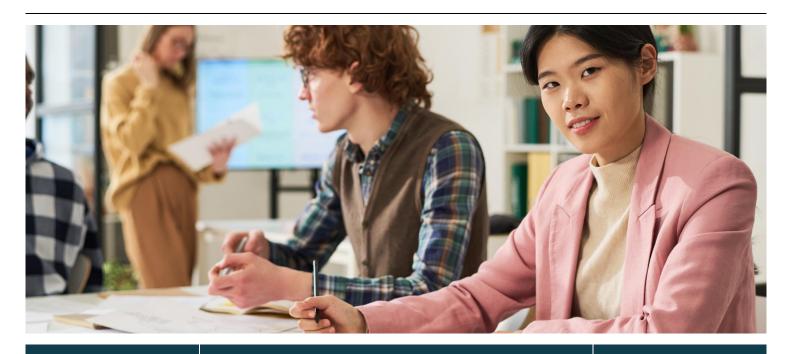


Social Studies

Free Half-Length Practice Test - FPT9



Language **English** Released 2025

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Social Studies

Directions

Time - 35 minutes

25 Questions

This is a test of your skills in analyzing social studies information. Read each question and decide which of the four options best answers the question. Then mark your choice on your answer sheet. Sometimes several questions are based on the same material. You should carefully read this material and then answer the questions.

Work as quickly as you can without becoming careless. Do not spend too much time on any question that is difficult for you to answer. Instead, skip it and return to it later if you have time. Try to answer every question even if you have to guess.

Mark all your answers on the answer sheet. Give only one answer to each question.

If you decide to change one of your answers, be sure to erase the first mark completely.

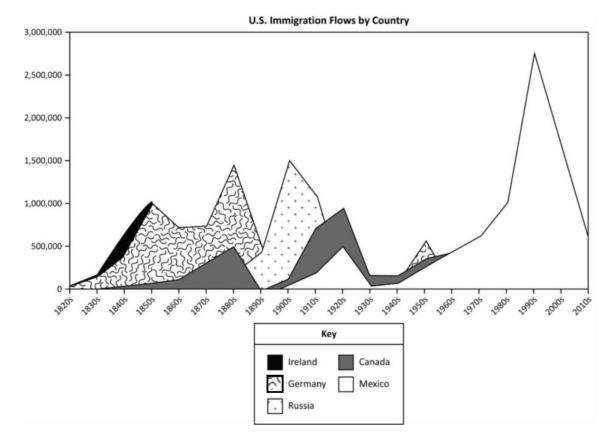
Be sure that the number of the question you are answering matches the number of the row of answer choices you are marking on your answer sheet. The answer sheet may contain more rows than you need.



Questions 1 through 5 refer to the following information.

Immigration to the United States

Since its founding, the United States has been a nation of immigrants. The graph shows the number of immigrants from five different countries to the United States from the 1820s to the 2010s.



1

Exactly when was the highest peak of German immigration into the United States?

- **A.** 1840s
- **B.** 1850s
- **C.** 1880s
- **D.** 1950s

2

Where did the largest group of immigrants to the United States come from around the beginning of the 1900s?

- A. Russia
- B. Mexico
- C. Germany
- D. Ireland

Approximately how much did Mexican immigration to the United States decline between the 1990s and the 2010s?

- **A.** 0.5 million
- **B.** 1 million
- C. 1.5 million
- **D.** 2 million

4 _____

In the late 1860s and 1870s, Canadians from Eastern Canada came to the U.S. to work in the burgeoning manufacturing sector.

When did the second wave of Canadian immigration to the U.S. reach its peak?

- **A.** 1900s
- **B.** 1910s
- **C.** 1920s
- **D.** 1930s

5

The first Russian revolution against the rule of the Russian tsar occurred in 1905, causing unrest and instability in Russia.

Approximately how many Russians immigrated to the United States at that time?

- **A.** 500,000
- **B.** 750,000
- C. 1.5 million
- **D.** 2.8 million

Questions 6 through 9 refer to the following information.

Members of the "Lynne Moore for Senator" campaign staff are meeting to discuss strategies to get their candidate elected. The following excerpts represent the viewpoints of four members of the campaign staff.

"Lynne Moore for Senator" Campaign

Staff Member 1

Voters in my part of the state make up their minds primarily on the basis of how issues impact them. We have to present to them a program of action that tries to meet their specific needs. For example, textile workers know the importance of tariffs and know what will happen to their jobs if there are changes in the duties on textile imports. To get their attention, I think Lynne needs to take a strong stand on this question.

Staff Member 2

In my part of the state, people tend to vote in blocs. There are two large blocs of voters. People at all income levels are members of one bloc. In good or bad economic times, they have usually supported candidates from our party. The other bloc consists primarily of middle-income earners. These people have usually voted for candidates from the other major party. Lynne must find a way to appeal to this other bloc of voters.

Staff Member 3

A candidate's honesty is the single most important factor for voters in my part of the state. Therefore, we need to emphasize Lynne's role in cleaning up the corruption at the state transportation department when she was the attorney general.

Staff Member 4

The people in my part of the state tend to be very traditional. Most have been supporters of Lynne's opponent, Senator Rodriguez, for years and see no reason to change their vote now. Their motto is "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." We have to convince them that, though the government "ain't broke" yet, it could profit from more innovative thinking.



6_____

Which two staff members indicate that people in their part of the state are unlikely to consider a candidate's political party when they vote?

- **A.** 1 and 2
- **B.** 1 and 3
- **C.** 2 and 3
- **D.** 2 and 4

7

Staff member 3 believes that voters are most influenced by

- **A.** issues that directly affect them.
- **B.** transportation issues.
- **C.** the character of the candidate.
- **D.** the previous experience of the candidate.

8 _____

Which two staff members seem the least optimistic about Lynne Moore's ability to win new supporters in their areas?

- **A.** 1 and 2
- **B.** 1 and 3
- **C.** 2 and 3
- **D.** 2 and 4

9

Which two staff members offer the most concrete suggestions to help Lynne Moore gain votes?

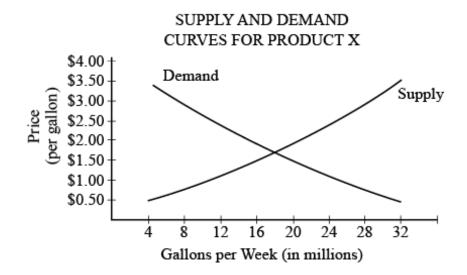
- **A.** 1 and 3
- **B.** 1 and 4
- **C.** 2 and 3
- **D.** 2 and 4

Questions 10 through 12 refer to the following information.

Supply and Demand

Supply curve: A graphical representation showing the relationship between the price of a product and the quantity of the product that suppliers will sell

Demand curve: A graphical representation showing the relationship between the price of a product and the quantity of the product consumers will buy





10 _____

At approximately what price does the supply of Product X equal the demand for the product?

- **A.** \$0.50
- **B.** \$1.50
- **C.** \$2.50
- **D.** \$3.50

11

If the price of Product X were higher than the equilibrium price, how would the market most likely respond?

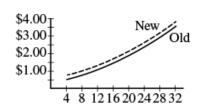
- **A.** The quantity supplied would decrease, and the quantity demanded would increase.
- **B.** The quantity supplied would decrease, and the quantity demanded would decrease.
- **C.** The quantity supplied would increase, and the quantity demanded would decrease.
- **D.** The quantity supplied would increase, and the quantity demanded would increase.

12

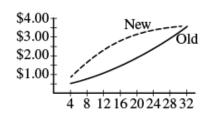
Assume that the cost of one of the raw materials necessary to produce Product X increases.

Which of the graphs below best illustrates how the new supply curve would compare with the old curve?

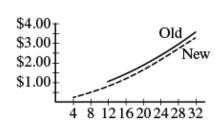
A.



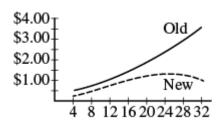
В.



C.



D.



Questions 13 through 17 refer to the following information.

Parts of four of the ten amendments to the United States Constitution that make up what is known as the Bill of Rights are given below.

Constitutional Amendments

First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble [...].

Fourth Amendment

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated [...].

Fifth Amendment

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury [...] nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself [...] nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Sixth Amendment

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, [...] to be confronted with the witnesses against him [...] and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.



This question consists of two parts: a description of a situation and an action. Decide which of the four amendments could best be used to support or challenge the action.

Situation: A group of citizens goes to a city council meeting to demand the resignation of the mayor. The mayor orders the police to remove them from the council hall.

Action: The group sues the council.

Which amendment could best be used to support this action?

- A. First
- **B.** Fourth
- C. Fifth
- D. Sixth

14

The right to freedom of speech protected by the First Amendment is not unlimited. Why?

- A. Because there is widespread disapproval of people who express extreme views
- **B.** Because the process of public criticism of opinions eliminates some opinions from serious consideration
- C. Because the widespread dissemination of a person's views is in practice often limited by lack of access to mass media
- D. Because some speech may incite people to violence or spread damaging lies about people

This question consists of two parts: a description of a situation and an action. Decide which of the four amendments could best be used to support or challenge the action.

Situation: A bank teller is arrested, tried, and found innocent of forgery. The teller later admits to the crime to friends.

Action: The authorities learn about the teller's confession and do nothing.

Which amendment could best be used to prevent the teller from being tried in court again?

- A. First
- **B.** Fourth
- C. Fifth
- D. Sixth

16

Which of the following actions is protected by one of the four amendments?

- **A.** A state decides the punishment for a crime.
- **B.** A company refuses to hire a person because of her age.
- C. A person accused of a crime declines to answer a question asked by a prosecutor in court.
- D. A state establishes a maximum time period within which a person who wishes to sue must file the suit.

This question consists of two parts: a description of a situation and an action. Decide which of the four amendments could best be used to support or challenge the action.

Situation: A person suspected of committing a crime is arrested. At the trial, the written testimony of a witness now living in another country is presented as evidence.

Action: The person's lawyer objects to this testimony, and the judge refuses to allow it to be presented.

Which amendment could best be used to support the action?

- A. First
- **B.** Fourth
- C. Fifth
- D. Sixth



Questions 18 and 19 refer to the following information.

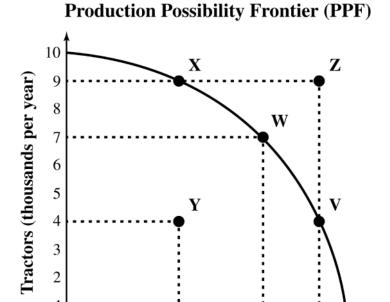
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2

3

The information below describes the output possibilities for one country.

Output Possibilities for One Country



The curve of this hypothetical PPF illustrates the current maximum possible output combinations for a country that produces only tractors and jets. Points falling directly on the curve represent the country's resources being used fully and efficiently. Any point inside the curve is attainable, although not as desirable as points on the curve. Any point outside the curve is not attainable given the country's current availability of resources and technology. Every move from one point on the PPF curve to another entails a tradeoff, sacrificing a certain amount of one good to produce a certain amount of another good.

5

Jets (hundreds per year)

6

10



18						

Which point on this PPF graph indicates an attainable output that does not fully utilize the country's resources?

- A. V
- **B**. X
- C. Y
- D. Z

19			
1.7			

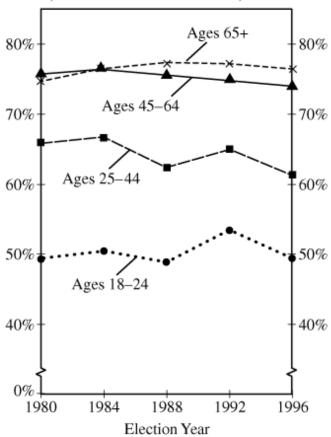
Which point on this PPF graph represents a currently unattainable output level for this country?

- A. V
- **B**. X
- C. Y
- **D**. Z

Questions 20 through 23 refer to the following information.

Trends of Eligible Voter Registration

PERCENTAGE OF UNITED STATES POPULATION WHO REGISTERED TO VOTE, BY FOUR AGE-GROUPS, 1980–1996





Which of the following two statements, if either, is supported by the information in the graph?

- I. During the period, older citizens registered to vote at higher levels than younger citizens.
- II. During the period, there was a steady decline in the percentage of younger citizens who registered to vote.
- **A.** I only
- **B.** Il only
- C. Both I and II
- **D.** Neither I nor II

21

Which age group shows the largest net increase in the percentage of registered voters from 1980 to 1996?

- **A.** 18-24
- **B.** 25-44
- **C.** 45-64
- **D.** 65+

22

The entry of a third-party candidate into the 1992 presidential race increased the voting public's interest in that particular election.

In which two age groups was voter registration most affected by the third-party entry?

- **A.** 18-24 and 25-44
- **B.** 18-24 and 65+
- **C.** 25-44 and 45-64
- **D.** 45-64 and 65+

23 _____

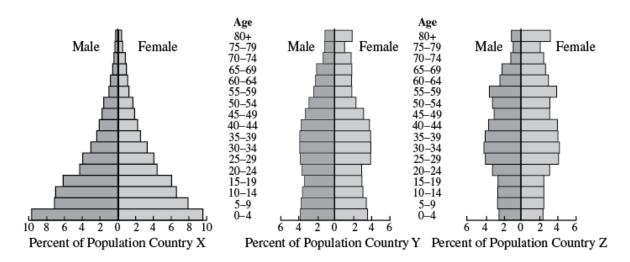
Given the information in the graph, is it possible to identify the election year in which the greatest percentage of the total eligible population was registered to vote? Why or why not?

- **A.** Yes, in 1996, because the population of the United States was greatest in that year.
- **B.** Yes, in 1992, because the greatest percentage of those between the ages of 18 and 24 registered in that year.
- **C.** No, because the number of people in each age group is not shown.
- D. No, because the trends over time are not the same for the four groups.

Questions 24 and 25 refer to the following information.

The graphs below provide population information about three countries. Each graph is based on the total population of the country and shows the percentages of males and females by age-group.

Population Information about Three Countries



24

Which of the following is the most accurate description of the birth rate and life expectancy in Country X?

- A. High birth rate and high life expectancy
- B. High birth rate and low life expectancy
- C. Low birth rate and high life expectancy
- D. Low birth rate and low life expectancy

25

Based on the graphs, a student made the following two statements.

- The life expectancy of females in Country Z is greater than that of the males.
- II. The total number of females in Country Z is greater than the total number of females in County Y.

Which of these two statements, if either, is supported by the data in the graphs?

- **A.** I only
- **B.** II only
- C. I and II
- D. Neither I nor II



HiSET Answer Key and Rationales

Sequence Number	Correct Response	Content Category	Question Difficulty
1	С	I. History	Medium
Rationale			

Option C is correct because the graph shows that it was during the 1880s that the greatest number of Germans immigrated to the United States (about 1.4 million).

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
2	Α	I. History	Medium

Rationale

Option A is correct because the graph shows that around the beginning of the 1900s, more than 1.5 million Russians immigrated to the United States. This number is higher than the number of immigrants from Canada and Mexico (each well under 500,000).

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
3	D	I. History	Medium

Rationale

Option D is correct because the graph shows that in the 1990s Mexican immigration to the U.S was between 2.5 million and 3 million, but it declined to between 0.5 million and 1 million by the 2010s. Therefore, Mexican immigration declined by about 2 million during this period.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
4	С	I. History	Medium

Rationale

Option C is correct because the graph shows that Canadian immigration to the U.S. (after the initial wave in the 1860s-1870s) was highest in the 1920s (just under 1 million).



Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
5	С	I. History	Easy

Option C is correct because the graph shows that approximately 1.5 million Russians immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1900s.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
6	В	II. Civics/Government	Easy

Rationale

Option B is correct because, unlike Staff Members 2 and 4 who suggest that voters in their parts of the state predictably vote along party lines, Staff Member 1 states that people in their area vote based on issues, and Staff Member 3 states that their area's voters choose candidates based on their perception of a candidate's honesty.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
7	С	II. Civics/Government	Easy

Rationale

Option C is correct because Staff Member 3 states that voters in their part of the state choose a candidate based on the candidate's honesty, which is a personal characteristic.

Sequence Number	Correct Response	Content Category	Question Difficulty
8	D	II. Civics/Government	Medium

Rationale

Option D is correct because Staff Members 2 and 4 suggest that voters in their areas tend to select candidates based on political party. Because Lynne Moore represents an opposing party for those who would be new supporters, Staff Members 2 and 4 seem the least optimistic about Moore winning them over.



9	Α	II. Civics/Government	Medium
Detionals			

Option A is correct because Staff Members 1 and 3 suggest specific approaches to communication ("take a strong stand on this question"; "emphasize Lynne's role…when she was the attorney general") to appeal to potential voters. On the other hand, Staff Members 2 and 4 offer only unspecific suggestions ("must find a way to appeal"; "we have to convince them").

Sequence Number	Correct Response	Content Category	Question Difficulty
10	В	III. Economics	Easy
Rationale			

Option B is correct because the supply and demand curves intersect at a point approximately equal to \$1.50 on the vertical axis.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
11	С	III. Economics	Medium

Rationale

Option C is correct because the graph shows that at the equilibrium price (approximately \$1.50 per gallon), the quantity supplied and the quantity demanded equal approximately 18 million gallons per week. Any price higher than the equilibrium price can be indicated by moving upward along the respective curves from equilibrium, which would illustrate an increase in the quantity supplied and a decrease in the quantity demanded.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
12	Α	III. Economics	Medium

Rationale

Option A is correct because when input costs rise, the cost of making a product increases, and fewer are supplied at any given price. Therefore, an increase in the cost of raw materials (inputs) used to make Product X will shift the supply curve for Product X leftward.



Sequence Number	Correct Response	Content Category	Question Difficulty
13	Α	II. Civics/Government	Medium
B (!	<u> </u>		

Option A is correct because the group would most likely argue in court that the council's actions in removing the group's members violated their freedom of (political) speech.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
14	D	II. Civics/Government	Hard

Rationale

Option D is correct because the Supreme Court has set limits as to the kind of speech that is considered protected, excluding speech that is likely to incite violence (for example, as determined in *Brandenburg v. Ohio*) and defamatory speech (as in *New York Times v. Sullivan*).

Sequence Number	Correct Response	Content Category	Question Difficulty
15	С	II. Civics/Government	Medium

Rationale

Option C is correct because the Fifth Amendment's "double jeopardy" clause protects a person from being tried for a crime twice by the same authorities.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
16	С	II. Civics/Government	Medium

Rationale

Option C is correct because the Fifth Amendment protects those accused of crimes from being "compelled...to be a witness against himself." One way to exercise this protection is to decline to answer a prosecutor's questions in court.



Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
17	D	II. Civics/Government	Medium

Option D is correct because the Sixth Amendment expresses a person's right "to be confronted" with witnesses whose testimonies might be used against them. In this scenario, the Sixth Amendment could be interpreted as disallowing the testimony of someone in another country.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
18	С	III. Economics	Easy

Rationale

Option C is correct because point Y lies inside the curve. As the passage indicates, any point lying inside the curve represents an attainable output level but is not "as desirable" as points lying on the curve, which represent output when resources are fully utilized.

Sequence Number	Correct Response	Content Category	Question Difficulty
19	D	III. Economics	Easy
Rationale	•	•	•

Option D is correct because point Z lies outside the curve. As the passage indicates, any point lying outside the curve represents an unattainable output level.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
20	Α	I. History	Medium

Rationale

Option A is correct because the graph shows that among four age groups, approximately 75% of the two older groups (all those ages 45+) consistently registered. This contrasts with the two younger groups, neither of which reached 70% registered. Neither of the two younger groups showed a steady decline in registration.



Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
21	D	I. History	Medium

Option D is correct because the graph shows that in 1980, approximately 74% of those aged 65+ were registered voters, while in 1996 the percentage was approximately 77%. This difference of approximately 3% is the largest among all age groups.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
22	Α	I. History	Medium

Rationale

Option A is correct because the graph clearly shows that the increase in the percentage of registered voters in 1992 from the previous presidential election (1988) was greatest for the two youngest age groups: 18–24 and 25–44. This increase can reasonably be interpreted as reflecting those age groups being most affected by the third-party candidate's entry in the election.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
23	С	I. History	Hard

Rationale

Option C is correct because to know the percentage of the total voting-eligible population that was registered in a given year, the total number of eligible voters and the total number of registered voters would have to be known. Neither of these data points for any election year is provided on the graph.

Sequence Number	Correct Response	Content Category	Question Difficulty
24	В	IV. Geography	Medium
Rationale		l	



Option B is correct because the graphs show that, compared with Country Y and Country Z, Country X has a much larger percentage of its population in the 0-4 years age range and a much lower percentage in the age ranges past approximately 30 years.

Sequence	Correct	Content Category	Question
Number	Response		Difficulty
25	Α	IV. Geography	Hard

Rationale

Option A is correct because the graph shows that the higher percentages of people in the age ranges above approximately age 55 are represented by females, meaning the student's first claim is supported by the graph. However, the student's second statement cannot be justified because the graphs do not contain information concerning the total number of females in any country.

