

Short-Answer Essay Questions for Semester 1 US History Final Exam

Write **four short answer essay questions** for the final exam. Each will be worth 10 points.

You must write about one question from each of the four sections: A, B, C, and D. You may **not** write on two questions from one group. Use the short-answer essay form provided, or write on binder paper if you prefer.

The total possible on this part of the final is 40 points. To earn full credit, be sure to follow the rules of good short-answer essay writing that we learned:

1. Use key vocabulary from the prompt in the short answer topic sentence.
2. Provide sufficient accurate historical detail to support the topic sentence.
3. Write with correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.

Part A - Write about one question from Part A

1. Explain the concept of separation of powers in our Constitution and give examples of the powers that the three main parts have in our national government.
2. The Founders of our government guaranteed individual liberties in the Bill of Rights. Give several examples and explain some of the individual freedoms found in the first 10 amendments to our Constitution.
3. The fight against slavery was long and difficult. Identify the role several Abolitionists played in fighting slavery, and the steps Lincoln and the North played in ending slavery in the Civil War.

Part B - Write about one question from Part B

4. The US has been called a nation of immigrants. Explain why immigrants came to the US in 1900, and what difficulties they faced in America.
5. The US went through rapid industrialization in the late 19th century. Give examples of the new inventions that led to industrialization and explain their impact on American life.
6. Many Progressive Reformers tried to improve the life in the cities. Give several examples of these reformers, and explain their contributions to making life better for different groups of Americans.

Part C - Write about one question from Part C

7. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries the US became an empire. Give several examples of imperialist US foreign policy during this time period.
8. The 1920's were an era of prosperity. Explain the term prosperity and give examples from life in the 1920's
9. African Americans and women made big advances during the 1920's. Explain how the 19th amendment and the Harlem Renaissance contributed towards freedom for women and African Americans.

Part D - Write about one question from Part D

10. The Great Depression was a period of terrible economic problems. List and explain several of these difficulties during the Great Depression.
11. Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal was popular with many Americans. Identify several Alphabet Soup programs and explain how they helped Americans.
12. Some New Deal programs are still in use today. Identify these programs and explain how Roosevelt changed many people's view of the role of government in our society.

Write your answers below or use binder paper if you prefer.

Part A - Write about one question from Part A.

Part B - Write about one question from Part B.

Part C - Write about one question from Part C.

Part D - Write about one question from Part D.