### Checkpoint 1 Prompt: Government — Supreme Court Decisions

The United States Supreme Court has played a major role in United States history. The Court's decisions have had a significant impact on many aspects of American society

Task:

Select two Supreme Court cases that have had an impact on American society and for each

- Describe the historical circumstances surrounding the case
- Explain the Supreme Court's decision in the case
- Discuss an impact this decision has had on American society

You may use any appropriate Supreme Court case from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832), *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857), *Korematsu v.United States* (1944), *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954), *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1962), *Engel v. Vitale* (1962), *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), *Roe v. Wade* (1973), and *United States v. Nixon* (1974).

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# **Checkpoint 2 Prompt: The Constitution and Change**

The United States Constitution not only provides a basic framework of government, but also allows for the flexibility to adapt to changes over time.

Task:

Identify two basic constitutional principles and discuss how each principle allows the government to adapt to changes in the United States For each constitutional principle you discuss, describe a specific historical circumstance when the principle was used to meet the changing needs of American political, social, or economic

You may consider using flexibility under the elastic clause, checks and balances, federalism, popular sovereignty, separation of powers, limited government, balance of power, individual rights or republicanism.

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# **Checkpoint 3 Prompt: Constitutional Principles - Individual Rights**

Throughout United States history, many different groups have faced discrimination. The federal and state governments have taken actions that have either protected or limited the rights of these groups in American society.

Task:

Select two different groups in American society who have faced discrimination and for each

- Describe one specific example of discrimination faced by the group
- Describe one action taken by the federal or state governments related to this example of discrimination
- Discuss how the action taken by the federal or state governments either protected or limited the rights of the group

You may consider using Native Americans, African Americans, Latino Americans, women, Asian, disabled Americans, or other groups who have experienced discrimination in United States history.

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# **Checkpoint 4 Prompt: Change - Constitutional Amendments**

When the Founding Fathers wrote the United States Constitution, they included

the amendment process. The amendments that have been passed brought political, social, and economic changes to American society.

Task:

Select *two* constitutional amendments that have changed American society and

for each

- Describe the historical circumstances that led to the adoption of the amendment
- Discuss the political, social, and/or economic changes the amendment brought to American society

You may use any Amendment from the Bill of Rights or XI - XXVII. Some Amendments you may wish to consider are the 13th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 19th, 21st, 22nd or 26th Amendments.

complet	e the task you chose.			
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# **Checkpoint 5 Prompt: Change - Industrialization**

During the 19th century, the United States experienced tremendous industrial growth. This industrial growth resulted in many changes in American life.

Task:

Identify *two* changes in American life that resulted from industrial growth in the

United States and for each change:

- Explain how industrialization contributed to this change
- Discuss one positive or one negative effect of this change on American life

Some suggestions you might wish to consider include increased immigration, new inventions or technologies, growth of labor unions, growth of monopolies, growth of reform movements, and increased urbanization.

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# **Checkpoint 6 Prompt: Change - Industrialization**

During the 19th century, the United States experienced tremendous industrial growth. This industrial growth resulted in many changes in American life.

Task:

Identify *two* changes in American life that resulted from industrial growth in the

United States and for each change:

- Explain how industrialization contributed to this change
- Discuss one positive or one negative effect of this change on American life

Some suggestions you might wish to consider include increased immigration, new inventions or technologies, growth of labor unions, growth of monopolies, growth of reform movements, and increased urbanization.

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# **Checkpoint 7 Prompt: Change - Migrations**

The movement of people into and within the United States has had a significant impact on the nation

Task:

Select *two* periods of migration that had an impact on the United States and for each

- Describe the historical circumstances that led to the migration
- Discuss the impact of the migration on the United States

You may use any period of migration from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include colonial settlement (1600s–1700s), westward expansion (1800s), rural to urban migration (1870s–1920s), European immigration (1880–1910), the Dust Bowl (1930s), suburbanization (1950s–1960s), and illegal immigration (1990 to the present).

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### **Checkpoint 8 Prompt: Change - Presidential Actions**

United States presidents have taken actions that have had a significant effect on United States foreign or domestic policies.

Task:

Identify *two* presidential actions that have had significant effects on United States history and for each

- Describe the historical circumstances surrounding the action
- Discuss the impact of the presidential action on United States foreign policy or on American society

ou may use any presidential action that has had a significant effect on United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include George Washington issuing the Proclamation of Neutrality, Abraham Lincoln issuing the Emancipation Proclamation, William McKinley calling for war against Spain, Theodore Roosevelt supporting the Meat Inspection Act, Woodrow Wilson proposing the Fourteen Points, Franklin D. Roosevelt proposing the New Deal, Harry Truman making the decision to drop the atomic bomb, and Lyndon B. Johnson signing the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

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#### **Checkpoint 9 Prompt: Reform Movements in the United States**

Reform movements are intended to improve different aspects of American life. Through the actions of individuals, organizations, or the government, the goals of these reform movements have been achieved, but with varying degrees of success.

Task:

Identify *two* reform movements that have had an impact on American life and for each

- Discuss one major goal of the movement
- Describe one action taken by an individual, an organization, or the government in an attempt to achieve this goal

You may use any reform movement from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include the abolitionist movement, woman's suffrage movement, temperance movement, Progressive movement, civil rights movement, women's rights movement, and environmental movement.

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### Checkpoint 10 Prompt: Government Role in the Economy \*\*\*\*\*

Throughout history, the United States government has taken various actions to address problems with the nation's economy.

Task:

Choose *two* actions that addressed a problem with the nation's economy and for each

- Discuss the historical circumstance that led to the action
- Discuss the impact of this action on the economy of the United States

You may use any example from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include assumption of Revolutionary War debts, building the transcontinental railroad, passage of tariff laws, passage of the Interstate Commerce Act, creation of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, adoption of the Social Security system, passage of federal minimum wage laws, Reagan Era tax cuts, and ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

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### **Checkpoint 11 Prompt: Government Role in the Economy** \*\*\*\*\*

United States participation in wars has resulted in political, social, and economic changes for various groups of Americans. These changes have had varying impacts on American society both during and after each war.

Task:

Identify *two* different groups of Americans that were affected by United States participation in a war and for each

- Describe a social, political, or economic change the group experienced because of the war
- Discuss the extent to which that change affected American society

You may use any appropriate group from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include enslaved persons during the Civil War, Native American Indians during the Indian Wars, women during World War I or World War II, Japanese Americans during World War II, and American college students or army draftees during the Vietnam War.

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### **Checkpoint 12 Prompt: Technology**

Technological developments have had both positive and negative effects on the United States economy and on American society.

#### Task:

Identify two different technological developments and for each

• Discuss the positive and/or negative effects of the technological development on the United States economy or on American society

You may use any technological development that has transformed American life. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include: Cotton gin—plantation economy (1793–1860) Railroads—local and national markets (1830–1900) Steel plow—farming on the Great Plains (1860–1940) Elevators—urbanization (1890–present) Automobile—population distribution (1920–1980) Nuclear energy—practical or military applications (1940–present) Television—political campaigns (1960–present)

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### **Checkpoint 13 Prompt: Change - People other than Presidents**

Throughout United States history, individuals other than presidents have played significant roles that led to changes in the nation's economy, government, or society.

#### Task:

Select *two* important individuals, other than presidents, and the area in which they tried to bring about change, and for each

- Discuss one action taken by the individual that led to changes in the nation's economy, government, or society
- Discuss changes that came about as a result of the individual's action

You may use any important person from your study of United States history (other than a president). Some suggestions you might wish to consider include Frederick Douglass and slavery, Andrew Carnegie and industrialization, Jacob Riis and urban life, Upton Sinclair and consumer protection, Henry Ford and the automobile industry, Margaret Sanger and reproductive rights, Martin Luther King Jr. and civil rights, Cesar Chavez and migrant farmworkers, and Bill Gates and the software industry.

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#### Checkpoint 14 Prompt: Cold War

Following World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union were engaged in a conflict that became known as the Cold War. The Cold War created problems that the United States addressed with specific actions. These actions had varying degrees of success.

#### Task:

Identify *two* problems faced by the United States during the Cold War and for each

- Explain how the problem led to conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union
- Describe one action taken by the United States in response to the problem
- Evaluate the extent to which the action taken was successful in solving the problem

You may use any Cold War problems from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include the postwar economic upheaval in Western Europe (1945–1947), Soviet takeover of Eastern Europe (1945–1948), threat of Communist takeover in Greece (1947), Soviet blockade of Berlin (1948), nuclear arms race (1950s–1970s), and placement of Soviet missiles in Cuba (1962).

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### **Checkpoint 15 Prompt: Controversial Issues**

Many controversial domestic issues have divided the American people. The United States government has taken actions to address these issues.

#### Task:

Identify *one* controversial domestic issue that has divided the American people and

- Discuss the historical background of the controversy
- Explain the point of view of those who supported this issue
- Explain the point of view of those who opposed this issue
- Discuss one United States government action that was taken to address this issue

You may use any controversial domestic issue that has divided the American people. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include placing Native American Indians on reservations, slavery, women's suffrage, Prohibition, the use of child labor, and the policy of unlimited immigration.

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