

IOWA
End-of-Course
Assessment
Programs
Released Items

1 How did the use of installment plans affect the U.S. economy in the 1920s?

A It caused a decline in workers' wages.

INCORRECT: The use of installment plans during the 1920s did not cause a decline in workers' wages.

B It reinforced the demand for higher tariffs.

INCORRECT: The use of installment plans during the 1920s did not reinforce the demand for higher tariffs.

C It led to an increase in production.

CORRECT: As consumers had greater access to credit through the use of installment plans during the 1920s, the production of goods increased.

D It decreased profits for business.

INCORRECT: The use of installment plans during the 1920s likely increased profits for businesses, as their production increased due to the increased buying power of the consumer.

ICC Essential Concept:

The effect of economic needs and wants on individual and group decisions.

ICC Essential Skill:

Analyze the ways various societies have met their economic needs and wants over time.

2 What Soviet technological breakthrough prompted the United States to develop a new agency to explore space?

A The successful test of the atomic bomb

INCORRECT: The successful test of the atomic bomb did not prompt the United States to develop a new agency to explore space, as the United States was the first country to successfully test an atomic bomb.

B The launch of the first unmanned satellite

CORRECT: The launch of the first unmanned satellite by the Soviet Union on October 4, 1957, also known as Sputnik I, prompted the United States to develop a new agency (NASA) to explore space.

C The invention of the first transistor

INCORRECT: The invention of the first transistor occurred in 1925 by a Canadian physicist, Julius Lilienfeld, 32 years prior to Sputnik I.

D The development of a missile defense system

INCORRECT: The development of missile defense systems did not occur until well after the launch of Sputnik I.

ICC Essential Concept:

The role of innovation on the development and interaction of societies.

ICC Essential Skill:

Identify major technological advancements and evaluate their impact on social, political, and historical events. Evaluate the impact of new technologies on societies.

3 What was the ultimate good that came from the Watergate crisis?

- A** The government allowed the press to investigate previously confidential documents.

INCORRECT: As a result of the Watergate crisis, the government did not allow the press to investigate confidential government documents.

- B** It was the first time the impeachment process was implemented and proved successful.

INCORRECT: The Watergate crisis did not trigger the first impeachment process. Furthermore, the impeachment process was not used, as President Nixon resigned from office before he was impeached.

- C** It reinforced the idea that Americans' privacy should be protected, initiating the passage of new policies to safeguard individual rights.

INCORRECT: The Watergate crisis exposed the dangers of executive privileges that provided shelter for serious crimes. It did not reinforce the idea that Americans' privacy should be protected.

- D** It tested and proved the stability of the United States' constitutional democracy and system of checks and balances.

CORRECT: The ultimate good that came from the Watergate crisis was proof that the United States' constitutional democracy and system of checks and balances remained stable before, during, and after such a serious constitutional test.

ICC Essential Concept:

The role of individuals and groups within a society as promoters of change or the status quo.

ICC Essential Skill:

Analyze the actions of individuals in the development of historical events. Understand the cause and effect relationships and other historical thinking skills in order to interpret events and issues.

4 Which event was a direct cause of the U.S. entry into World War I?

- A** The sinking of American ships by German U-boats

CORRECT: The sinking of American ships by German U-boats directly influenced Americans' support for entering World War I.

- B** The use of trench warfare by the Germans

INCORRECT: Although the German use of trench warfare proved to be grim, it was not a direct cause for the U.S. entry into World War I.

- C** The use of chemical weapons by the Germans

INCORRECT: Although the Germans used chemical weapons during World War I, it was not a direct cause for U.S. involvement.

- D** The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria

INCORRECT: The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria (June 28, 1914) is considered a direct cause of World War I, but it was not a direct cause for U.S. involvement which began in April 1917.

ICC Essential Concept:

Historical thinking skills

ICC Essential Skill:

Using cause and effect relationships to interpret historical events.

5 Which tool did Martin Luther King Jr. believe was most effective for achieving African-American civil rights?

A Riots

INCORRECT: Martin Luther King Jr. did not believe riots were an effective tool for achieving African-American civil rights. He often spoke out against rioting.

B Nonviolent resistance

CORRECT: Martin Luther King Jr. practiced and preached nonviolent civil disobedience as the most effective tool for achieving African-American civil rights.

C Running for public office

INCORRECT: Martin Luther King Jr. did not oppose running for elected office as a method for achieving civil rights, although he believed that it may not be the most effective tool for achieving African-American civil rights given the circumstances.

D Leaving the country

INCORRECT: Martin Luther King Jr. did not advocate leaving the country as an effective tool for achieving African-American civil rights.

ICC Essential Concept:

The role of individuals and groups within a society as promoters of change or the status quo.

ICC Essential Skill:

Analyze the actions of individuals in the development of historical events.