

## APUSH MIDTERM/STIMULANT QUESTIONS

NARRBEGIN: Sumner-Brooks Cartoon

This question is based on the 1856 political cartoon below.



Sumner-Brooks Cartoon  
American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA / The Bridgeman Art Library

NARRBEGIN: Labor Contract

This question refers to the following quotation.

*“Thomas J. Ross agrees to employ the Freedmen to plant and raise a crop on his Rosstown Plantation...on the following Rules, Regulations and Remunerations. The said Ross agrees to furnish the land to cultivate,...and to give unto said Freedmen...one half of all the cotton, corn and wheat that is raised on said place for the year 1866 after all the necessary expenses are deducted out that accrues on said crop. Outside of the Freedmen’s labor in harvesting, carrying to market and selling the same the said Freedmen...agrees to and with said Thomas J. Ross that for and in consideration of one half of the crop before mentioned that they will plant, cultivate, and raise under the management control and Superintendence of said Ross, in good faith, a cotton, corn and oat crop under his management for the year 1866.... We furthermore bind ourselves to and with said Ross that we will do good work and labor ten hours a day on an average, winter and summer.... We furthermore bind ourselves that we will obey the orders of said Ross in all things in carrying out and managing said crop for said year and be docked for disobedience. All is responsible for all farming utensils that is on hand or may be placed in care of said Freedmen for the year 1866 to said Ross and are also responsible to said Ross if we carelessly, maliciously maltreat any of his stock for said year to said Ross for damages to be assessed out of our wages.”*

Labor Contract, Shelby County, Tennessee, 1866

Records of the Assistant Commissioner for the State of Tennessee, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, 1865–1869, No. M-999.

NARRBEGIN: Granville Stuart

This question refers to the following quotation.

*“In the spring of 1853 we grew tired of our diggings because we were entirely dependent on the rains for water and determined to seek a better place to mine. So James, Rezin Anderson, and I took our respective rolls of bedding on our backs and our rifles on our shoulders and started for Rabbit Creek in Sierra country. We arrived at Rabbit Creek when the snow was sixteen feet deep. All of the miners’ cabins had steps cut in the snow down to the doors...The mines were all deep gravel channels from 25 to 125 feet deep on mountain spurs and ridges, and were worked by hydraulic pipes in which water was piped down into the cuts and thrown against the banks which were composed of quartz, gravel and sand. These immense gravel beds were once ancient river beds before the mountains and ridges upheaved, and all contained enough fine gold to pay richly for washing them away by hydraulic process.*

*Through lines of sluice boxes the sand and gravel was dumped into the surrounding canyons which drained into the North fork of the Yuba River. Here the claims were 200 feet square. No man could have more than one claim. Every mining district in California in those days had their own laws made by the miners and by them enforced."*

Granville Stuart, *A Memoir from California, 1852–1853*

Granville Stuart, *Forty Years on the Frontier*, edited by Paul C. Phillips (Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1925).

NARRBEGIN: Susan B. Anthony Speech

This question refers to the following quotation.

*"I stand before you under indictment for the alleged crime of having voted in the last presidential election, without having a lawful right to vote. It shall be my work this evening to prove to you that in thus doing, I not only committed no crime, but instead simply exercised my citizen's right, guaranteed to me and all United States citizens by the National Constitution beyond the power of any State to deny....If once we establish the false principle that United States citizenship does not carry with it the right to vote in every state in this Union, there is no end to the petty tricks and cunning devices which will be attempted to exclude one and another class of citizens from the right of suffrage....Establish this precedent, admit the State's right to deny suffrage, and there is no limit to the confusion, discord, and disruption that may await us. There is and can be but one safe principle of government—equal rights to all."*

Susan B. Anthony, Speech before the Court, 1873

Ida Husted Harper, *The Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony*, Volume II (Indianapolis: The Hollenbeck Press, 1898).

NARRBEGIN: Robert Bent Testimony

This question refers to the following quotation.

*"When we came in sight of the camp I saw the American flag waving and heard Black Kettle tell the Indians to stand around the flag, and there they were huddled—men, women, and children. This was when we were within fifty yards of the Indians. I also saw a white flag raised. These flags were in so conspicuous a position that they must have been seen. When the troops fired the Indians ran, some of the men into their lodges, probably to get their arms. They had time to get away if they had wanted to...After the firing the warriors put the squaws and children together, and surrounded them to protect them. I saw five squaws under a bank for shelter. When the troops came up to them they ran out and showed their persons to let the soldiers know they were squaws and begged for mercy, but the soldiers shot them all....There seemed to be indiscriminate slaughter of men, women, and children....The squaws offered no resistance. Everyone I saw dead was scalped."*

Testimony of Robert Bent, Colorado rancher, before a U.S. Senate Committee investigating the Sand Creek Massacre of 1864, 1867

Testimony of Robert Bent before U.S. Senate Investigative Committee on the Chivington Massacre, 1867, U.S. Senate, 39th

Congress, 2nd session, "The Chivington Massacre," Reports of the Committees, Senate Report No. 156 (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1867), p. 42

NARRBEGIN: South Carolina Secession

This question is based on the following passage.

*"We assert that fourteen of the states have deliberately refused for years past to fulfill their constitutional obligations, and we refer to their own statutes for proof....Those states have assumed the right of deciding upon the propriety of our domestic institutions; and have denied the rights of property established...and recognized by the Constitution...they have permitted the open establishment among them of societies, whose avowed object is to disturb the peace of and eloign [take away] the property of citizens of other States....A sectional party has found within...the Executive Department, the means of subverting the Constitution itself....On the 4th of March next this party will take possession of the Government....The guarantees of the Constitution will then no longer exist; the equal rights of the States will be lost. The Slaveholding States will no longer have the power of self-government, or self-protection, and the Federal Government will have become their enemy."*

South Carolina Declaration of the Causes of Secession, December 24, 1860

Frank Moore, ed., *The Rebellion Record*, Volume I (New York: G.P. Putnam, 1861).

NARRBEGIN: Nast Cartoon

This question refers to the following 1874 political cartoon by Thomas Nast.



The Union As It Was here]

NARRBEGIN: Image of Fugitive Slaves

This question is based on the image below.



Engraving Depicting Spanish Treatment of Fugitive Black Slaves, 1595  
British Library, London, UK / The Bridgeman Art Library

**NARRBEGIN: Frethorne Quote**

This question refers to the following excerpt.

*“Loving and kind father and mother:*

*“...this is to let you understand that I your Child am in a most heavy case by reason of the nature of this Country [which] is such that it causeth much sickness....And when we are sick there is nothing to comfort us; for since I came out of the ship, I never ate anything but peas, and loblollie (that is water gruel)....There is indeed some fowl, but we are not allowed to go, and get it, but must work hard both early and late for a mess of water gruel, and a mouthful of bread, and beef....[I]f you did know as much as I, when people cry out day, and night—Oh that they... would not care to lose any limb to be in England again....And I have nothing to comfort me...I have nothing at all—no, not a shirt to my back but two rags, nor no clothes but one poor suit....My cloak is stolen by one of my own fellows, and to his dying hour [he] would not tell me what he did with it; but some of my fellows saw him buy butter and beef from a ship, which my cloak, [no] doubt, paid for....And he [Mr. Jackson] much marveled that you would send a servant to the Company; he saith that I had been better knocked on the head. And indeed so I find it now, to my great grief and misery; and saith if you love me you will redeem me suddenly, and for which I do entreat and beg. And if you cannot get the merchants to redeem me for some little money, then for God’s sake get a gathering or entreat some good folks to lay out some little sum of money in meal and cheese and butter and beef.”*

Letter from Richard Frethorne, indentured servant, to his parents in England, 1623  
 Susan Myra Kingsbury, ed., *The Records of the Virginia Company of London*, Volume IV (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935).

**NARRBEGIN: Henry Knox Quote**

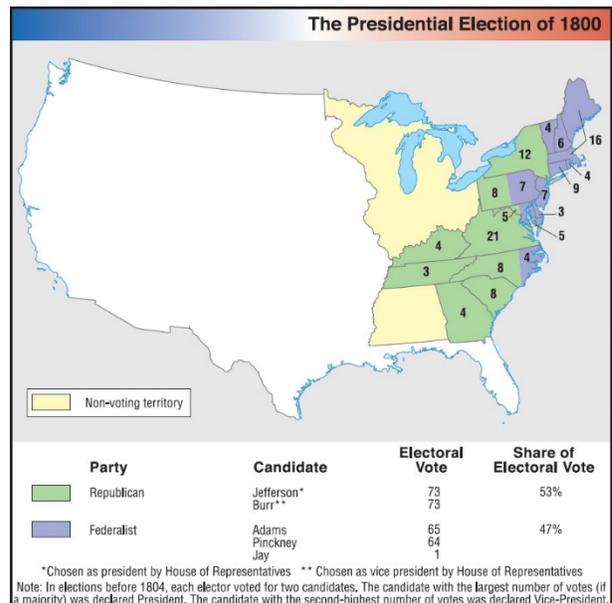
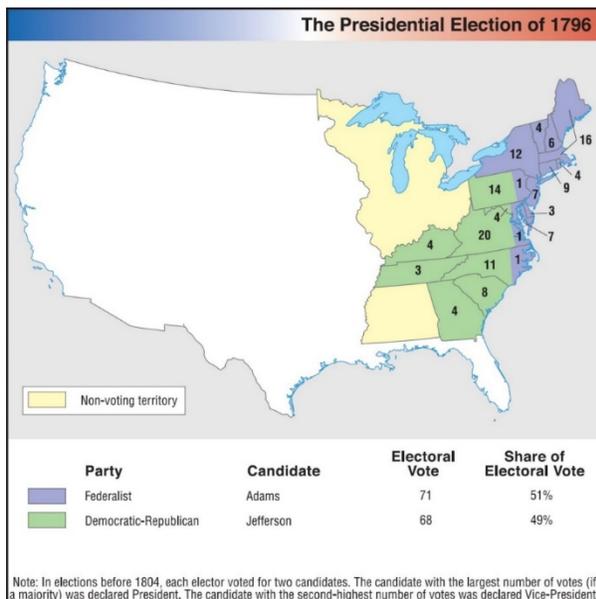
This question refers to the following quotation.

*“The national dignity and justice require that the arms of the Union should be called forth in order to chastise the Creek nation of Indians, for refusing to treat with the United States on reasonable terms, and for their hostile invasion of the State of Georgia....The most effectual mode of reducing the Creeks to submit to the will of the United States...would be by an adequate army, to be raised and continued until the objects of the war should be accomplished....But, in future, the obligations of policy, humanity, and justice, together with that respect which every nation sacredly owes to its own reputation, unite in requiring a noble, liberal, and disinterested administration of Indian affairs....In the administration of the Indians, every proper expedient that can be devised to gain their affections, and attach them to the interest of the Union, should be adopted....Missionaries, of excellent moral character, should be appointed to reside in their nation....They should be their friends and fathers.”*

Secretary of War Henry Knox, 1789  
 From Henry Knox to George Washington, July 7, 1789, in *American State Papers, Class II: Indian Affairs* (Washington, DC: Gales and Seaton, 1832), 1:52–54.

**NARRBEGIN: 1796 and 1800 Presidential Electoral Map**

This question refers to the following maps.

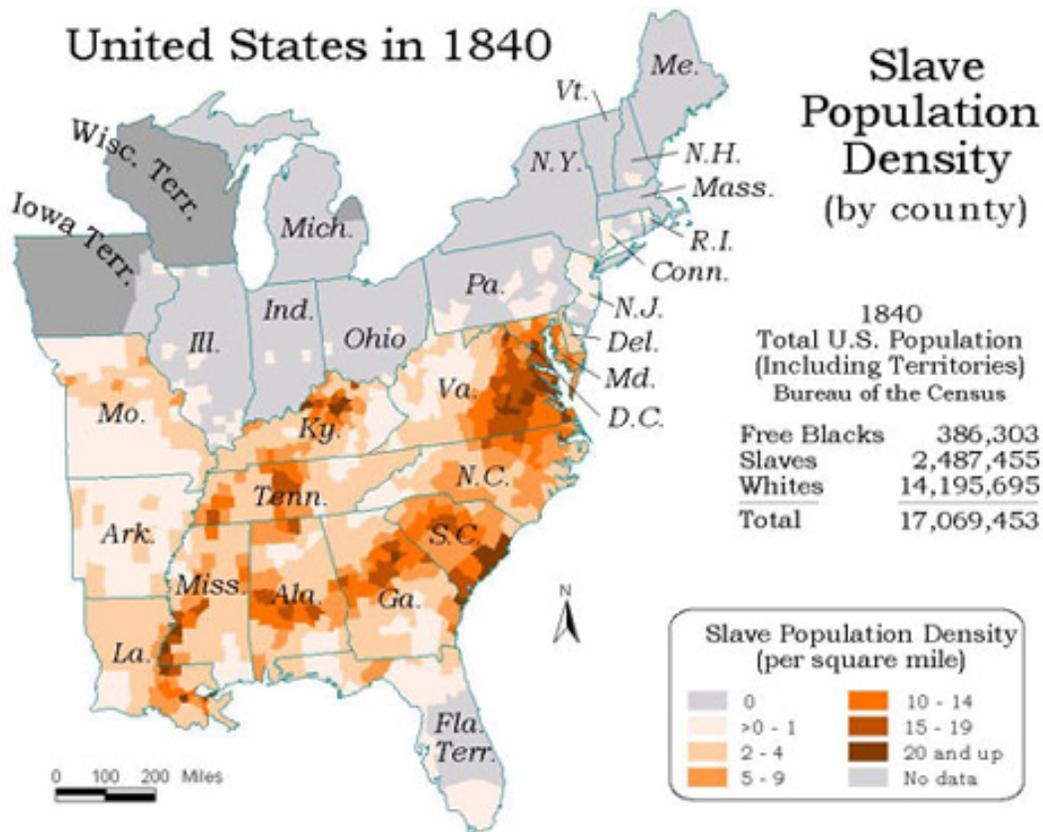


NARRBEGIN: Nullification Ordinance  
This question refers to the following quotation.

*“We, therefore, the people of the State of South Carolina in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain...That the several acts and parts of acts of the Congress of the United States, purporting to be laws for the imposing of duties and imposts on the importation of foreign commodities...and, more especially...[the tariff acts of 1828 and 1832]...are unauthorized by the Constitution of the United States, and violate the true meaning and intent thereof, and are null, void, and no law, nor binding upon this State, its officers or citizens....And we, the People of South Carolina...Do further Declare that we will not submit to the application of force, on the part of the Federal Government, to reduce this State to obedience; but that we will consider the passage, by Congress, of any act...to coerce the State...to be null and void, inconsistent with the longer continuance of South Carolina in the Union...”*

South Carolina Ordinance of Nullification, 1832  
Paul Leicester Ford, *The Federalist: A Commentary on the Constitution of the United States* (New York: Henry Holt, 1898).

NARREND: Slave Populations  
This question refers to the maps below.



Map of Slave Populations in 1820 and 1860  
Nancy A. Hewitt and Steven F. Lawson, *Exploring American Histories*, Bedford/St. Martin's, p. 298. Reprinted by permission.

NARRBEGIN: Polk Inaugural Address  
This question refers to the following quotation.

*“The Republic of Texas has made known her desire to come into our Union, to form a part of our Confederacy and enjoy with us the blessings of liberty secured and guaranteed by our Constitution....Foreign powers should therefore look on the annexation of Texas to the United States, not as the conquest of a nation seeking to extend her dominions by arms and violence, but as the peaceful acquisition of a territory...thereby diminishing the chances of war and opening to them new and ever-increasing markets for their products....None can fail to see the danger to our safety and future peace if Texas remains an independent state, or becomes an ally or dependency of some foreign nation more powerful than herself.... Whatever is good or evil in the local [slave] institutions of Texas will remain her own, whether annexed to the United States or not.”*

President James K. Polk, Inaugural Address, 1845  
Address by James K. Polk. 1845, *Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies*.

NARRBEGIN: Winthrop Quote

This question is based on the following passage.

*“Objection 5: But what warrant have we to take that land, which is and has been of long time possessed of others, the sons of Adam?  
“Answer: That which is common to all is proper to none. This savage people rule over many lands without title or property; for they enclose no ground, neither have they cattle to maintain it, but remove their dwellings as they have occasion, or as they can prevail against their neighbors. And why may not Christians have liberty to go and dwell amongst them in their waste lands and woods....Secondly, there is more than enough for them and us. Thirdly, God has consumed the natives with a miraculous plague, whereby the greater part of the country is left void of inhabitants. Fourthly, we shall come in with good leave of the natives.”*

John Winthrop, *General Considerations for the Plantation in New England with an Answer to Several Objections...*, 1629

NARRBEGIN: Woodmason Quote

This question is based on the following quotation.

*“In singing of hymns and spiritual songs—whereby their hearts are greatly inflamed with divine love and heavenly joy, and makes the Holy Ghost be shed abroad in their hearts. This is very fine talking. I could wish that all the doings were equally innocent....But let us go on, and examine if in the general corruption of manners these New Lights have made any reform in the vice of drunkenness?...There is not one hogshead of liquor less consumed since their visiting us, or any tavern shut up—So far from it, that there has been a great increase of both....Since the appearance of these New Lights more enormities of every kind have been committed—more robberies, thefts, murders, plunderings, burglaries, and villainies of every kind, than ever before...In short, they have filled the country with idle and vagrant persons, who live by their criminalities. For it is a maxim with these vermin of religion, that a person must first be a sinner e’re he can be saint.”*

Charles Woodmason, a traveling Anglican preacher, 1768

Richard J. Hooker, *The Carolina Backcountry on the Eve of the Revolution: The Journal and Other Writings of Charles Woodmason, Anglican Itinerant* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1953).

NARRBEGIN: Dorothea Dix Quote

This question refers to the following quotation.

*“I come to present the strong claims of suffering humanity. I come as the advocate of helpless, forgotten, insane and idiotic men and women; of beings sunk to a condition from which the most unconcerned would start with real horror; of beings wretched in our Prisons, and more wretched in our Alms-Houses....I proceed, Gentlemen, briefly to call your attention to the present state of Insane Persons confined within this Commonwealth, in cages, closets, cellars, stalls, pens! Chained, naked, beaten with rods, and lashed into obedience!...The crying evil and abuse of institutions, is not confined to our almshouses. The warden of a populous prison near this metropolis, populous, not with criminals only, but with the insane in almost every stage of insanity...has declared that: “the prison has often more resembled the infernal regions than any place on earth!”...Gentlemen, I commit to you this sacred cause. Your action upon this subject will affect the present and future condition of hundreds and of thousands. In this legislation, as in all things, may you exercise that “wisdom which is the breath of the power of God.”*

Dorothea Dix, *Memorial to the Legislature of Massachusetts*, 1843

Dorothea L. Dix, *Memorial to the Legislature of Massachusetts* (Boston: Munroe & Francis, 1843).

NARRBEGIN: John Woodside Painting

This question refers to the following painting.



*We Owe Allegiance to No Crown*, John Woodside, c. 1814  
Picture Research Consultants & Archives

NARRBEGIN: Mercy Otis Warren Quote

This question is based on the quotation below.

*“[The] Constitution, which, by the undefined meaning of some parts, and the ambiguities of expression in others, is dangerously adapted to the purposes of an immediate aristocratic tyranny; that...from the difficulty, if not impracticability of its operation, must soon terminate in the most uncontrolled despotism...[1.]...[The] best political writers have supported the principles of annual elections...2. There is no security in the proffered system, either for the rights of conscience, or liberty of the press. 3. There are no well-defined limits of the Judiciary Powers...4. The Executive and Legislative are dangerously blended as to give just cause of alarm...9. There is no provision for a rotation, nor any thing to prevent the perpetuity of office in the same hands for life... 14. There is no provision by a bill of rights to guard against the dangerous encroachments of power...15. The...impracticability, of exercising the equal and equitable powers of government by a single legislature over an extent of territory that reaches from Mississippi to the...Atlantic ocean...And it is to be feared we shall soon see this country rushing into the extremes of confusion and violence, in consequence of the proceedings of a set of gentlemen, who disregarding the purposes of their appointment, have assumed powers unauthorized by any commission, have unnecessarily rejected the confederation of the United States, and annihilated the sovereignty and independence of the individual governments.”*

Mercy Otis Warren, *Observations on the New Constitution, and on the Federal and State Conventions*, by a Columbian Patriot,  
Boston, 1788.