

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY

2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 1 — Document-Based Question

In the post–Civil War United States, corporations grew significantly in number, size, and influence. Analyze the impact of big business on the economy and politics and the responses of Americans to these changes. Confine your answer to the period 1870 to 1900.

The 8–9 Essay

- Contains a clear, well-developed thesis that addresses all parts of the question:
 - Impact of big business on the economy
 - Impact of big business on politics
 - Responses of the American people to changes brought about by big business
- Presents an effective analysis of the topic; treatment of multiple parts may be somewhat uneven:
 - Impact of big business on the economy
 - Impact of big business on politics
 - Responses of the American people to changes brought about by big business
- Effectively uses a substantial number of documents.
- Develops the thesis with substantial and relevant outside information.
- May contain minor errors that do not detract from the quality of the essay.
- Is well organized and well written.

The 5–7 Essay

- Contains a thesis that addresses the question; may be partially developed.
- Provides some analysis of the topic, but treatment of multiple parts may be uneven.
- Effectively uses some documents.
- Supports the thesis with some relevant outside information.
- May contain errors that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.
- Has acceptable organization and writing.

The 2–4 Essay

- Contains an unfocused or limited thesis, or simply paraphrases the question.
- Deals with the question in a general manner; shows simplistic, superficial treatment of the subject.
- Merely paraphrases, quotes, or briefly cites documents.
- Contains little outside information or lists facts with little or no application to the question.
- May have major errors.
- May be poorly organized, poorly written, or both.

The 0–1 Essay

- Contains no thesis or a thesis that does not address the question.
- Exhibits inadequate or incorrect understanding of the question.
- Shows little or no understanding of the documents or ignores them completely.
- Has numerous errors.
- Is organized or written so poorly that it inhibits understanding.

The — Essay

- Is completely blank.

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document List

Document A

Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States*, Indexed Prices, 1870–1899.

Document B

Source: George McNeil, labor leader, *The Labor Movement: The Problem of Today*, 1887.

Document C

Source: David A. Wells, engineer and economist, *Recent Economic Changes and Their Effect on the Production and Distribution of Wealth and the Well-Being of Society*, 1889.

Document D

Source: Joseph Keppler, “The Bosses of the Senate,” *Puck*, January 23, 1889.

Document E

Source: Andrew Carnegie, “Wealth,” *North American Review*, June 1889.

Document F

Source: “People’s Party Platform,” *Omaha Morning World-Herald*, July 5, 1892.

Document G

Source: Samuel Gompers, *What Does Labor Want?*, an address before the International Labor Congress in Chicago, August 28, 1893.

Document H

Source: George Rice, “How I Was Ruined by Rockefeller,” *New York World*, October 16, 1898.

Document I

Source: Theodore Dreiser, *Sister Carrie*, a novel, 1900.

Document J

Source: Female typists, circa 1902.

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Potential Outside Information

“Acres of Diamonds” speech
Addams, Jane/Hull House
Alger, Horatio/“rags to riches”
American Beauty Rose Theory
American Federation of Labor
American Protective Association
American Railway Union
Anti-Saloon League
Armour, Philip
Belknap scandal
Bell, Alexander Graham (telephone)
Bellamy, Edward, *Looking Backward*
Billion Dollar Congress
Bimetallism
blacklisting
Blaine, James G.
Bland-Allison Act
bonanza farms
Booth, William/Salvation Army
Boss Tweed
bread-and-butter unionism
Brown, B. Gratz
Bryan, William Jennings
Burnham, Daniel
Carnegie libraries
Carnegie Steel Corporation
Chinese Exclusion Act
Civil Service (Pendleton) Act
Cleveland, Grover
concentration of wealth
consolidation
conspicuous consumption
corporate mergers
Coxey’s Army
Credit Mobilier scandal
Crime of ‘73
Cross of Gold speech
Debs, Eugene V.
Depression of 1893
Dingley Tariff
direct election of senators (Populist platform,
not Seventeenth Amendment)
Donnelly, Ignatius
Duke, James B.
dumbbell tenements
economies of scale
Eddy, Mary Baker/Christian Science
Edison, Thomas (incandescent lightbulb)
eight-hour day
electric trolleys
Farmers’ Alliances (Northern, Southern,
Colored)
“Farmers should raise less corn and more hell”
Fisk, Jim
free and unlimited coinage of silver
George, Henry, *Progress and Poverty*
Gilded Age
Gladden, Washington
Gold Standard Act/Currency Act of 1900
Goo-goos (Good Government Guys)
Gospel of Wealth
Gould, Jay
government ownership of railroads (utilities)
graduated income tax (Populist platform, not
Sixteenth Amendment)
Granger laws
Grantism
Greeley, Horace
Greenback-Labor Party
Hanna, Marcus
Harvey, William, *Coin’s Financial School*
Hawaiian Revolt
Haymarket Square
“He who dies rich, dies disgraced”
Hill, James J.
holding company
Homestead Strike
horizontal integration
“I can hire one-half of the working class to kill
off the other half”
immigration restriction
Immigration Restriction League
income tax
initiative
injunction
Interstate Commerce Act
“a just and harmonious society”
“just windward of the law”
Kelley, Florence
Kelley, Oliver Hudson
Knights of Labor
laissez-faire

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Lease, Mary Elizabeth
Legal Tender Cases
Liberal Republicans
limited liability
long-haul/short-haul differentials
Lowell, Josephine
Macy's
mail-order catalogs
Marshall-Fields
Macune, Charles W.
McKinley Tariff
McKinley, William
Molly Maguires
monopolies
Montgomery Ward
Morgan, J. P.
Mugwumps
Mulligan letters
Munn v. Illinois
Nast, Thomas
National Consumer League
National Labor Union
New York Charity Organization Society
Ocala Demands
Ohio idea
Oklahoma land rush
old immigration/new immigration
Olmstead, Frederick/city beautiful movement
Olney, Richard
Omaha Platform
Otis, Elisha (elevator)
Panic of 1873
Panic of 1893
patronage/spoils system
Patrons of Husbandry (Grange)
Philippines, annexation of
Pinkerton detectives
Pollock v. Farmers' Loan and Trust
pooling agreements
Populist Party
Powderly, Terence
"The public be damned"
Pullman Strike
Railway Strikes of 1877
rebates/kickbacks
Reed, Thomas
referendum
refrigerated railroad car

Riis, Jacob, *How the Other Half Lives*
robber barons
Rockefeller, John D.
Sanborn contracts scandal
scabs/strikebreakers
Schurz, Carl
scrip
Sears-Roebuck
secret ballot (Australian ballot)
Settlement Houses
Sherman Antitrust Act
Sherman Silver Purchase Act
Sholes, Christopher (invention of the typewriter)
Simpson, "Sockless" Jerry
single-tax idea
16–1 ratio
skyscrapers
Slaughterhouse Cases
Social Darwinism
Social Gospel
specialization of labor
Specie Resumption Act
Stephens, Uriah
subsidies/land grants
subtreasury plan
Sullivan, Louis
sweatshops
Swift, Gustavus
swing states/doubtful states
Sylvis, William
Taylor, Frederick
Taylorism (scientific management)
titans (captains) of industry
transcontinental railroads
United States v. E. C. Knight
unskilled/skilled labor
urbanization (rural-to-urban migration)
Vanderbilt, Cornelius
Veblen, Thorstein, *Theory of the Leisure Class*
vertical integration
Wabash v. Illinois
wage slaves
Wald, Lillian/Henry Street Settlement House
Wanamaker's (department store)
Watson, Tom
Weaver, James B.
Whiskey Ring

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Wilson-Gorman Tariff

Wizard of Oz (as parable for populism)

Woolworth's Great Five Cent Store

workers' compensation

World's Columbian Exhibition, 1893

yellow dog contracts

YMCA

YWCA

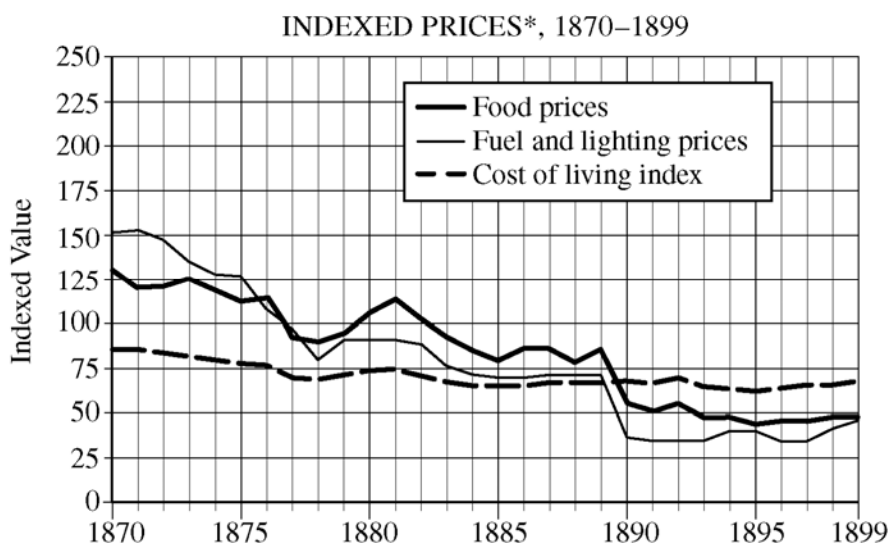
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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

In the post-Civil War United States, corporations grew significantly in number, size, and influence. Analyze the impact of big business on the economy and politics and the responses of Americans to these changes. Confine your answer to the period 1870 to 1900.

Document A

Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States*.



*Indexed prices refers to the average prices for goods and services during a given interval of time.

Document Information

- Food prices declined significantly between 1870 and 1899.
- Fuel and lighting prices declined significantly between 1870 and 1899.
- Cost of living declined slightly between 1870 and 1899.

Document Inferences

- Improved agricultural innovations led to reduced food prices.
- Mining and lighting innovations reduced prices for fuel and lighting.
- Falling prices for agricultural goods led to discontent among farmers.
- Mass production resulted in a decline in the cost of living.
- Electric lighting allowed for 24-hour production, night shifts and possibly longer hours.

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document A (continued)

Potential Outside Information

consolidation

Coxey's Army

economies of scale

Edison, Thomas (incandescent lightbulb)

Farmers' Alliances (Northern, Southern, Colored)

"Farmers should raise less corn and more hell"

Lease, Mary Elizabeth

subtreasury plan

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document B

Source: George E. McNeill, labor leader, *The Labor Movement: The Problem of Today*, 1887.

The railroad president is a railroad king, whose whim is law. He collects tithes by reducing wages as remorselessly as the Shah of Persia or the Sultan of Turkey, and, like them, is not amenable to any human power. He can discharge (banish) any employee without cause. . . . He can withhold their lawful wages. He can delay trial on a suit at law, and postpone judgment indefinitely. He can control legislative bodies, dictate legislation, subsidize the press, and corrupt the moral sense of the community. He can fix the price of freights, and thus command the food and fuel-supplies of the nation. In his right hand he holds the government; in his left hand, the people.

Document Information

- Railroad presidents are similar to kings.
- Railroad presidents can discharge workers without cause and withhold wages.
- Railroad presidents can delay lawsuits.
- Railroad presidents control both the government and the people.
- Railroad presidents controlled freight prices and monopolized food and fuel industries.
- Railroad presidents corrupt communities and control the press.

Document Inferences

- The financial clout of railroads leaves employees helpless.
- Railroad labor and farm unrest is likely.
- Railroads dictate government policy.
- The Senate is controlled by wealthy interests because senators are not popularly elected.
- The legal system favors railroad interests.

Potential Outside Information

blacklisting
Credit Mobilier scandal
Fisk, Jim
government ownership of railroads
Gould, Jay
Granger laws
Interstate Commerce Act
Kelley, Oliver Hudson
long-haul/short-haul differentials

Munn v. Illinois
National Labor Union
Patrons of Husbandry (Grange)
Railway Strikes of 1877
Sylvis, William
United States v. E. C. Knight
Vanderbilt, Cornelius
Wabash v. Illinois
yellow dog contracts

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document C

Source: David A. Wells, engineer and economist, *Recent Economic Changes and Their Effect on the Production and Distribution of Wealth and the Well-Being of Society*, 1889.

[T]he modern manufacturing system has been brought into a condition analogous to that of a military organization, in which the individual no longer works as independently as formerly, but as a private in the ranks, obeying orders, keeping step, as it were, to the tap of the drum, and having nothing to say as to the plan of his work, of its final completion, or of its ultimate use and distribution. In short, the people who work in the modern factory are, as a rule, taught to do one thing—to perform one and generally a simple operation; and when there is no more of that kind of work to do, they are in a measure helpless. The result has been that the individualism or independence of the producer in manufacturing has been in a great degree destroyed, and with it has also in a great degree been destroyed the pride which the workman formerly took in his work—that fertility of resource which formerly was a special characteristic of American workmen, and that element of skill that comes from long and varied practice and reflection and responsibility.

Document Information

- Workers no longer work independently but as if they were part of a military organization.
- Workers are taught to perform one simple task.
- Manufacturing has largely taken away workers' pride in their work.

Document Inferences

- Mass production techniques led to specialization of labor.
- Specialization of labor decreases workers' pride in their craft.
- Specialization of labor leaves workers largely unskilled.
- Unskilled labor is relatively easy to replace.

Potential Outside Information

specialization of labor
sweatshops
unskilled/skilled labor

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document D

Source: Joseph Keppler, “The Bosses of the Senate,” *Puck*, January 23, 1889.



U.S. Senate Collection

Document Information

- Shows trusts as oversized.
- Shows public entrance to the Senate closed.
- Shows monopolists lined up at monopolists' entrance.
- Shows some senators looking back toward the trusts.
- Shows sign saying “This is a Senate of the monopolists by the monopolists and for the monopolists.”

Document Inferences

- The Senate (government) is controlled by big business.
- People have no control over the Senate because senators are not directly elected.
- Monopolists (trusts) are wealthy and powerful.
- Trusts control a great many industries.

Potential Outside Information

Billion Dollar Congress

Bland-Allison Act

Civil Service (Pendleton) Act

Crime of '73

Dingley Tariff

direct election of senators (Populist platform, not Seventeenth Amendment)

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document D (continued)

Gold Standard Act/Currency Act of 1900
Interstate Commerce Commission
McKinley Tariff
monopolies
Nast, Thomas
Reed, Thomas
Sherman Antitrust Act
Sherman Silver Purchase Act
Wilson-Gorman Tariff

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document E

Source: Andrew Carnegie, “Wealth,” *North American Review*, June 1889.

This, then, is held to be the duty of the man of Wealth: First, to set an example of modest, unostentatious living, shunning display or extravagance; to provide moderately for the legitimate wants of those dependent upon him; and after doing so to consider all surplus revenues which come to him simply as trust funds, which he is called upon to administer, and strictly bound as a matter of duty to administer in the manner which, in his judgment, is best calculated to produce the most beneficial results for the community—the man of wealth thus becoming the mere agent and trustee for his poorer brethren, bringing to their service his superior wisdom, experience, and ability to administer, doing for them better than they would or could do for themselves.

Document Information

- Wealthy people should lead a modest, unpretentious existence.
- Surplus revenues are to be used as a trust fund for what the wealthy see as community good.
- The wealthy are trustees for the poor.
- The judgment of the wealthy will lead to better decisions than the poor would make for themselves.
- Philanthropy justifies business owners’ wealth.

Document Inferences

- Some business leaders believed in charity.
- The wealthy saw themselves as superior to the masses.
- Social obligation is a responsibility that comes with wealth.

Potential Outside Information

Carnegie libraries
Carnegie Steel Corporation
Gospel of Wealth
“He who dies rich dies disgraced”
Homestead Strike
Social Darwinism
Social Gospel
Veblen, Thorstein, *Theory of the Leisure Class*
vertical integration

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document F

Source: “People’s Party Platform,” *Omaha Morning World-Herald*, July 5, 1892.

[W]e seek to restore the government of the Republic to the hands of “the plain people,” with which class it originated. . . .

Our country finds itself confronted by conditions for which there is no precedent in the history of the world; . . . We pledge ourselves that if given power we will labor to correct these evils by wise and reasonable legislation, in accordance with the terms of our platform. We believe that the power of government—in other words, of the people—should be expanded (as in the case of the postal service) as rapidly and as far as the good sense of an intelligent people and the teaching of experience shall justify, to the end that oppression, injustice, and poverty shall eventually cease in the land.

Document Information

- Seeks to restore government to plain people.
- Power of the people (government) should be expanded.
- Seeks to end oppression, injustice, and poverty.

Document Inferences

- The Populist Party was dedicated to political and social reform.
- Government should be strengthened and made more responsible to the people.
- The Populist Party nominated its own presidential candidate in 1892.

Potential Outside Information

Bryan, William Jennings

Cross of Gold speech

direct election of senators (Populist platform, not Seventeenth Amendment)

Farmers’ Alliances (Northern, Southern, Colored)

free and unlimited coinage of silver

government ownership of railroads (utilities)

income tax

initiative

Lease, Mary Elizabeth

Ocala Demands

Omaha Platform

Populist Party

referendum

subtreasury plan

Weaver, James B.

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document G

Source: Samuel Gompers, *What Does Labor Want?*, an address before the International Labor Congress in Chicago, August 28, 1893.

The organized working men and women, the producers of the wealth of the world, declare that men, women and children, with human brains and hearts, should have a better consideration than inanimate and dormant things, usually known under the euphonious title of “Property.” ...

We demand a reduction of the hours of labor, which would give a due share of work and wages to the reserve army of labor and eliminate many of the worst abuses of the industrial system now filling our poor houses and jails. ...

Labor ... insists upon the exercise of the right to organize for self and mutual protection. ... That the lives and limbs of the wage-workers shall be regarded as sacred as those of all others of our fellow human beings; that an injury or destruction of either by reason of negligence or maliciousness of another, shall not leave him without redress simply because he is a wage-worker. ...

And by no means the least demand of the Trade Unions is for adequate wages.

Document Information

- People should not be considered property.
- Labor seeks shorter hours.
- Shorter labor hours will reduce jail and almshouse populations.
- Labor insists on the right to organize.
- Negligence or maliciousness should not leave the worker without recourse.
- Labor insists on adequate wages.

Document Inferences

- Mass production techniques are dehumanizing.
- Bread-and-butter unionism grew with the trade union movement (shorter hours, better working conditions, increased wages).
- Workers’ compensation laws should be passed.
- Labor unions must organize to protect the interests of workers.
- Companies can and should help out communities by reducing unemployment ranks.

Potential Outside Information

American Federation of Labor
bread-and-butter unionism
Knights of Labor
National Labor Union

Powderly, Terence
Stephens, Uriah
Sylvis, William
workers’ compensation

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document H

Source: George Rice, “How I Was Ruined by Rockefeller,” *New York World*, October 16, 1898.

“I am but one of many victims of Rockefeller’s colossal combination,” said Mr. [George] Rice, “and my story is not essentially different from the rest. . . . I established what was known as the Ohio Oil Works. . . . I found to my surprise at first, though I afterward understood it perfectly, that the Standard Oil Company was offering the same quality of oil at much lower prices than I could do — from one to three cents a gallon less than I could possibly sell it for.”

“I sought for the reason and found that the railroads were in league with the Standard Oil concern at every point, giving it discriminating rates and privileges of all kinds as against myself and all outside competitors.”

Document Information

- Says he is a victim of Rockefeller’s combination.
- Says Standard Oil offered the same quality of oil for one to three cents less than he could.
- Says he found railroads were in league with Rockefeller and charged discriminatory rates.

Document Inferences

- Monopolists used ruthless tactics to put competitors out of business.
- Railroads gave big businesses rebates/kickbacks that helped them undercut their competition.
- Government must protect small businesses against unfair business practices.

Potential Outside Information

American Beauty Rose Theory
horizontal integration
“just windward of the law”
long-haul/short-haul differentials
rebates/kickbacks
Rockefeller, John D.

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document I

Source: Theodore Dreiser, *Sister Carrie*, a novel, 1900.

[Department stores] were along the line of the most effective retail organization, with hundreds of stores coordinated into one and laid out upon the most imposing and economic basis. They were handsome, bustling, successful affairs, with a host of clerks and a swarm of patrons. Carrie passed along the busy aisles, much affected by the remarkable displays of trinkets, dress goods, stationery, and jewelry. Each separate counter was a showplace of dazzling interest and attraction. She could not help feeling the claim of each trinket and valuable upon her personally.

Document Information

- Department stores were among the most efficient retail organizations.
- Department stores were appealing, with swarms of patrons.
- Carrie was much affected by the display of goods.
- The displays affected Carrie personally.

Document Inferences

- Urban glamour drew rural people to the city.
- Improved urban transportation led to the development of department stores.
- Displays and advertising blurred the distinction between wants and needs.
- Consolidation in retail industry offered increased availability of consumer goods to society.

Potential Outside Information

electric trolleys

Macy's

Wanamaker's (department store)

Woolworth's Great Five Cent Store

YMCA

YWCA

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Question 1 — Document-Based Question (continued)

Document J

Source: Female typists, circa 1902.



Courtesy of Library of Congress # LC-D4-42930

Document Information

- Shows women typists in a large room.
- Shows women all dressed similarly.
- Shows the presence of electric lighting.

Document Inferences

- Inventions like the typewriter and telephone increased employment for native-born, white women.
- There was sameness about working in a mass production environment.
- Industrialization created employment opportunities that often discriminated according to gender and race.

Potential Outside Information

Sholes, Christopher (invention of the typewriter)
sweatshops
Taylor, Frederick
Taylorism (scientific management)
YWCA

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

1-A

1 of 4

The Compromise Bargain Part II or the Compromise of 1877 ended the time period known as Reconstruction and ushered in a new era known as the Gilded Age. This time period was so called after Mark Twain referenced it in one of his books. It means an era supposedly wealthy and covered in a "layer of gold," but once you peel off that superficial layer, we see that things aren't so great ^{under}. ~~From~~ From 1870 to 1900, big businesses governed by robber barons sprang up and took control of both the economy and political system. In response, the American people formed labor unions and tried to improve the plight of ^{the} poor ~~immigrants~~.

The government took a laissez-faire approach, and didn't really intervene when they saw big ^{monopolys} ~~monopolies~~ sprang up. ~~It was~~ And even when they did step in, it was often in favor of the companies. It ~~wasn't~~ ^{wasn't} until the later decades that the government finally passed some acts to regulate these companies, like the Sherman Antitrust Act (1890) and the ICC (1887) one of the ^{industries} ~~companies~~ was the railroad.

It was all powerful and dominated by magnates like Stanford. The railroad president controlled everything from its workers to the prices of food and fuel (DOC B). Other monopolies included those of Rockefeller (oil) and Carnegie (steel). ~~Working~~ Working at these factories produced economic changes, as the modern manufacturing system brought about homogeneity and individualism was destroyed

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

2 of 4

1A

(Doc C) as noted by Wells, an engineer and economist.

In the political sphere, starting with the compromise of 1877, Hayes won an election that was heavily disputed. Robber barons came to dominate the government, particularly in the senate (Doc D) what the elite wanted and was best for them often got passed and the poor were overlooked. However, not all the robber barons used their influence for evil, ~~peep~~ philanthropists like Carnegie and Rockefeller heavily donated to society. Carnegie, who was a believer of social Darwinism, believed that if you worked hard, you too could be successful. He believed that a man of wealth should set modest examples and help those in need (Doc E) Carnegie donated more than 150 billions of dollars for libraries, colleges, and concert halls.

At the time, immigrants turned to these bosses for jobs and money, which just increased ~~their~~ ^{the bosses'} power. Addams wanted to help these people, and she started a Hull House for the poor and immigrants, ~~which~~ ^{these houses} had a daycare facility and vocational training for the parents. Famous photographer Jacob Riis published How the Other Side Lives to draw attention to the poor. The Social Gospel movement ~~sp~~ encouraged people to turn to religion with leaders like Gladden.

Workers flocked to labor unions for help and assistance. The Knights of Labor, founded by Stephens and made well known by Powderly, ~~at~~ attracted both unskilled

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

1-A

3 of 4

and skilled workers. They participated in many of the strikes during this time, like the Great Railroad strike and the Haymarket Riot. The other ~~big~~^{labor} group union was AFofL, headed by Samuel Gompers. This union was only for skilled workers and focused on bread and butter issues. Gompers argued for better ~~working~~ conditions wages and a reduction of hours of labor (Doc G)

Another group of people who suffered during this time was the farmers. The Grange movement ~~resulted~~ (founded by Oliver Kelley) resulted and later developed into the Populist party (people's party). This party had their famous Omaha platform, where they argued for the Australian ballot, regulation of railroad rates, and direct election of senators. They basically just wanted to restore the government to the "hands of the people" (Doc F) Later on, with an amendment, we do have direct election of senators and with the passage of the Hepburn Act, Mann-Elkins Act, and the Elkins Act, the government had more control over the railroads ~~via rebates or~~

the time period from 1870 to 1900 was one marked mostly of corruption, bribery, and greed as powerful people came into power and dominated both our government and the economy. (One such example is the railroad company, who was even able to get time zones established in the U.S. to make selling

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

①

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

4 of 4

1-A

time in one side of America easier with respect to the time on the opposite side of America.) However, However, not all barons were bad and ^{some} people like Thomas Nast tried their hardest to end the corruption that ran rampant. In response to these changes, the people turned to religion, labor unions, and political parties for advice and help. This Gilded Age set the stage for the next time period, the Progressive Era, where major reforms were to happen.

* Rockefeller used ~~verti~~ horizontal integration to amass his wealth (this is now considered illegal) By doing so, he bankrupted many small companies and many people lost their jobs. Mr. Rice shares his story with us and explains why his company, Ohio Oil Works, was ruined by Rockefeller. (POCH)

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory

1

Part B — Circle one

2 or 3

Part C — Circle one

4 or 5

1-B

1 of 4

The Age of Big Businesses was during the post Civil War Era when corporations grew to power. During this time period, many aspects of the United States were influenced by these large businesses and their owners. The negative impacts of the rise of business tycoons influenced Mark Twain to name this time period, the Gilded Age. In the period post Civil War period, businesses became powerful and controlling of the economy, created different labor conditions, and influenced politics through ~~corruption~~ corrupted acts.

Every factory worker felt the presence of the corporate owners each day. The businesses supplied large amounts of employment for Americans so they were powerful over them. These businesses could lower wages, provide bad working conditions, and fire workers ~~for~~ without justification (Document B). George McNeill expresses how their "whim is the law" and no one could oppose it. The government during this time refused to regulate economic factors, because they took a laissez-faire stance. So, ~~worker's rights were ignored, and as seen in Document A, prices on~~ This allowed business tycoons, or robber barrens, to gain more power and control of each industry through the means of vertical

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and horizontal integration. Rockefeller ~~was~~ made use of monopolizing the oil industry through horizontal integration. He killed competition by ~~low~~ providing consumers with low prices so his competitors could not sell it at the same price (Document H). This allowed Rockefeller to gain a monopoly through the failures of other smaller companies. Robber barrens, like Rockefeller, justified their vast wealth ~~as~~ by helping the community through funding projects. Andrew Carnegie, whose ~~the~~ Social Darwinism ideas became popular, also supported his fellow businessmen through ~~the~~ his Gospel of Wealth. In Document E, he states ~~that~~ "the man of wealth thus becoming the mere agent and trustee for his poorer bretheren". He justifies that the wealthy should not be resented because they were helping the poor. Yet, they would easily lower wages or fire people for the benefit of themselves.

Furthermore, working conditions became began to change during this time. Factories were booming again and new labor groups, such as children and women, joined the labor force. Since the big businesses goaled for ~~effieci~~ efficiency, these factories adopted the assembly line work first introduced before this

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3 of 4

1-B

time by Eli Whitney and his interchangeable parts. Henry Ford, the automobile tycoon, was ~~one~~ the one to use it effectively in order to produce affordable cars. But the assembly line destroyed what ~~man~~ pride men had in his works, and work became boring and tiring (Document C). People began to feel agitated by the boring, yet hard ~~word~~ work they had to do everyday for long hours and meager wages. This impacted the creation of labor unions. In Document G, Samuel Gompers, founder of the AFL, expressed the grievances of the workers, demanding fewer hours, ~~or~~ better treatment, and higher wages. His union was ~~not the only one~~. Many laborers joined labor unions, such as the AFL or Knights of Labor led by Terence Powderly, to fight against the big corporations.

Politically, the business tycoons became influential through corrupt deeds. They often bribed immigrants to vote for certain candidates or lured legislators into agreements that were unprofessional. Boss Tweed was a famous political scandalist around 1876 because of his briberies. As the political cartoon in Document D expresses,

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4 of 4

1 B

trusts became a binding influence in the Senate, in the ~~leg~~ Congress. Many congressmen had ties with key robber barrens, and their actions were taken to benefit those who they had ~~+~~ connections with. This, of course, ~~impacted the government~~ prevented the federal government from enacting regulatory actions or anything that would benefit the workers. Opposition to the corruption in the government grew and led to the ~~area~~ birth of movements like the Grange Movement. This movement became the preceador for the People's Party, or the Populists. Their goal, as stated in Document F, was to give power back to the "plain people". This new emerging Third Party will later on influence the Progressive Era.

In conclusion, the post Civil War time period was a time for businesses to take control. They became powerful, controlling, and wealthy, influencing economic and political matters. Monopolies helped them grow even more powerful and their connections insured the ~~legist~~ government to be on their side. In opposition to these tycoons, workers tried to fight back through the means of labor unions and a new political party.

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1 of 3

1-C

After the Civil War, Americans looked to create a whole, prosperous nation. Corporations grew steadily as Americans migrated steadily west. The owners would create trusts, buying out all of the smaller companies ~~in~~ in their line of work, & thus controlling the whole field. Americans had mixed feelings about these companies. Although post-Civil War corporations employed many and offered low prices, they ultimately stifled smaller businesses and ~~had~~ seemed to have the government in a chokehold.

As ~~we~~ shown in Doc. A, the food and fuel & lighting prices dropped significantly from 1870 to 1899. This is because the trusts ~~didn't need to~~ could get their raw material cheaply, as they were the only ones available to sell to. Huge companies mean huge job opportunities. ^(Doc. J) Even though they may seem unpleasant, a job typing all day until your fingers are numb is still better than no job at all. The real problem with the trusts was that they didn't use their wealth "to produce the most beneficial results in the community". In fact, the effect was quite often the opposite.

In Doc. H, George Rice explains how Rockefeller's Standard Oil Company ruined his own Ohio oil works. Rockefeller's oil was significantly cheaper than Rice could possibly sell if he wanted to make a profit. It turned out that the railroad trust was collaborating with the oil trust to give it "discriminatory rates and privileges of all kinds as against myself and all outside competitors." [Doc. H] This outraged Americans, and

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1-C

they sought to remedy it through the creation of the Trade Unions, who fought for workers's rights in ~~the trusts~~ [Doc G] and the People's Party, who believed the government should ~~fight~~ fight back [Doc F]. They argued that the people should control the government, because many thought that trusts had their government in the palm of their hands.

It seemed that the trusts had the whole country in the palm of their hands. They could "control legislative bodies, dictate legislation, subsidize the press, & corrupt the moral sense of community!" [Doc B] In the political cartoon, "The Bosses of the Senate" [Doc D], the people's entrance to the Senate Chambers is closed and a plaque reads "that ~~the~~ ^{the} is a Senate is "of the monopolists, by the monopolists & for the monopolists." However, the government did take some measures against these "colossal combinations" [Doc H]. The Sherman Anti Trust laws ~~specifically~~ were passed—the name Sherman merely attached to it, from General Sherman of the infamous March to the Sea. ~~There~~ Reform for laborers wouldn't come until the Progressive Era, ~~most~~ ushered in by the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire.

Big businesses and monopolies are something our government has tried to stop from stifling the market, but at the same time can't do too much about as a capitalist nation. It is a fine line that

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is difficult to walk, but that Roosevelt and other legislators
in the 1880s-90s did a fine job of.

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY 2012 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 1

Overview

The document-based question asked students to analyze the impact of big business on the economy and politics of the United States and the responses of Americans to those changes between 1870 and 1900. The question presented students with a number of different options for topics that could be discussed.

Sample: 1A

Score: 8

This essay provides a very balanced discussion of the impact of business on economics, politics, and the American people. Copious amounts of outside information are combined with a particularly effective analytical use of the documents to produce a strong, powerful, and straightforward essay.

Sample: 1B

Score: 6

Though it contains a strong analytical foundation, this essay lacks deeper subtleties. The section on political corruption lacks specific evidence to back its assertions. The extensive outside information, though abundant, is not used effectively enough to move the essay beyond the middle category.

Sample: 1C

Score: 3

This is a classic example of an essay that merely paraphrases the documents in a superficial manner. The outside information is minimal, and the reference to Sherman and his “March to the Sea” is erroneous.