South Carolina Sample Questions United States History and the Constitution

1. This chart shows the opinions of one colonist in two different years.

1763

The colonists must accept and use British laws and follow the forms and procedures of the British government when creating their own local legislatures. Colonists must respect that their rights to self-government come directly from Great Britain.



1774

The British government has gone too far. Colonists must respond with a show of unity. The only way forward is to demand that Great Britain replace its punitive policies with ones that respect the colonists' rights to self-government.

Which development most likely caused the change in opinion shown in this chart?

- A Albany Plan of Union
- **B** Boston Massacre
- C Intolerable Acts
- **D** Navigation Acts

2. These are laws passed by the South Carolina General Assembly after the Civil War.

All persons of color who make contracts for service of labor, shall be known as servants, and those with whom they contract, shall be known as masters. Servants shall not be absent from the premises without the permission of the master.

No person of color shall pursue or practice the art, trade or business of an artisan, mechanic or shopkeeper, or any other trade, employment, or business on his own account and for his own benefit...until he shall have obtained a license.

Based on these laws, which statement *best* explains how South Carolina viewed federal legislation passed during Reconstruction to expand natural rights?

- **A** It backed laws that prevented discrimination and improved the lives of freedmen.
- **B** It supported laws that left freedmen in subservient positions and maintained white control.
- **C** It accepted the involvement of the federal government in guaranteeing equality for freedmen as long as the economy was rebuilt.
- **D** It regretted participating in the historic exploitation of enslaved persons and approved of any federal action that made amends.

3. This chart lists information about travel from Iowa to California in 1869.

Travel from Iowa to California, 1869		
Type of Transportation	Travel Cost	Travel Time
wagon	\$1,000	6 months
stagecoach	\$400	25 days
railroad	\$65	4 days

Based on this chart, how was the Transcontinental Railroad a significant development in the settlement of the western frontier?

- **A** It opened up the West to new settlement.
- **B** It restricted travel to the wealthy.
- **C** It increased the cost of transporting goods to the West.
- **D** It limited the growth of industrialization.

4. Which argument *best* summarizes why the federal government embraced Keynesian economic principles to mobilize the nation during World War II?

- **A** The private sector was better equipped to utilize the resources needed to mobilize for the war.
- **B** Businesses were experts at the production of goods and would not be as efficient if the government interfered.
- **C** Government spending on the war effort was the fastest way to end high unemployment and restore economic growth.
- **D** Economic instability was temporary, and with time, the free-market economy would correct itself.

This is an excerpt from a speech given by President George W. Bush on September 20, 2001.

From this day forward, any nation that continues to harbor or support terrorism will be regarded by the United States as a hostile regime. Our nation has been put on notice, we're not immune from attack. We will take defensive measures against terrorism to protect Americans.

The perspective on national defense outlined by President Bush in this excerpt resulted in what outcome?

- **A** The United States reduced military spending and relied on support from other nations.
- **B** The United States rejected existing European alliances and became more self-reliant.
- **C** The United States discontinued all of its humanitarian aid programs throughout the world.
- **D** The United States got involved in a lengthy and difficult war in Afghanistan.