Released Free Response Questions from AP Central/College Board. Please be aware of overlapping ideas and questions that can and will pertain to previous and future units.

# XIV. The 1920’s

1. Alienation from American society is a dominant theme of the literature of the 1920’s. Discuss this statement with reference to TWO writers (novelists, poets, playwrights, journalists, etc.) citing evidence from their works. (72)

2. The 1920’s witnesses an assault by rural and small town America on Urban America. Assess the validity of this generalization. (74)

3. From 1790 to the 1870’s, state and national governments intervened in the American economy mainly to aid private economic interests and promote economic growth. Between 1890 and 1929, however, government intervention was designed primarily

to curb and regulate private economic activity in the public interest. Assess the validity of this statement, discussing for EACH of these periods at least TWO major areas of public economic policy. (77)

4. In what ways did economic conditions and developments in the arts and entertainment help create the reputation of the 1920’s as the Roaring Twenties? (99)

5. In the work of American writers from the 1820’s through the 1920’s, the city mirrored America’s darkest fears, whereas the wilderness, the country and the farm

reflected the fondest hopes. Assess the validity of this generalization. You may draw your evidence from fiction and or non-fiction. (76)

6. The legal, political, and economic rights achieved by minorities and women in the United States have come largely during periods of major reform movements, which both helped the struggles of these groups and set limits to them. Assess the validity

of this statement for the history of one or more of these groups in the period 1830 –1920. (76)

7. The economic policies of the federal government from 1921 to 1929 were responsible for the nation’s depression of the 1930’s. Assess the validity of this

generalization. (83)

 **XV. The New Deal 1932 - 1945**

1. How do you account for the onset of the Great Depression of the 1930’s? (71)

2. Account for the increased urbanization of Black Americans in the period 1914 to 1945. (72)

3. The depression of the 1890’s delayed reform; the depression of the 1930’s stimulated it. To what extent and in what ways do you agree or disagree with this

statement?(72)

4. The New Deal did not radically alter American business, but conserved and protected it. Assess the validity of this statement. (73)

5. Despite artificial similarities, the domestic programs of the New Deal constituted a fundamental departure from those of the Progressive Era. Assess the validity of this generalization. (74)

6. The history of the U.S. shows that none of the three branches of the federal government is immune from the temptation to upset the system of checks and

balances established by the Constitution. Assess the validity of this generalization in regard to BOTH Congress versus the President 1865 – 1868 AND the President versus the Supreme Court 1935 – 1937. (75)

7. Although often defended and attacked on purely economic grounds, the federal tariff policies of the U.S. have been more important politically than economically. Assess the validity of this generalization in regard to TWO tariffs in U.S. history. (75)

8. Major American writers have been indifferent to the social problems of their day. State whether you agree or disagree with generalization and defend your position

with reference to THREE novelists/ or poets. (75)

9. Most reform legislation since 1900 has been the work of special interests seeking to advance their own well-being, but the adoption of such legislation has required the general support of others who were not directly affected but who perceived it to be in

the public interest. Assess the validity of this statement with reference to THREE examples of reform legislation since 1900. You may draw your examples from reform at any level of government: national, state or municipal. (79)

10. The New Deal secured the support of labor and agriculture after 1932 as the Republican party had secured the support of industry and commerce since 1920 –with special interest programs giving financial aid, legal privileges, and other types of assistance. Assess the validity of this statement, giving attention to both periods

 (1920 –1932 and 1932 – 1940). (81)

11. Despite often brutal clashes between labor and capital in the United States during the period 1865-1940, collective working-class protest did not constitute a basic attack on the capitalistic system. Assess the validity of this statement. (82)

12. During the past four decades, historians have consistently have rated Washington, Lincoln, and FDR as the greatest presidents. Assess the greatness of any TWO of these, making clear the criteria on which you base your judgement. (85)

13. Reform movements of the twentieth century have shown continuity in their goals and strategies. Assess the validity of this statement for ONE of the following pairs of reform movements.

 Progressivism and the New Deal

 Women’s suffrage and post-Second World War Feminism

 The New Deal and the Great Society (86)

14. Why did socialism fail to become a major force in American politics between 1900 and 1940 despite widespread dissatisfaction with the social and economic order and significant support for radical movements during that time period? (88)

15. Analyze the ways in which the Great Depression altered the American social fabric in the 1930’s. (96)

16. Identify Three of the following New Deal measures and analyze the ways in which each of the three attempted to fashion a more stable economy and a more equitable society.

 Agricultural Adjustment Act

 Wagner National Labor relations Act

 Securities and Exchange Commission Social Security Act (93)

17. Although American writers of the 1920’s and 1930’s criticized American society, the nature of their criticisms differed markedly in the two decades. Assess the validity of this statement with specific reference to writers in both decades. (90)

 XVI. Isolationism and War 1921 - 1945

1. President Franklin Roosevelt was naïve and ineffective in his conduct of foreign policy from 1933 and 1941. To what extent and in what ways do you agree or disagree with this statement. (71)

2. The term “isolationism “ does not adequately describe the reality of either United States foreign policy or America’s relationships with other nations during the period from Washington’s Farewell Address 1796 to 1940. Assess the validity of this generalization. (76)

3. War has frequently had unexpected consequences for the United States foreign policy but has seldom resulted in major reorientations of policy. Discuss with reference to the First and Second world wars giving about equal attention to each. (78)

4. Prior to American involvement in both the First and Second World Wars, the United States adopted an official policy of neutrality. Compare the policy and its modifications during the period 1914-17 to the policy and its modifications during 1939-41. (82)

5. Between 1776 and 1823 a young and weak United States achieved considerable success in foreign policy when confronted with the two principal European powers, Great Britain and France. Between 1914 and 1950, however, a far more powerful United States was less successful in achieving its foreign policy objectives in Europe. Discuss by comparing United States foreign policy in Europe during the period 1776

1823, with United States policy in Europe during ONE of the following periods:

1914 – 1932 OR 1933 -1950. (77)

6. To what extent and why did the United States adopt an isolationist policy in the

 1920’s and 1930’s? (98)