



5th Social Studies Quiz B

Fifth Grade Social Studies
Quiz

Practice Test

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions:

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Use the quote below to answer question 1.

“I don’t think that I or any other Negro, as an American citizen, should have to ask for anything that is rightfully his. We are demanding that we just be given the things that are rightfully ours and that we’re not looking for anything else.” —Jackie Robinson

1. In 1947, Jack Roosevelt Robinson (1919–72) became the first African American to “officially” play baseball in the major leagues in the twentieth century. Why was this important?
 - A. The teams from all professional sports were soon integrated.
 - B. This brought a quick end to most forms of segregation.
 - C. The teams from the Negro leagues finally could play major league teams.
 - D. This was one of the first steps toward equal rights.

2. Which of the following is the BEST definition of “economics”?
 - A. the study of human behavior and attitudes
 - B. the study of past events and the impact they have had on people
 - C. the study of political and social interactions
 - D. the study of the production and distribution of goods and services

3. There have been a number of amendments added to the Constitution of the United States that deal with voting. The 15th Amendment was passed in 1870 after the Civil War. Which group gained the right to vote?
 - A. property owners
 - B. women
 - C. black men
 - D. immigrants

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Use the graph below to answer question 4.



4. What does this graph show about the Great Depression?

- A. In 1932 many people had jobs.
 - B. Unemployment was at its worst in 1932.
 - C. Unemployment went down during 1931.
 - D. In the 1930s the job market was very good.
-

5. The Constitution of the United States divides federal powers among the different branches of government and creates a system of checks and balances. Which of the following is a “check” that Congress has over the executive branch?

- A. declaring war on a country
 - B. appointing a Supreme Court justice
 - C. deciding the meaning of a law
 - D. overriding a veto by the president
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Use the map below to answer question 6.



6. The map shows some of the trails taken by people moving West. Settlers had a choice of taking trails through the mountains or through the deserts. Which of the following trails went through the desert?
- Oregon Trail
 - California Trail
 - Bozeman Trail
 - Old Spanish Trail

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7. People have different “roles” in the economy, such as producer, consumer, provider, and investor.

When your family buys groceries at the store, which of the following are they doing?

- A. producing
 - B. investing
 - C. consuming
 - D. providing
-

8. In 1950, the United States and other countries from the United Nations became involved in the Korean War. What was the cause of this war?

- A. North Korea attacked South Korea to spread communism.
 - B. South Korea wanted to drive out troops from Vietnam.
 - C. North Korea attacked China to spread communism.
 - D. South Korea attacked North Korea to spread democracy.
-

Use the list below to answer question 9.

• The president of the United States

• The secretary of state

• The vice-president of the United States

9. These positions in our national government are part of the

- A. executive branch.
 - B. international branch.
 - C. judicial branch.
 - D. legislative branch.
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10. During the years before the Civil War, the Underground Railroad was started to help runaway slaves escape to freedom in Canada. One former slave who was involved with the Underground Railroad and was called “the Black Moses” was

- A. Booker T. Washington.
 - B. Frederick Douglass.
 - C. Harriet Tubman.
 - D. Phyllis Wheatley.
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11. Gasoline-powered cars add to the pollution of the air in the United States. One alternative to gasoline-powered cars is to develop electric or solar-powered cars. What is one of the main problems with electric and solar-powered cars?

- A. They cause too much damage to the environment.
 - B. They only work on sunny days.
 - C. They are too expensive for most people to buy.
 - D. They need special roads in order to be used.
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12. Beginning in the 1950s, the United States became involved in Vietnam, which was divided into two countries. North Vietnam was communist and South Vietnam was non-communist. Why was there fighting in Vietnam?

- A. North Vietnam wanted to combine all of Vietnam under communism.
 - B. The Soviet Union wanted to make South Vietnam a colony.
 - C. North Vietnam wanted to change its communist government.
 - D. Communist China wanted to make South Vietnam a colony.
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13. On December 7, 1941, Japanese forces attacked the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor. What was the effect of this attack?

- A. It caused riots and unrest in Japan.
 - B. The surprise attack sank half the British navy.
 - C. It prompted the United States to enter the war.
 - D. The damage crippled the United States economy.
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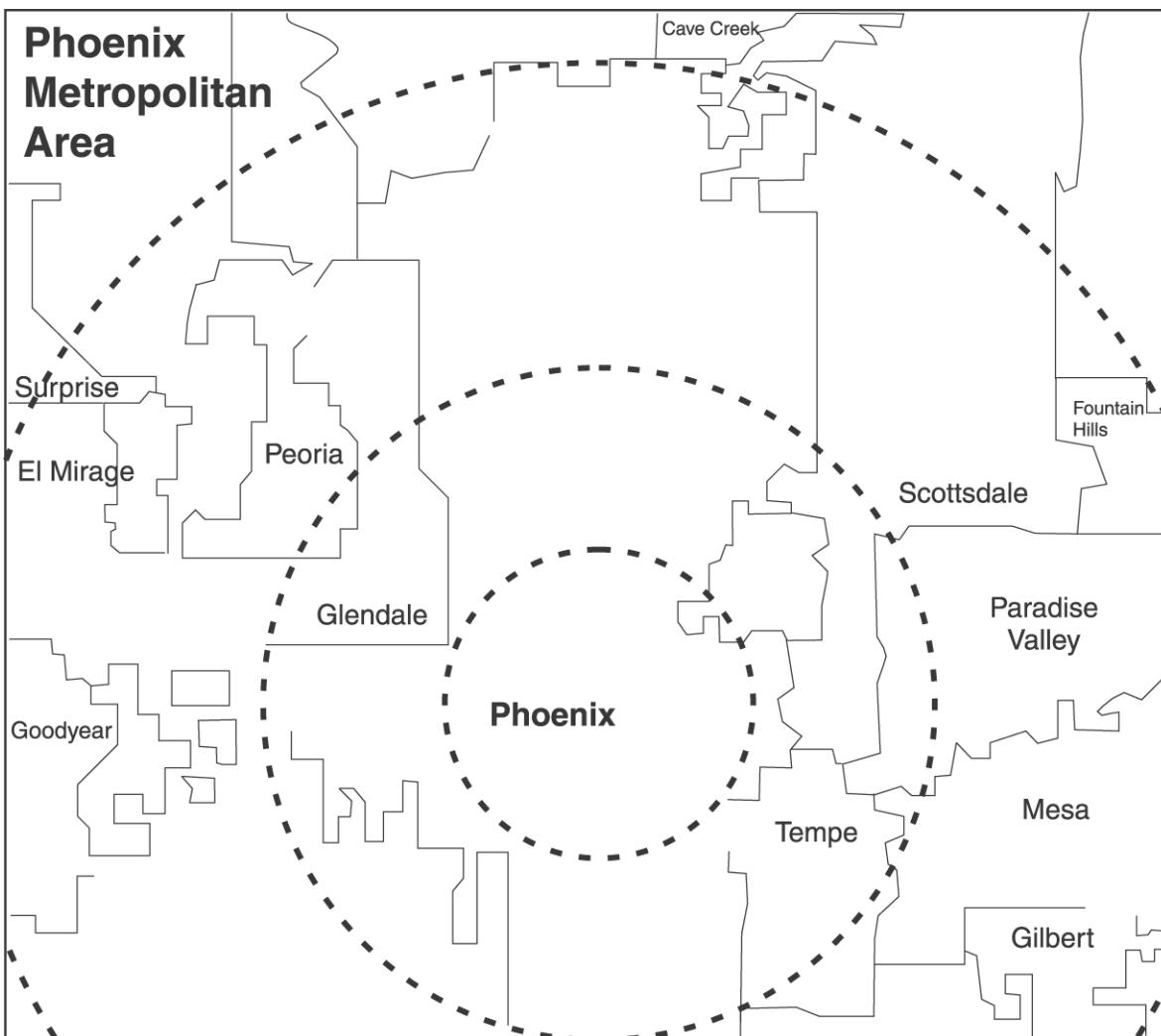
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Use the map below to answer question 14.



14. Since the end of World War II, there has been a major change in where people in the United States live. Cities have become metropolitan areas with a large city, inner suburbs, and outer suburbs. According to the map, which city would be classified as being in the inner suburbs?
- A. El Mirage
 - B. Tempe
 - C. Fountain Hills
 - D. Peoria

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15. Wars often lead to the development of new weapons. Which weapon was first used for warfare in World War II?

- A. tanks
 - B. mustard gas
 - C. atomic bombs
 - D. airplanes
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