

Review Questions for Chapter 17

1. What distinguished William Henry Harrison's presidency?
(A) It was plagued by tensions between western settlers and Native Americans.
(B) It was the shortest on record.
(C) It was marked by hard drinking.
(D) It was undermined by venomous Whig party politics.
(E) It was the first time a frontiersman held the United States' highest office.
2. What prompted fiercely loyal Whigs to denounce their leader, President John Tyler, as "His Accidency"?
(A) His veto of bills to establish a national bank
(B) His refusal to sign the Tariff of 1842
(C) His height and natural clumsiness
(D) His perceived ineptitude as president
(E) His inability to keep his entire cabinet from resigning
3. Tyler was considered by contemporaries as a "Democrat in Whig clothing" for all of the following reasons EXCEPT that he
(A) supported states' rights over a nationalist agenda.
(B) disliked protective tariffs.
(C) favored federal funding of internal improvements like roads and canals.
(D) opposed a national bank.
(E) rejected the idea of turning profits from the sale of western lands over to the states.
4. In the 1830s, America's relationship with Britain was marked by all of the following EXCEPT
(A) a borrower-lender status.
(B) being constantly on the brink of war.
(C) a series of compromises.
(D) ongoing boundary disputes.
(E) tension over tariffs.
5. The U.S.-British tension over the Maine-Canada boundary that nearly sparked a war was finally settled in 1842 by
(A) granting the entire area in question to the Americans.
(B) granting the entire area in question to the British.
(C) dividing the area equally between the two nations.
(D) adjusting the Canadian border so that the United States gained an additional 6,500 square miles.
(E) adjusting the Canadian border so that the British gained thousands of square miles of U.S. territory.
6. Which of the following did NOT influence the decision to annex Texas, the Lone Star Republic, to the United States in 1845?
(A) Fear that Texas's continued independence made America vulnerable
(B) The belief that Mexico would not be able to reclaim its lost Texas territory
(C) Increasing British interest in Texas
(D) Pressure from southern states to annex Texas, ideally as a slave territory
(E) Whig campaigning in the 1844 election on the promise of annexing Texas
7. Manifest Destiny is best described as
(A) a sense of mission to ultimately eliminate slavery from U.S. soil.
(B) the goal of expelling all foreign influences from American borders so that the nation could fully develop as a republic.
(C) the notion that America was ordained by God to spread its democratic institutions beyond its existing borders.
(D) America's push toward becoming a commercial nation and a world power.
(E) a phrase coined by Henry Clay to justify pushing the British further back into Canada.
8. How was the question of the Oregon boundary finally resolved between the United States and Britain?
(A) Britain peacefully settled for the proposed line of 49°.
(B) America threatened war with England over setting the boundary at the Columbia River.
(C) Polk pushed his 1844 campaign promise of the 54° 40' line until Britain agreed.
(D) The two nations agreed to continue jointly occupying the region, as they had done for decades.
(E) American settlers in the territory attacked small clusters of British until they withdrew into Canada.
9. All of the following fanned the flames that led to the U.S. war with Mexico EXCEPT
(A) Polk's desire for California.
(B) Britain's offer to purchase California from Mexico.
(C) a dispute over where the Texas border with Mexico actually lay.
(D) Mexico's anger at the U.S. annexation of its territory in revolt, Texas.
(E) American bloodshed at the hands of Mexican troops along the Rio Grande.

10. What was Polk's real goal once the battle with Mexico began?
- (A) To end the fighting once he had captured California
 - (B) To conquer all of Mexico's land claims north of the Nueces River
 - (C) To use Santa Anna to betray—and help the United States annex—Mexico
 - (D) To keep Mexico from regaining Texas and advancing into the United States
 - (E) To take Mexico City
11. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the U.S. war with Mexico, included all of the following terms EXCEPT that it
- (A) confirmed that Texas belonged to the United States.
 - (B) gave the United States all of the territory to the Pacific, including California.
 - (C) required the United States to assume the land claims against Mexico made by U.S. citizens.
 - (D) required the United States to pay \$25 million for its land acquisitions, primarily California.
 - (E) granted to the United States nearly one-half of all the land formerly held by Mexico.
12. Who were the Californios?
- (A) The original inhabitants of the land later called California
 - (B) The descendants of Spanish and Mexican conquerors who once ruled the region
 - (C) Christian missionaries who sought to convert local Indians along the Pacific Coast
 - (D) Mexican prisoners released from jail and sent to settle California
 - (E) U.S. settlers who moved into the territory acquired after the war with Mexico
13. From a domestic standpoint, which of these was NOT a product of the war with Mexico?
- (A) A significant loss of life and a weakening of the U.S. Army
 - (B) Training the military officials who would eventually become leaders in the Civil War
 - (C) Pushing the slavery debate into the foreground
 - (D) Weakening U.S. relations with Latin America
 - (E) Increasing the geographic size of the United States by one-third
14. Symbolically important, the 1846 Wilmot Proviso stated that
- (A) slavery should never be established in the territories acquired from Mexico.
 - (B) each new territory in the land acquired from Mexico should decide the slave issue for itself.
 - (C) slavery in the United States should end by a specified date.
 - (D) the number of slave and free states should remain equal and balanced.
 - (E) southern states would make no effort to influence the further course of slavery in the territories.

Chapter 17: 1 (B); 2 (A); 3 (C); 4 (E); 5 (D); 6 (E); 7 (C); 8 (A); 9 (B); 10 (A); 11 (D); 12 (B); 13 (A); 14 (A)