

# US HISTORY FINAL EXAM S1

## INTRODUCTION:

US History Semester 1 has examined the span of time from Colonization to the great divide of the Civil War. During that time we have studied the creation of a new form of government, westward migration, the quest for rights and freedom, and regional, religious, and political differences. Throughout this time we have examined many events and the impact these events had on the fundamental ideals of America and the people within this nation.

## TASK:

You are a lawyer whose firm has been presented with the following opportunity: You have connections to the federal government who would allow you to argue the case on their behalf, or you could choose to take the case and represent groups of citizens to demonstrate possible injustices perpetrated on them throughout history.

You must decide if your firm should accept the case for the citizens group, or if you would represent the federal government.

You have been provided evidence of multiple historical events that include but are not limited to the following- this is just a sample: You must include at least 5 events to support your position.

- Puritans in colonial times
- Manifest Destiny
- Constitutional Convention
- Indian Removal Act
- Declaration of Independence
- Dred Scott
- Missouri Compromise
- Emancipation Proclamation
- Others that you think are significant-

## IDEALS:

opportunity, democracy, rights, liberty, equality

**Position One:** - In order to recommend the case in defense of the citizens, it must meet the requirements:

- The events have to involve actions conducted by or in the name of the United States government, this cannot simply be one person's interaction with another person or small group of citizens.
- Must demonstrate that there was malicious intent to harm or deprive people of their opportunity to achieve basic fundamental ideals of the United States

**Opposing Position-** Includes: United States Government and Other citizens of the United States who argue the progress that the United States has made as a nation trumps and inconvenience a few people had to endure.

Example argument:

Would it not be better to move a neighborhood of people in order to provide jobs, recreation opportunities or clean water to the rest of the people?

In order to recommend the firm take the case and defend the US government, you must demonstrate the following:

- The events must demonstrate specific actions undertaken by the United States Government, this cannot be individuals such as John Brown and his raids.
- Must demonstrate the intent of the United States was for the common/greater good of all of society. The actions taken were for the improvement of society.
- Must demonstrate the actions did not harm or deprive people of their opportunity to achieve basic fundamental ideals of the United States. Or at least any harm was minimal and or temporary.

**RECOMMENDATION: You will explain your recommendation in the following write up.**

WRITE UP:

To begin to earn an **A** on this, you need to demonstrate understanding of both positions, both the Government and the People who feel wronged. This means in your recommendation, you need to identify any supporting events, details, or ideas that would support each side. This demonstrates to your firm that you have done your research and you are providing them with the best possible recommendation.

**Create a write up recommending which position your firm should take on this case.**

Include the following:

1. Recommendation as to which side your firm should represent.

- Clearly defined reason why you would choose this side to represent in court.
  - Answer the question- why you would recommend defending the people or the government?
  - Demonstration of your understanding of both positions
  - Explanation of why you chose the position you did.

2. Discussion of at least 5 events that illustrate the issues in contention

- Discussion of events should provide a comprehensive look at the event
  - what happened
  - who was involved
  - what was the intent/why done
  - what was the outcome

- how were people and the nation impacted?

3. Discussion of the events that point to the potential inequality, injustice or harm that could be brought up in court.

- Create an argument for support of the citizen's case by analyzing the events from their point of view.
- Examine the event's impact to explain if any of the ideals were infringed upon and if so how.

4. Discussion of the events that point to the Government's intention.

- Create an argument for support of the Government's case by analyzing the events from their point of view.
- Examine the event's purpose and the intent of the government.

5. Final rationale for your decision:

- When you make your recommendation, you might include events beyond the 5 original ones that help demonstrate your position.
  - Ex: If you represent the Government's position, you might go beyond events such as Dred Scott and Slavery to include other actions that show their good intention.
  - Ex: if you represent the people, you may add other events beyond your 5 to demonstrate other injustices that might include groups beyond the ones your 5 events focused on.
- Summarize why you recommend defending this position.