

VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING

TEST ITEM SET

UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1865

2008 History and Social Science Standards of Learning

Released Spring 2014

Property of the Virginia Department of Education

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SAMPLE

In the mid-1800s, a gold rush led many people to move to —

- ☐ **A** Texas
- ☐ **B** Kansas
- ☐ **C** California
- ☐ **D** Louisiana

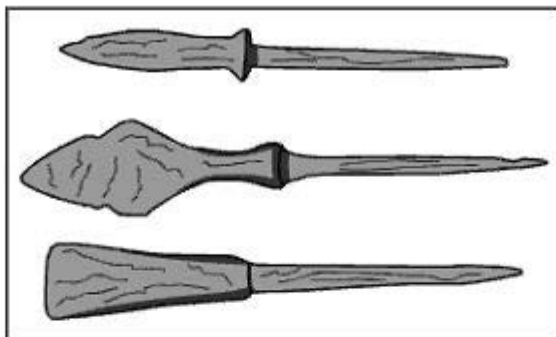
Cactus Hill



This map shows the location of an important discovery about the —

- ☐ **A** site of the Kwakiutl homeland
- ☐ **B** early humans in North America
- ☐ **C** first settlement in Jamestown
- ☐ **D** early trading markets with Europe

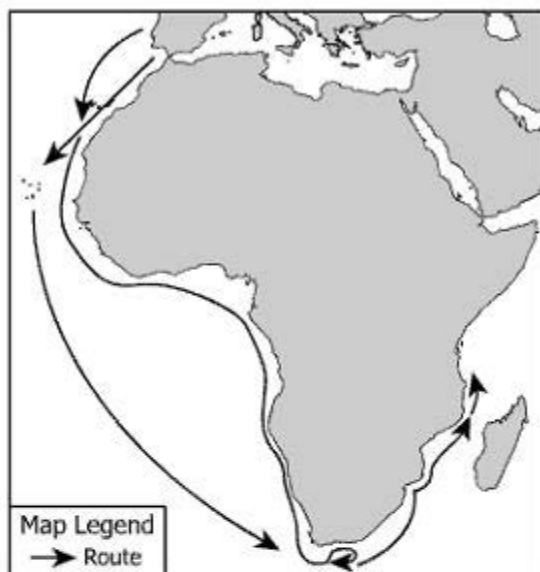
Ancient Artifacts



Which person would most likely study these artifacts?

- ☐ A Biologist
- ☐ B Archaeologist
- ☐ C Geologist
- ☐ D Chemist

Africa



Which country sent explorers along the routes on this map?

- ☐ A France
- ☐ B England
- ☐ C Spain
- ☐ D Portugal

French explorers cooperated with American Indians by —

- ☐ **A** becoming large landowners
- ☐ **B** adopting foreign religions
- ☐ **C** sharing farming techniques
- ☐ **D** establishing trading posts

The primary reason the Quakers settled in Pennsylvania was to —

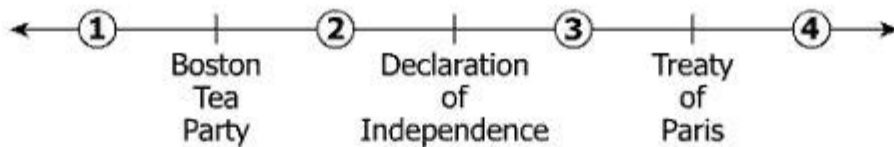
- ☐ **A** find gold deposits
- ☐ **B** escape debtor's prison
- ☐ **C** practice religion freely
- ☐ **D** avoid paying taxes

Barrel Maker



This picture shows a job most likely being done by a —

- ☐ **A** colonial artisan
- ☐ **B** local legislator
- ☐ **C** colonial governor
- ☐ **D** large landowner



Which number best represents the Battle of Yorktown?

- ☐ A 1
- ☐ B 2
- ☒ C 3
- ☐ D 4

Which attitude helped the colonists win the American Revolution?

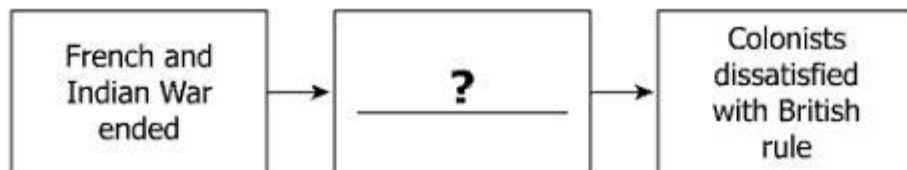
- ☐ **A** I care most about having peace.
- ☐ **B** I am always loyal to the king.
- ☐ **C** I need to protect my own land.
- ☐ **D** I am hoping to move to the city.

The speech which included the statement "Give me liberty or give me death" was made to —

- ☐ **A** warn the British government
- ☐ **B** oppose the slave trade
- ☐ **C** inspire colonial patriotism
- ☐ **D** encourage French support

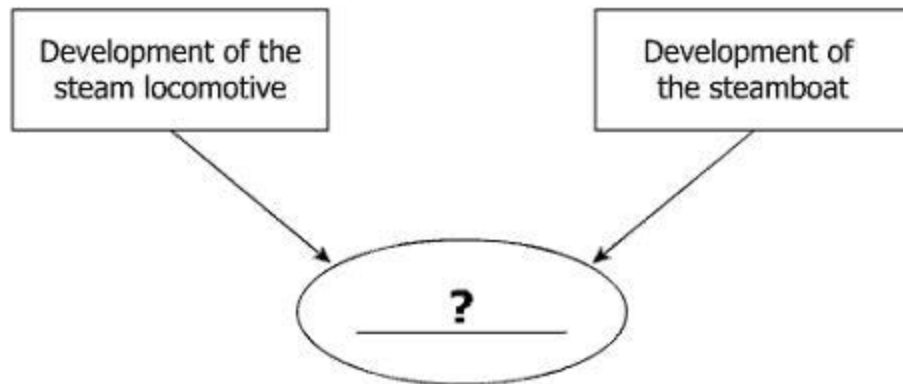
Lewis and Clark's expedition was the result of actions taken by —

- ☐ **A** George Washington
- ☐ **B** John Adams
- ☐ **C** Thomas Jefferson
- ☐ **D** James Madison



Which event best completes this diagram?

- ☐ **A** Taxes imposed on the colonists
- ☐ **B** Taxes placed on British soldiers
- ☐ **C** Taxation opposed by British merchants
- ☐ **D** Taxation controlled by the colonists

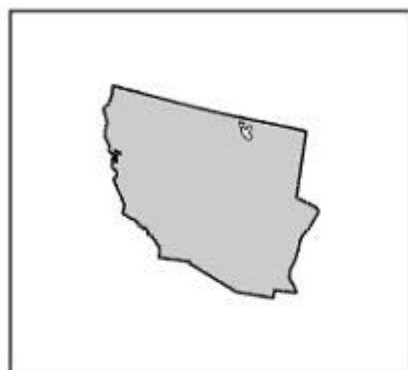


Which effect completes this diagram?

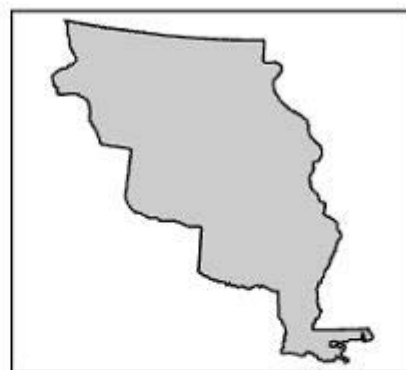
- ☐ **A** Delivered raw materials to factories
- ☐ **B** Increased need for slave labor
- ☐ **C** Assisted in reform of labor laws
- ☐ **D** Increased production of cotton

Which territory existed as an independent republic before becoming a state?

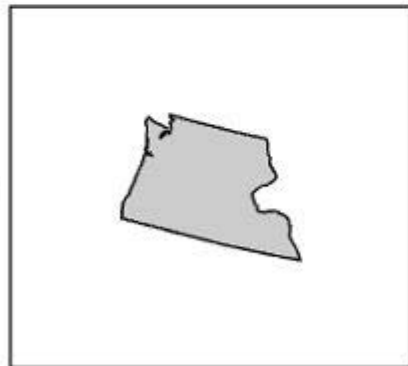
☐ A



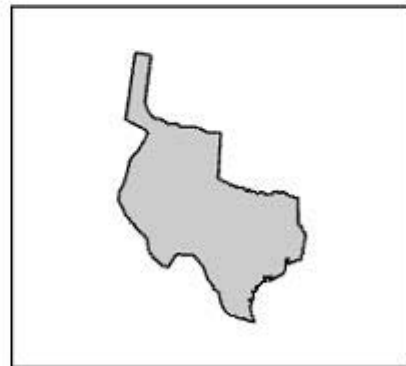
☐ C



☐ B



☐ D



- Missouri Compromise
- ?
- Kansas-Nebraska Act

Which action best completes this list?

- ☐ **A** Compromise of 1850
- ☐ **B** Monroe Doctrine
- ☐ **C** Tariff of 1832
- ☐ **D** Great Compromise

Robert E. Lee refused to take command of the Union forces during the Civil War because he —

- ☐ **A** believed the South would form a new country
- ☐ **B** thought Ulysses S. Grant would make a better general
- ☐ **C** would not fight against his home state
- ☐ **D** did not think it would pay him enough

Before the Civil War, the North supported tariffs in order to —

- ☐ **A** pay the cost of transporting runaway slaves
- ☐ **B** pressure Britain into buying American cotton crops
- ☐ **C** protect factory owners from foreign competitors
- ☐ **D** prevent families in the South from receiving goods

After the Civil War, Confederate currency was —

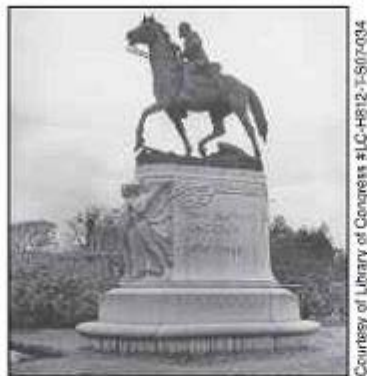
- ☐ **A** safe in Southern banks
- ☐ **B** used until it wore out
- ☐ **C** traded for United States dollars
- ☐ **D** worthless in economic value

- Served as Union Naval Captain
- Decorated for heroism
- Served as Congressman following the Civil War

Which person is described by this list?

- ☐ **A** John Brown
- ☐ **B** Frederick Douglass
- ☐ **C** John Paul Jones
- ☐ **D** Robert Smalls

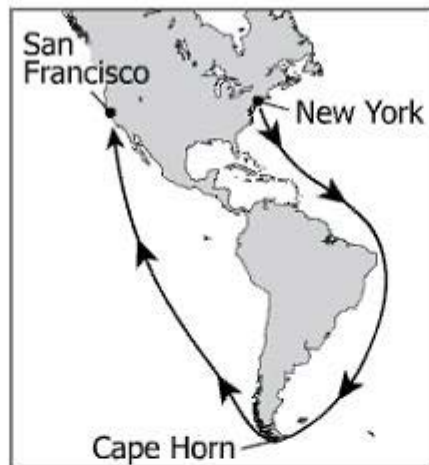
Statue of Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson



This statue was built to honor Jackson because he was —

- ☐ **A** the leader of the Army of Northern Virginia
- ☐ **B** a skilled Confederate general
- ☐ **C** the commander at the Battle of Vicksburg
- ☐ **D** a famous Union soldier

Passage Around Cape Horn



Which ocean did ships enter after rounding Cape Horn when sailing from New York to San Francisco?

- ☐ **A** Arctic
- ☐ **B** Pacific
- ☐ **C** Indian
- ☐ **D** Atlantic

The Continental Divide is a part of the —

- ☐ **A** Sierra Nevada
- ☐ **B** Coastal Range
- ☐ **C** Rocky Mountains
- ☐ **D** Appalachian Highlands

Eastern United States



Which river was used to transport goods and settlers into the darker-shaded state on this map?

- ☐ A Missouri
- ☐ B James
- ☐ C Arkansas
- ☐ D Ohio



© Gregory21/Dreamstime #6336706

This geographic feature is a —

- ☐ **A** plateau
- ☐ **B** mountain
- ☐ **C** glacier
- ☐ **D** plain

Which American Indians lived in eastern North America?

- ☐ **A** Iroquois
- ☐ **B** Kwakiutl
- ☐ **C** Inuit
- ☐ **D** Lakota

Which map correctly shows the Basin and Range region?

☐ A



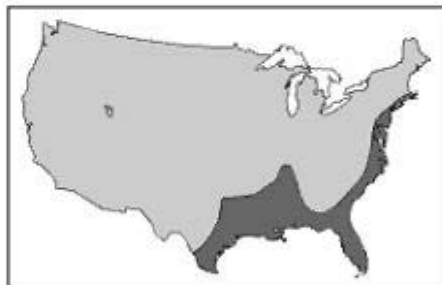
☐ C



☐ B



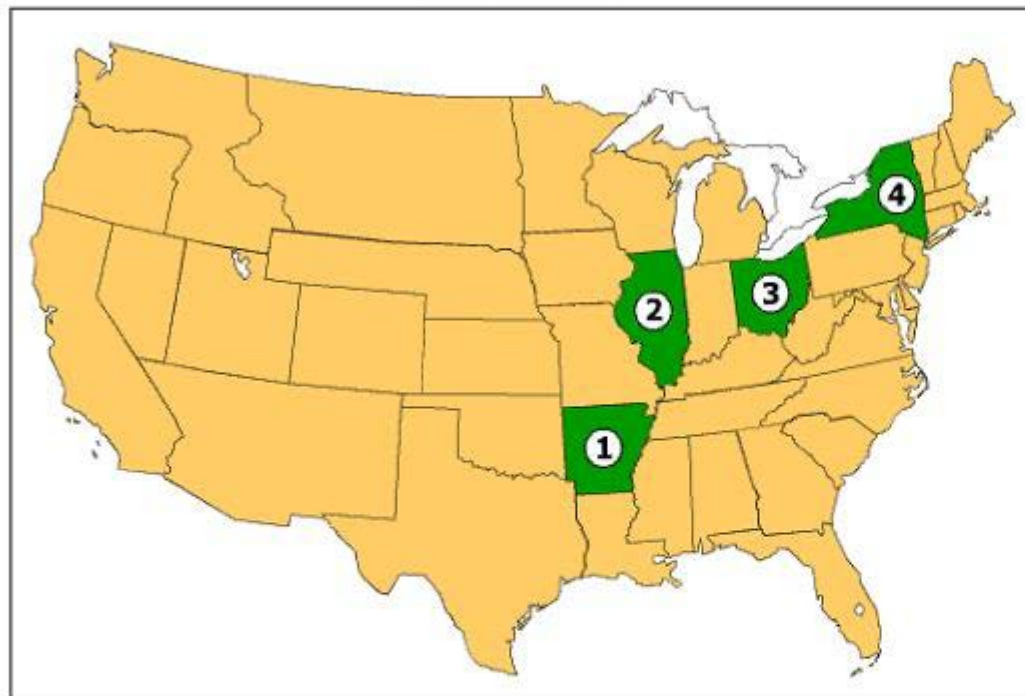
☐ D



Which two continents are described as parts of a single landmass?

- ☐ **A** Europe and Africa
- ☐ **B** Asia and Africa
- ☐ **C** Europe and Asia
- ☐ **D** Australia and Antarctica

The Civil War



Which state seceded from the Union?

☐ A 1

☐ B 2

☐ C 3

☐ D 4

Which product was most associated with the Southern colonies?

- ☐ **A** Livestock
- ☐ **B** Fish
- ☐ **C** Grain
- ☐ **D** Tobacco

- People have natural rights
- Governments were formed to protect those rights
- People have a duty to change governments that violate these rights

Which document contains these philosophies?

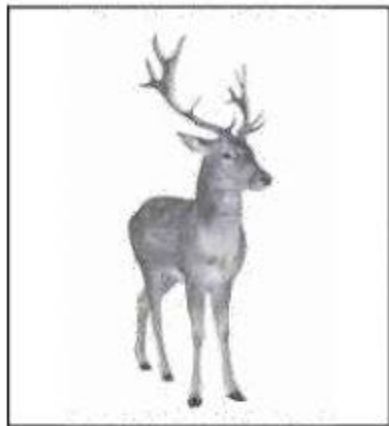
- ☐ **A** Intolerable Acts
- ☐ **B** Mayflower Compact
- ☐ **C** Proclamation of 1763
- ☐ **D** Declaration of Independence

Which picture shows a capital resource used by American Indians?

☐ A



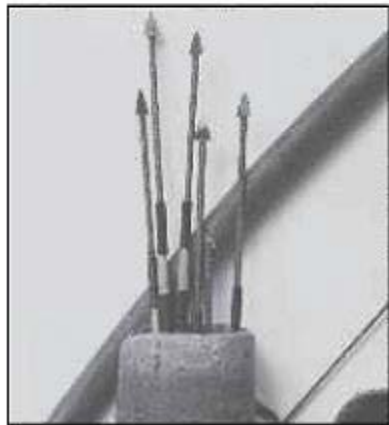
☐ C



☐ B



☐ D



Citizen 1: In Virginia, for our large number of people, we have only one vote in the legislature.

Citizen 2: That is the fairest form of a Congress, or the small states would be outvoted on every issue.

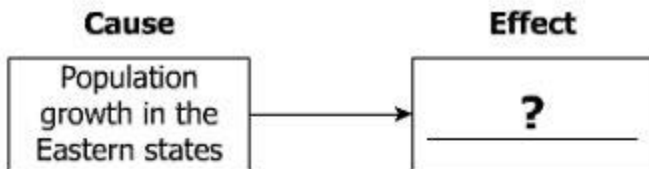
Which weakness of the Articles of Confederation does this conversation best represent?

- ☐ **A** Lack of a common currency
- ☐ **B** Lack of a central executive power
- ☐ **C** No representation based on population
- ☐ **D** No central control over national commerce



This exchange of goods between the Pennsylvania and Georgia colonies is an example of —

- ☐ A competition
- ☐ B interdependence
- ☐ C economic freedom
- ☐ D indentured servitude



Which action best completes this diagram?

- ☐ **A** Increased trade with Canada
- ☐ **B** Start of a war with Mexico
- ☐ **C** Immigration from the European continent
- ☐ **D** Expansion toward the Pacific Ocean

United States History to 1865
Released Test Item Set Spring 2014
Answer Key

Sequence Number	Correct Answer	Reporting Category	Reporting Category Description
1	B	001	Pre-Columbian Times to the 1770s
2	B	001	Pre-Columbian Times to the 1770s
3	D	001	Pre-Columbian Times to the 1770s
4	D	001	Pre-Columbian Times to the 1770s
5	C	001	Pre-Columbian Times to the 1770s
6	A	001	Pre-Columbian Times to the 1770s
7	C	002	Revolution and the New Nation
8	C	002	Revolution and the New Nation
9	C	002	Revolution and the New Nation
10	C	002	Revolution and the New Nation
11	A	002	Revolution and the New Nation
12	A	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
13	D	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
14	A	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
15	C	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
16	C	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
17	D	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
18	D	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
19	B	003	Expansion, Reform, and the Civil War
20	B	004	Geography
21	C	004	Geography
22	D	004	Geography
23	A	004	Geography
24	A	004	Geography
25	C	004	Geography
26	C	004	Geography
27	A	004	Geography
28	D	005	Civics and Economics
29	D	005	Civics and Economics
30	D	005	Civics and Economics
31	C	005	Civics and Economics
32	B	005	Civics and Economics
33	D	005	Civics and Economics

