

Chapter 13 Test, Form A

Postwar America

DIRECTIONS: Matching Match each item with the correct statement below.

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| _____ 1. author of the play <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> , about a working-class African American family | A. Federal Highway Act |
| _____ 2. mountainous region of the United States that stretches from Georgia to New York | B. generation gap |
| _____ 3. African American musician who recorded hit rock 'n' roll songs in the 1950s | C. Albert Sabin |
| _____ 4. States' Rights, or Dixiecrat, Party candidate for president in 1948 | D. Strom Thurmond |
| _____ 5. beat poet who criticized modern American life for its sterility, conformity, and emptiness | E. UNIVAC |
| _____ 6. early computer that handled business data | F. Lorraine Hansberry |
| _____ 7. researcher who developed an oral vaccine for polio | G. white-collar jobs |
| _____ 8. the largest public works program in American history | H. Chuck Berry |
| _____ 9. work that takes place mostly in offices, instead of in factories | I. Appalachia |
| _____ 10. term for the cultural separation between children and their parents | J. Allen Ginsberg |

DIRECTIONS: Multiple Choice Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- _____ 11. A key factor that enabled the U.S. economy to continue to grow after World War II was
- expansion of the labor market.
 - increased consumer spending.
 - inflation and higher prices.
 - government intervention.

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- _____ 12. After World War II, the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act—popularly called the GI Bill—made it possible for many returning soldiers to
- A. find blue-collar jobs.
 - B. make careers in the military.
 - C. buy homes.
 - D. move into the nation’s urban centers.
- _____ 13. President Harry Truman’s legislative agenda included expanding Social Security, increasing the minimum wage, and promoting employment through federal spending and investment, as well as
- A. ending government price and rent controls.
 - B. enacting a federal highway bill.
 - C. abolishing the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.
 - D. enacting a broad civil rights bill.
- _____ 14. For President Dwight D. Eisenhower, “dynamic conservatism” meant a policy approach that balanced economic conservatism with
- A. activism in areas that would benefit the country.
 - B. an escalation of the Korean War.
 - C. increases in government aid to American businesses.
 - D. a program to spend more on schools and public housing.
- _____ 15. According to John Kenneth Galbraith, postwar America had an “economy of abundance” because of
- A. the growth of suburbs.
 - B. new business techniques and improved technologies.
 - C. the new consumer culture.
 - D. huge numbers of workers returning from the war.
- _____ 16. Suburbs accounted for about 85 percent of new home construction in the 1950s, and many people believed suburbs offered
- A. a better life.
 - B. the GI Bill.
 - C. a departure from traditional values.
 - D. homes closer to their jobs.
- _____ 17. The 1950s saw major advances in science, including medical breakthroughs that led to improved treatments for cancer, polio, and
- A. Alzheimer’s disease.
 - B. pneumonia.
 - C. influenza.
 - D. heart attacks.

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- _____ 18. Although most Americans in the 1950s assumed that the country's prosperity provided everyone with a comfortable existence, at least one in five Americans
- did not have access to medical care.
 - lived below the poverty line.
 - lived in crowded housing projects.
 - struggled against discrimination.
- _____ 19. The federal government's termination policy, launched after World War II, was an attempt to
- move Native Americans into mainstream society.
 - end inner-city poverty by replacing slums with new high-rise buildings.
 - offer Mexican laborers temporary work on American farms.
 - end the dependence of poor Americans on government aid.
- _____ 20. In the 1950s, many Americans stereotyped young people who favored unconventional clothing and hairstyles as
- members of minority groups.
 - unpatriotic.
 - victims of discrimination.
 - juvenile delinquents.

DIRECTIONS: Essay Answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper.

“ . . . [It would] reverse the basic direction of our national labor policy, inject the government into private economic affairs on an unprecedented scale, and conflict with important principles of our democratic society. Its provisions would cause more strikes, not fewer.”

—President Truman on the Taft-Hartley Act, June 20, 1947

- Refer to the excerpt above. Explain the Taft-Hartley Act and describe the politics that led to its passage, including labor unrest, the election of 1946, and President Truman's use of the veto.
- Describe President Eisenhower's domestic agenda, including examples of conservative, liberal, and activist policies.
- What factors made rock 'n' roll wildly popular in the 1950s, and why did many adults consider this form of music shocking and dangerous?

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“The Indians believed that when the dark clouds of war passed from the skies overhead, their rising tide of expectations, though temporarily stalled, would again reappear. Instead they were threatened by termination. . . . Soaring expectations began to plunge. Termination took on the connotation of extermination for many.”

—Benjamin Reifel, a Sioux quoted in *The Earth Shall Weep*

24. Explain the federal government’s termination policy and describe how the experience of Native Americans differed from the experiences of other groups in the postwar United States.