

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

GRADE 5

ELEMENTARY-LEVEL SOCIAL STUDIES TEST

BOOKLET 1

MULTIPLE-CHOICE AND CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

NOVEMBER 16, 2009

Student Name _____

School Name _____

Print your name and the name of your school on the lines above.

The test has three parts. Parts I and II are in this test booklet; Part III is in Booklet 2.

Part I contains 35 multiple-choice questions. Record your answers to these questions on the separate answer sheet. Use only a No. 2 pencil on your answer sheet.

Part II consists of several short-answer questions. Write your answers to Part II in this test booklet.

You will have $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours to answer the questions in Booklet 1.

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THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12234

Part I

DIRECTIONS

There are 35 questions on Part I of this test. Each question is followed by four choices, labeled A–D. Read each question carefully. Decide which choice is the correct answer. On the separate answer sheet, mark your answer in the row of circles for each question by filling in the circle that has the same letter as the answer you have chosen. Use a pencil to mark the answer sheet.

Read the **sample question** below:

Sample Question

Which city is the capital of New York State?

- (A) Utica
- (B) Albany
- (C) New York City
- (D) Buffalo

The correct answer is **Albany**, which is next to letter **B**. On your answer sheet, look at the box showing the row of answer circles for the sample question. Since choice **B** is the correct answer for the sample question, the circle with the letter **B** has been filled in.

Answer all 35 questions on Part I of this test. Fill in only one circle for each question. Be sure to erase completely any answer you want to change. You may not know the answers to some of the questions, but do the best you can on each one.

When you have finished Part I, go on to Part II.

Part I

Answer all questions in this part.

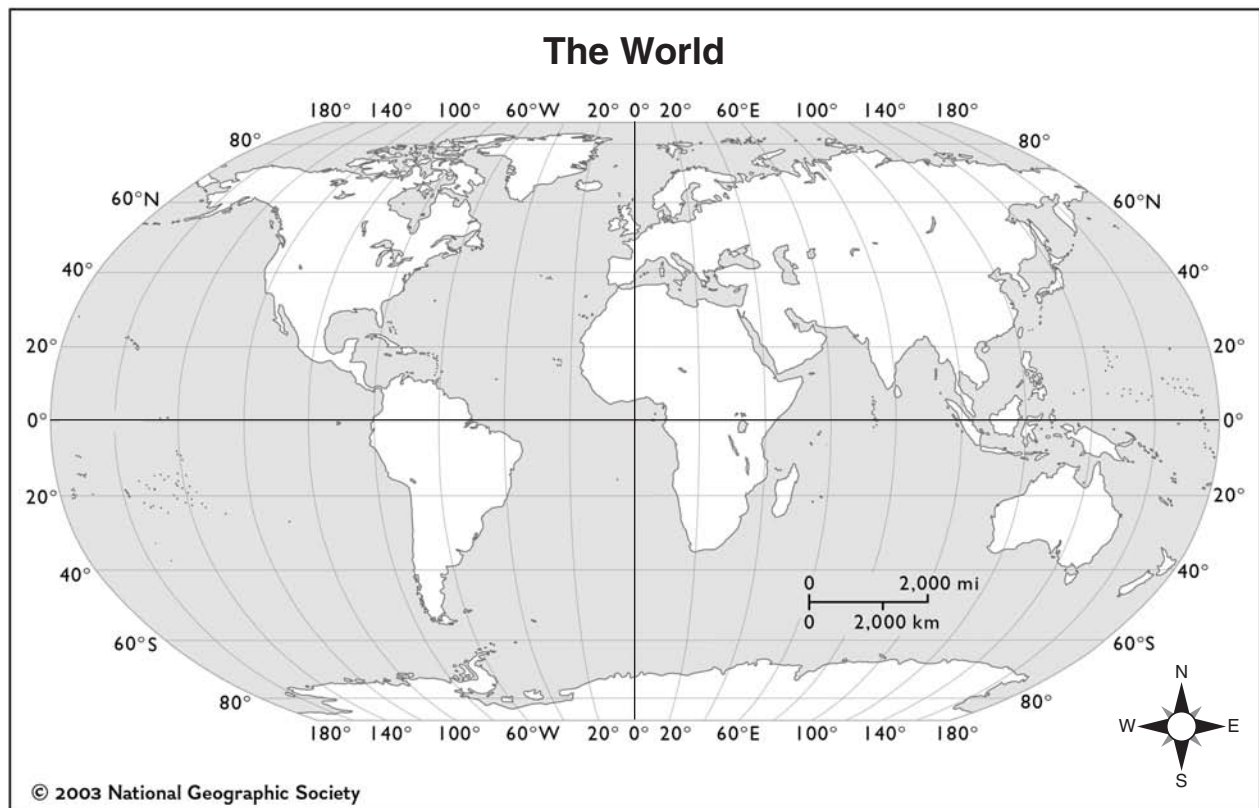
- 1 In many countries around the world, families often tell stories to remember their past. These stories are part of a family's
- (A) oral history (C) civic duty
(B) written rules (D) economic resources
- 2 Which term includes the other three terms?
- (A) art (C) languages
(B) culture (D) religion

Base your answer to question 3 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

“My family and I are Greek, and on every New Year’s Day we bring out the *vasilopita* in honor of St. Basil! The *vasilopita* is a special bread with sliced almonds on the top. It has a coin hidden inside it. My grandfather cuts it so that there will be a slice for every family member present. Everybody gets a piece, and everybody looks eagerly to see if he/she got the coin because it brings good luck for the next year!”

- 3 During the New Year’s holiday, hiding a coin inside *vasilopita* is an example of a Greek
- (A) law (C) folktale
(B) shrine (D) tradition
-

Base your answers to questions 6 and 7 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: National Geographic Society (adapted)

- 6** Which two continents are located completely in the Western Hemisphere?
- (A) Asia and Australia
 - (B) South America and Africa
 - (C) North America and South America
 - (D) Antarctica and Australia
- 7** The line of latitude 60° N runs through which continents?
- (A) North America and South America
 - (B) Antarctica and Australia
 - (C) Asia, Europe, and North America
 - (D) Africa, South America, and Asia
-

Base your answers to questions 8 and 9 on the chart below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Characteristics of Government	British Parliamentary Democracy	United States Representative Democracy
Structure of National Government	Parliament (House of Commons and House of Lords), Her Majesty's Government (prime minister and ministers), and judiciary	Congress (House of Representatives and Senate), executive branch (president and executive departments), and judiciary
Selection of Legislature	House of Commons elected by citizens; House of Lords has mostly appointed seats.	House of Representatives and Senate elected by citizens.
Selection of Chief Executive	Prime Minister is indirectly elected by the people through selection from the majority party in Parliament.	President is indirectly elected by an electoral college, whose delegates are elected by the people. President may be of a different political party than the party controlling Congress.

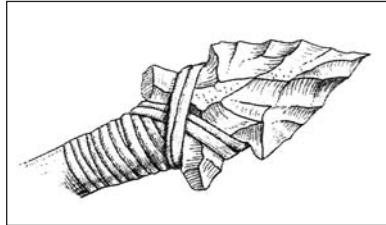
Source: *Faces*, Cobblestone Publishing Company, 2001 (adapted)

- 8** One way Britain's House of Commons and the United States House of Representatives are similar is that members are
- (A) elected by the citizens
 - (B) chosen by judges
 - (C) indirectly elected by the electoral college
 - (D) selected from the majority party in Parliament
- 9** The chief executive in Great Britain is called the
- (A) Queen
 - (B) President
 - (C) Prime Minister
 - (D) Duke of York
-

Base your answers to questions 10 and 11 on the information below and on your knowledge of social studies.

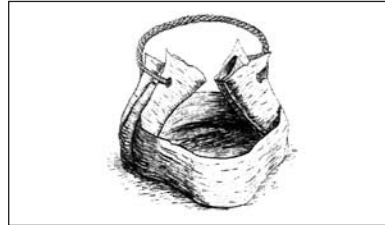
Artifacts of Early People

Archaeologists study artifacts to learn more about people who lived long ago. The four examples below are artifacts used by early people in New York.



Spearhead

Made by chipping flint, or stone, until it had a sharp edge. The sharpened flint was then attached to a wooden handle. Used for hunting.



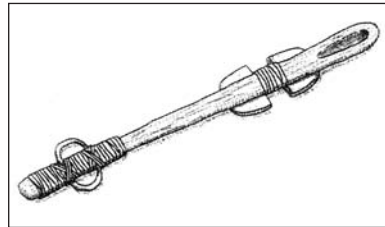
Birchbark Basket

Made of birchbark that was folded into a basket shape and held together either with thread or with a handle. Used for storing and cooking food.



Pottery

Made from clay mixed with plant fibers, sand, and crushed shells, and then coiled into thin rolls on top of one another. Used for storing and cooking food.



Atlatl

A short staff made of wood or bone used as a lever to throw a spear. Also called a spear-thrower when hunting.

Source: *Horizons: New York*, Harcourt, 2004 (adapted)

10 Flint that was sharpened and used to hunt was made into

- (A) a spearhead
- (B) an atlatl
- (C) a pot
- (D) a basket

11 Birchbark baskets and pottery artifacts tell us that early people

- (A) sewed animal skins
- (B) stored food
- (C) used metal
- (D) hunted buffalo

- 12** Which of these people produces a good instead of providing a service?
- (A) teacher (C) policeman
(B) salesman (D) factory worker
- 13** One basic need of a family can be met by
- (A) ordering flowers (C) buying groceries
(B) renting a DVD (D) taking a vacation
- 14** The elder women who played a major role in Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) government were called
- (A) clan mothers (C) tribal councils
(B) sachems (D) the three sisters
- 15** Which two Native American Indian tribes were part of the Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) nation?
- (A) Montauk and Shinnacock (C) Erie and Michigan
(B) Cherokee and Sioux (D) Seneca and Mohawk

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE ⇨

16 Henry Hudson is best known for exploring

- (A) Canada for the French
- (B) New York for the Dutch
- (C) Virginia for the British
- (D) Florida for the Spanish

17 Which term is defined as land that is ruled by another country?

- (A) colony
- (B) suburb
- (C) community
- (D) shelter

18

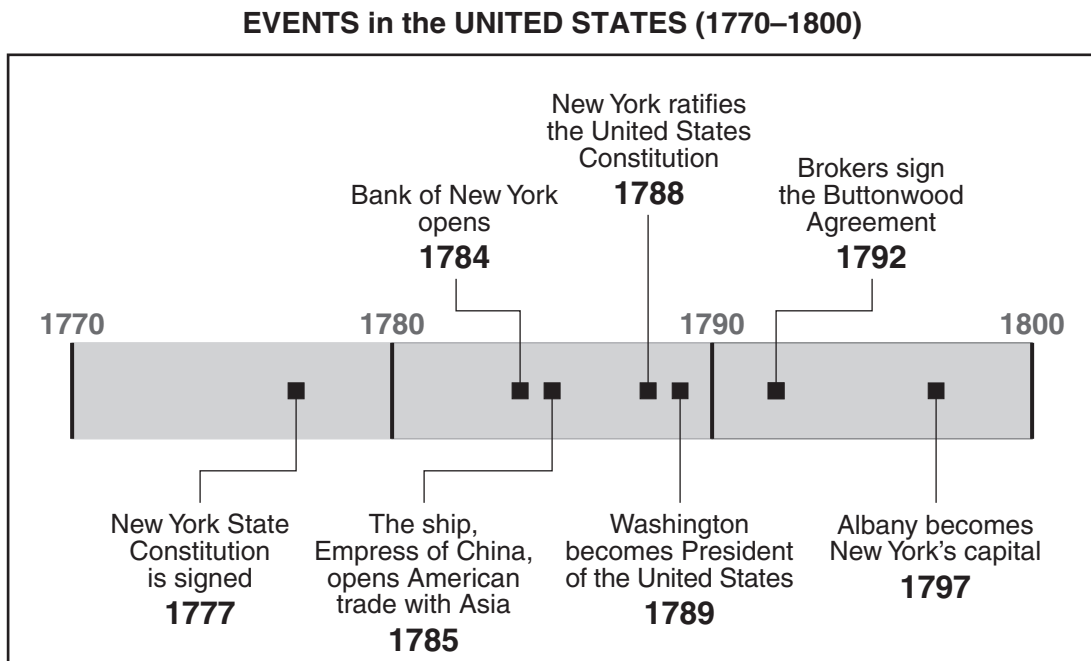
I. Causes of the American Revolution

- A. Parliament passed the Stamp Act but the colonists protested.
- B. Parliament passed the Townshend duties.
- C. Colonists were killed by British soldiers in the Boston Massacre.
- D. _____

Which statement best completes this partial outline?

- (A) The Sons of Liberty led the Boston Tea Party.
- (B) New York City was captured by the British.
- (C) The colonial army defeated the British army at Saratoga.
- (D) General Washington rested his army at Valley Forge.

Base your answers to questions 19 and 20 on the time line below and on your knowledge of social studies.

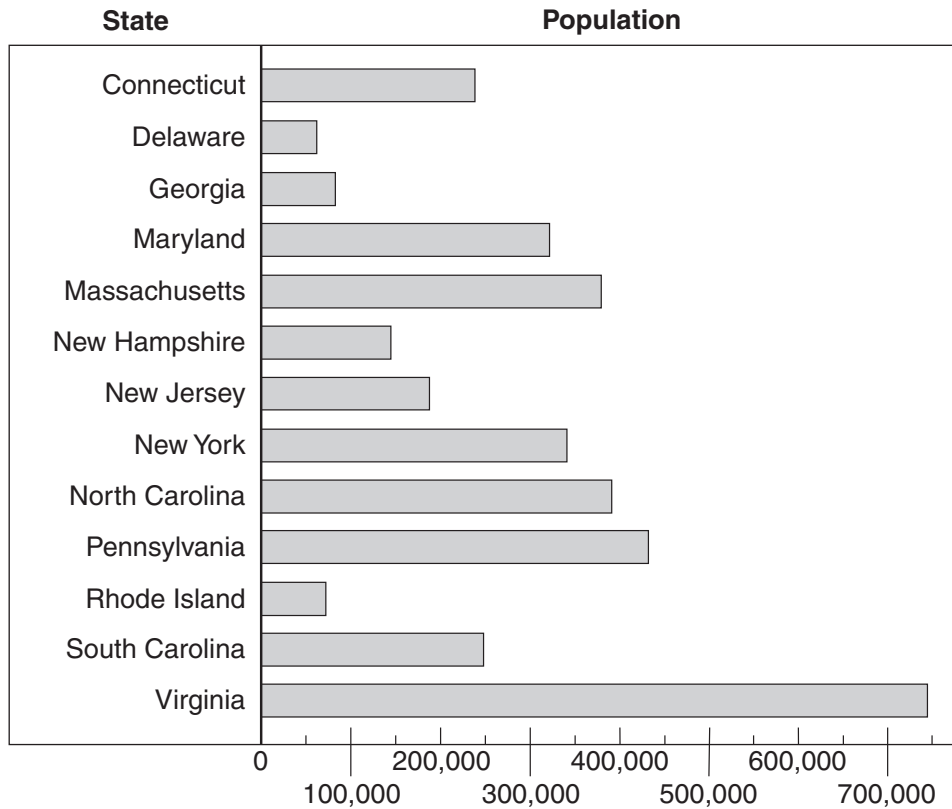


Source: James A. Banks et al., *New York: Adventures in Time and Place*, MacMillan McGraw Hill, 1998 (adapted)

- 19** Which event on this time line shows that the United States was importing goods from other countries and exporting goods to other countries?
- (A) The New York State Constitution is signed.
 - (B) The Bank of New York opens.
 - (C) Washington becomes President of the United States.
 - (D) The ship named Empress of China opens American trade with Asia.
- 20** Which statement can be supported by the information on this time line?
- (A) Albany became the capital of New York State in 1800.
 - (B) This time line covers a 50-year time period.
 - (C) The New York State Constitution was signed before New York ratified the United States Constitution.
 - (D) George Washington became the president three years after the Bank of New York opened.

Base your answer to question 21 on the graph below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Estimated Population of the Thirteen States in 1790



Source: U. S. Census, 1790 (adapted)

- 21** Which statement about the population of the states in 1790 is best supported by the information on this graph?
- (A) The population of Virginia was less than 500,000 people.
 - (B) Both New York and Massachusetts had more than 300,000 people.
 - (C) The population of New Jersey was larger than the population of North Carolina.
 - (D) Pennsylvania had the largest population.
-

- 22**
- New York City was the first capital of the new nation.
 - President Washington was inaugurated in New York City.
 - Representatives from each state met in New York City to make laws for the new nation.

Which conclusion can be drawn from these statements?

- (A) New York City welcomed many new immigrants.
- (B) The people of New York City made the laws for the new nation.
- (C) Many battles during the revolution were fought in New York City.
- (D) New York City played an important role in the early days of the new nation.

- 23** Which method of travel was improved by Robert Fulton in the early 1800s?

- (A) steamboat
- (B) railroad
- (C) canal boat
- (D) automobile

- 24** How did the Erie Canal contribute to the economic growth of the United States?

- (A) The canal was used to ship southern cotton to British factories.
- (B) Dutch colonists became wealthy by selling their land near the canal.
- (C) The canal directly connected the east and west coasts of the United States.
- (D) Goods could more easily be transported between New York City and the Great Lakes.

- 25** Which statement about the early Industrial Revolution is true?

- (A) Factories were safe places for children to work.
- (B) The use of railroads decreased.
- (C) New inventions made the production of goods easier.
- (D) Many people moved from cities to rural areas.

Base your answers to questions 26 and 27 on the chart below and on your knowledge of social studies.

System of Checks and Balances

Executive Branch (President carries out laws)	Checks on the Legislative Branch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can veto laws Checks on the Judicial Branch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can grant pardons to federal offenders
Legislative Branch (Congress makes laws)	Checks on the Executive Branch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can override president's veto• Can declare war Checks on the Judicial Branch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can propose amendments to overrule judicial decisions
Judicial Branch (Supreme Court interprets laws)	Checks on the Executive Branch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can declare executive actions unconstitutional Checks on the Legislative Branch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can declare acts of Congress unconstitutional

Source: James West Davidson, *The American Nation*, Prentice Hall, 2005 (adapted)

26 What can the legislative branch do to check the judicial branch?

- (A) veto laws
- (B) grant pardons to federal offenders
- (C) declare acts of Congress unconstitutional
- (D) propose amendments to overrule judicial decisions

27 Why did the authors of the Constitution include a system of checks and balances?

- (A) to make sure that every citizen would have the same freedoms
 - (B) to allow Congress to rewrite the Constitution every 20 years
 - (C) to guarantee that no one branch of the government becomes more powerful than the other two
 - (D) to make the state governments more powerful than the federal government
-

- 30** Each year on November 11, Veterans Day is celebrated to remember
- (A) soldiers who served in the United States military
 - (B) the election of a new president
 - (C) the Battles of Lexington and Concord
 - (D) Abraham Lincoln’s birthday
- 31** In New York State, the head of the executive branch of government is called the
- (A) chief judge
 - (B) governor
 - (C) mayor
 - (D) commander in chief
- 32** Which of these words means the saving of natural resources?
- (A) patriotism
 - (B) manufacturing
 - (C) heritage
 - (D) conservation

Base your answers to questions 33 and 34 on the chart below and on your knowledge of social studies.

AGRICULTURE	1990	1995	2000	2001	2002
Farms (in thousands)	2,146	2,196	2,172	2,156	2,158
Land in farms (million acres)	987	963	943	941	941
Farm income (\$ billion)	44.6	36.9	47.8	50.6	35.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (adapted)

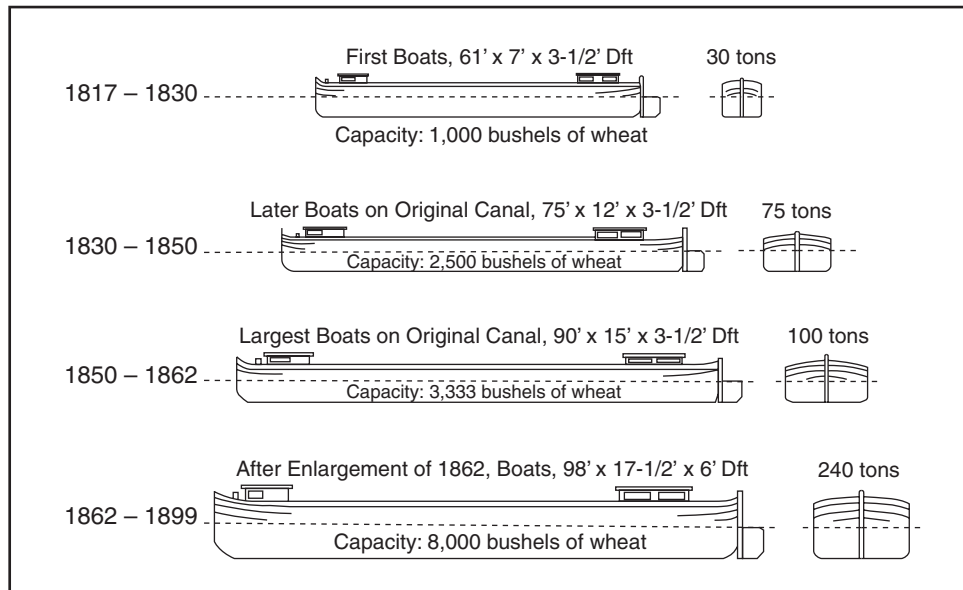
- 33** In which year was farm income the highest?
- (A) 1990
 - (B) 1995
 - (C) 2001
 - (D) 2002
- 34** What happened to the number of acres of farmland in the United States between 1990 and 2000?
- (A) It stayed exactly the same.
 - (B) It increased and then decreased.
 - (C) It increased.
 - (D) It decreased.

Part II

Directions: Write your answers to the questions that follow in the spaces provided in this test booklet.

Base your answers to questions 1 and 2 on the drawing below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Evolution of Boats Used on Erie Canal, 1825–1899



Source: University of Rochester (adapted)

1 During which years was the shortest boat used on the Erie Canal? [1]

Score

2 As the years went by, why were larger canal boats used? [1]

Score

Base your answers to questions 3 through 5 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: Richard G. Boehm, et al., *Communities*, Harcourt Brace & Company, 2000 (adapted)

3 Based on this map, name the **three** countries that export oil. [1]

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Score

4 Based on this map, name **one** product that Japan exports. [1]

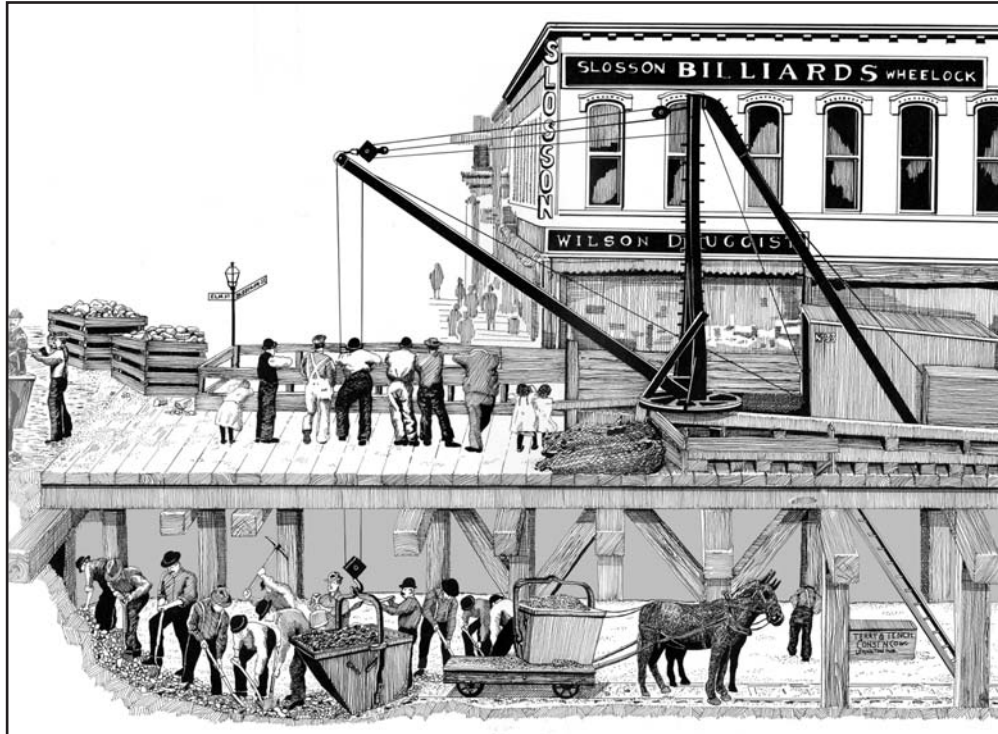
_____ Score

5 What is **one** reason that countries export goods to other countries? [1]

 _____ Score

Base your answers to questions 6 through 8 on the information below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Digging the New York City Subway Tunnels



Source: David Weitzman, *A Subway for New York*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux (adapted)

Most of the work on the subway was done with picks and shovels, percussion drills, and hammers. Sometimes dynamite was used. The labor force of 7,700 was mainly Irish and Italian. The unskilled workers earned about 20 cents an hour. Skilled labor was paid 25 cents per hour.

6 List *two* things that workers used to dig the New York City subway system. [2]

(1) _____
Score

(2) _____
Score

7 Name *two* groups of workers who dug subway tunnels in New York City. [2]

(1) _____ Score

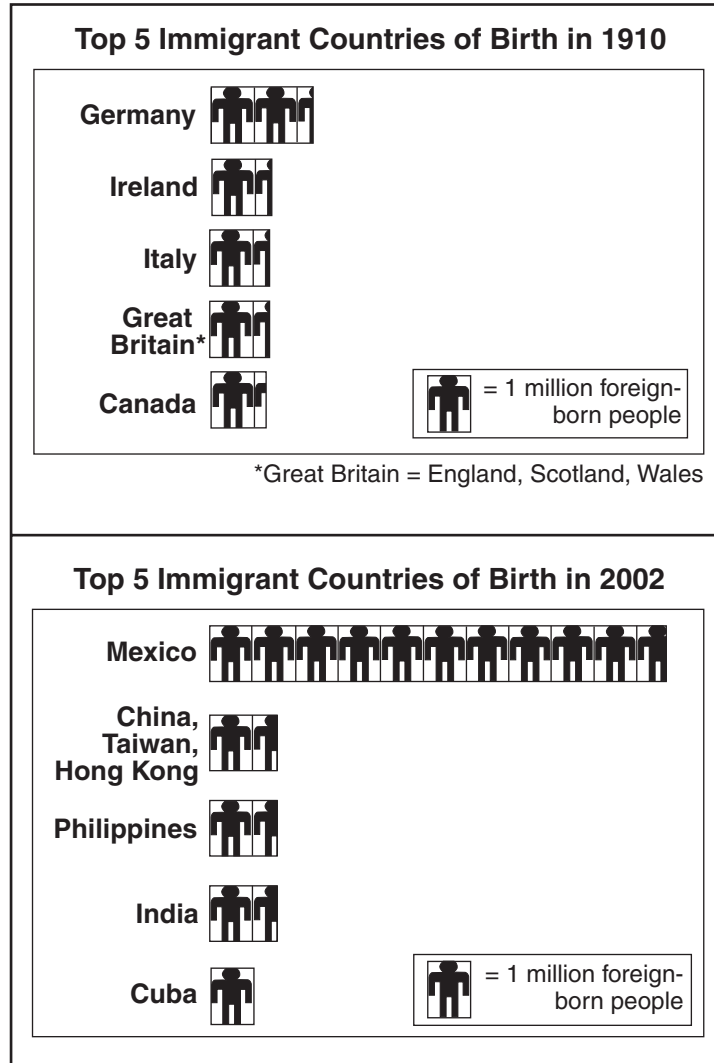
(2) _____ Score

8 Why is a subway system important to New York City? [1]

Score

Base your answers to questions 9 through 11 on the graphs below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Foreign-Born People Living in the United States



Source: *Time for Kids*, January 30, 2004 (adapted)

9 Based on these graphs, which country had the greatest number of foreign-born people living in the United States in 1910? [1]

Score

10 Based on these graphs, which country had the fewest number of foreign-born people living in the United States in 2002? [1]

_____ Score

11 What are *three* reasons immigrants have come to America? [3]

(1) _____

_____ Score

(2) _____

_____ Score

(3) _____

_____ Score

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Total Part II Score _____

Maximum Score is 15

