

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY

2007 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 1—Document-Based Question

Analyze the ways in which technology, government policy, and economic conditions changed American agriculture in the period 1865–1900.

In your answer be sure to evaluate farmers' responses to these changes.

The 8–9 Essay

- Contains a well-developed thesis that examines the ways in which technology, government policy, and economic conditions changed American agriculture between 1865 and 1900, and evaluates farmers' responses to those changes.
- Presents an effective analysis of the ways in which technology, government policy, and economic conditions changed American agriculture between 1865 and 1900, and evaluates farmers' responses to those changes.
 - Addresses technology, government policy, and economic conditions and evaluates farmers' responses to those changes.
 - Analysis of farmers' responses may be implicit and/or embedded in analysis of the other three factors.
 - Analysis of technology, government policy, and economic conditions may be imbalanced or overlapping.
- Effectively uses a substantial number of documents.
- Supports thesis with substantial and relevant outside information.
- May contain minor errors.
- Is clearly organized and well written.

The 5–7 Essay

- Contains a thesis that addresses the ways in which technology, government policy, and economic conditions changed American agriculture between 1865 and 1900, and discusses farmers' responses to those changes.
- Has limited analysis of the ways in which technology, government policy, and economic conditions changed American agriculture between 1865 and 1900, and limited discussion of farmers' responses to those changes.
 - Discussion of farmers' responses may be implicit and/or embedded in the analysis of the other three factors.
 - Analysis of technology, government policy, and economic conditions may be imbalanced.
 - May not address all aspects of change.
- Effectively uses some documents.
- Supports thesis with some relevant outside information.
- May have errors that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.
- Shows acceptable organization and writing; language errors do not interfere with the comprehension of the essay.

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Question 1—Document Based Question (continued)

The 2–4 Essay

- Contains a limited or undeveloped thesis.
- Deals with the question in a general manner; simplistic, superficial treatment of the subject.
 - Little or no consideration of farmers' responses.
 - May address only one category (technology or government policy or economic conditions).
- Merely paraphrases, quotes, or briefly cites documents.
- Contains little outside information or information that is inaccurate or irrelevant.
- May have major errors.
- May be poorly organized and/or written.

The 0–1 Essay

- Contains no thesis or a thesis that does not address the question.
- Exhibits inadequate or incorrect understanding of the question.
- Has little or no understanding of the documents or ignores them completely.
- Has numerous errors.
- Written so poorly that it inhibits understanding.

The — Essay

- Blank or completely off task.

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences

Document A: Agricultural Prices in Dollars per Unit, 1865–1900

Document Information:

- Shows falling prices for wheat, cotton, and corn between 1865 and 1900.
- Shows increasing production of wheat, cotton, and corn between 1865 and 1900.
- Shows periodic variation in prices and production of wheat, cotton, and corn between 1865 and 1900.

Document Inferences:

- American agriculture was under increasing economic stress as a result of overproduction and falling prices between 1865 and 1900.
- Boom and bust economic cycles (panic and prosperity) occurred between 1865 and 1900.
- Improved farm machinery, irrigation, and chemical fertilizers led to increased production.
- Farmers in distress led to the emergence of movements such as the Grange, Farmers' Alliances, and Populists.
- Can be linked to Documents B and D.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

Boom and bust cycles

Commercial farming

Chemical fertilizers

Grain elevators and warehouses

Overproduction/crop surpluses

Panic of 1873

Panic of 1893

Hatch Act

Department of Agriculture raised to cabinet level (1889)

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document B: Railroads in 1870 and 1890

Document Information:

- Shows railroad expansion between 1870 and 1890.
- Shows expanding transcontinental connections.
- Shows some government land grants to railroads (largely west of the Mississippi).
- Shows major cattle trails from Texas to railroads.

Document Inferences:

- Subsidies and land grants encouraged railroad expansion.
- Cattle were driven from Texas to cow towns along railroads.
- Transporting agricultural products to Eastern markets became easier.
- Westward settlement was encouraged by railroad expansion.
- Emerging national markets linking regions were created by railroad expansion.
- Agricultural advances (surpluses) fueled urbanization and industrial expansion.
- Farmers were less isolated because of the expanding railroad network.
- Can be linked to Document F.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

Subsidies

“All that the traffic would bear”

Cow towns

Crédit Mobilier

Free passes

Immigration (railroad land sales)

White Caps (Las Gorras Blancas)

Short-haul/long-haul differentials

Stanford, Vanderbilt, Hill, Gould

Pacific Railway Act impact (1862)

Checkerboard pattern of land grants

Rebates, drawbacks, pools

Refrigerated railroad cars

Swift and Armour

Standard gauge

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad

Great Northern Railroad

Robber barons

Cattle trails: Chisholm, Goodnight-

Loving, Sedalia, and Western

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document C: *Prairie Farmer*, July 14, 1877

Document Information:

- Farmers were dissatisfied with railroads.
- The Illinois legislature passed laws limiting freight rates.
- The Supreme Court upheld Illinois laws limiting freight rates.
- Illinois was the only state with such laws.

Document Inferences:

- Farmers sought state regulation of grain and railroad freight rates.
- The Grange (Patrons of Husbandry) organized farmers.
- Granger laws were enacted in Illinois.
- The Supreme Court upheld Granger laws in *Munn v. Illinois*.
- Farmers had political clout in swing/doubtful states.
- The Supreme Court subsequently ruled regulation of interstate commerce an “exclusive” federal right in the *Wabash* case.
- Change from the laissez-faire philosophy of the early Gilded Age.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

Farm cooperatives

Farmers’ Alliances (Northern, Southern,
Black)

Grange/Patrons of Husbandry

Oliver Hudson Kelley

Granger Laws

Greenback-Labor Party

Interstate Commerce Commission

Munn v. Illinois

Wabash case

Swing/doubtful states

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document D: The Wheat Harvest, 1880

Document Information:

- Shows reaper/thresher (combine) harvesting wheat.
- Shows need for large equipment and horses.

Document Inferences:

- The application of technology to farm equipment increased production.
- Grain farming was conducted on a large commercial scale.
- Availability of new technology led to farmers investing in heavy machinery and to the emergence of large-scale commercial/bonanza farming.
- Can be linked to Documents A and B to emphasize changes in agriculture and farmer responses.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

Bonanza farms/commercial farming
Dry farming
Dust bowls
Grain elevator/warehouses
Joseph Glidden/barbed wire
Morrill Land Grant impact (1862)

No government aid for irrigation
Open range/range wars
Combines
Bison slaughter
Advances in steel plows, harrows, grain binders, threshers, windmills

Document E: A contract in North Carolina, 1882

Document Information:

- The writer of the contract will determine when and where to sell cotton.
- The writer of the contract will deduct all sums that are owed him/her by the cropper.
- The writer of the contract will pay the cropper one-half of the net proceeds.

Document Inferences:

- Sharecroppers incurred debts that the landowner deducted before paying them their share.
- Landowners controlled sharecropping contracts.
- Sharecropping was common in the South after the Civil War.
- Poverty gripped both white and African American farmers in the South.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

Crop lien
Debt peonage
Sharecropping

Tenant farming
Farmers' Alliances
New South

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document F: *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, 1884

Document Information:

- The shipping and canning of beef were important in Chicago.
- Beef was shipped from both the northern and southern portions of the West.
- Five great railroads ended in Chicago.

Document Inferences:

- Railroads made the transportation of beef from the west to the east more efficient.
- Chicago was becoming a meatpacking center.
- Cattle raising was important in Texas and Montana.
- Technological advances led to changes in cattle ranching and spawned industrial growth.
- Can be linked to Documents A, B, and D.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

Cattle kingdom

Cow towns

Harsh winters of 1885-87

Open range

Range wars (cattleman/farmers)

Refrigerated railroad cars

Swift and Armour

Nat Love (cowboys)

Cattle trails: Chisholm, Goodnight-

Loving, Sedalia, and Western

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document G: Speech by Mary Elizabeth Lease, 1892

Document Information:

- Political parties and politicians lie to farmers.
- Political parties and politicians encourage farmers to raise big crops.
- Political parties and politicians said farmers suffered from overproduction.
- In the United States, 10,000 children starve each year.
- Farm prices are falling.

Document Inferences:

- Farm prices were falling because of overproduction.
- Farmers were dissatisfied with political parties and politicians.
- Farmers may wish to form their own political party.
- The government should remedy overproduction by making sure people do not starve.
- Farmers have fallen on economic hard times.
- Discontented farmers formed the Populist Party.
- Can be linked to Document J.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

“Raise less corn and more hell”
James B. Weaver
Omaha Platform/Ocala Demands
Overproduction/crop surpluses
“Pitchfork” Ben Tillman

Populists/People’s Party
Tom Watson
Ignatius Donnelly
Greenbacks
Greenback/Labor Party

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document H: In Kansas, Susan Orcutt to Lorenzo D. Lewelling, June 29, 1894

Document Information:

- The Orcutts are starving.
- Hail ruined their crops.
- No jobs can be had in 10 counties.

Document Inferences:

- Farming on the Great Plains was difficult.
- The Homestead Act brought many people to the Great Plains.
- Many homesteaders returned East because of the hardships they encountered.
- The Panic of 1893 hurt farmers and led to poverty, hardship, and widespread unemployment.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

“In God we trusted, in Kansas we busted”
“Sodbusters”

Boom and bust cycles

Coxey’s Army

Frederick Jackson Turner/frontier thesis

Homestead Act impact (1862)

Montgomery Ward and Sears, Roebuck

Reverse migration

Sod house frontier

Locust plagues

Desert Land Act/Timber Culture Act

Willa Cather/*My Ántonia*

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document I: R. W. McAdams, *Oklahoma Magazine*, 1894

Document Information:

- Students of the American Indian question believe in the policy of individualism (severalty).
- The document argues that American Indians are lazy and dumb.
- Enclosures for American Indians should be made smaller.
- Land reserved for American Indians is “wasted” arable land that should be kept minimal.

Document Inferences:

- American Indian policy favored a breakup of tribal loyalty to encourage individualism and assimilation.
- Attempts were made to assimilate American Indians into American culture.
- The Dawes Severalty Act opened up reservation land for white settlement.
- The amount of acreage for farming increased in the time period.
- The Oklahoma Land Rush allowed white settlement in what once was Indian Territory.
- Westerners viewed American Indians with contempt.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

Custer and Little Big Horn
Dawes Severalty Act
Helen Hunt Jackson/*A Century of
Dishonor*
Indian Territory

Oklahoma Land Rush (Sooners)
Reservation system
Medicine Lodge Treaty
Fort Laramie Treaty
Wounded Knee

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Document J: Excerpts from a speech by William Jennings Bryan, July 1896

Document Information:

- Farms are necessary for the survival of cities.
- Cities favor the gold standard.
- The producing masses and the world are against the gold standard.
- The gold standard hurts commercial and laboring interests and the toiling masses.

Document Inferences:

- Farmers favored the free and unlimited coinage of silver.
- Although cities depend on farms, farms do not depend on cities.
- There was conflict between urban and rural interests.
- Democrats and Populists favored the free and unlimited coinage of silver.
- Republicans favored the gold standard.
- Farmers' political response to hardships included the formation of the Populist Party.

Potential outside information triggered by document:

"Crime of '73"

"Free and unlimited coinage of silver"

"McKinley and the full dinner pail"

16:1

Bimetallism

Bland–Allison Silver Purchase Act

William Harvey/*Coin's Financial School*

"Cross of Gold" speech

Dingley Tariff

McKinley Tariff

Wilson–Gorman Tariff

Election of 1896

Money question

Repeal of Sherman Silver Purchase Act

Specie Resumption Act

Gresham's Law

L. Frank Baum/*The Wizard of Oz*

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Potential Outside Information List (alphabetical order):

“All that the traffic would bear”	Hatch Act
Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad	Hill, James J.
Bimetallism	Homestead Act (1862), impact of
Bland–Allison Silver Purchase Act of 1878	Immigration (railroad land sales)
Bonanza farms/commercial farming	Improvements in steel plows, spring-tooth harrows, grain binders, threshers, windmills
Boom and bust cycles	Indian Territory
Bison slaughter	“In God we trusted, in Kansas we busted”
Cattle kingdom	Interstate Commerce Commission
Cattle trails: Chisholm, Goodnight-Loving, Sedalia, and Western	Jackson, Helen Hunt / <i>A Century of Dishonor</i>
Chemical fertilizers	Kelley, Oliver Hudson
Cow towns	Love, Nat (cowboy)
Coxey’s Army	“McKinley and the full dinner pail”
Crédit Mobilier	McKinley Tariff
“Crime of ’73”	Medicine Lodge Treaty
Crop lien/sharecropping/tenant farmers	Money question
“Cross of Gold” speech	Montgomery Ward
Custer, George, and Little Big Horn	Morrill Land Grant Act (1862), impact of <i>Munn v. Illinois</i>
Dawes Act	No government aid for irrigation
Department of Agriculture	Oklahoma Land Rush (Sooners)
Desert Land Act	Omaha Platform/Ocala Demands
Dingley Tariff	Open range
Donnelly, Ignatius	Overproduction/crop surpluses
Dry farming	Pacific Railway Act (1862), impact of
Dust bowls	Panics of 1873, 1893
Election of 1896	Pooling
Exodusters	Populist Party/People’s Party
Farm cooperatives (co-ops)	Railroad land grants/checkerboard pattern
Farmers’ Alliances	“Rain follows the plough”
Fort Laramie Treaty (1868)	“Raise less corn and more hell”
“Free and unlimited coinage of silver”	Range wars (rangers and farmers)
Free passes	Rebates/drawbacks
Gilded Age	Refrigerated railroad cars
Glidden, Joseph/barbed wire	Reservation system
Gould, Jay	Reverse migrations in 1880s
Grain elevators and warehouses	Robber barons
Grange (Patrons of Husbandry)	Sears, Roebuck
Granger Laws	Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890
Great Northern Railroad	Short-haul/long-haul differential
Greenback-Labor Party	Simpson, “Sockless” Jerry
Greenbacks	16:1
Gresham’s Law	Sodbusters
Harsh winters of 1885-87	Sod house frontier
Harvey, William/ <i>Coin’s Financial School</i>	

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Question 1 Document Information and Inferences (continued)

Potential Outside Information List (alphabetical order):

Specie Resumption Act (1875)	<i>Wabash case/Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific</i>
Standard gauge	<i>Railroad Company v. Illinois</i>
Stanford, Leland	Watson, Tom
Swift and Armour	Weaver, James B.
Swing/doubtful states	White Caps (Las Gorras Blancas)
Tillman, "Pitchfork" Ben	Wilson–Gorman Tariff
Timber Culture Act	Windmills
Turner, Frederick Jackson/frontier thesis	Wounded Knee
Vanderbilt, Cornelius	

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

(1 of 4)

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1A

Technology, government policy, and economic conditions changed American agriculture towards sharp decline, politically, industrially, and economically, ~~fast~~ in the period 1865-1900. The period was classified as an era of Republican laissez-faire governments that favored big business. Technology was making vast strides but mainly in urban manufacturing. The technological advancements that were made available were sold to the farmers at ludicrous prices and shipped at high freight rates. Economically, the prices of agriculture were declining and as a result, farmers often lived in poor conditions. Mediocrity was a luxury to the farming class. Although farmers were represented somewhat in government, these pro-agriculture politicians could not overcome the power of urban industry and big business. Although it was the farmers who provided for the country and produced the sustenance on which the urban class relied upon, the farmers were becoming the forgotten people of America. Because of the political, industrial, and economic challenges that the farmers were forced to face, American agriculture suffered during the late nineteenth century.

Technologically, the United States was growing at an exponential rate. Advancements and inventions began to streamline industries and make life easier for the working class. Railroads were replacing canals and trails and soon, had spread across the entire nation, expanding the national market and making any part of the country accessible. From 1870 to 1890, the number of railroads multiplied greatly and the ~~number~~ number of railroads with major land grants grew as well (Document B). This may have appeared as a positive gain for farmers on paper but in reality, the railroads hurt the farmers. While this new means of transportation allowed farmers to expand even further and ship their harvest or cattle faster

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1A

and to more markets, the main railroads were controlled by money-hungry railroad tycoons such as Cornelius Vanderbilt, Leland Stanford, and others. The freight rates were outrageous and many farmers lost out on a substantial amount of money throughout the process. After the cost of shipping, taxes, low buying prices, and the cost of equipment, the farmer was left with little profit. The technological advancements made ~~such as~~ ~~the~~ favored the farmer because it made it easier to farm but often times farmers couldn't afford the tools because they were too expensive. Either the advancement had not been made yet or the farmer could not afford it. During a wheat harvest, instead of using a mechanical harvester, possibly motorized, a farmer was reduced to using a team of horses, often 15 to 30 at a time. ^{(Document D).} Although technology was booming during the era, the advancements did not help the farmer. The positive gains looked good on paper but not in reality which is often characterized during ~~the Gilded Age~~ the era most infamously coined by Mark Twain as the Gilded Age.

The government policy at the time was laissez-faire or a "hands off" government. Republicans were in office and favored the large industries and big business. As a result, the farmers were not well represented in Washington or helped back home. Not much progress was made but when it was, advances were limited. In Illinois, the people were able to gain a small victory when the Supreme Court allowed Illinois legislature to pass a law limiting freight rates. (Document C). Those making progress were usually part of the Populist movement, a pro-agriculture party that favored the rights of farmers. Organizations were established such as the Grangers and Farmers' Alliance which

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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Mandatory <u>1</u>	Part B — Circle one <u>2 or 3</u>	Part C — Circle one <u>4 or 5</u>
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1A

allowed farmers with common goals and beliefs to organize and unite. Frey leaders such as Mary Elizabeth Lease preached to the people that the government had lied to the people and deceived them. She supported her ~~argument~~ argument through glaring facts such as price reduction and claims of overproduction (Document G). The government had problems dealing with the Indian problem and stalled the settlement of agricultural regions for Americans (Document I). One of the most heated debates was the decision between gold and silver standard. The Populists wanted to flood the economy and inflate with silver to support the ailing farmers and miners out west. William Jennings Bryan argued that the country relied on farmers and that without them, the country was doomed. He argued that the country should support the farmers because they provide for the nation (Document J). The Republicans did not do much to help the economy or farmers because of the laissez faire attitude and thus, not only ~~that~~ led to the downfall of farmers but of the nation because of presidents such as Rutherford B. Hayes and Ulysses S. Grant.

Economically, the farmers were crushed, poor, and robbed. The farmers could not obtain the silver standard they wanted to finance themselves and were being held down by big business and the pro-wealthy Republicans. As farmers produced more and more to make the highest possible amount of money, the price of the crop dropped and led to overproduction (Document A). They violated the laws of supply and demand and suffered. If the farmer did succeed, he would have to give up practically all of it to

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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Mandatory ①	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1 A

to the railroads, government, or any other players involved in the industry. In some cases, contracts were signed, practically giving away half of the farmers' net proceeds, leaving the farmer with hardly anything (Document E). The farmers were left crippled and stuck in a vicious cycle. The crops and cattle had to be shipped to markets far away, usually Chicago, and the transit fare increased as distance increased (Document F). The farmers are often left poor, out of work, and starving. The weather takes their crop and if not the weather, the scheming businessmen. They are left with a loss of dignity, hope, and broken spirits (Document H). In the end, those that provide for the nation end up being crushed ~~to~~ by the same people they help feed. Economically, the farmers have their hands tied.

During the Gilded Age, 1865-1900, America suffered from a non-existent government and big business and corporations. The farmers endured some of the worst hardship as a result. The American agriculture greatly declined and politically, economically, and industrially, were crushed and left in a ~~hopeless~~ vicious cycle.

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1B

During the late nineteenth century America's agricultural population was battling the industrial population for power. Farmers struggled as production increased and prices plummeted (DOCT). They were not helped by railroad companies either, as individuals were forced to pay higher prices than agricultural companies.

Throughout this period the federal government had a laissez-faire attitude, and refrained from getting involved in business matters. As produce increased more railways were built, and due to competition amongst farmers railroad companies could raise prices. Some businessmen had trusts that were vertically integrated, such as J.P. Morgan. Vertical integration meant they controlled companies in many industries. Document F describes one such application, in which Chicago is involved in the business of shipping and canning of beef, and can charge high prices because they cannot meet the demand of the product. This hurt individual farmers because they were isolated and powerless to fight corporations. Agricultural companies often were given rebates, which would persuade them to choose a certain railway company. In order to pay for these accommodations to large companies, they raised the price for individuals hoping to ship goods. In Document C we see that in one case farmers successfully managed to combat such practices, unfortunately for farmers who lived ~~any~~ in any state other than Illinois, ~~there was~~ ^{it was the} only state to have ^{such a} law on record against price fixing.

Unfortunately for farmers of the period, more families were moving west to start a new life. Homesteaders were given land in the west so long as they used it for the purpose they say, which the vast majority planned to farm. They had to sign a contract

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

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Mandatory ①	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1B

to repay the government after five years. Thousands upon thousands agreed and moved west, with technological innovations such as a steel plow and the mechanical reaper made it easier ^{for less} ^{time} to produce more crops. In document D, we see a picture we see three men using machinery to do work that previously it would have taken dozens to do. As production soared due to more farmers and better equipment, farmers suffered more as prices fell. Mary Elizabeth Lease describes her families predicament as they could no longer make a profit. Many homesteaders received infertile land ~~that~~ or had to live in harsh conditions, as described in Doc H. Others chose to be sharecroppers, and worked other people's land with rented equipment, as shown in Doc E, they were taken advantage of ^{to} the point they received minimal payment for their work, and therefore were stuck sharecropping due to their debt. Though farms were failing quickly in the west the government refused to subsidize the industry, even though they continued to say there was a surplus. ~~the~~ ^{The} farmers responded in the latter two decades by forming their own political party. In the 1880's and 90's, the populist party was gaining power in the west. The party formed as many smaller unsuccessful groups combined due to their common goals. Green backs joined because the Populists advocated the coinage of silver and a retreat from the gold standard. The east owned the gold while the west held the majority of silver. Farmers joined because the People's Party, as the Populists were known, also argued for federal ownership of railroads, which would alleviate the ~~financial~~ oppression of corporations on farmers. One reason many farms failed was unstable banks out west. They made loans to homesteaders, and when the banks came to

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Mandatory ①	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1B

collect many homesteaders couldn't pay, and their land was foreclosed on. With the surplus of open land the banks couldn't sell the properties and therefore couldn't make a profit and they too failed. In 1896 the Populists ran a presidential candidate, William Jennings Bryan, against the ~~dem~~ republic candidate McKinley. Populists and Democrats both nominated Bryan because both parties wanted to do away with the gold standard, and with Bryan's cross of gold speech #, as seen in document 2, they believed he could rally enough support to win the election. Unfortunately, McKinley had more than ten times the funds of Bryan, and was already so popular he ran a "front porch" campaign, where he literally gave speeches from ~~his~~ front porches and left it to the news outlets to spread his words. Bryan ran again in 1900 but in between the elections gold veins were discovered around the globe and the price of gold dropped, and also making Bryan's campaign issue moot. Many of the populist's ideas were put into law after the party's demise, alleviating farmers troubles for the first decades of the 1900's.

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1C
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The time between the end of the Civil War and the end of Theodore Roosevelt's presidency was a time of great upheaval and change in America, especially for farmers. Although many of these changes benefited the country, the changes in technology, decisions in government policy, and economic conditions caused this time to be severely harmful to the farmers of the nation. The Industrial Revolution caused countless advancements in technology, but these advancements proved to generally do more harm than good. ^{for farmers.} Between 1865 ~~to~~ and 1900, government policies were focused on aiding big businesses and manufacturing rather than agriculture. Finally, the economic conditions of this era were unfavorable to the advancement of agriculture.

The Industrial Revolution ~~it~~ added hundreds of new inventions and resources that were, nevertheless, not very helpful in agriculture. The most significant advancement was that of the railroad. By 1890, major railroads spread from the east to the west coast and ^{most} ~~every~~ spaces between [Doc B]. However, these railroads often proved to be the bane of farmers' existence as they relied on trains to transport their goods and the "robber barons" who controlled the railroads often charged far too much money. Farmers were outraged over these injustices. In addition, other advancements such as fertilizers that Rachel Carson warns about in A Silent Spring, poisoned crops. →

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1C
(2 of 3)

"The Wheat Harvest, 1880" accurately portrays technology that could often strip fertile soil of ~~its~~ its nutrients. The numerous advancements in technology contributed to the hard times of many farmers after the Civil War.

The government policies between 1865 and 1900 often benefited the development of business rather than farming. The federal government gave huge land and money grants to railroad companies such as the Northern Pacific Railroad rather than helping farmers in need. The reaction of the government ~~from~~ to the cries of farmers in need was to smuggly state that farmers suffered from "overproduction" instead of creating policies that would help agriculture [Doc 6]. The federal government was more concerned in aiding "robber barons" such as Andrew Carnegie and ~~John~~ John Rockefeller.

In addition, the government took land away from farmers in the late 1800s to create reserves for Native American tribes [Doc I]. The government policies of this period hurt farmers because these policies favored big business and other federal projects.

Finally, the economic conditions of this period were dreadful for farmers. The new technological advancements had, in the short run, caused farmers

Circle the Section II question number you are answering on this page.

Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3	Part C — Circle one 4 or 5
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1C
(3 of 3)

to produce much ~~for~~ more than ^{in early periods.} ~~usually~~ As a result, of this overproduction, the prices and value of crops drastically dropped [Doc A]. Farmers of this era were a minority as more people were moving to urban areas for industrial jobs. Therefore, despite the complaints of farmers and ineffective laws such as the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, the economy of the day favored manufacturing over agriculture. Despite the reaction of "farmers [who were] starving to death" these economic conditions did not change [Doc H]. The economy of the post-Civil War era was bad for farmers because it favored industry over agriculture.

~~The Industrial Revolution of the late 1800s changed~~

After the Civil in 1865, the United States saw many rapid changes in the next few decades. However, many of these changes, including advancements in technology, government policies that favored big business, and an economy that was geared toward manufacturing had a profound and negative impact ^{on} ~~of~~ agriculture.

AP[®] UNITED STATES HISTORY

2007 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 1

Overview

The document-based question required students to use the 10 documents provided to analyze changes in agriculture between 1865 and 1900 with regard to technology, government policy, and economic conditions. Additionally, they had to explain farmers' responses to these changes. It was a straightforward and mainstream question that invited students to place the agrarian protest of the period in a broader context. It also evaluated their ability to analyze historical documents and draw historical inferences from them to support an analytical argument.

Sample: 1A

Score: 8

This essay contains a well-developed thesis that examines the three factors and implicitly evaluates farmers' responses. It presents effective analysis of the ways in which the three factors changed agriculture and is particularly strong on the impact of technology. The evaluation of farmers' responses is woven into the analysis of the effects of government policy, and the student uses a substantial number of documents. There are some overgeneralizations ("the downfall [not only] of farmers but of the nation"). This well-organized, well-written essay incorporates good outside information throughout.

Sample: 1B

Score: 6

This essay contains a thesis that addresses each of the factors. The analysis of the three factors is weighted more toward technology and economic conditions than government policy, and there is some evaluation of farmers' responses. The student effectively uses some documents and includes relevant outside information on economic policy (rebates, vertical integration) and on Populism. The essay, however, loses focus on the question toward the end.

Sample: 1C

Score: 3

While this essay contains a thesis that addresses the three factors, it does not address the farmers' responses. The student confuses the limits of the time period and makes brief and uneven use of a few documents. Additionally, there is limited relevant outside information, some of which (Rachel Carson) is beyond the scope of the question.