

Essays for April 10, 2018 Exam

THREE will be chosen randomly – write an essay on ONE of those three. (if you study for three, at least one is guaranteed to be chosen).

1. Discuss the relative importance of the following motives behind American Foreign policy decisions during the time period 1890-1919:

- Promoting Democracy
- Advancing American Economic Interests
- Nationalism

Discuss the policies of TWO of the following Presidents in your response – William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Woodrow Wilson.

2. Compare and contrast the Spanish American War with U.S. involvement in World War I. Discuss both reasons for U.S. entry into the conflict and the wars' aftermath.

3. The decade following the end of World War I has often been called many names. Some have called it the "Roaring 20's", while others have called the period an "Age of Intolerance." Why has the decade been called both? Which label do you think best captures the mood of the 1920s?

4. "Herbert Hoover was an inflexible ideologue who was indifferent to the suffering of the American people and did little to address the problems brought on by the Great Depression." Why have some made this argument? How would you defend Hoover's response to the Depression. To what extent do you believe this characterization to be true? Explain.

5. The New Deal is often seen as a revival of the Progressive tradition of the early 20th century. Compare and contrast the New Deal with early 20th century Progressivism with regard to TWO of the following areas – poverty; workers' rights; banking; regulation of big business