Assessment: A Growing Sense of Nationhood

Mastering the Content

Circle the letter next to the best answer.

1. In the early 1800s, where did most Americans live?
   A. in the southern states
   B. in the New England states
   C. west of the Mississippi River
   D. east of the Appalachian Mountains

2. Which of these was an obstacle to unity in the United States in the early 1800s?
   A. few waterways
   B. desert landscapes
   C. poor transportation
   D. unexplored wilderness

3. What marked what was known as the Era of Good Feelings?
   A. a strong sense of national unity
   B. a rapid increase in immigration
   C. the elimination of political parties
   D. the expansion of national alliances

4. What was a goal of Henry Clay’s American System?
   A. to abolish slavery
   B. to promote economic growth
   C. to create a strong military force
   D. to establish treaties with American Indians

5. Which was a major disagreement between John C. Calhoun and Daniel Webster?
   A. the authority of the Supreme Court
   B. the role of business in the economy
   C. the rights of states to defy federal authority
   D. the role of the executive branch of government

6. Which economic system, based on private ownership, did Henry Clay promote?
   A. socialism
   B. capitalism
   C. communism
   D. liberalism
7. All of these characterize John Marshall’s Supreme Court decisions in the early 1800s except
   A. they promoted national economic growth.
   B. they reinforced the authority of business contracts.
   C. they increased the power of the federal government over states.
   D. they established the power of states over the federal government.

8. Which style of music was the creation of African American slaves?
   A. opera
   B. ballads
   C. classical
   D. spirituals

9. In the early 1800s, all of these were American symbols except
   A. the U.S. flag.
   B. the Capitol building.
   C. the Uncle Sam figure.
   D. the Statue of Liberty.

10. Which of these led to the end of an era and the beginning of political divisions in the United States?
    A. the War of 1812
    B. the election of 1824
    C. James Monroe's presidency
    D. John Marshall's Supreme Court

11. How did James Fenimore Cooper contribute to American culture?
    A. He wrote books about the American frontier.
    B. He told tales of his wilderness adventures.
    C. He drew illustrations of American plants and animals.
    D. He composed songs that portrayed life on southern plantations.

12. What gave early American art its individual identity?
    A. the use of abstract forms
    B. the unique subject matter
    C. the depressing images of life
    D. the popular use of religious symbols
13. As the United States developed its own national identity, which of these values did many Americans hold?
   A. dominance
   B. conformity
   C. compassion
   D. individualism

14. According to Henry Clay, what role did government have in encouraging economic growth?
   A. building community housing
   B. producing goods and services
   C. owning stores and businesses
   D. funding transportation projects

15. Which of these men used America’s growing importance in the world as a theme of his poetry?
   A. Thomas Cole
   B. Gilbert Stuart
   C. John James Audubon
   D. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

16. What was the setting of Washington Irving’s American folktales?
   A. western frontier
   B. upstate New York
   C. southern plantations
   D. Boston, Massachusetts
Applying Social Studies Skills

Using the map and your knowledge of history to answer the question.

17. What physical feature marked the end of the incorporated United States and the beginning of the Missouri and Arkansas territories in 1820?

18. Between 1776 and 1820, how did the United States change?

19. Why were the people who lived west of the Appalachians often called hardy and rugged?
Exploring the Essential Question: What did it mean to be an American in the early 1800s?

Follow the directions to complete the item below.

20. Write a short essay comparing what it meant to be an American in the early 1800s with what it means to be an American today. Include specific characteristics, events, and symbols that molded an identity in the 1800s and influence your impression of an American identity today.

Make sure to convey your ideas clearly, using standard English.