

Answers to the essay questions are to be written in the separate essay booklet.

Part II

THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

Theme: Government — Supreme Court Decisions

The United States Supreme Court has played a major role in United States history. The Court's decisions have had a significant impact on many aspects of American society.

Task:

Select *two* Supreme Court cases that have had an impact on American society and for *each*

- Describe the historical circumstances surrounding the case
- Explain the Supreme Court's decision in the case
- Discuss an impact this decision has had on American society

You may use any appropriate Supreme Court case from your study of United States history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832), *Dred Scott v. Sanford* (1857), *Northern Securities Co. v. United States* (1904), *Korematsu v. United States* (1944), *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954), *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States* (1964), *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), *Roe v. Wade* (1973), and *United States v. Nixon* (1974).

You are *not* limited to these suggestions.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

In developing your answer to Part II, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

- describe means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”**
- explain means “to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationships of”**
- discuss means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”**