

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: Constitutional Principles — Individual Rights

Throughout United States history, many different groups have faced discrimination. The federal and state governments have taken actions that have either protected or limited the rights of these groups in American society.

Task:

Select **two** different groups in American society who have faced discrimination and for **each**

- Describe **one** specific example of discrimination faced by the group
- Describe **one** action taken by the federal or state governments related to this example of discrimination
- Discuss how the action taken by the federal or state governments either protected **or** limited the rights of the group

You may use any example from your study of United States history. Some groups you might wish to consider include Native American Indians, African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, women, the elderly, and the disabled.

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:

- (a) **describe** means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”
- (b) **discuss** means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”