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| **US HISTORY & GOVERNMENT REGENTS THEMATIC ESSAY THROUGH THE YEARS** |
| **Essay Question** | **Write About!** |
| A group that has been denied the rights of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” | African Americans; Japanese Americans; women; Native Americans |
| Two Supreme Court Cases and their effects on civil liberties | Plessy v. Ferguson; Schenck v. United States; Korematsu v. United States |
| One event that has influenced social change  | Prohibition; Reconstruction; suffrage |
| Two actions influenced by geographic features | Louisiana Purchase; Monroe Doctrine; Homestead Act; Panama Canal |
| Two reform movements that affected society | Abolition; suffrage; Progressives; temperance |
| Two turning points and their political/social/economic effects | Declaration of Independence; Civil War; Spanish-American War |
| Two changes in American life that resulted from industrial growth | Urbanization; Big Business; Labor Movements |
| Two important figures (not Presidents) and how their actions led to changes in economy/government/society | Frederick Douglass; Andrew Carnegie; Jacob Riis; Upton Sinclair |
| Two groups that have faced discrimination and actions taken by the government to either protect OR limit their rights | African Americans (limit – Plessy v. Ferguson; protect – Reconstruction Amendments, Brown v. BOE); Japanese Americans (limit – WWII internment); the disabled (IDEA, ADA) |
| Two different technological developments and the positive/negative effects on the economy/society | Cotton gin – slavery; barbed wire – farming/enclosures; steam engine – transportation; nuclear weapons – Cold War |
| Two Amendments that have changed society and describe the circumstances and the political/economic/social change that they resulted in | 13th – abolished slavery; 15th – A.A. right to vote; 17th – direct election of Senators (Progressives); 18th – Prohibition; 19th – women’s suffrage |
| Two presidential foreign policies and discuss the circumstances, impact on the US, AND impact on another country | Wilson & entering WWI; FDR & entering WWII; Kennedy & Cuban Missile Crisis; Johnson and escalation in Vietnam |
| Two military or economic foreign policies and the circumstances and the extent to which they protected US interests | Open Door Policy with China; Marshall Plan; Containment |
| Two Supreme Court Cases and the circumstances and impact on society | Plessy v. Ferguson; Brown v. BOE; Schenck v. US; Korematsu v. US; Engel v. Vitale; Miranda v. Arizona |
| Two organizations formed to achieve a specific reform and the circumstances and degree to which the organization was successful | Women’s Christian Temperance Movement; NAACP |
| Two reform movements from 1820 to 1933 and circumstances and extent to which the movements achieved their goals | Abolition; women’s suffrage; temperance |
| Two developments since the 1940s and circumstances and positive/negative effects | Nuclear arms race with USSR; McCarthyism; desegregation of schools |