



# **End-of-Year Assessment**

## **Grade 8 Social Studies**

Congratulations! You worked hard to learn many new things this school year. Taking this Grade 8 Social Studies test is a great way to show your family and school what you learned. It is okay if you do not know all the answers. Just try your best. You are amazing! You are taking this test so adults can learn more about how to help you.

You can ask an adult for help if you do not understand the directions. You can use scratch paper for this test.

If you do not know the answer to a question, choose the answer you think might be correct. You must answer the questions on your own.

You are now ready to start. Take your time and remember that trying your best is what is important. You're awesome, and you'll do great!



## EOY Grade 8 Social Studies

Student \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. How did mercantilist policies create tension between Great Britain and the colonies?
  - A. By introducing indentured servitude to the middle colonies
  - B. By requiring colonists to enlist in the military
  - C. By limiting the amount of farmland each colonist could have
  - D. By preventing colonists from trading with most other foreign countries

2. Population of Selected U.S. Cities, 1840–1870

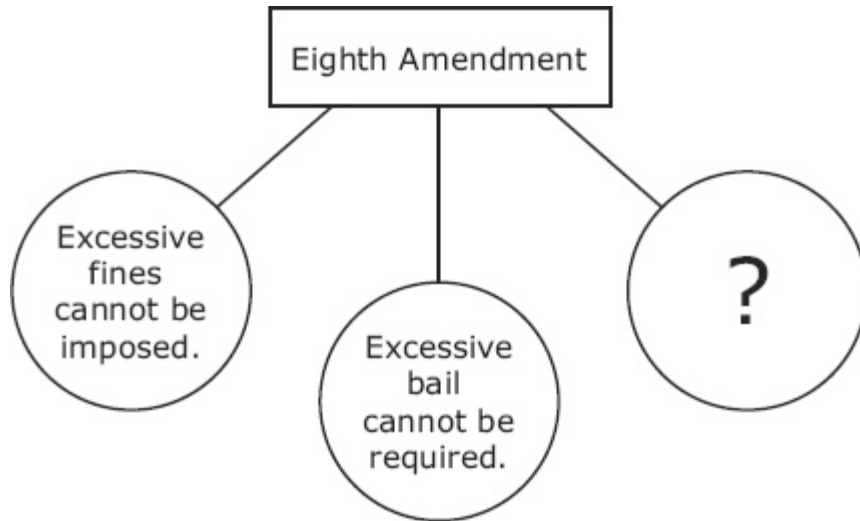
Urban Area	1840	1850	1860	1870
New York, NY	312,710	515,547	813,669	942,292
Baltimore, MD	102,313	169,054	212,418	267,354
New Orleans, LA	102,193	116,375	168,675	191,418
Philadelphia, PA	93,665	121,376	565,529	674,022
Boston, MA	93,383	136,881	177,840	250,526

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The statistics in this table illustrate population changes associated with —

- A. the rise of industrialism in the United States
- B. the establishment of a federal income tax
- C. a prolonged food shortage in the United States
- D. a lengthy war over disputed territory

3.



Which sentence completes this diagram?

- A. People cannot be forced to be witnesses against themselves.
- B. Cruel and unusual punishment cannot be inflicted.
- C. Warrants cannot be issued unless probable cause is established.
- D. A defendant cannot be denied a speedy and public trial.

4. With [Lucretia] Mott and three other women, Elizabeth [Cady Stanton] spearheaded the first women’s rights convention in Seneca Falls in July 1848. At this gathering, she presented their Declaration of Rights and Sentiments, a document she composed. The Declaration and its 11 resolutions demanded social and political equality for all women, including its most controversial claim, the right to \_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_.

—Judith E. Harper, “Biography,” from *Resources for the Film Not for Ourselves Alone*, PBS

Which of the following best completes this excerpt?

- A. equal pay
  - B. own property
  - C. a public education
  - D. vote
5. How did the War of 1812 most affect the U.S. economy?
- A. Disruption in trade contributed to domestic industrial growth.
  - B. Small farmers benefited from higher export prices for grain crops.
  - C. The sale of treasury bonds to international companies was prohibited.
  - D. New trade alliances resulted in increased foreign investment.

6. After the Civil War, southern states adopted Black Codes to —
- A. punish plantation owners for the use of slavery
  - B. support Radical Reconstruction objectives in the South
  - C. promote the activities of the Freedmen’s Bureau
  - D. limit the impact of the Thirteenth Amendment

7. We can give employment to from 50 to 100 girls, at the usual wages paid in this place. Our custom is to pay to new hands one dollar per week, & board in the Weaving & Dressing Rooms, & one dollar & a half & board, in the Carding & Spinning Rooms, until they can tend the Machines without assistance. After that they are paid for all the work they can get off. . . .

*—John Clark, July 27, 1847*

The economic growth demonstrated by this recruitment letter was primarily a result of —

- A. the passage of strict federal labor laws
- B. the abolition of the slave trade
- C. the expansion of the cottage industry system
- D. the new production methods of industrialization

8. Bills of rights . . . are not only unnecessary in the proposed Constitution, but would even be dangerous.

Those who agreed with this point of view were known as —

- A. Minutemen
- B. Loyalists
- C. Federalists
- D. Patriots

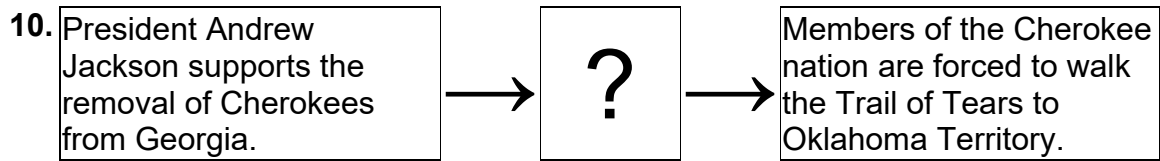
9. Reasons for Seventeenth-Century  
European Colonization of North America

1. To convert American Indians in the Southwest to Catholicism
2. To cultivate cash crops in the Chesapeake Bay area
3. To extract precious metals from mines in present-day Mexico
4. To profit from fur trading in the Great Lakes region

Which of these describes the primary reason for French colonization?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4





Which of the following correctly completes this graphic organizer?

- A. President Jackson annexes land west of the Mississippi River.
  - B. President Jackson ignores a Supreme Court ruling.
  - C. President Jackson introduces a bill to Congress.
  - D. President Jackson vetoes an act passed by Congress.
11. The Virginia Company authorized a general assembly in Virginia so that colonists could —
- A. self-govern on a local level
  - B. vote in the British Parliament
  - C. participate in a free-market economy
  - D. express dissatisfaction with British rule

- 12.** Which of these correctly describes an effect of the Compromise of 1850 on escaped slaves and freedmen?
- A.** Members of both groups were captured under the Fugitive Slave Law.
  - B.** Unlike freedmen, escaped slaves were welcome in the gold mines of California.
  - C.** Members of both groups could be sold in Washington, D.C., slave markets.
  - D.** Unlike escaped slaves, freedmen could vote in the territories of the Mexican Cession.
- 13.** Which of these was a primary reason Chinese immigrants came to the United States in the early 1850s?
- A.** To seek gold
  - B.** To purchase inexpensive farmland
  - C.** To avoid a plague
  - D.** To escape religious persecution

14. Why is the Battle of Saratoga considered a turning point in the Revolutionary War?
- A. The British victory extended the fighting for another year.
  - B. The American defeat led many soldiers to desert the Continental army.
  - C. The British defeat marked the beginning of a steady decline in British military superiority.
  - D. The American victory convinced France to ally with the United States.

15. Are you willing to . . . elect to all offices of Honor, Profit, or Trust, none but native born citizens of America, of this country to the exclusion of all foreigners . . . ?

*—Examiner’s questions for admittance to the Know-Nothing Party, 1854*

Which inference about the Know-Nothing Party is supported by the excerpt above?

- A. Its members blamed Irish immigrants for taking away jobs.
- B. The party encouraged western migration of settlers.
- C. Its members opposed enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Act in the Northeast.
- D. The party was in favor of universal suffrage.

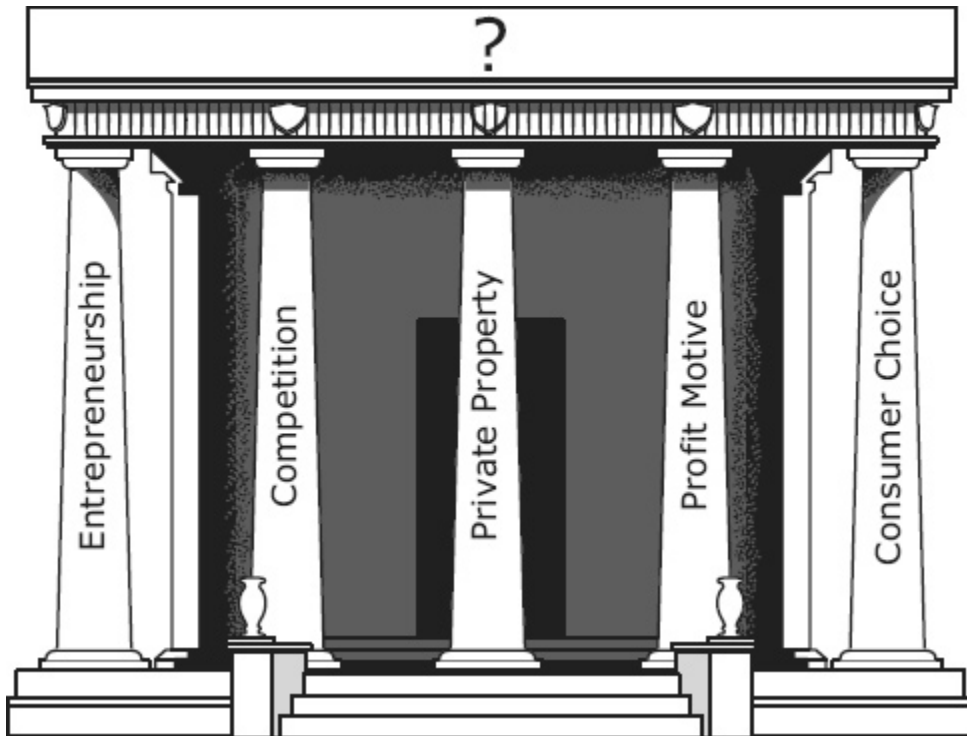
- 16.** Which of the following contributed most to the expansion of the transatlantic slave trade during the 1700s?
- A.** A lack of skilled labor in the American colonies
  - B.** Demand for slaves in the American colonies that produced cash crops
  - C.** A lack of protective tariffs in the American colonies
  - D.** Demand for slaves in the industrialized American colonies
- 17.** The Hudson River School artists were influenced by the —
- A.** success of social reform movements in the United States
  - B.** migration of settlers to the U.S. frontier
  - C.** natural landscape of the United States
  - D.** environmental effects of U.S. industrialization

- 18.
- Establishment of the South's first state-funded public school system
  - Implementation of a more equitable taxation system
  - Prohibition of racial discrimination in public transportation and accommodations

These reforms were instituted by —

- A. governors during the colonial era
  - B. Reconstruction governments after the Civil War
  - C. Patriots during the American Revolution
  - D. revivalists after the Second Great Awakening
19. Which factor contributed to the founding of new religious groups in the United States?
- A. Freedoms listed in the Bill of Rights
  - B. Expansion of individual voting rights
  - C. Growth of abolitionist movements
  - D. Beliefs expressed by Transcendentalists

20.



Which of the following best completes this illustration?

- A. Free Enterprise System
- B. Mercantile System
- C. Federalism
- D. Republicanism

- 21.
- Poll taxes
  - Literacy tests
  - Grandfather clauses

The measures in this list are examples of ways southern states weakened the effects of the —

- A. Compromise of 1850
- B. Fifteenth Amendment
- C. Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
- D. *Dred Scott v. Sandford* decision

22. We [New Englanders] look upon the states, not as separated, but as united. We love to dwell on that union, and on the mutual happiness which it has so much promoted. . . . In our contemplation, Carolina and Ohio are parts of the same country. . . . We do not impose geographical limits to our patriotic feeling or regard. . . .

—*Senator Daniel Webster, reply to Senator Robert Hayne, January 1830*

In this reply, Daniel Webster is reacting to —

- A. the inability of citizens to elect Supreme Court justices
- B. an attempted nullification of a federal law by a state
- C. a proposal to revise the amendment process of the U.S. Constitution
- D. the federal seizure of private land for transportation networks

23. What was one result of the election of Andrew Jackson in 1828?

- A. Renewal of the charter of the Bank of the United States
- B. Elimination of the spoils system
- C. Ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment
- D. Increased levels of voter participation

24.

1

- Continental Army
- English Army

2

- George Washington
- Paul Revere

3

- Virginia Plan
- New Jersey Plan

4

- Thomas Jefferson
- Alexander Hamilton

Which pair contributed to the development of political parties in the United States?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4



25. How did the Freedmen's Bureau most assist in the reconstruction of the South?
- A. By dividing large plantations and redistributing the property to former slaves
  - B. By creating a militia to help enforce the voting rights of former slaves
  - C. By offering legal assistance and public schooling to former slaves
  - D. By petitioning the government to offer money to former slaves

26. It is but fifteen years since the first line...was constructed in this country and at the present time there are not less than 50,000 miles in successful operation on this continent, having over 1,400 stations, and employing upwards of 10,000 operators and clerks. The number of messages passing over all the lines in this country annually is estimated at upwards of 5,000,000, producing a revenue of \$2,000,000....

—Atlantic Monthly, *March 1860*

The invention discussed in this article led directly to —

- A. the expansion of educational opportunities for women
- B. rapid communication of information to distant locations
- C. the increased ability of people to work at night
- D. rapid population growth in the western territories

27. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

—*U.S. Constitution, Tenth Amendment*

What was the purpose of this amendment?

- A. To encourage citizens to monitor the federal government
  - B. To prevent conflicts between state and local governments
  - C. To limit the authority of the federal government
  - D. To increase the participation of citizens in state government
28. Which of these is a grievance from the Declaration of Independence?
- A. Colonists born in America were prohibited from holding elected office.
  - B. Colonists were forced to quarter troops in their homes.
  - C. Colonists were not eligible to become officers in the British army.
  - D. Colonists were required to serve a year in their colony's militia.

29.



Which of these directly resulted from the event announced in this headline?

- A. The abolitionist movement gained momentum in the North.
- B. Members of the U.S. Senate sought to end Black Codes in the southern states.
- C. The federal government allowed the expansion of slavery into all new western territories.
- D. Abolitionists moved to the South to avoid living under the new law.

30.

?

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- The potential for new markets
- An abundance of inexpensive farmland
- The discovery of gold

Which title best completes this list?

- A. Economic Motives for Passing the Northwest Ordinance
  - B. Reasons for Issuing the Monroe Doctrine
  - C. Economic Motives for Manifest Destiny Policies
  - D. Reasons for the Gadsden Purchase
31. Which of the following is the best example of an early U.S. struggle to define the domestic authority of the central government?
- A. The XYZ Affair
  - B. The War of 1812
  - C. The Barbary Wars
  - D. The Whiskey Rebellion

**32.** In the 1630s, Thomas Hooker and Roger Williams disagreed with the religious leaders of Massachusetts. These disagreements were resolved when Hooker and Williams —

- A.** left Massachusetts and established new colonies
- B.** founded new political parties in the Massachusetts Bay area
- C.** petitioned Parliament to revise the Massachusetts Bay charter
- D.** left Massachusetts and explored the Mississippi Valley

**33.** What was a major result of the Missouri Compromise?

- A.** It increased the number of immigrants settling in northern states.
- B.** It provided financing for canal construction.
- C.** It rapidly expanded railroad construction in southern states.
- D.** It temporarily relieved sectional tensions.

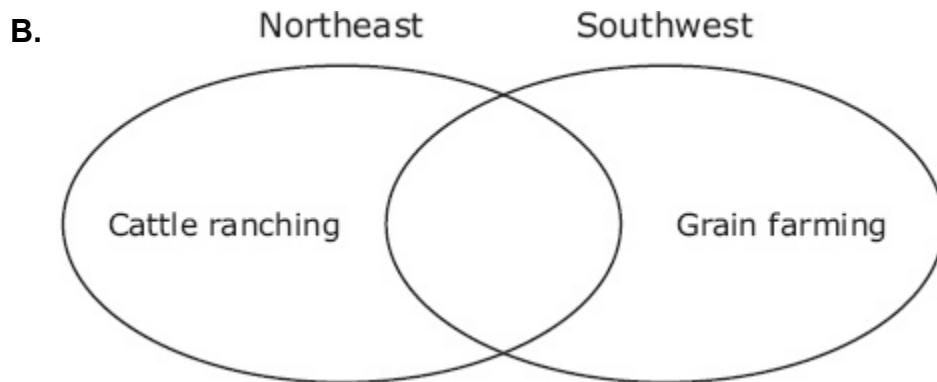
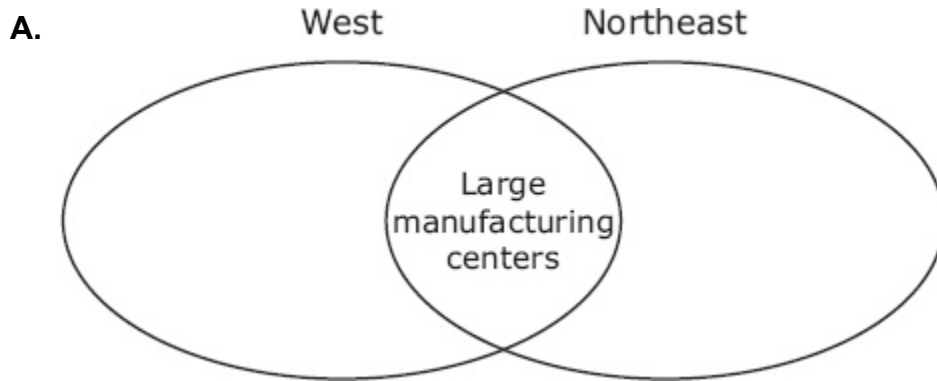
34. No free man shall be seized or imprisoned, or stripped of his rights or possessions, or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any other way, nor will we proceed with force against him, or send others to do so, except by the lawful judgement of his equals or by the law of the land.

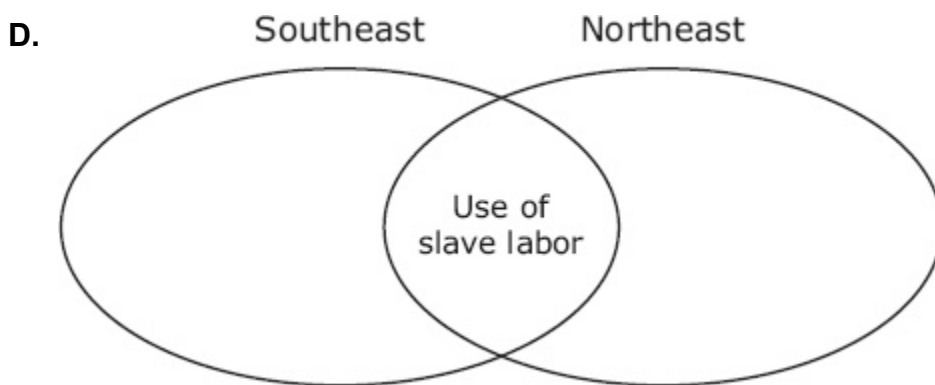
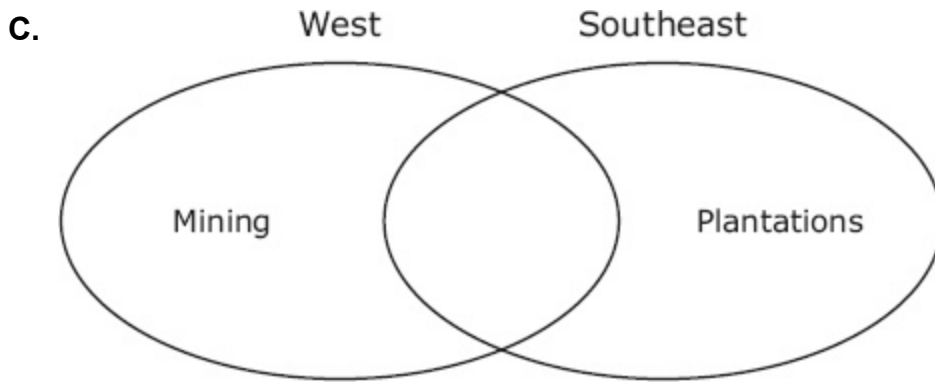
—*Magna Carta, 1215*

Which political idea was influenced by this provision of the Magna Carta?

- A. Federalism
  - B. Due process
  - C. A Bicameral Legislature
  - D. The social contract
35. Many historians argue that the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln changed the course of Reconstruction. Which of the following is usually cited as an aspect of that change?
- A. Radical Republicans took control of Congress.
  - B. Congress imposed taxes on cotton imports to pay war debts.
  - C. The Thirteenth Amendment was approved by Congress.
  - D. Congress repealed legislation regulating railroad construction.

36. Which diagram correctly compares two regions of the United States during the mid-nineteenth century?





**37.** California Census Data

Year	Population
1850	92,597
1860	379,994

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Which factor contributed most to the population change shown in this table?

- A.** Completion of the Erie Canal
- B.** Discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill
- C.** Completion of the Transcontinental Railroad
- D.** Relocation of American Indians to reservations



**38. Regional Impacts of the Embargo of 1807**

New England	The West	The South
<p style="text-align: center;">_____ ? _____</p>	<p>Wheat and corn prices dropped as supplies flooded the domestic market.</p>	<p>Planters suffered financial losses because surplus tobacco and cotton could not be exported.</p>

Which sentence best completes this table?

- A.** Prices for manufactured goods decreased.
- B.** Factories closed as workers returned to farms.
- C.** A decline in foreign trade damaged the commercial shipping industry.
- D.** Fishing revenues decreased as a result of reduced demand.

- 39.**
- |  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsibility: Second President of the United States</li> <li>• Courage: Defending Redcoats at the Boston Massacre Trial</li> <li>• Perseverance: Negotiating the Treaty of Paris</li> </ul> |
|--|

This list refers to the contributions of which Founding Father?

- A.** John Adams
- B.** Benjamin Franklin
- C.** James Madison
- D.** John Jay

40. [The] production of goods moved from home businesses, where products were generally crafted by hand, to . . . production in factories. This revolution, which involved major changes in transportation, manufacturing, and communications, transformed the daily lives of Americans as much as . . . any single event in U.S. history.

—“*The Industrial Revolution in the United States*,” *The Library of Congress*, [www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov) (accessed February 21, 2014)

Which of the following was most responsible for the revolution described in this excerpt?

- A. Expanded public education
- B. Rapid technological innovation
- C. Increased government spending
- D. Rapid territorial expansion

**41.** Fundamental Orders of Connecticut

- Defined and limited the powers of government
- Created a general assembly
- Granted government the right to levy and collect taxes

Which statement best describes the influence of this document?

- A.** It helped establish the tradition of self-government.
- B.** It was the first attempt to combine political and religious laws.
- C.** It established the concept of unalienable rights.
- D.** It outlined a plan for independence from British rule.

- 42.**
- Blasting tunnels through mountains
  - Building bridges across rivers
  - Leveling hills and filling in hollows

These environmental modifications were made in order to construct —

- A.** permanent housing for immigrants in urban areas
- B.** canals that linked the Midwest to the Northeast
- C.** a transcontinental railroad
- D.** a harbor on the Mississippi River

43.

Susan B. Anthony Dollar



Source: United States Mint

Why did Congress honor this woman by putting her on a coin?

- A. Because she was an influential First Lady
- B. Because she designed the nation's first flag
- C. Because she fought for women's suffrage
- D. Because she was the first woman elected to Congress

44. A historian is writing an article for a history website. The article is divided into the following topics:

- The division of the South into military districts
- The impeachment of the president
- The ratification of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments

Which era in U.S. history is the focus of this article?

- A. The Jacksonian era
- B. The antebellum era
- C. The Federalist era
- D. The Reconstruction era





