

Exercise walk-through

8.14

Society in Transition

AP United States History

From a demand to a government response

Teacher-written cases grounded in CED Topics 8.11 and 8.13

- A** The **women's movement** pressed for legal, economic and social equality. Congress proposed the **Equal Rights Amendment** in 1972, but enough states had not ratified it by 1980.
- B** Growing **environmental** concern about pollution helped prompt federal action. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established in 1970, bringing responsibilities together.

Try it: Identify each demand and government response. Which case shows that national action did not complete the proposed change?

Distinguish a movement's aim, a government response and the outcome.

Worked comparison: action and its limits

Women's rights. Feminist activists sought wider equality. Congressional approval of the ERA was one response, but proposing an amendment did not put it into the Constitution. State ratification was a separate requirement.

Environmental action. Public concern about pollution contributed to a federal agency and new regulations. Creating an agency was a government change; it does not by itself establish that pollution ended.

Comparison. Both movements sought public action. The responses differed: a proposed constitutional amendment and an operating regulatory agency.

Do not equate an announced policy with achievement of every movement goal.

Explain a connection, rather than list two events

Teaching evidence from CED Topic 8.13 and EPA's history

Concern about polluted air and water grew during the 1960s. Environmental problems and accidents strengthened public demands for action. In 1970, the federal government combined environmental responsibilities in the EPA.

Try it: Improve this explanation: *"People worried about pollution. The EPA opened in 1970."*

Explain how public concern could lead to government action. Then identify evidence needed to judge whether the action worked.

Timing alone is not a causal explanation. A government response is not proof that the problem disappeared.

Worked explanation: concern, pressure and policy

Connection. Pollution problems helped build public concern and pressure for protection. Federal officials responded partly by bringing environmental responsibilities together in the EPA in 1970, increasing government's ability to address pollution.

Evidence of effectiveness. Investigate enforcement and changes in pollution, rather than treating the agency's creation as proof of clean air and water.

Scope. This is one connection within 1968–1980 environmental policy. It does not claim that a single accident caused all federal action.

Explain problem → public pressure → policy response; assess effects separately.

Society in Transition

The later part of the period is defined by movements and by limits.

- The **women's movement** pressed for legal, economic and social equality; the **Equal Rights Amendment** had not gained enough state ratifications by 1980.
- **Environmental** concern grew into federal action on air, water, and endangered species between 1968 and 1980.
- **Immigration** law was reformed in 1965, changing the origins of new arrivals.
- **Conservatism** organised in response to all of it, on taxes, social change, and the size of government – the movement Period 9 opens with.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 State what conservatives challenged and the two things they sought. [2]

2.2 Name the three causes of declining trust in the 1970s. [3]

Exercises 2.1-2.2

2.1 State what conservatives challenged and the two things they sought. [2]

2.1

- they challenged liberal laws and court decisions and perceived moral and cultural decline, seeking to limit the federal government's role and enact more assertive foreign policies
-

2.2 Name the three causes of declining trust in the 1970s. [3]

2.2

- economic challenges; political scandals; foreign policy crises

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 The decade saw growing clashes.

(a) Name the four subjects.

[2]

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 The decade saw growing clashes.

(a) Name the four subjects.

[2]

(a)

- social and cultural issues; the power of the federal government; race; movements for greater individual rights

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The decade saw growing clashes.

(b) State what accompanied evangelical growth.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The decade saw growing clashes.

(b) State what accompanied evangelical growth.

[1]

(b)

- greater political and social activism on the part of religious conservatives

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 Conservatives sought to limit the role of the federal government and to

[1]

☐

A enact more assertive foreign policies

B withdraw from the world

C expand the Great Society

D raise taxes

3.2 Declining trust in the 1970s followed economic challenges, political scandals and [1]

☐

A foreign policy crises

B population growth

C technological change

D immigration

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 Conservatives sought to limit the role of the federal government and to [1]

- ☐ **A** enact more assertive foreign policies
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3.1 A

- more assertive foreign policies

3.2 Declining trust in the 1970s followed economic challenges, political scandals and [1]

- ☐ **A** foreign policy crises
B population growth
C technological change
D immigration

3.2 A

- foreign policy crises

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 Confidence in government's ability to solve problems declines.

(a) State the consequence for a liberalism defined by that ability.

[1]

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 Confidence in government's ability to solve problems declines.

(a) State the consequence for a liberalism defined by that ability.

[1]

(a)

- it loses the premise it rests on

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 Confidence in government's ability to solve problems declines.

(b) Explain the connection to 8.9.

[2]

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 Confidence in government's ability to solve problems declines.

(b) Explain the connection to 8.9.

[2]

(b)

- 8.9 defined the period's liberalism by a firm belief in the efficacy of government power to achieve social goals, so declining confidence in that efficacy undermines the position directly