

Past-paper walk-through

The Great Depression ■ 7.9

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2024 Set 2 Q4
- 2023 Set 1 Q1

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 4

2024 Set 2 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Briefly describe one economic development from 1865 to 1900.
- (b)** Briefly explain one similarity OR difference in how two groups responded to economic change from 1865 to 1900.
- (c)** Briefly explain how one historical development from 1900 to 1940 contributed to government involvement in the economy.

Solution 4

(a)

Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one economic development from 1865 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: The number of immigrant workers in the United States increased.; Corporate trusts emerged as a new business structure.; New technologies increased the efficiency of industrial production.; New technologies contributed to new processes for the production of goods such as steel.; Federal policies encouraged the growth of railroads.; Some policy makers looked beyond United States borders for new markets.; Labor unions emerged for improving working conditions.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain one similarity OR difference in how two groups responded to economic change from 1865 to 1900. (1 point) — accept any: Populists and some Progressives called for increased federal regulation of the economy.; Some groups supported a laissez-faire approach to government involvement with the economy, while other groups called for increased economic regulation.; Industrial capitalists argued that their accumulation of wealth was the result of natural forces [Social Darwinism], while laborers advocated for workers' rights through unions.; Socialists and some Progressive journalists called for ending economic inequality.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one historical development from 1900 to 1940 contributed to government involvement in the economy. (1 point) — accept any: The Great Depression contributed to the passage of the New Deal.; The expanded extraction of natural resources led preservations and conservationists to push for the establishment of national parks.; The United States entry into the First World War led the federal government to ration food and other supplies to support the war effort.; The rapid expansion of corporate control over the economy contributed to efforts at trust-busting by leaders such as President Theodore Roosevelt.; The growth of corporate monopolies led Progressive political leaders to seek expanded government regulation of businesses.

Question 1

2023 Set 1 ■ Q1

“Working-class Chicagoans—male and female, black and white, . . . immigrants from eastern and southern Europe or their children—were . . . asserting themselves in new ways in the larger political arena. During the 1930s, Chicago workers, along with men and women elsewhere in the nation, had begun to vote Democratic more consistently and in greater numbers than ever before, joining President Franklin Roosevelt’s ‘New Democratic Coalition.’ . . . Supporting the Democrats . . . , they felt, would ensure a more activist federal government committed to providing the benefits that over time have become associated with ‘the welfare state.’” Source: Lizabeth Cohen, historian, *Making a New Deal: Industrial Workers in Chicago, 1919–1939*, published in 1991 “Far more enduring was the New Deal’s intimate partnership with those in the South who preached white supremacy. . . . Southern representatives acted . . . as an indispensable part of the governing party. New Deal lawmaking would have failed

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without . . . southern members of Congress. Here lay an acute incongruity. The New Deal permitted, or at least turned a blind eye toward, an organized system of racial cruelty. This alliance was a crucial part of its supportive structure. The New Deal thus collaborated with the South's racial hegemony as it advanced liberal democracy."

Source: Ira Katznelson, historian, *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time*, published in 2013

Using the excerpts, respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Briefly describe one major difference between Cohen's and Katznelson's historical interpretations of the New Deal.
- (b)** Briefly explain how one event or development from 1932 to 1945 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Cohen's argument.
- (c)** Briefly explain how one event or development from 1932 to 1945 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Katznelson's argument.

Solution 1

(a) Mark scheme

- Briefly describe one major difference between Cohen's and Katznelson's historical interpretations of the New Deal. (1 point) — accept any: Cohen focuses on the diversity of New Deal supporters, while Katznelson focuses on the New Deal supporters that were White supremacists.; Katznelson focuses on New Deal politicians and their activities, while Cohen focuses on how certain American voters came to support the New Deal and New Deal politicians.; Cohen praises the effects of the New Deal for giving immigrants and members of minority groups a voice in democracy, whereas Katznelson condemns the effects of the New Deal that allowed discrimination against minority groups.; Cohen emphasizes the expansion of the New Deal coalition to include working-class people, immigrants,

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and African Americans (an expansion of American democracy), while Katznelson points out that New Deal leaders allowed racial discrimination in their programs to keep support for them from conservative southern Democrats.; Cohen acknowledges the more positive aspects of the New Deal for minority groups and indicates that it is an important transitional step toward greater opportunities, while Katznelson expresses disappointment that New Deal programs did not do enough to accelerate greater rights and representation for minority group members and were severely limited by efforts to maintain southern support.

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(b) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one event or development from 1932 to 1945 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Cohen's argument. (1 point) — accept any: The economic hardship in the Great Depression led to broad support for the Democrats because Roosevelt promised to provide government relief.; The widespread popularity of Democrats is why Roosevelt won the presidency four times.; African Americans, who had largely supported Republicans because of their role in Reconstruction, began their shift to the Democratic party in the 1930s.; The efforts by radical, union, and populist movements to push Roosevelt toward more extensive efforts to change the American economic system support Cohen's argument that working-class people

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asserted themselves in the political arena in new ways. Examples that earn this point might include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:; Many people worked for New Deal programs such as the Works Progress Administration (WPA).; Impact of the Wagner Act.

Solution 1

(c) Mark scheme

- Briefly explain how one event or development from 1932 to 1945 that is not explicitly mentioned in the excerpts could be used to support Katznelson's argument. (1 point) — accept any: Katznelson's assertion that the New Deal turned a blind eye toward a system of racial cruelty is supported by the persistence of racial segregation in the South throughout this period.; Many New Deal jobs programs segregated African Americans, which proves Katznelson's argument about the limitations of the New Deal.; Franklin Roosevelt shied away from confronting racism in New Deal programs, as well as from recognizing crucial issues, such as lynching, because of the power of southern Democrats in Congress.; Many New Deal programs, such as the WPA, were administered by

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states, which allowed local authorities in the South to maintain segregation in the programs and to provide disproportionately small amounts of relief for African Americans.; Important programs for American workers, such as Social Security and minimum wage legislation, excluded agricultural and domestic workers, a move southern Democrats demanded. These decisions largely excluded African Americans, who predominated in such occupations, especially in the South, from those programs. 1 point Examples that earn this point might include the following, if appropriate elaboration is provided:; Segregation of the military under Roosevelt.; Persistence of Jim Crow Laws.; Continued racial oppression in the South by groups such as the Ku Klux Klan.