

**American History 8 2014-15 Midterm Exam Study Guide**  
**Exam on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Exam Coverage: Chapters 15-19, plus 21-1**

**Study Guide Resources**

- An overall discussion of the exam / format / study tips (this sheet)
- The exam essay question (this sheet)
- Chapter quizzes and tests you have taken for chapters 15-19 (available online) and some you have not taken... all good for review of objective question review
- Chapter Summary Readings (available online)
- Chapter Outlines (blank ones available online or completed ones in your possession)
- Online study questions for each section of the text
- Extra-credit chapter review packets (available online)
- Sample tests for chapters 15-19 (available online)

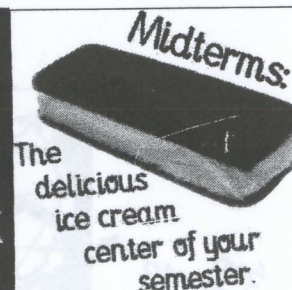
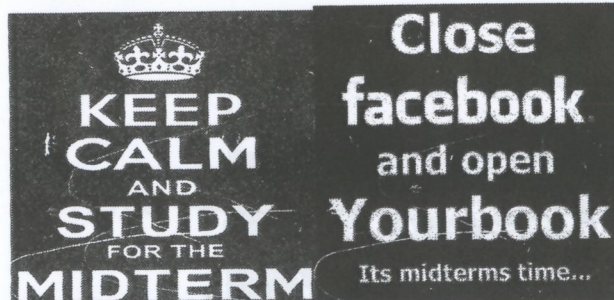
You have quite a few nights to study for and prepare for the exam, which covers slightly more than 5 chapters. Make yourself a study schedule. Space out your review and **DON'T CRAM!**

For example (semester ends on a Friday / Exam on a Tuesday)

- Friday – review chapter 15
- Saturday – review chapter 16 and 17 / “second leg” of essay
- Sunday – review chapter 18 and 19 / “first and third legs” of essay
- Monday – overall review and finalize essay
  - Attend “mega-review” in Mr. Ruppert’s room after your morning exam (11-1pm)
- Tuesday – Exam / **YOU ARE THE MAN!!!**

**Exam format:**

- 100 multiple choice questions (approximately 20 per chapter)
- 30 Identifications of Key People / Places / Events (6 groups of 5 matching)
- 10 Chronology Questions (in groups of 3 events per question)
- 40 Skills Based Questions (Maps, Reading Comprehension, Charts, Critical Thinking Skills, etc.)
  - = 180 total x .3 each = 60 points
- Political Cartoon Analysis = 10 points
- Essay = 30 points





# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Midterm Exam Essay

Mr. Ruppert

Setting the scene for your essay:

In 1862, during the Civil War, you left the United States disillusioned with the fact that the nation couldn't solve its differences peacefully. You spent the next 38 years in Tibet meditating with monks, totally isolated from the outside world. It is now the year 1900 and you have decided to return to your homeland.

After taking a six-week steamship journey across the Pacific Ocean, you approach the port of San Francisco but off in the distance things appear very strange. A fellow passenger informs you that this is a modern city skyline, which is of course a very new and strange sight to you. Obviously you already sense that 1900 America is far different from 1862 America.

Your essay: (2/4 to 1 pg per entry)

Upon your arrival you are scheduled to take a train going east. Your trip will be broken into three legs (parts of the trip). Refer to the map below. The first leg of the journey is from San Francisco, heading east to Kansas City through the land once known as the frontier. As you travel you begin to ask yourself questions such as, "What happened to the frontier? Where did it go?" (Chapter 18) → Pt 1 to Pt 2

The second leg of your rail journey takes you southeast through the reconstructed South to Savannah, Georgia where you will be visiting relatives. Oh the stories they have about life in the South since the Civil War. What a drastically different society and economy they have compared to pre-Civil War days. (Chapter 17) → Pt 2 to Pt 3

The third and final leg of your rail journey takes you through the industrial North to a crowded city that is an unimaginable size, New York City. The sight is almost too much for your senses. You are flooded with questions. "Where did all these people come from?" "Why are they all packed into this city?" "What are all these black cables crisscrossing above my head?" (Chapter 19) Pt 3 to Pt 4

Directions:

Write an introduction that starts with your reflection on your first sights of 1900 American as you approach the port of San Francisco. Do you already see or hear things that surprise you?

From there, write separate diary entries (3 total) for each leg of the rail journey ahead. Each diary should be written in the first person (it's OK to use "I") and focus on providing the reader with textbook based examples and facts that clearly point to how the region or place is much different than how it was in 1862, when you left the United States. You should strive to make reference to 8-10 major examples of people / events / laws / places for each of the three legs of the journey as you describe "1900 America". Your three diary entries should strive to summarize "the big picture" and, in particular, mention major changes that involve geography, technology, and the lives of people (social history) when we compare "1862 America" to "1900 America" for each region of the country.

