

TAKS Sample Questions (SS-8th)

1. In 1787 many of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention opposed ratification of the U.S. Constitution because of its failure to --
 - A. include a bill of rights
 - B. reduce states' rights
 - C. eliminate slavery
 - D. establish a foreign-trade policy
2. Which of these leaders is correctly identified with his or her major contribution to U.S. society?
 - A. James Monroe – wrote the Doctrine of Divine Rights
 - B. Frederick Douglass – fought for prohibition of alcohol
 - C. Elizabeth Cady Stanton – sought equal rights for women
 - D. Harriet Beecher Stowe – wrote a book promoting slavery in the United States

Use the information in the box and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following questions.

One Principle of the U.S. Constitution

Checks and Balances
A system by which each branch of government limits the power of the other branches.

3. Which of these is an example of the system of checks and balances?
 - A. Congress can regulate industry.
 - B. Governors can pardon federal prisoners.
 - C. The president can veto bills passed by Congress.
 - D. The Supreme Court can impeach members of Congress.

Disadvantages of the South During the Civil War

- Smaller Navy
- Fewer railroads
- ?

4. Which item would best complete the list?
 - A. Inexperienced military leaders
 - B. Lack of industries
 - C. Larger population
 - D. Lack of agricultural land

UIL Sample Questions (SS – 7/8)

1. Important concessions made in the Compromise of 1877 were that the new government would give more aid to the South and withdraw all remaining troops from the South. Another important element was that
 - A. taxes would be lowered.
 - B. all debts would be erased.
 - C. the South would develop more industry.
 - D. Democrats promised to maintain African Americans' rights.
2. Which of the following is NOT true?
 - A. Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence.
 - B. The Whigs and Democrats joined to form the Republican Party.
 - C. The Treaty of Paris ended the War of 1812.
 - D. The Third Amendment to the Constitution of the United States prevents the quartering of troops during peacetime.

Use the information in the box and your knowledge of social studies to answer the following question.

Documents of the American Revolution

- The Continental Association of 1774
- The Declaration of Independence
- The Articles of Confederation
- The Constitution of the United States

3. Who was the only person to sign all four documents of the American Revolution?
 - A. Benjamin Franklin
 - B. Roger Sherman
 - C. Thomas Jefferson
 - D. George Washington

Executive Powers of the Governor of the State of Texas

Makes
appointments
to boards and
commissions

Signs or
vetoes bills

?

4. Complete the graph above by choosing another power of the Texas governor.
 - A. Acts as the States' top lawyer
 - B. Appoints chairperson of Legislative committees
 - C. Advises the Legislature
 - D. Casts tie-breaking vote in the Senate if necessary