TASC Writing Skills Test: Practice Test Questions Based on Social Studies Topics

Created by Teachers at LaGuardia Adult Learning Center

# REVISING SENTENCES BASED ON SOCIAL STUDIES TOPICS

## Question One: Civil War

***The South’s economy was based on cotton. The demand for cotton grew in the North. Both South and North relied heavily on the institution of slavery.***

**Which is the best revision of the sentences?**

1. The South relied heavily on slavery to keep up with the production of cotton in the North.
2. Relying heavily on slavery, the economy of the South grew exponentially.
3. The institution of slavery fueled the demand for cotton in the North.
4. Cotton was demanded in the North and the economy of both North and South was based on the slavery.

## Question Two: Civil War

***Radical Republicans believed southern states were persecuting former slaves. Therefore they passed the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to guarantee equal rights to all.***

**Which is the best revision of the sentences?**

1. Radical Republicans believed southern states were persecuting former slaves, so they passed the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to guarantee equal rights to all.
2. Amendments were passed by the Radical Republicans to guarantee rights to all, believing that southern states were persecuting former slaves.
3. They passed the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to guarantee rights to all, believing southern states were persecuting former slaves, the Radical Republicans.
4. The thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments were passed by Radical Republicans to guarantee rights to all, believing that southern states were persecuting former slaves.

## Question Three: Great Depression

***October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed, and thus for that reason it has been named Black Tuesday*.**

**Which is the best revision of the sentences?**

1. October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed, so for that reason it has been named Black Tuesday.
2. October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed, naming it Black Tuesday.
3. Black Tuesday is the name given to October 29, 1929, the day the New York Stock Market crashed.
4. October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed. Therefore, naming it Black Tuesday.

## Question Four: Post War America

***In the 1950s, people left farms and cities. They moved to suburbs and worked in factories and offices. This transformed America.***

**Which is the best revision of the sentences?**

1. America was transformed in the 1950s, so people’s lives got better.
2. In the 1950s, more people moved to the suburbs and found jobs in factories and offices; American life was transformed.
3. America was transformed in the 1950s, for example, people moved to the suburbs and worked in factories and offices.
4. America was transformed when people started working in factories and lived in suburbs.

# TRANSITIONAL PHRASE QUESTIONS BASED ON SOCIAL STUDIES TOPICS

## Question Five

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ World War I began, there was already mounting tension in Europe.

Which is the BEST word to place in the blank?

1. As soon as
2. However
3. Even before
4. Because

## Question Six

Nationalism was one cause of the Great War; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, militarism and a system alliances were also major contributing factors.

Which is the BEST word to place in the blank?

1. Perhaps
2. In addition
3. First
4. Finally

## Question Seven

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, food and certain household goods were rationed during the war,

A

factories were producing goods; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, they produced war goods

B

rather than consumer goods.

Which is the BEST word to place in Blank A?

1. However
2. But
3. Even though
4. Thus

Which is the BEST word to place in Blank B?

1. However
2. Thus
3. Even though
4. But

## Question Eight

After the war, people wanted to spend; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people got married, had children, and bought homes.

What is the BEST word to place in Blank A?

1. Otherwise
2. On the other hand
3. Finally
4. As a result

## Question Nine

Between the wars, the Roaring 20s marked a cultural highpoint before the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Crash of 1929.

What is the BEST word to place in the blank?

1. Astonishing
2. Predictable
3. Inevitable
4. Relentless

Answer Key

# REVISING SENTENCES BASED ON SOCIAL STUDIES TOPICS

(ANSWERS IN BOLD)

## Civil War Question One

*The South’s economy was based on cotton. The demand for cotton grew in the North. Both South and North relied heavily on the institution of slavery.*

Which is the best revision of the sentences?

1. **The South relied heavily on slavery to keep up with the production of cotton in the North.**
2. Relying heavily on slavery, the economy of the South grew exponentially.
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4. Cotton was demanded in the North and the economy of both North and South was based on the slavery.

## Civil War Question Two

*Radical Republicans believed southern states were persecuting former slaves. Therefore they passed the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to guarantee equal rights to all.*

Which is the best revision of the sentences?

1. **Radical Republicans believed southern states were persecuting former slaves, so they passed the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to guarantee equal rights to all.**
2. Amendments were passed by the Radical Republicans to guarantee rights to all, believing that southern states were persecuting former slaves.
3. They passed the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to guarantee rights to all, believing southern states were persecuting former slaves, the Radical Republicans.
4. The thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments were passed by Radical Republicans to guarantee rights to all, believing that southern states were persecuting former slaves.

## Great Depression Question Three

*October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed, and thus for that reason it has been named Black Tuesday*.

Which is the best revision of the sentences?

1. October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed, so for that reason it has been named Black Tuesday.
2. October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed, naming it Black Tuesday.
3. **Black Tuesday is the name given to October 29, 1929, the day the New York Stock Market crashed.**
4. October 29, 1929 was the day the New York Stock Market crashed. Therefore, naming it Black Tuesday.

## Post War America Question Four

***In the 1950s, people left farms and cities. They moved to suburbs and worked in factories and offices. This transformed America.***

**Which is the best revision of the sentences?**

1. America was transformed in the 1950s, so people’s lives got better.
2. **In the 1950s, more people moved to the suburbs and found jobs in factories and offices; American life was transformed.**
3. America was transformed in the 1950s, for example, people moved to the suburbs and worked in factories and offices.
4. America was transformed when people started working in factories and lived in suburbs.

# TRANSITIONAL PHRASE QUESTIONS BASED ON SOCIAL STUDIES TOPICS

(ANSWERS IN BOLD)

## Question Five

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Which is the BEST word to place in the blank?

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## Question Six

Nationalism was one cause of the Great War; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, militarism and a system alliances were also major contributing factors.

Which is the BEST word to place in the blank?

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\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, food and certain household goods were rationed during the war,

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factories were producing goods; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, they produced war goods

B

rather than consumer goods.

Which is the BEST word to place in Blank A?

1. However
2. But
3. **Even though**
4. Thus

Which is the BEST word to place in Blank B?

1. **However**
2. Thus
3. Even though
4. But

## Question Eight

After the war, people wanted to spend; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people got married, had children, and bought homes.

What is the BEST word to place in Blank A?

1. Otherwise
2. On the other hand
3. Finally
4. **As a result**

## Question Nine

Between the wars, the Roaring 20s marked a cultural highpoint before the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Crash of 1929.

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