

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

# GRADE 5

## ELEMENTARY-LEVEL SOCIAL STUDIES TEST

### BOOKLET 1

### MULTIPLE-CHOICE AND CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

NOVEMBER 12, 2008

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name and the name of your school on the lines above.

The test has three parts. Parts I and II are in this test booklet; Part III is in Booklet 2.

**Part I** contains 35 multiple-choice questions. Record your answers to these questions on the separate answer sheet. Use only a No. 2 pencil on your answer sheet.

**Part II** consists of several short-answer questions. Write your answers to Part II in this test booklet.

You will have  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours to answer the questions in Booklet 1.

**DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.**

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THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12234



## Part I

### DIRECTIONS

There are 35 questions on Part I of this test. Each question is followed by four choices, labeled A–D. Read each question carefully. Decide which choice is the correct answer. On the separate answer sheet, mark your answer in the row of circles for each question by filling in the circle that has the same letter as the answer you have chosen. Use a pencil to mark the answer sheet.

Read the **sample question** below:

#### Sample Question

Which city is the capital of New York State?

- (A) Utica
- (B) Albany
- (C) New York City
- (D) Buffalo

The correct answer is **Albany**, which is next to letter **B**. On your answer sheet, look at the box showing the row of answer circles for the sample question. Since choice **B** is the correct answer for the sample question, the circle with the letter **B** has been filled in.

Answer all 35 questions on Part I of this test. Fill in only one circle for each question. Be sure to erase completely any answer you want to change. You may not know the answers to some of the questions, but do the best you can on each one.

When you have finished Part I, go on to Part II.

## Part I

**Answer all questions in this part.**

Base your answer to question 1 on the picture below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: Barnabas and Anabel Kindersley, *Children Just Like Me: Celebrations*, DK Publishing, 1997 (adapted)

- 1** The children shown in this photograph are from different cultures. They most often wear these styles of clothing in order to
- (A) celebrate their history and customs
  - (B) compete in costume contests
  - (C) demonstrate special sewing skills
  - (D) play in sporting events
-

Base your answer to question 2 on the chart below and on your knowledge of social studies.

**Selected Foods of the World**

<b>Food</b>	<b>Country</b>
rice and black-eyed peas	Barbados
rice with garlic and fish sauce	Vietnam
basmati rice with vegetables	India
rice with green peas	Italy

**2** Which statement is true based on the information listed in this chart?

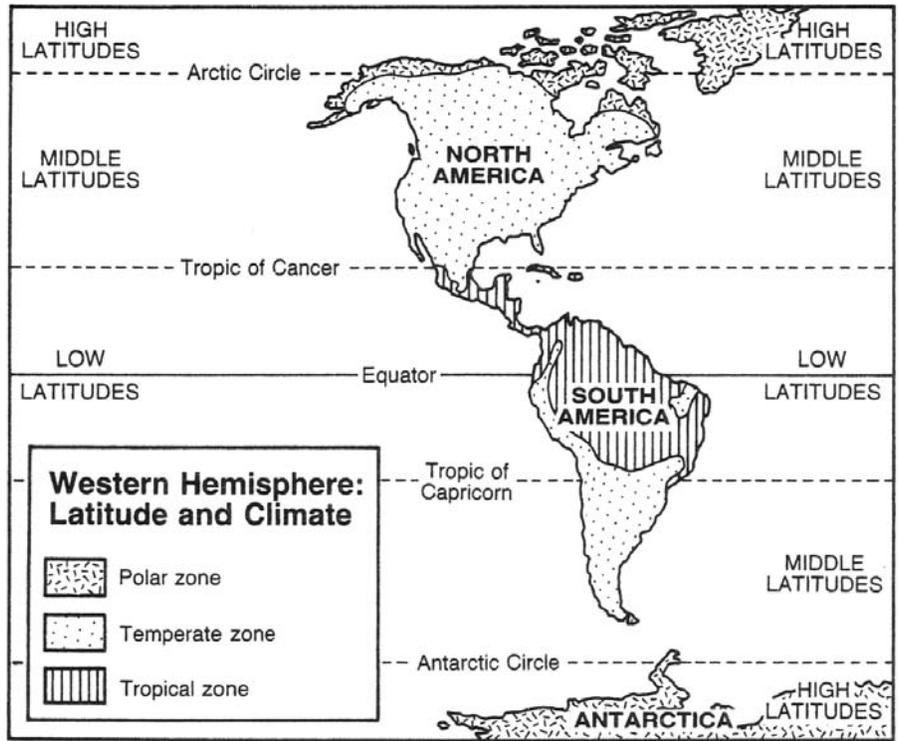
- (A) Most foreign foods are made with potatoes.
  - (B) People in many countries eat rice.
  - (C) Only countries in Asia cook with vegetables.
  - (D) Black-eyed peas are popular in Italy.
- 

**3** What is one major cause of air pollution in many modern nations today?

- (A) smoke coming from factories
- (B) water flowing over dams
- (C) Sun heating homes
- (D) wind powering windmills

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE** ⇨

Base your answers to questions 4 and 5 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: *Skills for Exploring America's Heritage*, D.C. Heath and Company, 1991

- 4 Which statement about the geography of the Western Hemisphere is true?
- (A) Most of North America is in a polar zone.
  - (B) The equator runs through North America.
  - (C) Most temperate zones are located in the middle latitudes.
  - (D) All tropical zones are found in the high latitudes.
- 5 Most of North America is located *south* of the
- (A) Arctic Circle
  - (B) Equator
  - (C) Tropic of Cancer
  - (D) Antarctic Circle
-

Base your answer to question 6 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: *Social Studies and Geography Skills Handbook for World Explorer*, Prentice Hall, 1998 (adapted)

**6** Which of the European countries listed below borders the North Sea?

- (A) Portugal
- (B) Finland
- (C) Ireland
- (D) Denmark

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**7** Which term is used to define goods brought into the United States from another country?

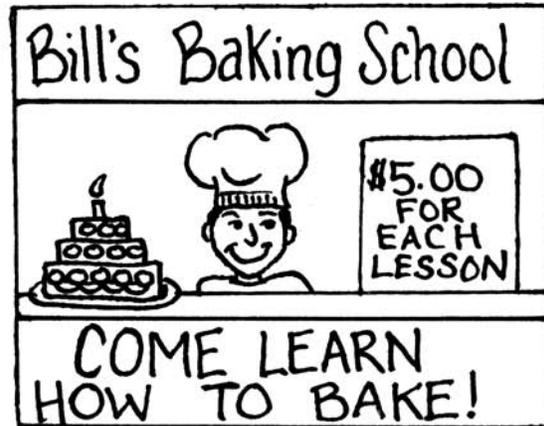
- (A) immigrants
- (B) resources
- (C) exports
- (D) imports

Base your answer to question 8 on the pictures below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Picture 1



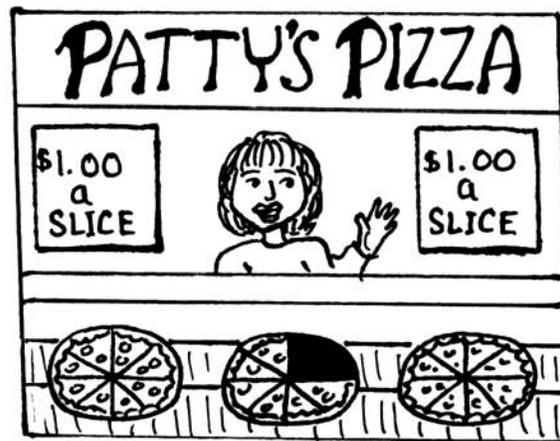
Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 4



Source: Sarah Purse

8 Which picture illustrates someone selling a *service*?

- (A) Picture 1
- (B) Picture 2
- (C) Picture 3
- (D) Picture 4

Base your answers to questions 9 and 10 on the chart below and on your knowledge of social studies.

**REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY: GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES**

<b>Characteristics of Government</b>	<b>British Parliamentary Democracy</b>	<b>United States Presidential Democracy</b>
<b>Selection of Chief Executive</b>	Prime Minister is indirectly elected by the people through selection from the majority party in Parliament	President is indirectly elected by an electoral college, whose delegates are elected by the people. President may be of a different political party than the party controlling Congress
<b>Rights of the People</b>	May vote if age 18 or over; basic freedoms are protected by political tradition	May vote if age 18 or over; basic freedoms are protected by the Constitution

Source: *Faces*, Cobblestone Publications, 2001 (adapted)

**9** Which British leader is most like the President of the United States?

- (A) Queen
- (B) Prime Minister
- (C) lord
- (D) cabinet minister

**10** One way Great Britain and the United States are similar is that both have

- (A) prime ministers
- (B) parliaments
- (C) a voting age of 18 or over
- (D) an electoral college system

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**11** In most countries, the main purpose of a capital city is to serve as a center for

- (A) transportation
- (B) tourism
- (C) mining
- (D) government

Base your answers to questions 12 and 13 on the chart below and on your knowledge of social studies.

**EUROPEAN SETTLEMENTS IN NORTH AMERICA**

Country	Name of Settlement	Present-Day Location	Year First Settled
Spain	St. Augustine	Florida	1565
England	Jamestown	Virginia	1607
France	Quebec	Canada	1608
Holland	New Amsterdam	New York	1625
Sweden	New Sweden	Delaware	1638

- 12** Which settlement was started by the English?
- (A) Quebec (C) Jamestown  
(B) New Amsterdam (D) New Sweden
- 13** Which conclusion can best be supported by the information in this chart?
- (A) England was the first to colonize North America.  
(B) Five European nations started colonies in North America.  
(C) Quebec has a larger population than St. Augustine.  
(D) Sweden established the first colony in what is now New York State.
- 
- 14** The main reason the Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) Confederacy was formed was to
- (A) fight against the Onondaga  
(B) achieve peace among member nations  
(C) continue Native American Indian traditions  
(D) unite to battle the European colonies
- 15** The Seneca were called the “Keepers of the Western Gate” because they lived
- (A) on the western edge of the Five Nations  
(B) west of the Mississippi River  
(C) on the western bank of the Hudson River  
(D) west of the Atlantic Ocean

- 16** One goal of Christopher Columbus, Jacques Cartier, and Henry Hudson was to
- (A) settle New York State
  - (B) explore the Great Lakes
  - (C) start colonies in Virginia
  - (D) find a shorter water route to Asia

Base your answer to question 17 on the statements below and on your knowledge of social studies.

*Person A:* “The British are taxing us too much. How can they treat us so unfairly?”

*Person B:* “The King has every right to collect the money due him. He has protected us from enemies for many years.”

*Person C:* “We will meet secretly to plan our attacks against the British.”

*Person D:* “My people have been mistreated by the European settlers.”

- 17** Which person is most likely a Loyalist?

- (A) *Person A*
  - (B) *Person B*
  - (C) *Person C*
  - (D) *Person D*
- 

- 18** I. Jobs Found in the American Colonies

- A. blacksmith
- B. wigmaker
- C. silversmith
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Which job best completes this partial outline?

- (A) steamboat captain
- (B) farmer
- (C) telegraph operator
- (D) photographer

**19** Which battle was the turning point of the Revolutionary War?

- (A) Saratoga
- (B) Long Island
- (C) West Point
- (D) Fort Ticonderoga

Base your answer to question 20 on the information below and on your knowledge of social studies.

**Abigail Adams**



*“If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to form a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice, or representation.”*

Abigail Adams,  
March 31, 1776

— *The American History Herald*,  
Steck-Vaughn (adapted)

Source: Benjamin Blyth, artist

**20** What is the main idea of this quotation?

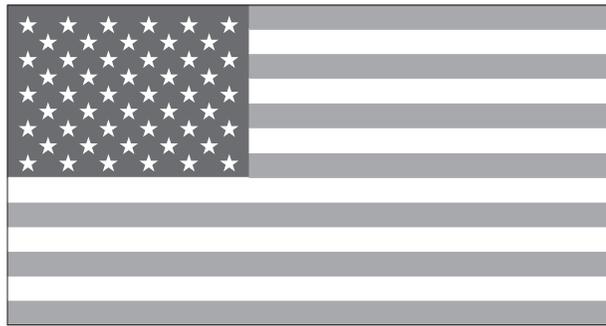
- (A) Women wanted a chance to become president.
- (B) Women were not interested in participating in the new government.
- (C) The new government should listen to the opinions of women.
- (D) Rebellions were often led by women.

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**21** After the Revolutionary War, many settlers moved to New York’s western frontier and beyond. Which term best describes this group of people?

- (A) merchants
- (B) pioneers
- (C) patroons
- (D) soldiers

Base your answer to question 22 on the picture below and on your knowledge of social studies.



**22** The thirteen stripes on this United States flag represent the number of

- (A) original colonies
  - (B) Revolutionary War battles
  - (C) presidents of the United States
  - (D) states in the Union
- 

**23** What was a major effect of the opening of the Erie Canal?

- (A) The population of New York City decreased.
- (B) DeWitt Clinton was elected president of the United States.
- (C) Wheat could no longer be shipped from the east coast to the west coast.
- (D) Goods from the Great Lakes could be shipped to New York City more cheaply than before.

**24** Which heading best completes the partial outline below?

I. _____ ?
A. telegraph
B. telephone
C. radio
D. computer

- (A) Communication Technology
- (B) Inventors
- (C) Geography
- (D) Transportation Systems



**28** The first ten amendments to the United States Constitution are called the

- (A) Preamble
- (B) Bill of Rights
- (C) Articles of Confederation
- (D) Declaration of Independence

**29** Which action can only be taken by the national government?

- (A) fixing potholes on local roads
- (B) electing a city mayor
- (C) printing money
- (D) charging tolls on roads

**30** **“Bike Helmets Required Up to Age 13”**  
**“Smoking Forbidden in Public Places”**  
**“Speed Limits on State Roads Lowered”**

These headlines best show New York State laws that promote

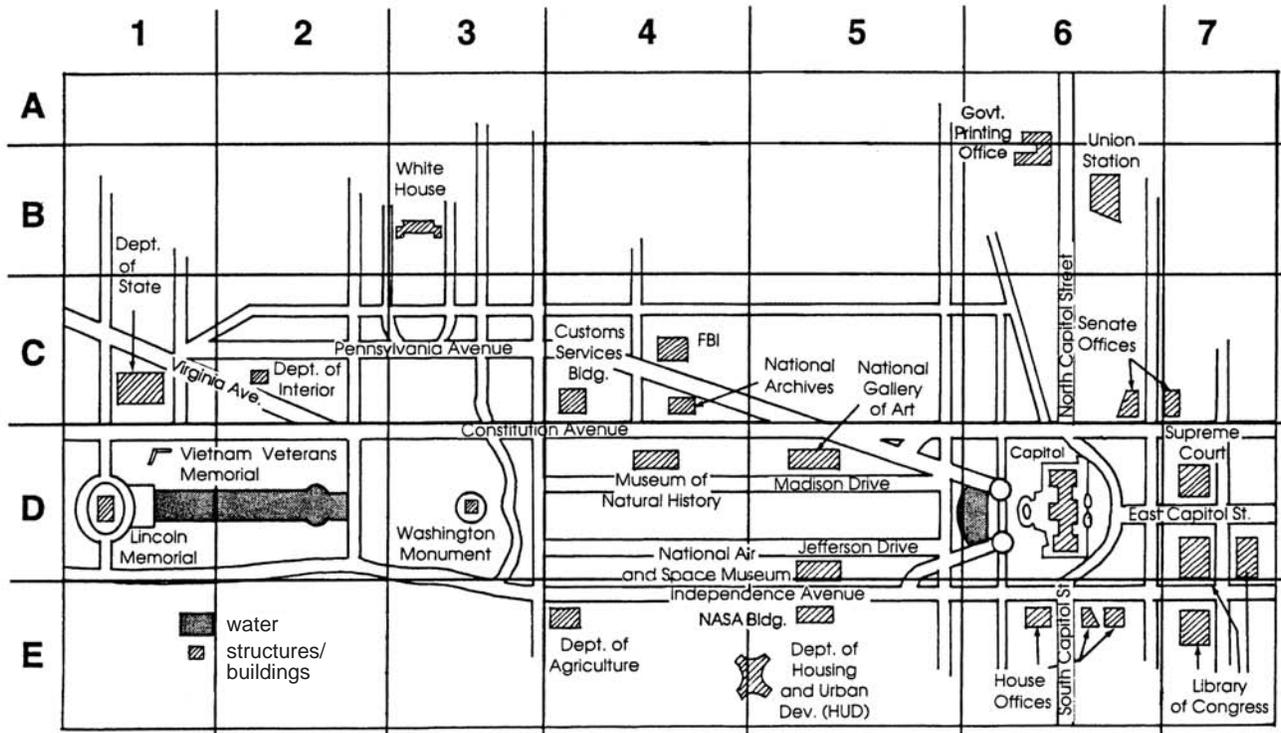
- (A) public safety
- (B) equal rights
- (C) individual freedom
- (D) justice

**31** Which statement about the history of New York State is an opinion?

- (A) The Hudson River was used for trade in New York.
- (B) The New York colony was the best place to settle.
- (C) New York became a gateway for new immigrants.
- (D) Natural resources are found throughout New York.

Base your answers to questions 32 and 33 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

**Map of Washington, D. C.**



Source: *Fourth Grade in Review*, Instructional Fair, 1995 (adapted)

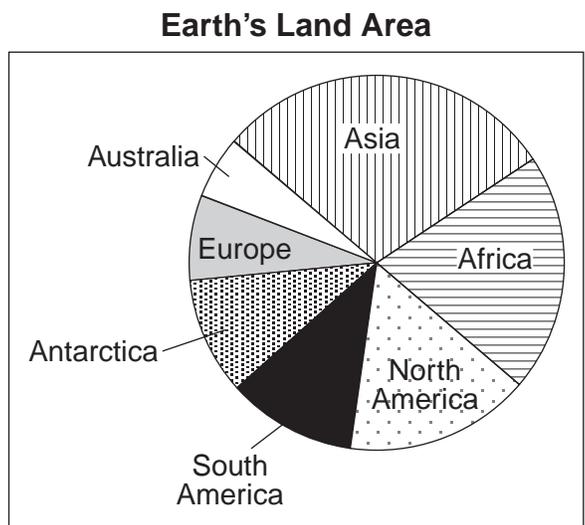
**32** Which government department is located in section C-2?

- (A) State
- (B) Agriculture
- (C) Interior
- (D) Housing and Urban Development

**33** What are the coordinates of the Capitol building?

- (A) B-3
- (B) C-3
- (C) D-6
- (D) D-7

Base your answers to questions 34 and 35 on the pie graph below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: Michael Petrovich, et al., *People in Time and Place: World Cultures*, Silver Burdett & Ginn, 1991 (adapted)

- 34** Which two continents make up about half of Earth's land area?
- (A) North America and South America
  - (B) Africa and North America
  - (C) Antarctica and Asia
  - (D) Africa and Asia
- 35** Which continent has the *smallest* land area?
- (A) North America
  - (B) Antarctica
  - (C) Europe
  - (D) Australia

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<p><b>FOR TEACHER USE ONLY</b></p> <p><b>Total Part I Score _____</b></p> <p><b>Maximum Score is 35</b></p>
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## Part II

*Directions:* Write your answers to the questions that follow in the spaces provided in this test booklet.

Base your answers to questions 1 through 3 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

### Communities Celebrate

The people of the different groups in a community like to celebrate their own holidays. In Vancouver the Chinese people celebrate the Chinese New Year. They hold a parade and set off fireworks. This day most often comes in February.

At other times all the people of a community celebrate a holiday together. For example, on July 1 everyone in Vancouver celebrates Canada Day, the country's birthday. This holiday is like the Fourth of July in the United States. Canadians gather to watch parades and fireworks. They listen to speeches and sing their country's special songs. . . .

Source: Richard G. Boehm, et al., *Communities*, Harcourt Brace, 2002

- 1 Which group of people in Vancouver, Canada, most often celebrates the New Year in February? [1]

Score

- 2 What is *one* way the United States celebration on July 4th is similar to the Canadian celebration on July 1st? [1]

Score

**3** Which historical event took place in the United States on the Fourth of July in 1776? [1]

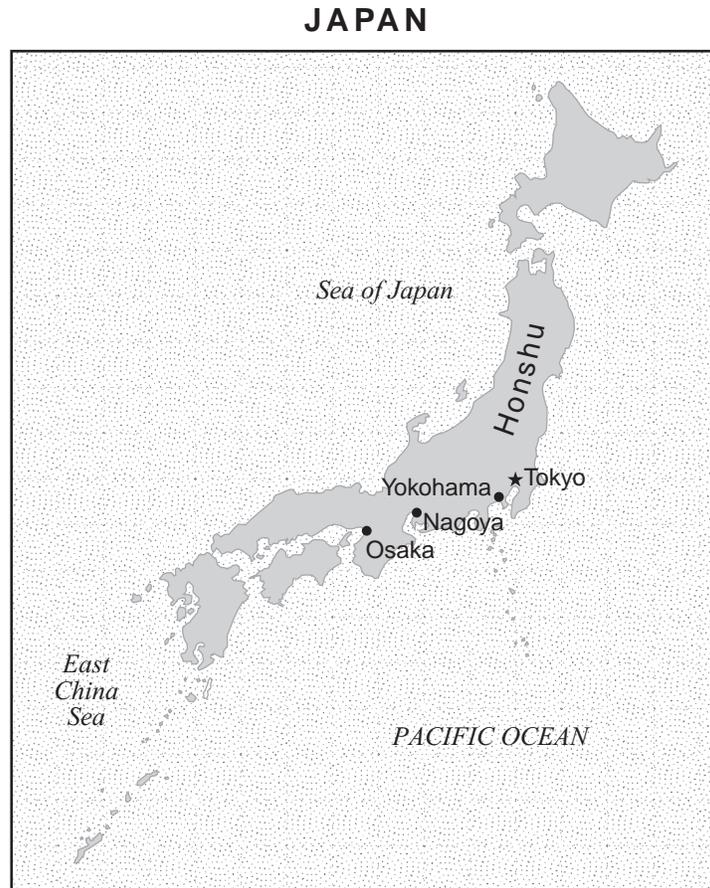
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Score

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE** ⇨

Base your answers to questions 4 through 6 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



Source: www.graphicmaps.com (adapted)

. . . Four-fifths of the population of Japan live in cities. Japan's four main cities of Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, and Nagoya are located on [the island of] Honshu. These large cities resemble [are like] Western cities with concrete and steel office buildings, rush hour traffic jams, and a variety of stores, restaurants, and theaters. . . .

Source: Jane Pofahl, *Japan*, Instructional Fair, 1996 (adapted)

4 What is the capital city of Japan? [1]

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Score

5 What is *one* way Japanese cities are like many American cities? [1]

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Score

6 What is *one* reason seafood is an important part of the Japanese diet? [1]

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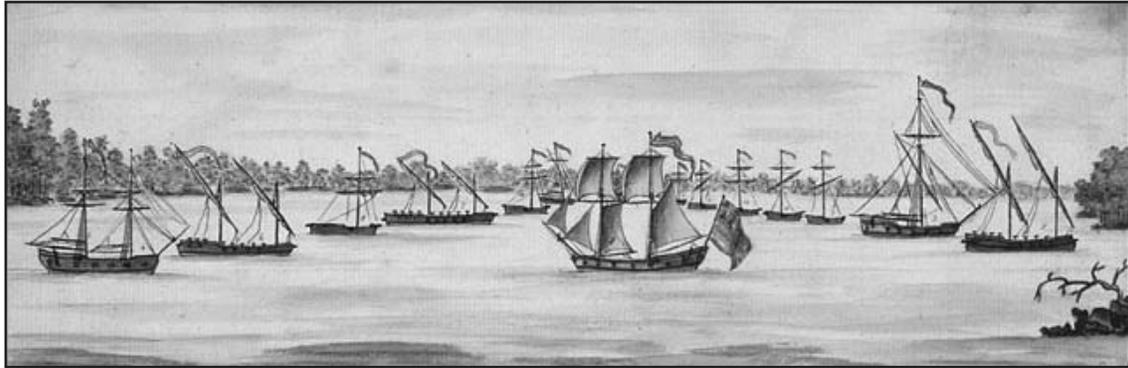
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Score

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE** ⇨

Base your answers to questions 7 through 9 on the information below and on your knowledge of social studies.

**“The American Fleet Near Valcour Island”**



Source: Charles Randle, Library and Archives Canada

On October 11, 1776, the American Navy fought a battle against the British near Valcour Island on Lake Champlain. The small American fleet was headed by Benedict Arnold. The British fleet of 25 ships outnumbered the American ships, had better firepower [more guns], and were manned by trained sailors. They badly damaged the American flotilla [fleet of ships]. Arnold and his ships left during the night and raced for Ticonderoga. Although the American crews fought bravely, they were overtaken by the British on their way to Crown Point. Many of their ships were either sunk or beached. Only three of Arnold’s 15 ships, the “Revenge,” the “Trumbull,” and the “Enterprise” were able to escape.

**7** How many ships did the British have at the Battle of Valcour Island? [1]

Score

8 What is **one** reason the British Navy was able to defeat the American Navy so easily? [1]

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Score

9 During which war did the Battle of Valcour Island take place? [1]

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Score

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE** ➡

Base your answers to questions 10 through 12 on the document below and on your knowledge of social studies.

**5 STEPS TO GETTING SOMEONE TO VOTE**

**How do you get the adults you know to vote? Just tell them to...**

**1. Register.** All voters must fill out a voter registration form. Where can you find them?

- Your state's Department of Motor Vehicles
- Your Secretary of State's office
- Online at [www.DeclareYourself.com](http://www.DeclareYourself.com)

**2. Pop the registration form in the mail.** If this person has never registered before, he or she will have to mail a photocopy of

a government-issued photo ID along with the completed and signed registration form for his or her state. A driver's license will work.

**3. Prep your head for the coming election by checking out the candidates and issues.**

A few places to start feeding your brain:

- Newspapers, magazines and television news
- Tons of resources on the Internet, including candidates' Web sites and sources for information on different important issues
- Go to the site [www.DeclareYourself.com](http://www.DeclareYourself.com)

**4. Locate where adults will vote.**

**5. Most importantly, on Election Day: MAKE SURE THE ADULTS YOU KNOW VOTE!** And tell them to bring their friends with them!

Source: *TFK Extra!*, Fall 2003, Supplement to Time for Kids (adapted)

10 According to this document, what is the *first* step in getting someone to vote? [1]

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Score

11 State *one* place where a voter can find information about a candidate running for office. [1]

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Score

12 What is *one* reason it is important for adults to vote? [1]

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Score

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FOR TEACHER USE ONLY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total Part II Score _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Maximum Score is 12</p>
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