

## SECTION II

### Part A: Document-Based Question

**Directions:** The following question is based on the accompanying documents. The documents have been edited for this exercise. Spend approximately 15 minutes planning and 45 minutes writing your answer.

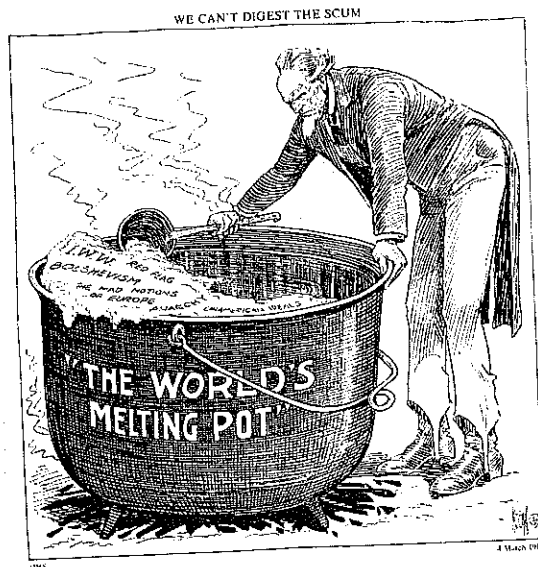
Write an essay that does the following:

- ✦ States an appropriate thesis that directly addresses all parts of the question.
- ✦ Supports the thesis or argument with evidence from all or all but one of the documents AND your knowledge of U.S. history beyond the documents.
- ✦ Analyzes all or all but one of the documents.
- ✦ Places each document into at least one of the following categories: intended audience, purpose, historical context, and/or point of view.
- ✦ Uses historical evidence beyond the documents to support your argument.
- ✦ Places the argument in the context of broader regional, national, or global processes.
- ✦ Incorporates all of the elements above into a convincing essay.

**Question:** Evaluate how and why American society was divided in the 1920s.

#### Document 1

Source: Cartoonist Billy Ireland, 1919



OSUCGA — The Ohio State University Billy Ireland  
Cartoon Library & Museum

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## Document 2

Source: F. Scott Fitzgerald, *This Side of Paradise*, 1920

Long after midnight the towers and spires of Princeton were visible, with here and there a late-burning light—and suddenly out of the clear darkness the sound of bells. As an endless dream it went on; the spirit of the past brooding over a new generation, the chosen youth from the muddled, unchastened world, still fed romantically on the mistakes and half-forgotten dreams of dead statesmen and poets. Here was a new generation, shouting the old cries, learning the old creeds, through a reverery of long days and nights; destined finally to go out into that dirty gray turmoil to follow love and pride; a new generation dedicated more than the last to the fear of poverty and the worship of success; grown up to find all Gods dead, all wars fought, all faiths in man shaken.

## Document 3

Source: H. L. Mencken, *Baltimore Sun*, July 26, 1920

When a candidate for public office faces the voters he does not face men of sense; he faces a mob of men whose chief distinguishing mark is the fact that they are quite incapable of weighing ideas, or even of comprehending any save the most elemental—men whose whole thinking is done in terms of emotion, and whose dominant emotion is dread of what they cannot understand. So confronted, the candidate must either bark with the pack or be lost. . . . All the odds are on the man who is, intrinsically, the most devious and mediocre—the man who can most adeptly disperse the notion that his mind is a virtual vacuum. The Presidency tends, year by year, to go to such men. As democracy is perfected, the office represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. We move toward a lofty ideal. On some great and glorious day the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last, and the White House will be adorned by a downright moron.

## Document 4

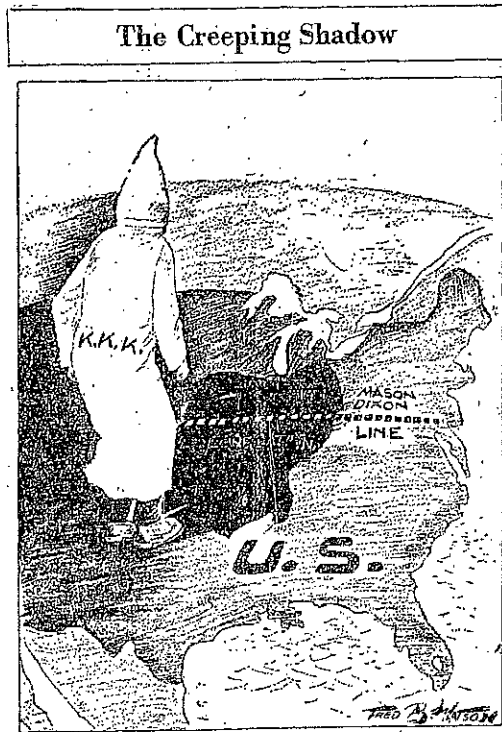
Source: President Warren G. Harding, c. 1921

I talk to the other side and they seem just as right, and here I am where I started. I know somewhere there is a book that will give me the truth, but, hell, I couldn't read the book. I know somewhere there is an economist who knows the truth, but I don't know where to find him and haven't the sense to know him and trust him when I find him. God! what a job!

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Document 5

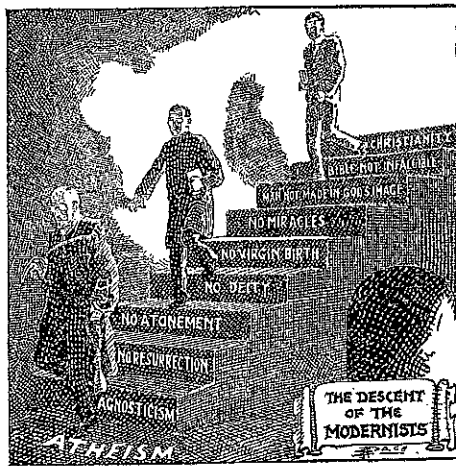
Source: "The Creeping Shadow," *The Afro-American*, October 3, 1925. Cartoonist: Fred B. Watson.



Used with permission from the Afro-American Newspapers Archives and Research Center.

Document 6

Source: "The Descent of the Modernists," cartoon by E. J. Pace, in William Jennings Bryan, *Seven Questions in Dispute*, 1924.



E. J. Pace

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## Document 7

Source: William Jennings Bryan, undelivered closing statement prepared for the Scopes trial, 1925

Christianity welcomes truth from whatever source it comes and is not afraid that any real truth from any source can interfere with the divine truth that comes by inspiration from God Himself. It is not scientific truth to which Christians object, for true science is classified knowledge, and nothing therefore can be scientific unless it is true.

Evolution is not truth: it is merely an hypothesis—it is millions of guesses strung together. It had not been proven in the days of Darwin; he expressed astonishment that with two or three million species it had been impossible to trace any species to any other species. It had not been proven in the days of [Thomas Henry] Huxley, and it has not been proven up to today.

**Part B: Long Essay Questions**

*Choose between one of the following two questions. You will have 35 minutes to complete your answer.*

**Question 1:** Historians often disagree about turning points in U.S. history. Analyze the reasons that a historian might choose the year 1890 as a turning point in U.S. history.

**Question 2:** Historians often disagree about turning points in U.S. history. Analyze the reasons that a historian might choose the year 1968 as a turning point in U.S. history.

**STOP**

**END OF EXAM**