

## DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

**Directions:** Question 1 is based on the accompanying documents. The documents have been edited for the purpose of this exercise. You are advised to spend 15 minutes planning and 45 minutes writing your answer.

In your response you should do the following.

- State a relevant thesis that directly addresses all parts of the question.
  - Support the thesis or a relevant argument with evidence from all, or all but one, of the documents.
  - Incorporate analysis of all, or all but one, of the documents into your argument.
  - Focus your analysis of each document on at least one of the following: intended audience, purpose, historical context, and/or point of view.
  - Support your argument with analysis of historical examples outside the documents.
  - Connect historical phenomena relevant to your argument to broader events or processes.
  - Synthesize the elements above into a persuasive essay.
1. Both nationalism and sectionalism increased during the Era of Good Feelings. How did both of these beliefs develop concurrently, and did one become of greater importance in the economics and politics of the period?

### Document 1

**Source:** Stephen Decatur, naval officer, toast given at Norfolk, Virginia, 1816

Our Country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country, right or wrong!

### Document 2

**Source:** Joseph Rodman Drake, poet, "The American Flag," 1819

Flag of the free heart's hope and home,  
By angel hands to valor given;  
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome  
And all the hues were born in heaven!  
Forever float that standard sheet!  
Where breathes the foe but falls before us?  
With freedom's soil beneath our feet,  
And freedom's banner streaming o'er us?

### Document 3

**Source:** Emma Hart Willard, educator and feminist, address to the New York Legislature, 1819

But where is that wise and heroic country which has considered that our rights [as women] are sacred . . . ? History shows not that country. Yet though history lifts not her finger to such a one, anticipation does. She points to a nation which, having thrown off the shackles of authority and precedent, shrinks not from schemes of improvement because other nations have never attempted them; but which, in its pride of independence, would rather lead than follow in the march of human improvement: a nation, wise and magnanimous to plan, enterprising to undertake, and rich in resources to execute. Does not every American exult that this country is his own?

### Document 4

**Source:** Henry Clay, Speech in Congress, March 31, 1824

Are we doomed to behold our industry languish and decay yet more and more? But there is a remedy, and that remedy consists in modifying our foreign policy, and in adopting a genuine American system. We must naturalize the arts in our country; and we must naturalize them by the only means which the wisdom of nations has yet discovered to be effectual—by adequate protection against the otherwise overwhelming influence of foreigners. This is only to be accomplished by the establishment of a tariff, to the consideration of which I am now brought. . . . The sole object of the tariff is to tax the produce of foreign industry with the view of promoting American industry. The tax is exclusively leveled at foreign industry.

### Document 5

**Source:** John Quincy Adams, *Diary*, March 3, 1820

I have favored this Missouri Compromise, believing it to be all that could be effected under the present Constitution, and from extreme unwillingness to put the Union at hazard. But perhaps it would have been wiser as well as a bolder course to have persisted in the restriction upon Missouri, till it should have terminated in a convention of states to revise and amend the Constitution. This would have produced a new Union of thirteen or fourteen States, unpolluted with slavery, with a great and glorious object to effect; namely that of rallying to their standard the other states by the universal emancipation of their slaves. If the Union must be dissolved, slavery is precisely the question upon which it ought to break. For the present, however, this contest is laid asleep.

## Document 6

**Source:** Thomas Jefferson, Letter to Congressman John Holmes of Massachusetts, April 22, 1820

I thank you, dear sir, for the copy you have been so kind to send me of the letter to your constituents on the Missouri question. It is perfect justification to them. I had for a long time ceased to read newspapers, or pay any attention to public affairs, confident they were in good hands. . . . But this momentous question, like a firebell in the night, awakened and filled me with terror. I considered it at once as the knell of the union. It is hushed, indeed, for the moment. But this is a reprieve only, not a final sentence. A geographical line, coinciding with a marked principle, moral and political, once conceived and held up to the angry passions of men, will never be obliterated; and every new irritation will mark it deeper and deeper.

## Document 7

**Source:** *Congressional Record*, 1816

Vote on the Tariff of 1816 in the U.S. House of Representatives		
Region	For	Against
New England	17	10
Middle States	44	10
South	23	34
Total	88	54