Part A

Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1

Number of Immigrants Entering U.S. Each Year

1a Based on this graph, identify two conditions in their native countries that caused immigrants to come to the United States.

(1) ________________________________________________________________
(2) ________________________________________________________________

b Based on this graph, identify one situation in the United States that led to an increase of immigrants coming into the nation.

_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
This is part of an interview with George Kokkas, a Greek immigrant, who arrived in the United States in 1969.

... Work over there was very bad. In those days [1967], a worker in Greece made about five dollars a day, when a worker’s pay in the United States was about thirty dollars a day. But the reason I came to the United States was because the situation in Greece was bad. And I was concerned about the education of my kids. Greece in those days had only one university, and if you had kids who wanted to go to the university it was very hard to get the chance.

Source: Gladys Nadler Rips, Coming to America: Immigrants from Southern Europe, Delacorte Press

2. Based on this document, identify two reasons that led this Greek immigrant to move to the United States.

(1)                                                                                           
(2)                                                                                           
Medical Inspection at Ellis Island

3a. What is the Ellis Island official doing in this photograph?

b. Why is the official doing this?
4. Based on this document, what process did immigrants have to pass in order to gain admittance into the U.S.
5. Based on this photograph, identify one reason that living in a tenement was often difficult for immigrants.
This is part of a letter from a Polish immigrant, who came to the United States in 1913.

I’m in this country for four months.

I am a polish man. I want be american citizen . . . But my friends are polish people—I must live with them—I work in the shoes-shop with polish people—I stay all the time with them—at home—in the shop—anywhere.

I want live with american people, but I do not know anybody of american. I go 4 times to teacher, and must pay $2 weekly. I wanted take board [to live] in english house, but I could not, for I earn only $5 or 6 in a week, and when I pay teacher $2, I have only $4—$3—and now english board house is too dear [expensive] for me. Better job to get is hard for me, because I do not speak well english and I cannot understand what they say to me. The teacher teach me—but when I come home—I must speak polish and in the shop also. In this way I can live in your country many years—like my friends—and never speak—write well english—and never be good american citizen . . .

Source: Report of the Commission on Immigration on the Problem of Immigration in Massachusetts, 1914 (adapted)

6. Based on this document, state two reasons it was difficult for this Polish immigrant to fit into American society.

(1) __________________________________________________________

(2) __________________________________________________________
Part I: The following documents address each of the State’s suggested changes. Read each document carefully and then answer the multiple-choice questions.

Document 1: Increased Immigration

“To operate efficiently, expanding industries needed expanding supplies of workers to grow crops, extract raw materials, and produce manufactured goods. Many of these workers came from abroad. The year 1880 marked the leading edge of a new wave of immigration to the United States. Over the next ten years, 5.2 million newcomers entered the country, almost twice the previous decade’s level of 2.8 million.

In the mid-nineteenth century, most immigrants hailed from Western Europe and the British Isles — from Germany, Scandinavia, England, and Ireland. Between 1880 and 1890, Germans, Scandinavians, and the English kept coming, but they were joined by numerous Italians, Russians, and Poles. In fact, these last three groups predominated among newcomers for the next thirty-five years, their arrival rates peaking between 1890 and 1910...

Many of the new European immigrants sought to escape oppressive economic and political conditions in Europe, even as they hoped to make a new life for themselves and their families in the United States. Russian Jews fled discrimination and violent anti-Semitism in the form of pogroms, organized massacres, conducted by their Christian neighbors and Russian authorities. Southern Italians, most of whom were landless farmers, suffered from a combination of declining agricultural prices and high birth rates. Impoverished Poles chafed under cultural restrictions imposed by Germany and Russia. Hungarians, Greeks, Portuguese, and Armenians, among other groups, also participated in this great migration; members of these groups too were seeking political freedom and economic opportunity. [People also left because there was not enough land. The process of dividing up family plots left younger siblings landless; others lost their lands because landowners consolidated their property and evicted them.] ~ Wood et al., 548.

Multiple-Choice Questions from the Document:

1- Immigration to the United States greatly increased between 1880 and 1890 because
   (A) Northern Europeans were escaping religious persecution
   (B) Industrialization greatly increased the demand for workers in American factories
   (C) New innovations in agriculture increased the need for workers on farms
   (D) The process of dividing up family plots left older siblings landless

2- Which statement about immigration to the United States during the 19th century is most valid?
   (A) Organized labor supported unlimited immigration.
   (B) Most immigrants to the United States were illegal aliens.
   (C) Industrial growth led to a demand for cheap immigrant labor.
   (D) Few immigrants came from Western Europe.
3- In the late 19th century, the pattern of United States immigration changed in that
   (A) far fewer immigrants arrived in the United States than in previous years
   (B) most immigrants chose to settle in the rural, farming regions of the western
       United States
   (C) increasing numbers of immigrants came from eastern and southern Europe
   (D) most immigrants were political refugees

Additional Multiple-Choice Questions on the Suggested Change of Increased Immigration:

4- At the turn of the century, why did most immigrants to the United States settle in
   cities?
   (A) Jobs were readily available.
   (B) Government relief programs required immigrants to settle in cities.
   (C) Labor union leaders encouraged unrestricted immigration.
   (D) Immigrants were not permitted to buy farmland.

5- Which statement about immigration to the United States is most accurate?
   (A) The desire for economic advancement has been a major reason for immigration
       to the United States
   (B) The ethnic mix of immigrants to the United States has remained mostly
       unchanged.
   (C) The number of immigrants has remained constant in each decade during most of
       United States history.
   (D) Nearly all immigrants have easily assimilated into American culture.

6- What was the experience of most of the “new immigrants” who arrived in the
   United States from southern and Eastern Europe in the late 1800s and early 1900s?
   (A) They lived in urban areas and most held low paying jobs.
   (B) They obtained free land in the West and became farmers.
   (C) They became discouraged with America and returned to their homelands.
   (D) They were easily assimilated into mainstream American culture.

7- Between 1890 and 1915, the majority of immigrants to the United States were
   labeled “new immigrants” because they were
   (A) considered physically and mentally superior to earlier immigrants
   (B) forced to settle in the cities of the Midwest
   (C) from China, Japan, and other Asian countries
   (D) culturally different from most earlier immigrants

8- Between 1870 and 1920, the federal government placed few restrictions on
   immigration primarily because it wanted to
   (A) sell land in the West
   (B) recruit men for the military
   (C) ensure that there would be workers for the factories
   (D) avoid offending foreign governments