

The University of the State of New York  
REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

# UNITED STATES HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

Tuesday, June 20, 2000 — 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only

The last page of the booklet is the answer sheet. Fold the last page along the perforations and, slowly and carefully, tear off the answer sheet. Then fill in the heading of your answer sheet.

When you have completed the examination, you must sign the statement printed at the end of the answer sheet, indicating that you had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that you have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination. Your answer sheet cannot be accepted if you fail to sign this declaration.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION BOOKLET UNTIL THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN.**

**Part I (55 credits)**

**Answer all 48 questions in this part.**

*Directions (1–48):* For each statement or question, write on the separate answer sheet the *number* of the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question.

- 1 Which aspect of the American political system was most influenced by the ideas of John Locke and Baron de Montesquieu?
  - 1 executive control of foreign policy
  - 2 limitations on the power of government
  - 3 government regulation of the economy
  - 4 creation of the electoral college
- 2 Which principle of government is proposed in the Declaration of Independence?
  - 1 Political power originates with a strong central government.
  - 2 The primary function of government is to protect natural rights.
  - 3 A system of checks and balances is the most effective way to prevent governmental abuse of power.
  - 4 Individual liberties must be guaranteed by a strong bill of rights.
- 3 “We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, . . . and secure the blessings of liberty . . . do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

— Preamble to the United States Constitution

This quotation from the Preamble illustrates the constitutional principle that people

  - 1 have a right to a trial by jury
  - 2 are guaranteed an adequate standard of living
  - 3 are the true source of political power
  - 4 have the right to assemble
- 4 During the ratification debates of 1788 to 1791, the activities of the Antifederalists led to the
  - 1 drafting of the Declaration of Independence
  - 2 strengthening of the Articles of Confederation
  - 3 adoption of the Northwest Ordinance
  - 4 addition of the Bill of Rights to the Constitution
- 5 The framers of the United States Constitution showed the strongest commitment to democratic principles in their decisions regarding the
  - 1 method for choosing members of the Cabinet
  - 2 election of members of the House of Representatives
  - 3 election of Senators
  - 4 selection of Supreme Court Justices
- 6 What was a major impact of many of the Supreme Court decisions under Chief Justice John Marshall?
  - 1 strengthening of the powers of the Federal Government
  - 2 restrictions on big business
  - 3 reduction of racial discrimination
  - 4 expansion of the rights of the accused
- 7 “The Constitution is as the Supreme Court interprets it.”

— President Dwight D. Eisenhower

Which constitutional principle does this quotation best describe?

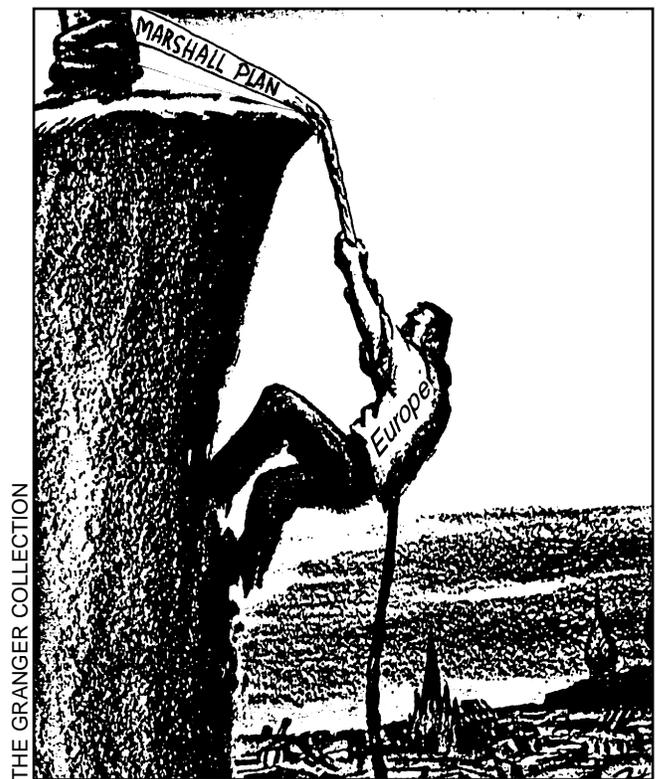
1 judicial review	3 federalism
2 reserved powers	4 concurrent powers
- 8 What is a primary role of lobbyists in the political process?
  - 1 to draft bills for legislators
  - 2 to present the views of special interest groups on proposed legislation
  - 3 to locate citizens willing to run for public office
  - 4 to provide legislators with unbiased information on important issues

- 9 The Supreme Court has ruled that burning the United States flag is a form of protest protected by the first amendment. Which action would be necessary to overturn this ruling?
- 1 issue of an Executive order by the President
  - 2 passage of a law by Congress
  - 3 ratification of an amendment to the Constitution
  - 4 adoption of a formal resolution by each state's legislature
- 10 Which action is an example of the use of the elastic clause of the United States Constitution?
- 1 purchase of the Louisiana Territory by President Thomas Jefferson
  - 2 impeachment of President Andrew Johnson
  - 3 ratification of the 19th amendment
  - 4 creation of the United States Navy
- 11 What was the most important advantage the North had during the Civil War?
- 1 unified popular support for the war effort
  - 2 superior military leadership
  - 3 economic aid from Great Britain and France
  - 4 more human resources and war material
- 12 One similarity between the Know-Nothings and the Ku Klux Klan is that both
- 1 opposed the spread of communism
  - 2 exposed abuses in big business and government
  - 3 believed the problems of society were caused by the growth of labor unions
  - 4 fostered resentment against minority groups in American society
- 13 Which statement is accurate about state legislatures in the South following the period of Reconstruction?
- 1 They established bureaus to assist the freedmen.
  - 2 They provided 40 acres of land and a mule to all former slaves.
  - 3 They tried to deprive the freedmen of their legal rights.
  - 4 They were generally dominated by former slaves.
- 14 The Dawes Act of 1887 granted farmland to Native American Indians as part of a plan to
- 1 give them enough space to raise buffalo
  - 2 assimilate them into American society
  - 3 preserve tribal cultural traditions
  - 4 promote peace between warring tribes
- 15 The corporate form of business became dominant in the late 19th century mainly because of the need of business for
- 1 protective tariffs
  - 2 assembly-line production
  - 3 a supply of cheap labor
  - 4 large amounts of investment capital
- 16 The railroad strikes of 1877, the Haymarket Affair of 1886, and the Pullman strike of 1894 show that labor unions of that period were
- 1 willing to use force to achieve their goals
  - 2 unable to organize large groups of workers
  - 3 firmly committed to laissez-faire capitalism
  - 4 supported by the Federal Government during disputes with big business
- 17 The Populist Party can be considered a successful third party because
- 1 its Presidential candidate won the election of 1892
  - 2 it maintained control of Congress for several years during the 1890's
  - 3 workers and business owners united to support reductions in the tariff
  - 4 laws were eventually passed that attained some of its goals
- 18 The works of Jacob Riis and Upton Sinclair exposed the problems associated with
- 1 poverty among Native American peoples
  - 2 rapid industrialization and urbanization
  - 3 segregation of public facilities in the South
  - 4 colonial expansion in Asia
- 19 The Sherman Antitrust Act and the Clayton Antitrust Act were both designed to
- 1 establish safe working conditions in factories
  - 2 promote fair competition in business
  - 3 force industry to use natural resources wisely
  - 4 decrease Federal income taxes on corporations

- 20 Reform legislation of the Progressive Era provided for
- 1 increased direct participation in government
  - 2 employment for the poor
  - 3 tax incentives for business investment
  - 4 the elimination of racial segregation in public places
- 21 During the first 100 years of its history, the United States followed a foreign policy of
- 1 forming military defense alliances with European nations
  - 2 establishing overseas spheres of influence
  - 3 remaining neutral from political connections with other nations
  - 4 providing leadership in international organizations
- 22 Late in the 19th century, many Americans believed that the United States should establish a colonial empire because
- 1 additional farmlands were needed to feed the growing American population
  - 2 many sections of the world wanted to become part of the United States
  - 3 American industries needed raw materials and markets
  - 4 colonies would provide cheap labor for southern plantations
- 23 President Theodore Roosevelt's policy regarding big business was to
- 1 replace private ownership with public ownership
  - 2 encourage a laissez-faire attitude toward business
  - 3 support the deregulation of business
  - 4 distinguish between "good" and "bad" trusts
- 24 United States Senators who opposed the Treaty of Versailles mainly objected to
- 1 United States membership in the League of Nations
  - 2 payment of reparations by Germany to the Allied Nations
  - 3 the transfer of Germany's colonial possessions to the League of Nations
  - 4 the creation of new and independent nations in Eastern Europe
- 25 The main reason President Theodore Roosevelt supported a Panamanian rebellion against Colombia in 1903 was to
- 1 increase the number of democratic nations in Latin America
  - 2 gain the right to complete a canal linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans
  - 3 reduce European colonialism in the Western Hemisphere
  - 4 prevent a foreign power from seizing land in Central America
- 26 In 1920, when Presidential candidate Warren G. Harding called for "a return to normalcy," he was advocating
- 1 increased support for Progressive Era programs and the League of Nations
  - 2 increased farm production and an emphasis on the rural lifestyle
  - 3 reduced international involvement and less government regulation of business
  - 4 reduced racial segregation and the elimination of discrimination against women
- Base your answers to questions 27 and 28 on the quotation below and on your knowledge of social studies.
- "The quotas established by the immigration act of 1921 . . . were unsatisfactory for two reasons: they admitted too large a number of immigrants; they did not discriminate sufficiently in favor of immigration from Northern and Western Europe."
- Henry Steele Commager
- 27 This quotation can be used to demonstrate the way in which the United States Government was influenced by
- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1 nativism      | 3 humanitarianism |
| 2 progressivism | 4 containment     |
- 28 To achieve the goals stated in the quotation, Congress passed the Immigration Act of 1924, which provided for
- 1 an increase in the number of immigrants admitted annually
  - 2 the elimination of most aspects of the quota system
  - 3 a reduction in immigration from southern and eastern Europe
  - 4 a return to an open immigration policy

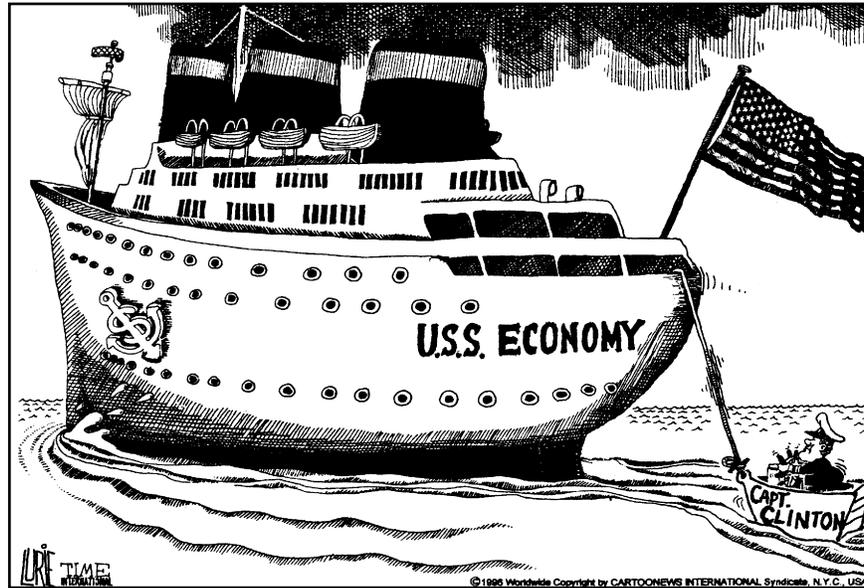
- 29 During the New Deal, the Federal Government attempted to improve conditions for farmers by
- 1 ending the practice of sharecropping
  - 2 supporting the formation of farmworker unions
  - 3 raising tariffs on farm imports
  - 4 paying farmers to take land out of production
- 30 Most conservatives who opposed President Franklin D. Roosevelt's policies believed that the New Deal was
- 1 endangering the free enterprise system
  - 2 threatening national security
  - 3 ignoring problems faced by rural Americans
  - 4 failing to enact needed social welfare reforms
- 31 Which aspect of the New Deal programs was most clearly a continuation of Progressive Era policies?
- 1 government regulation of business activities
  - 2 restoration of the cultural and tribal traditions of Native American Indians
  - 3 free health care for all Americans
  - 4 government purchase of surplus farm products
- 32 The election of Franklin D. Roosevelt to a third term as President in 1940 was controversial primarily because this action
- 1 upset the system of checks and balances
  - 2 violated an amendment to the Constitution
  - 3 challenged a long-held political tradition
  - 4 interfered with the functioning of the electoral college
- 33 The neutrality laws passed in the 1930's were based on the assumption that the surest way to avoid war was for the United States to
- 1 maintain a superior army and navy
  - 2 restrict loans to and limit trade with warring nations
  - 3 discourage aggressors by threatening military reprisals
  - 4 enter alliances with other democratic nations

Base your answer to question 34 on the cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.



- 34 The main idea of this cartoon from the late 1940's is that
- 1 Europe is slipping into chaos and revolution
  - 2 American economic aid is assisting European recovery
  - 3 containment is failing as a policy for stopping Soviet expansion into Western Europe
  - 4 Europeans are not making serious attempts to solve their economic problems
- 
- 35 The main reason that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was formed after World War II was to
- 1 provide collective security against international Communist aggression
  - 2 increase trade between European nations
  - 3 encourage "people-to-people" peaceful diplomacy
  - 4 rebuild Western European economies

Base your answer to question 36 on the cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.



(adapted)

- 36 The main idea of this cartoon is that
- 1 economic considerations dictate United States foreign policy
  - 2 a free-trade policy is largely responsible for the success of the American economy
  - 3 a President can benefit from a strong national economy
  - 4 the United States no longer has a trade deficit

37 What was the significance of the use of Federal marshals to protect African-American students in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957?

- 1 It was the first time martial law had been declared in the United States.
- 2 It led to Federal takeover of many Southern public schools.
- 3 It strengthened control of education by state governments.
- 4 It showed that the Federal Government would enforce court decisions on integration.

38 President Lyndon Johnson's Great Society program was aimed at reducing the social pressures caused by

- 1 poverty and urban deterioration
- 2 the war in Vietnam
- 3 environmental pollution
- 4 political corruption

Base your answer to question 39 on the song below and on your knowledge of social studies.

"It isn't nice to block the doorway,  
It isn't nice to go to jail,  
There are nicer ways to do it,  
But the nice ways always fail,  
It isn't nice, it isn't nice,  
You told us once, you told us twice,  
But if that is freedom's price, we don't mind."

— Malvina Reynolds, "It Isn't Nice"

39 This song from the 1960's is most likely referring to the movement to

- 1 liberalize immigration laws
- 2 expand civil rights
- 3 allow women to serve in combat roles in the military
- 4 grant voting rights to 18-year-old citizens

- 40 Protests against United States involvement in Vietnam grew in the late 1960's and early 1970's mainly because many Americans
- 1 believed that the war was unjust
  - 2 objected to the drafting of college students
  - 3 feared nuclear war with the Soviet Union
  - 4 opposed participation in conflicts involving the United Nations
- 41 Which government action most benefited the labor union movement?
- 1 sending Federal troops to end the Pullman strike
  - 2 passage of the Wagner Act, guaranteeing workers the right to organize and to bargain collectively
  - 3 imposition of wage and price controls during several Presidential administrations
  - 4 enactment of right-to-work laws at various times
- 42 “. . . there are two types of laws: There are *just* laws and there are *unjust* laws. I would be the first to advocate obeying just laws. One has not only a legal but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws.”
- Martin Luther King, Jr.
- This statement is a justification of the concept of
- 1 cultural pluralism
  - 2 ethnic assimilation
  - 3 reverse discrimination
  - 4 civil disobedience
- 43 The “trickle down” economic theory of President Herbert Hoover and the “supply side” economic policies under President Ronald Reagan were based on the idea that
- 1 balanced budgets are essential to economic success
  - 2 the Federal Government needs to assume more responsibility for solving economic problems
  - 3 economic growth depends on making increased amounts of capital available to business
  - 4 economic stability is the responsibility of Federal monetary agencies
- 44 One criticism of affirmative action programs is that these programs
- 1 ignore the needs of women in business and education
  - 2 lead to discrimination against more qualified people
  - 3 have a negative effect on immigration
  - 4 have not eliminated segregated housing patterns
- 45 The main reason that United States troops were sent to Bosnia in the mid-1990's was to
- 1 guarantee the safety of American citizens living in the area
  - 2 protect American investments in the Balkans
  - 3 assure the continual production of critical natural resources
  - 4 help bring about political stability in the area
- 46 What is a major function of the Federal Reserve Board and the Securities and Exchange Commission?
- 1 writing legislation affecting economic issues
  - 2 enforcing tariff laws and collecting duties on imports
  - 3 guarding against fraud and corruption in government agencies
  - 4 regulating certain economic activities of banks and the stock market
- 47 A major argument against granting the President the line-item veto was that it
- 1 violated the principle of checks and balances
  - 2 reduced “pork barrel” spending
  - 3 encouraged Congress to be wasteful
  - 4 prevented balanced budgets
- 48 The passage of the Medicare Act of 1965 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 shows that
- 1 health care is no longer a political issue
  - 2 New Deal principles continue to have a significant influence on later legislation
  - 3 government programs have been successful in correcting discrimination
  - 4 Federal policies continue to emphasize individual responsibility for health and welfare

Answers to the following questions are to be written on paper provided by the school.

**Students Please Note:**

In developing your answers to Parts II and III, be sure to

- (1) include specific factual information and evidence whenever possible
- (2) keep to the questions asked; do not go off on tangents
- (3) avoid overgeneralizations or sweeping statements without sufficient proof; do not overstate your case
- (4) keep these general definitions in mind:
  - (a) discuss means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”
  - (b) describe means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”
  - (c) show means “to point out; to set forth clearly a position or idea by stating it and giving data which support it”
  - (d) explain means “to make plain or understandable; to give reasons for or causes of; to show the logical development or relationships of”
  - (e) evaluate means “to examine and judge the significance, worth, or condition of; to determine the value of”

**Part II**

**ANSWER ONE QUESTION FROM THIS PART. [15]**

- 1 In the United States system of government, a number of features provide the flexibility necessary to respond to changing times. Some of these features are listed below.

*Features*

Amending process  
Supreme Court decisions  
Elastic clause  
Political parties  
Presidential actions  
The Cabinet

Choose *three* of the features listed and for *each* one chosen:

- Explain how the feature provides for flexibility in government
- Show how the feature was used in a specific historical situation as a response to changing times [5,5,5]

- 2 In developing a plan of government, the framers of the United States Constitution debated and compromised on a number of issues. Some of these issues are listed below.

*Issues*

Choosing a President  
Federalism  
Representation  
Slavery  
Taxation  
Trade

Choose *three* of the issues listed and for *each* one chosen:

- Explain the arguments on both sides of the debate
  - Describe the compromise that resulted from the argument in the debate [You must use a different compromise for each issue chosen.] [5,5,5]
- 

**Part III**

**ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS PART.** [30]

- 3 Throughout United States history, individuals have made a difference in American society. Listed below are several of these individuals, paired with the areas in which they made significant contributions.

*Individuals — Areas*

Jane Addams — Social reform  
Susan B. Anthony — Women’s rights  
Thomas Edison — Technological advancement  
Ralph Nader — Consumer protection  
Rosa Parks — Civil rights  
Eleanor Roosevelt — Human rights

Choose *three* of the pairs listed and for *each* pair chosen:

- Describe an action taken by the individual to bring about change in that area
- Discuss the impact of the individual’s action on American society [5,5,5]

- 4 Throughout United States history, some governmental actions have been taken in response to changes in American society. Some of these actions are listed below.

*Governmental Actions*

Jim Crow laws (1880’s)  
Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)  
Gentleman’s Agreement (1907)  
Palmer raids (1919)  
Internment of Japanese Americans (1940’s)  
McCarthy Senate hearings (1950’s)

Choose *three* of the governmental actions listed and for *each* one chosen:

- Describe the action
- Discuss the historical change that led to the action
- Discuss the effects of the action on American society [5,5,5]

- 5 United States Presidents have adopted a variety of foreign policies that have had an impact on the United States role in the world. The Presidents listed below are paired with a foreign policy they adopted.

*Presidents — Foreign Policies*

George Washington (1789–1797) — Neutrality  
James Monroe (1817–1825) — Protection of the Western Hemisphere  
William McKinley (1897–1901) — Imperialism  
Harry Truman (1945–1953) — Containment  
Richard Nixon (1969–1974) — Détente  
Jimmy Carter (1977–1981) — Promotion of international human rights  
Ronald Reagan (1981–1989) — Buildup of military defenses

Choose *three* of the pairs listed and for *each* pair chosen:

- Explain the President’s foreign policy
- Discuss why the President adopted the policy
- Describe an impact of the policy on the United States role in the world [5,5,5]

- 6 Forms of mass communication have been used both to inform and to influence the American public. The forms listed below are paired with various topics.

*Forms of Mass Communication — Topics*

Political cartoons — Government corruption  
Newspapers — War coverage  
Radio — Presidential addresses  
Literature — Social reform  
Movies — Cultural values  
Television — Political campaigns  
Internet — Access to information

Choose *three* of the pairs listed and for *each* pair chosen:

- Describe *one* specific historical example of how the form of mass communication informed or influenced the American public about that topic
- Evaluate the extent to which this form of mass communication had a positive *or* a negative effect on that topic [5,5,5]

- 7 Inventions have led to social and economic change in the United States. Some inventions are listed below.

*Inventions*

Steel plow  
Steam engine  
Telephone  
Automobile  
Airplane  
Laser technology

Choose *three* of the inventions listed and for *each* one chosen:

- Discuss how the invention led to *either* a social *or* an economic change in the United States
- Describe the extent to which this change had a positive *or* a negative effect on the United States [5,5,5]

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**UNITED STATES HISTORY  
AND GOVERNMENT**

Tuesday, June 20, 2000 — 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only

**ANSWER SHEET**

Male

Student ..... Sex:  Female

Teacher .....

School .....

Write your answers for Part I on this answer sheet, and write your answers for Part II and Part III on the paper provided by the school.

**FOR TEACHER USE ONLY**

Part I Score .....  
(Use table below)  
Part II Score .....  
Part III Score .....  
Total Score .....

Rater's Initials:  
.....

**PART I CREDITS**

*Directions to Teacher:*

In the table below, draw a circle around the number of right answers and the adjacent number of credits. Then write the number of credits (not the number right) in the space provided above.

No. Right	Credits	No. Right	Credits
48	55	24	37
47	54	23	37
46	54	22	36
45	53	21	35
44	52	20	35
43	51	19	34
42	51	18	33
41	50	17	32
40	49	16	32
39	48	15	31
38	48	14	30
37	47	13	29
36	46	12	29
35	45	11	27
34	45	10	24
33	44	9	22
32	43	8	19
31	43	7	17
30	42	6	15
29	41	5	12
28	40	4	10
27	40	3	7
26	39	2	5
25	38	1	2
		0	0

**Part I (55 credits)**

- 1 ..... 25 .....
- 2 ..... 26 .....
- 3 ..... 27 .....
- 4 ..... 28 .....
- 5 ..... 29 .....
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- 9 ..... 33 .....
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- 20 ..... 44 .....
- 21 ..... 45 .....
- 22 ..... 46 .....
- 23 ..... 47 .....
- 24 ..... 48 .....

No. Right .....

The declaration below should be signed when you have completed the examination.

I do hereby affirm, at the close of this examination, that I had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that I have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination.

Signature

Tear Here

Tear Here

Tear Here

Tear Here