

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

GRADE 8

INTERMEDIATE-LEVEL TEST SOCIAL STUDIES

BOOKLET 1 OBJECTIVE AND CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE

JUNE 2001

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 45 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.

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Part I

DIRECTIONS

There are 45 questions on Part I of the test. Each question is followed by four choices, numbered 1–4. 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 number 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 the United States?

- (1) Boston
- (2) Washington, D.C.
- (3) New York City
- (4) Philadelphia

The correct answer is **Washington, D.C.**, which is choice number **2**. On your answer sheet, look at the box showing the row of answer circles for the sample question. Since choice number **2** is the correct answer for the sample question, the circle with the number **2** has been filled in.

Answer all of the questions in Part I in the same way. 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.

1 What is the primary method archaeologists use to study history?

- (1) reading diaries of a given group
- (2) examining artifacts of a specific people
- (3) observing people in their natural environment
- (4) practicing local customs of people

2 From west to east, the major geographic features of the United States are the

- (1) Rocky Mountains → Great Plains → Mississippi River → Appalachian Mountains
- (2) Great Plains → Mississippi River → Rocky Mountains → Appalachian Mountains
- (3) Rocky Mountains → Great Plains → Appalachian Mountains → Mississippi River
- (4) Mississippi River → Appalachian Mountains → Great Plains → Rocky Mountains

Base your answers to questions 3 and 4 on the quotation below and on your knowledge of social studies.

“My children, listen well. Remember that you are brothers, that the downfall of one means the downfall of all. You must have one fire, one pipe, one war club.”

— from *Hiawatha the Unifier*

3 What is the speaker recommending to his people?

- (1) increased cooperation
- (2) economic competition
- (3) conservation of resources
- (4) cultural exchange

4 Which political structure was formed as a result of the ideas expressed in this speech?

- (1) American Indian Movement
- (2) Bureau of Indian Affairs
- (3) Indian Reservation System
- (4) League of Five Nations

5 Which adaptation to the environment is illustrated by the Iroquois use of the longhouse?

- (1) buffalo for clothing and shelter
- (2) horses for transportation
- (3) trees as building materials
- (4) iron for tools and weapons

6 Which development led to the other three?

- (1) Columbus landing in Hispanola
- (2) founding of the Jamestown colony
- (3) thousands of Native American Indians dying from new diseases
- (4) Europeans using both tobacco and potatoes

7 The need for agricultural workers in the early southern colonies led to the

- (1) formation of labor unions
- (2) decision to industrialize
- (3) improvement in farming
- (4) use of enslaved persons from Africa

8 The Albany Plan of Union called for

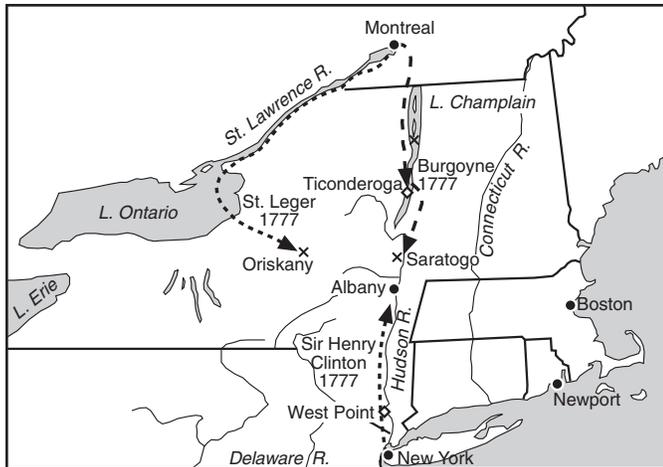
- (1) equal voting rights for all citizens
- (2) a declaration of war on England
- (3) a joint colonial council for defense
- (4) separation from England

9 Many American colonists believed that British tax laws were unfair because

- (1) colonists lacked representation in Parliament
- (2) the British treasury had a surplus of funds
- (3) Native American Indians were exempt from British tax laws
- (4) taxes were higher in the colonies than in England

- 10 What was one purpose of the Declaration of Independence?
- (1) to establish a framework for government
 - (2) to state the reasons for the colonies to separate from England
 - (3) to express reasons for limiting immigration
 - (4) to list arguments for women's suffrage

Base your answer to question 11 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



- 11 What does this map of the American Revolution illustrate?
- (1) George Washington's plan to evacuate New York City
 - (2) colonial attempts to conquer Canada
 - (3) British strategy to capture New York and divide the colonies
 - (4) importance of the French Navy to the colonial cause

- 12 By which process can the United States Constitution be changed?
- (1) veto
 - (2) amendment
 - (3) resolution
 - (4) legislative hearing

- 13 Which part of the federal government is most like the New York State Assembly?
- (1) cabinet
 - (2) Supreme Court
 - (3) House of Representatives
 - (4) Treasury Department

- 14
- Congress could not levy and collect taxes.
 - Congress could not regulate interstate or foreign trade.
 - There was no national court system to settle disputes.
 - The thirteen separate states lacked national unity.

Which document is characterized by these statements?

- (1) Articles of Confederation
- (2) Federalist Papers
- (3) Northwest Ordinance
- (4) United States Constitution

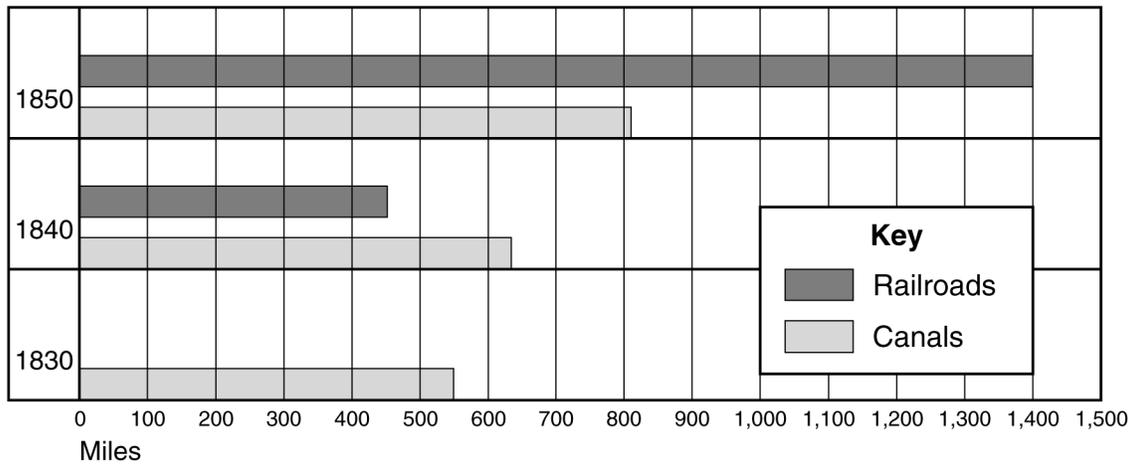
- 15 Supreme Court decisions based on First Amendment issues usually involve the
- (1) rights of individuals
 - (2) control of big business
 - (3) collection of taxes on income
 - (4) corruption in government

- 16 The case *Marbury v. Madison* was a landmark Supreme Court decision because it
- (1) established the power of the Supreme Court to declare a law unconstitutional
 - (2) increased the power of the Federalists in the legislative branch
 - (3) resulted in an increase in the number of Supreme Court justices
 - (4) reinforced the power of the president as commander in chief

- 17 Which action toward Native American Indians did the United States government take between 1820 and 1840?
- (1) paying Native American Indians a fair price for their land
 - (2) passing a law giving all Native American Indians United States citizenship
 - (3) encouraging Native American Indians to take jobs in factories
 - (4) removing Native American Indians from their tribal lands and placing them on reservations

Base your answer to question 18 on the graph below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Miles of New York State Canals and Railroads, 1830–1850



18 Which conclusion is supported by the information on the graph?

- (1) Canals transport goods faster than railroads.
- (2) Building railroads is more expensive than building canals.
- (3) Railroad mileage increased faster than canal mileage.
- (4) Businesses preferred shipping goods by canal.

19 **“Annexation of Texas”**
“Fifty-four Forty or Fight”
“All of Oregon or None!”

These slogans from the election of 1844 all support

- (1) law and order
- (2) Manifest Destiny
- (3) sectionalism
- (4) women’s suffrage

20 During the late 1840s, thousands of people were attracted to California to

- (1) fight in the Mexican War
- (2) help build railroads
- (3) search for gold
- (4) obtain good farmland

21 Abolition, the Underground Railroad, and the Dred Scott decision would all be included in a discussion of

- (1) banking
- (2) foreign affairs
- (3) slavery
- (4) transportation

22 What advantage did the South have over the North during the Civil War?

- (1) greater manufacturing
- (2) more effective navy
- (3) better government
- (4) more capable military leaders

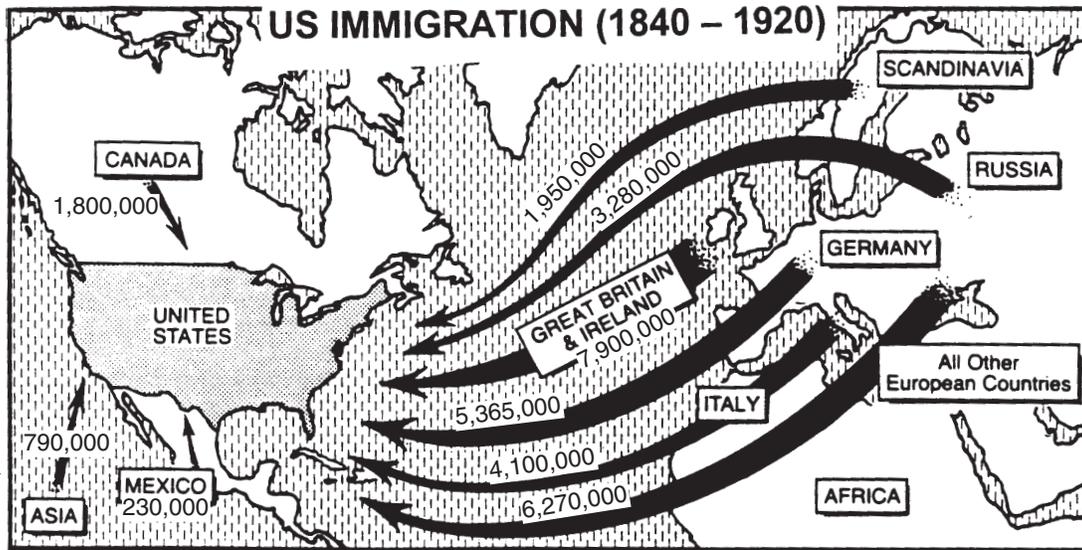
23 A characteristic of the free-enterprise system is that

- (1) stockholders are guaranteed a profit
- (2) governments control product choices
- (3) foreign trade is discouraged
- (4) businesses compete for consumer dollars

24 Muckrakers were writers and critics of the early 1900s who wanted to

- (1) expose corruption and abuses in industry
- (2) put an end to immigration
- (3) prevent integration in cities
- (4) shut down all factories and industries

Base your answer to question 25 on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.



25 During the period 1840–1920, from which area did the largest number of immigrants come to the United States?

- (1) Asia
- (2) Canada
- (3) Germany
- (4) Great Britain and Ireland

26 The goal of the Open Door policy of the United States was to

- (1) establish military control of Latin America
- (2) protect United States trading rights in China
- (3) encourage Japanese immigration to the United States
- (4) allow for free trade with the Philippines

27 Which document would be a primary source for the study of Prohibition?

- (1) an American Federation of Labor pamphlet written in 1952
- (2) Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*
- (3) a speech by President Herbert Hoover on the Good Neighbor policy
- (4) a letter to the editor written in 1918 describing the dangers of alcohol

28 President Woodrow Wilson, in his Fourteen Points, proposed the establishment of

- (1) a militia to protect western nations
- (2) a League of Nations
- (3) a Triple Alliance
- (4) an army to occupy the defeated countries

29 A "return to normalcy" after World War I meant

- (1) increased United States involvement in Europe
- (2) no longer selling liquor in the United States
- (3) going back to life as it had been before the war
- (4) restoring a Democratic president to power

30 Which statement is an opinion about the United States in the 1920s?

- (1) The United States became a more urban society.
- (2) Industrial working conditions and wages improved.
- (3) Women increased their presence in the workforce.
- (4) The 1920s were the wildest times of the 1900s.

31 The Great Depression was caused in part by

- (1) increasing government support of big business
- (2) the overuse of credit and installment buying
- (3) high wages and low unemployment
- (4) the scarcity of farm products

32 The systematic murder by the Nazis of Jews and others who were considered undesirable is known as the

- (1) Blitzkrieg
- (2) Holocaust
- (3) Mass Starvation
- (4) Nuremberg trials

33 The purpose of the policy of containment after World War II was to

- (1) provide economic aid to the Soviet Union
- (2) prevent the spread of communism
- (3) make the United States more isolated
- (4) establish better economic ties between the United States and Southeast Asia

34 During the 1950s, what was a major factor that encouraged families to move to the suburbs?

- (1) pollution in the cities
- (2) improved medical care
- (3) economic growth and prosperity
- (4) lack of jobs

- 35 • “Brother, can you spare a dime?”
• “. . . the only thing we have to fear is fear itself . . .”
• “If they come to take my farm, I’m going to fight.”
• “Those days you did everything to save a penny.”

During which decade were these statements most likely made?

- (1) 1920s
- (2) 1930s
- (3) 1940s
- (4) 1950s

36 **“Great Compromise Approved by the Delegates”**
“James Madison Shines As the Primary Author and Spokesman”
“Document Viewed To Be Incomplete Without a Bill of Rights”

These headlines address which major document in United States history?

- (1) Declaration of Independence
- (2) Mayflower Compact
- (3) Articles of Confederation
- (4) United States Constitution

Base your answer to question 37 on the constitutional amendments below and on your knowledge of social studies.

“. . . nor shall any state . . . deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”

“The right . . . to vote shall not be denied . . . on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude.”

37 These amendments were passed to protect the constitutional rights of

- (1) women
- (2) Native American Indians
- (3) African Americans
- (4) children

38 **“South Carolina Must Pay Tariff”**
“National Bank Vetoed”
“To the Victors, Go the Spoils”

These headlines are associated with the presidency of

- (1) Andrew Jackson
- (2) Thomas Jefferson
- (3) Abraham Lincoln
- (4) Theodore Roosevelt

39 Which heading is most appropriate for the outline below?

I. _____ A. Korean War B. Berlin airlift C. Cuban missile crisis D. Vietnam War

- (1) Cold war events
- (2) New Deal issues
- (3) Progressive issues
- (4) United States victories

Base your answer to question 40 on the newspaper headline below and on your knowledge of social studies.



NIXON RESIGNS

HE URGES A TIME OF 'HEALING'; FORD WILL TAKE OFFICE TODAY

40 Which action by President Richard Nixon led to the event referred to in this newspaper headline?

- (1) opening of relations with China
- (2) cover-up of the Watergate break-in
- (3) secret ordering of the bombing of Cambodia
- (4) introduction of wage and price controls

41 Which economic concept is best described as a rise in prices with a decrease in the value of money?

- (1) inflation
- (2) recession
- (3) depression
- (4) deflation

42 Which Supreme Court case declared the "separate but equal" doctrine unconstitutional?

- (1) *Plessy v. Ferguson*
- (2) *Brown v. Board of Education*
- (3) *Miranda v. Arizona*
- (4) *Roe v. Wade*

43 What is the main economic system of the United States?

- (1) mercantilism
- (2) communism
- (3) socialism
- (4) capitalism

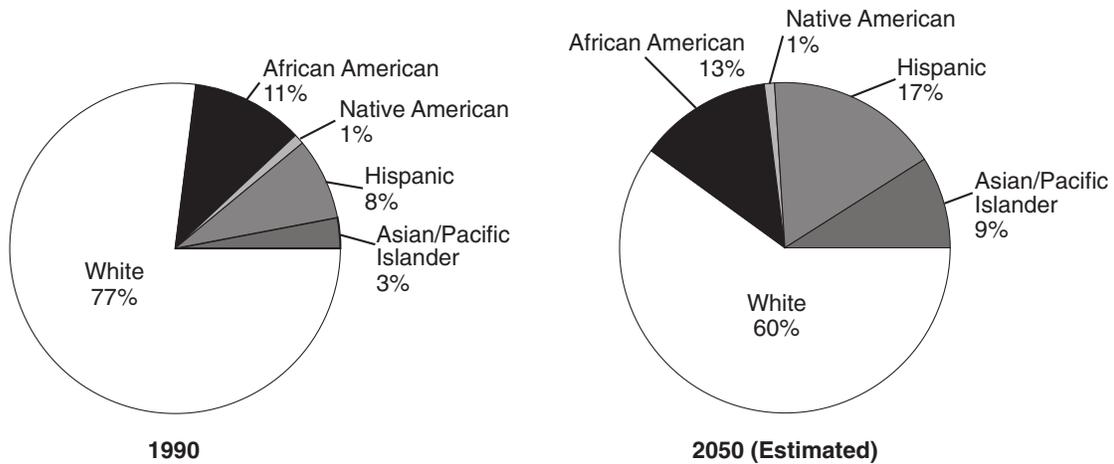
44 Which New Deal legislation continues to play a significant role in American life?

- (1) Agricultural Adjustment Act
- (2) Federal Emergency Relief Act
- (3) National Industrial Recovery Act
- (4) Social Security Act

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Base your answer to question 45 on the pie charts below and on your knowledge of social studies.

The Changing Ethnic Makeup of the United States

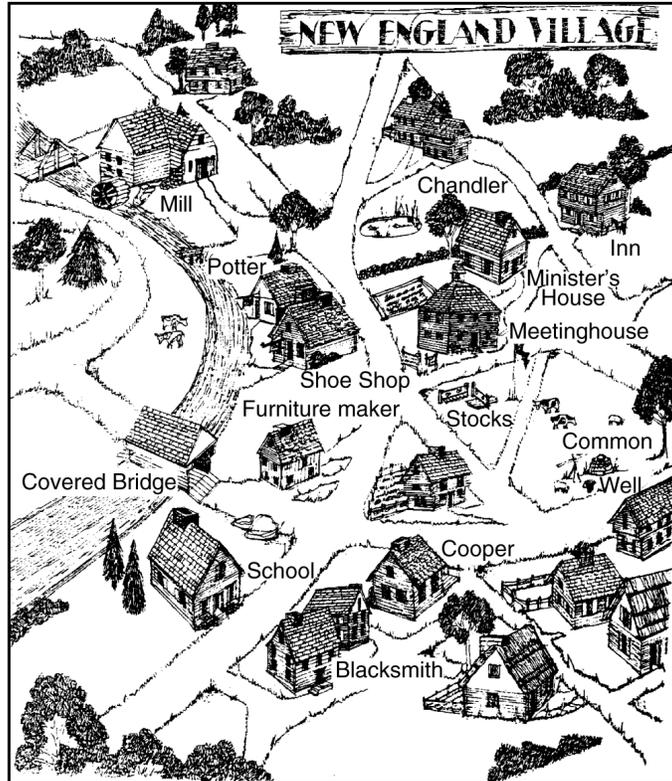


- 45 Which statement is best supported by the information presented in the pie charts?
- (1) The percentage of Americans over age 65 will increase.
 - (2) The percentage of African Americans in the population will decrease.
 - (3) The population of the United States will become more diverse.
 - (4) The need to learn a second language will decrease.
-

Part II

Write your answers to the questions that follow in the spaces provided in this test booklet. Use black or dark-blue ink to write your answers.

Directions: Base your answers to questions 1 through 4 on the drawing below and on your knowledge of social studies.



1 Name *two* industries shown on the map. [2]

Score

2 What was the purpose of the stocks? [1]

Score

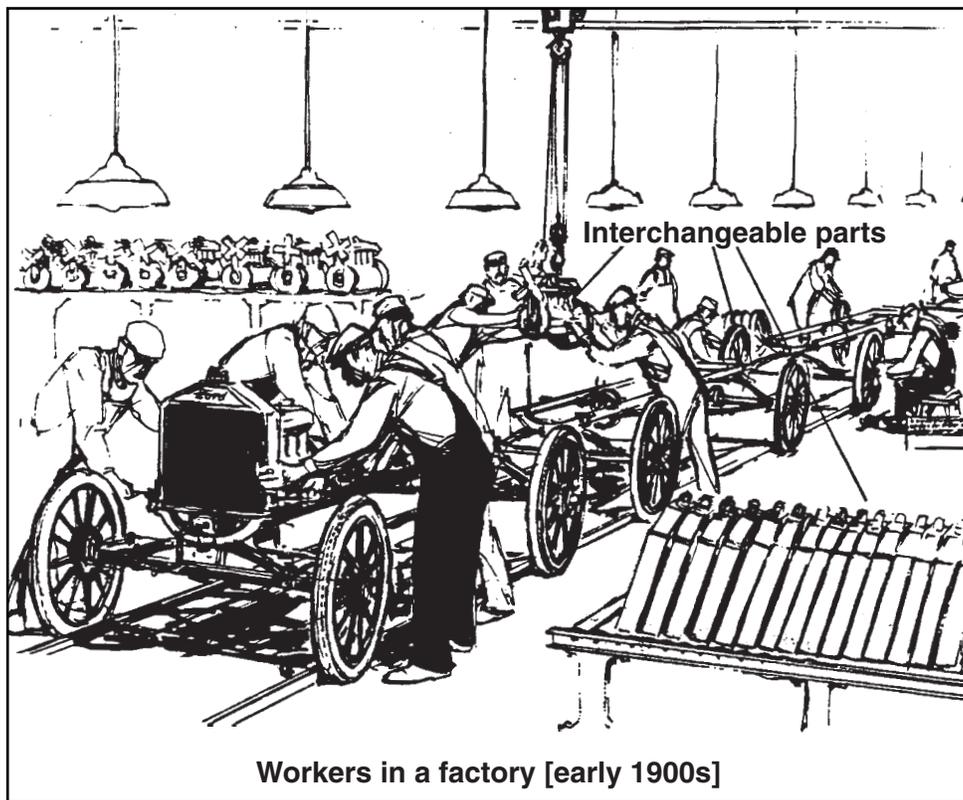
3 Why was the mill located on the river? [1]

Score

4 Based on information presented in the drawing, describe *one* way New England villagers were dependent on one another. [1]

Score

Directions: Base your answers to questions 5 through 8 on the drawing below and on your knowledge of social studies.



5 What manufacturing process is illustrated in the drawing? [1]

Score

6 Explain how this process was different from previous production methods. [2]

Score

7 State *one* positive effect of this process on a worker. [1]

Score

8 State *one* negative effect of this process on a worker. [1]

Score

Directions: Base your answers to questions 9 through 11 on the quotation below and on your knowledge of social studies.

“Nonviolence . . . does not seek to defeat or humiliate the opponent, but to win his friendship and understanding. . . . Nonviolent resistance . . . avoids . . . external physical violence of spirit. The nonviolent resister not only refuses to shoot his opponent but he also refuses to hate him. . . . To retaliate in kind would do nothing but intensify the existence of hate in the universe. Along the way of life, someone must have sense enough . . . to cut off the chain of hate. . . .”

—Martin Luther King, Jr., *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*

9 According to the quotation, what does nonviolence try to win? [1]

Score

10 State *two* different forms of nonviolent protest supported by Martin Luther King, Jr., in the 1950s and 1960s. [2]

a _____

b _____

Score

11 State *two* changes brought about by nonviolent protests in the 1950s and 1960s. [2]

a _____

b _____

Score



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