Question 1

To what extent did Andrew Jackson influence United States politics in the period 1828-1900? Use the documents and your knowledge of the period 1828-1900 in constructing your response.

The 8-9 Essay
- Contains a well-developed thesis that examines the ways in which Andrew Jackson’s influenced United States politics.
- Presents an effective analysis of Andrew Jackson’s presidential actions, and how these actions influenced the ensuing political actions up to the end of the 20th century.
- Effectively uses a substantial number of documents.
- Supports thesis with substantial and relevant outside information.
- May contain minor errors.
- Is clearly organized and well written.

The 5-7 Essay
- Contains a thesis that addresses the ways in which Andrew Jackson’s influenced United States politics.
- Has some limited analysis of Andrew Jackson’s presidential actions, and how these actions influence the ensuing political actions up to the end of the 20th century.
- Effectively uses some documents.
- Supports thesis with some relevant outside information.
- May have errors that do not seriously detract from the quality of the essay.
- Shows acceptable organization and writing; language errors do not interfere with the comprehension of the essay.

The 2-4 Essay
- Contains a limited or undeveloped thesis.
- Deals with the question in a general manner; simplistic treatment of Andrew Jackson’s actions as president; and/or simplistic presentation on the impact of Andrew Jackson’s actions on future politics.
- May address only one category.
- Merely refers to quotes or briefly cites documents.
- Contains little outside information, or information that is inaccurate or irrelevant.
- May have major errors.
- May be poorly organized and/or written.

The 0-1 Essay
- Contains no thesis or a thesis that does not address the question.
- Exhibits inadequate or incorrect understanding of the question.
- Has little or no understanding of the documents, or ignores them completely.
- Has numerous errors.
- Written so poorly that it inhibits understanding

-- blank or completely off task
Directions: The following question requires you to construct a coherent essay that integrates your interpretation of Documents A-H and your knowledge of the period referred to in the question. High scores will be earned only by essays that both cite key pieces of evidence from the documents and draw on outside knowledge of the period.

1. To what extent did Andrew Jackson influence United States politics in the period 1828-1900?

Use the documents and your knowledge of the period 1850-1900 in constructing your response.

Document A

Source: Jon Meacham, *Reinventing the Presidency*

Andrew Jackson was the first modern president, because he was the first one who asserted that the president was not merely a member of the government’s symphony: he was its conductor.

Document B

Source: Voter Turnout in Presidential Elections

![Graph of % Voter Participation vs. Year]

% Voting Age Population Turnout

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.
Document C


Resolved, That it is not competent to the President of the United States, to order by proclamation the constituted authorities of a state to repeal their legislation, and that the late attempt of the President to do so is unconstitutional, and manifests a disposition to arrogate and exercise a power utterly destructive of liberty.

Document D

Source: Tenure of Office Act, Encyclopedia of the American President, 1867

The 1867 Tenure of Office Act went much further than the 1863 law, mandating that all cabinet secretaries could be removed only with Senate permission. In his March 2 veto of the bill, President Andrew Johnson claimed that an exclusive removal power by the president was consistent with the intention of the Constitution’s framers. His veto was overridden by both chambers the same day.

Document E

Source: Andrew Jackson: Good, Evil & the Presidency

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.
Document F


The article went on to confer on those Mexicans who opted to stay all the rights and privileged of American citizenship. This included all explicit protection of “property of any kind,” which was to be inviolably respected.” This final guarantee meant nothing. Over the next half century, Mexicans throughout the border region were stripped of their land holdings through legal trickery and sometimes outright theft, invariably sanctioned by the courts.

Trist and his Mexican counterparts also pieced together a joint policy regarding a group that each side saw as the racial “other”—Native Americans. The organized inhabitants of the border area stubbornly resisted every attempt to dominate them and fought Mexicans and Americans with equal vigor.

Document G

Source: Encyclopedia of American History: Expansion and Reform, Andrew Jackson

As president, Jackson introduced the spoils system into national politics, which rewarded party loyalty and service with political offices. The system, with its official label of “rotation in office,” was hailed by Jackson as a Democratic device for allowing the common man a voice in the government.

Document H

Source: Vice Presidents: A Biographical Dictionary, John Tyler

A few specialized studies of his presidency have reminded us that, despite Tyler’s failure to generate a coalition to support his reelection in 1844, third party or otherwise, his vetoes, like Jackson’s before him, sustained by Congress, helped set the course of American political life. Certainly, if Jackson’s veto killed the Second National Bank, Tyler’s vetoes aborted the birth of a third. Likewise in diplomatic matters of foreign policy, where the chief executive has more freedom to initiate policy, very significant and positive achievements resulted.
Document A: Andrew Jackson as first modern president

Document Information:
- Andrew Jackson is seen as the first modern president
- Andrew Jackson gave the presidency more control over government

Document Inferences:
- Before Andrew Jackson, the president had little control over the government and was not a dominant leader
- Before Andrew Jackson was president, fear of a central government with too much power was what allowed former presidents so little leadership
- Fear was same that resulted in the weak Articles of Confederation, fear of rule like that of England’s
- After Jackson was president, a new standard was formed that allowed presidents more power and control
- Andrew Jackson expanded his power as president (and those of presidents to come) through vetoing, spoils system, etc.
- Moving forward with the 7th president

Document B: % Voter Participation graph

Document Information:
- 1824, about 25% of the voting age population turned out to vote
- The following election of 1828 has more than 50% VAP turnout
- Climbs to about 80% in 1840
- Remains on a relatively stable percentage of turnout, only varies about 10%

Document Inferences:
- Andrew Jackson was elected president in 1828, 1832
- Jackson looked to the common man for votes, he trusted them with the vote
- New idea of campaigning for votes, successful
- Continuance of campaigning because so successful
- Because of campaigning, voter turnout is retained, new standard is set
- Common man has new influence on government

Document C: Reply to Andrew Jackson’s Proclamation

Document Information:
- Congress is angry because Jackson’s actions are outside of his power limitations
- Response to Jackson’s Nullification Proclamation
Document Inferences:
- Tensions with Congress because Jackson is asserting so much power
- Similar to Jackson’s declaring states’ rights like in *Worcester v. Georgia* court case
- Even if his actions were not immediately accepted, Jackson was paving the way for future presidents to take more control over the government

**Document D: Tenure of Office Act, 1867**

Document Information:
- Andrew Johnson vetoed the Tenure of Office Act of 1867
- Johnson asserted more power than allotted the president
- Uneasy relationship with Congress

Document Inferences:
- Compare with Document C, Johnson was also an independent-minded president
- Johnson and Jackson both strong willed and active
- Because of Jackson’s actions as president, Johnson was also able to do similar things 30 years later

**Document E: Great Father to the Indians**

Document Information:
- Indians are portrayed as smaller than Jackson
- Jackson holds Indians in his arms
- Indians look up to Jackson
- Indian Removal Act passed by Jackson

Document Inferences:
- Jackson addressed the frontier in his presidency and expanded United States lands
- Americans viewed Jackson as a great father and the Indians as children in that they need Jackson to take care of them
- Compare to Document F

**Document F: Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo**

Document Information
- Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
- Mexican-American War
- Question of what to do with new territories: assimilate?

Document Inferences:
- Because of the War of 1812, new national pride leading to expansionism
- Similar to pushing out of Indians that U.S. did
- Racial inequality
- Manifest Destiny/extending the frontier
- Compare to Document E
Document G: Jackson and the Spoils System

Document Information:
- Jackson awarded government positions to those who showed him loyalty, not to those best-suited for the job
- He claimed it was an opportunity for the common man to have a say in government
- Compare to voting turnout (doc. B), where he did allow new influence in government to common man

Document Inferences:
- Jackson also introduced a side of corruption to politics as well
- The spoils system reoccurred in many forms (Adams’s “midnight judges,” etc.)

Document H: Tyler’s vetoes

Document Information:
- Tyler vetoed legislature just as Jackson did
- Jackson’s vetoes greatly influenced the termination of the Second National bank
- Tyler’s vetoes greatly kept a new national bank from developing
- Because president had power to affect foreign policy, positive effects

Document Inferences:
- Awarding the president with more gives more advancements to the country
- Tyler was a president who also attempted to assert great power over the country, like Jackson
- Vetoing gives the president great power, yet also forms tensions between the president and Congress
Commonly Seen Relevant Outside Information

War of 1812
Manifest Destiny
Indian lands
Middle ground
Nullification Proclamation
Worcester v. Georgia
Indian Removal Act
Trail of Tears
Mexican-American War
Andrew Jackson
Andrew Johnson
John Tyler
Tippecanoe
Marshall
Supreme Court
Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
Spoils system
Midnight judges
Adams
Martin Van Buren
James K. Polk
WORKS CITED


