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08SST377201AQ03348 Social Studies 30-2 Part A



Social Studies 30-2

Part A: Written Response

Grade 12 Diploma Examination

June 2011

Government
of Alberta ■
Education

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June 2011

Social Studies 30–2

Part A: Written Response

Grade 12 Diploma Examination

Description

Time: 2 hours. This examination was developed to be completed in 2 hours; however, you may take an additional ½ hour to complete the examination.

Plan your time carefully.

Part A: Written Response contributes 50% of the total Social Studies 30–2 diploma examination mark and consists of three assignments.

- **Assignment I**

Value: 10% of total examination mark

Suggested time: 20–25 minutes

- **Assignment II**

Value: 20% of total examination mark

Suggested time: 40–45 minutes

- **Assignment III**

Value: 20% of total examination mark

Suggested time: 40–45 minutes

Instructions

- Complete all **three** assignments.
- You may use the following print references:
 - an authorized English and/or bilingual dictionary
 - a thesaurus
 - an authorized writing handbook
- Space is provided in this booklet for planning and for your written work.
- Use blue or black ink for your written work.

Additional Instructions for Students Using Word Processors

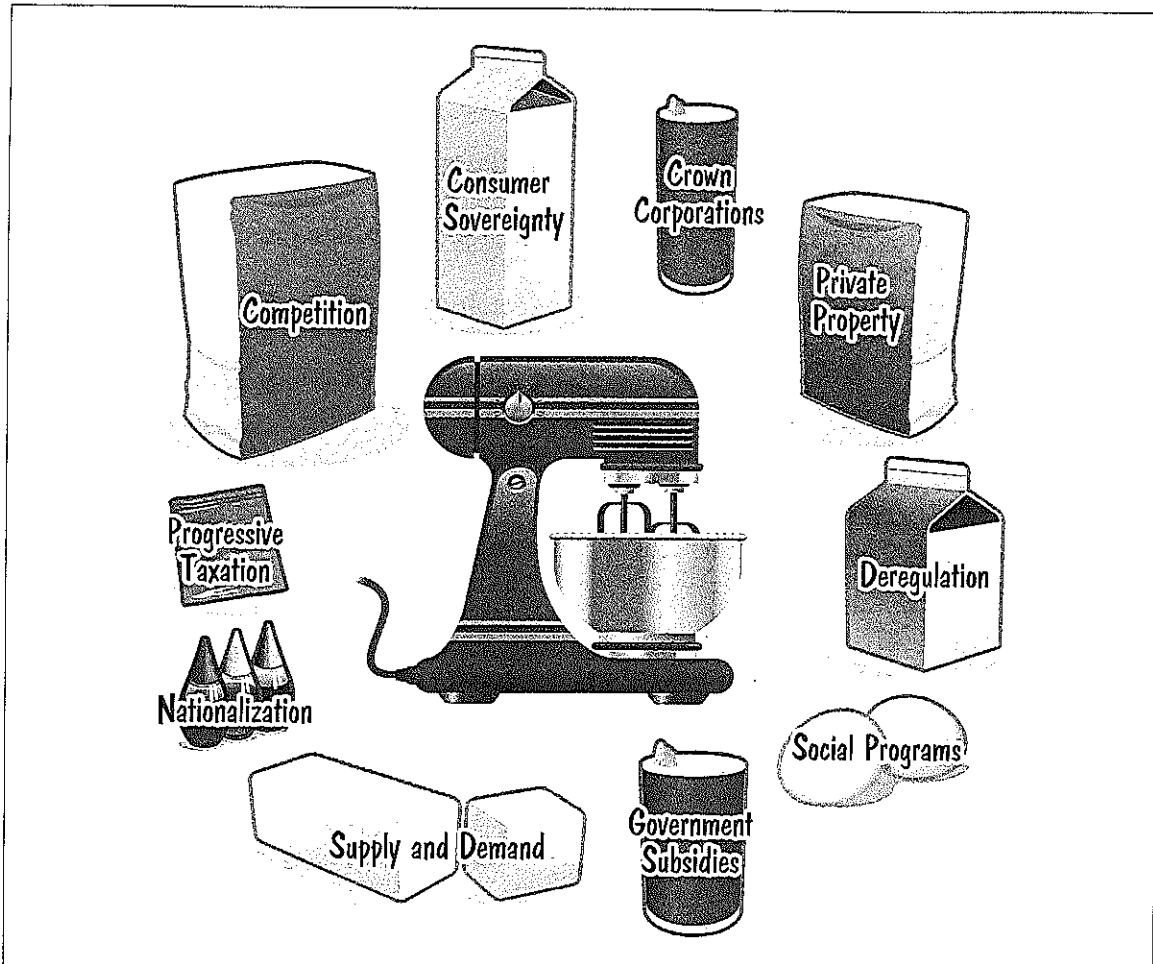
- Format your work using an easy-to-read 12-point or larger font such as Times.
- Double-space your final copy.
- Staple your final printed work to the page indicated for word-processed work. Hand in all work.
- Indicate in the space provided on the back cover that you have attached word-processed pages.

Do not write your name anywhere in this booklet.

Feel free to make corrections and revisions directly on your written work.

ASSIGNMENT I

Value: 10% of the total examination mark
Suggested time: 20–25 minutes



Which characteristic(s) of economic systems is/are the most important to a free-market economy?

Write a response in which you **must**

- **identify** the characteristic(s) of economic systems that is/are the most important to a free-market economy
- **explain** why the characteristic(s) is/are the most important
- **support** your response using your understanding of social studies

Reminders for Writing

- **Organize** your response
- **Proofread** your response

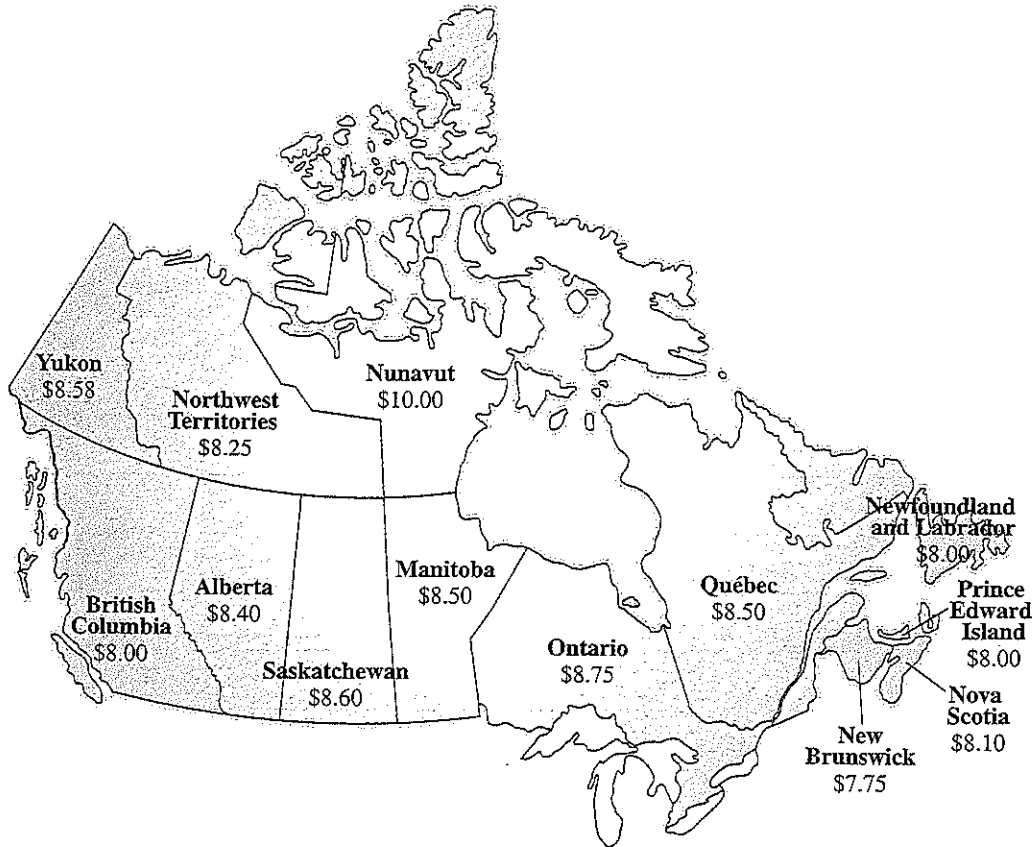
ASSIGNMENT II

Value: 20% of the total examination mark
Suggested time: 40–45 minutes

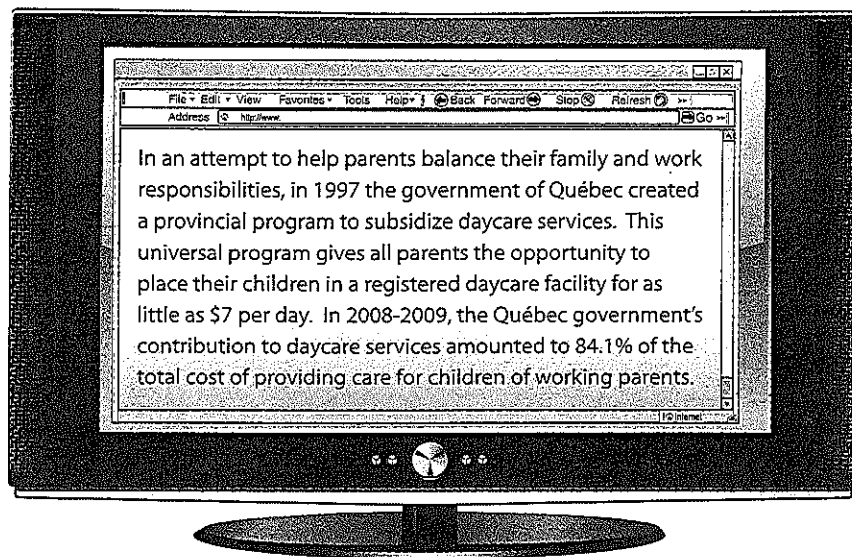
Write a response in which you must interpret **each** of the three sources on pages 6 and 7 and answer **both** questions on page 9.

Source I

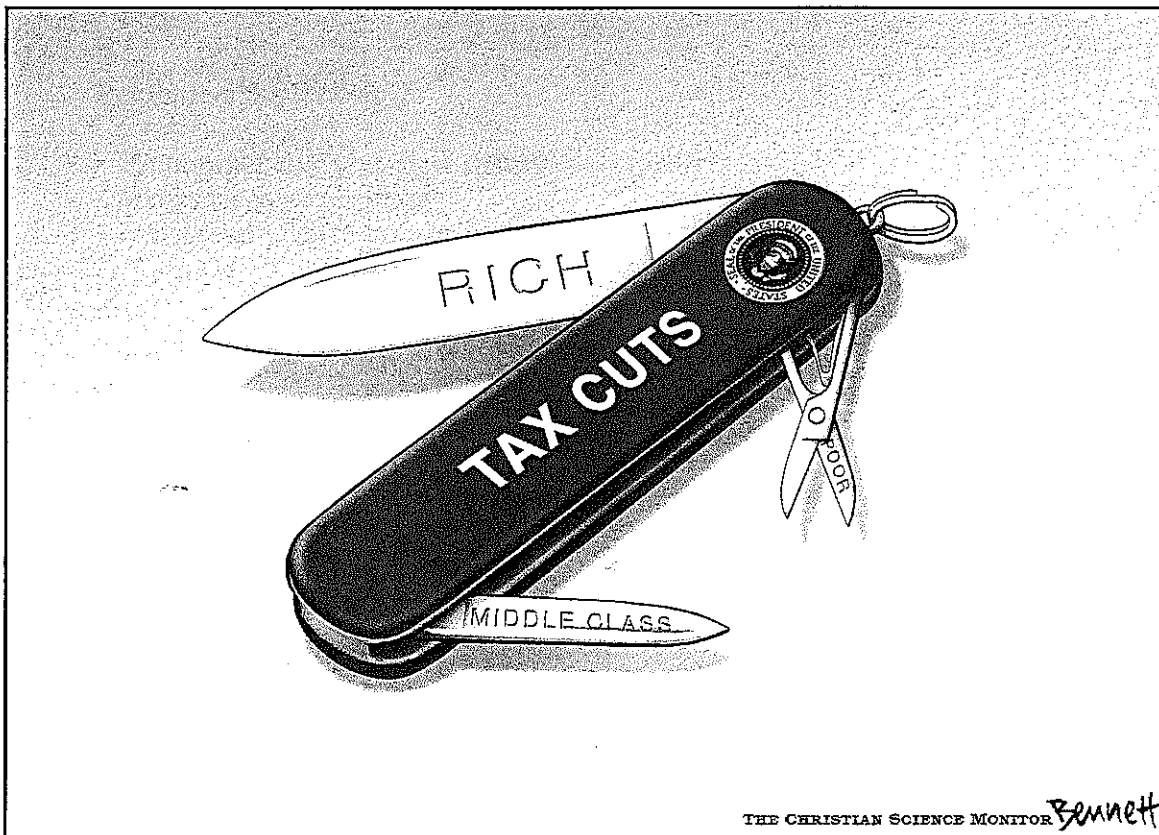
Minimum Wage in Canada on February 1, 2009



Source II



Source III



Clay Bennett / © 2003 The Christian Science Monitor (www.csmonitor.com)

ASSIGNMENT II

Value: 20% of the total examination mark
Suggested time: 40–45 minutes

What do each of the three sources presented on pages 6 and 7 communicate about the role of government in society?

AND

Considering the sources presented on pages 6 and 7, what do you think should be the role of government in society?

Write a response in which you **must**

- **interpret each** source to **identify** what the source tells you about the role of government in society
- **explain and defend** your position on what the role of government in society should be
- **support** your interpretations and position by referring to the sources and to your understanding of social studies

Reminders for Writing

- **Remember** that you must answer both questions
- **Organize** your response
- **Proofread** your response

Fold and tear along perforation.

ASSIGNMENT III

Value: 20% of the total examination mark
Suggested time: 40–45 minutes

Your local newspaper asked three citizens selected at random to respond to the following question:

Should we take action to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions?

Citizen I



Global warming is a serious threat to the world community. We must take immediate action to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions. The only realistic way to reduce emissions is to impose a pollution tax on individuals, corporations, and governments. Only by making the polluter pay will we force the necessary changes to our way of life to save our environment.

Citizen II



Our way of life, with its dependence on burning fossil fuels, has created a depressing environmental reality. We should implement programs to educate people about the danger of greenhouse gases and about the steps they can take to reduce the production of these gases. However, education alone will not be enough. We must give incentives through tax breaks and financial assistance to people and businesses who adopt more environmentally friendly lifestyles and business practices.

Citizen III



The recent increase in average temperatures may be part of a natural cycle or simply an exception to long-term trends. The last thing any government should do is interfere with the efficient use of fossil fuels that are the backbone of our productive economic system. People should be able to use whatever resources are available to maintain a high standard of living. If companies adopt "greener" business practices, that is their choice and maybe they can market their "greenness" to sell their products and services.

ASSIGNMENT III

Value: 20% of the total examination mark
Suggested time: 40–45 minutes

Should we take action to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions?

Write a response in which you **must**

- **explore** the issue of taking action to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions
- **analyze** various points of view on the issue
- **explain** and **defend** your position on the issue
- **support** your point of view using your understanding of social studies

Reminders for Writing

- **Organize** your response
- **Proofread** your response