

SS.7.C.3.7 Low Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	How did the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 impact political participation?	The correct answer should identify the main effect of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
A	All persons who passed a literacy test could now vote.	Incorrect – The Voting Rights Act of 1965 banned literacy tests. Literacy tests limited citizens’ ability to vote. By banning literacy tests, the Voting Rights Act expanded citizens’ access to the ballot box.
B	All children of foreign citizens could now vote.	Incorrect – Only U.S. citizens may vote.
C	All African-Americans could now vote.	Correct – The Voting Rights Act of 1965 banned race discrimination practices in voting at the local, state and federal levels. For example, state governments could no longer put up barriers such as literacy tests to keep racial minorities from voting.
D	All women could now vote.	Incorrect – The 19 th Amendment guaranteed women the right to vote in 1920.



SS.7.C.3.7 Moderate Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

<p>Question</p>	<p>The photograph below illustrates an event in U.S. history.</p>  <p>Source: Library of Congress</p> <p>What was Congress' response to the social movement symbolized in the photograph?</p>		<p>Analyze the words on the sign and the people in the image. Think about how the people look, what they are doing, and why they may have been photographed.</p> <p>The correct response should describe a goal of legislation enacted during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's.</p>
<p>A</p>	<p>decreased commerce opportunities</p>	<p>Incorrect – There is no evidence in the photograph to support this response. Commerce means the exchange of money, usually for goods or services. Decreased commerce opportunities would probably lead to fewer “jobs” and less economic “freedom.”</p>	
<p>B</p>	<p>increased economic opportunities</p>	<p>Correct – This is the correct response because the March on Washington led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Civil Rights Act prohibited workplace discrimination based on sex, race, color, religion or national origin, which created more economic opportunities for minority groups.</p>	
<p>C</p>	<p>increased religious opportunities</p>	<p>Incorrect – The evidence in the photograph does not support this response. Increased religious opportunities may lead to more “freedom,” but they probably do not lead to more “jobs.”</p>	
<p>D</p>	<p>decreased military opportunities</p>	<p>Incorrect – There is no evidence in the photograph to support this response. Fewer military opportunities would not have led to more “jobs” or “freedom.”</p>	



SS.7.C.3.7 High Level of Complexity Sample Item Explanation

Question	<p>The newspaper below details an important step in amending the U.S. Constitution.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>How did the passage of this amendment to the U.S. Constitution impact the political process in the United States?</p>	<p>The question asks how the constitutional amendment granting women the right to vote changed the political process in the United States.</p>
A	Women were allowed to contribute to political campaigns.	Incorrect – The amendment did not focus on women taking part in political campaigns.
B	Women were allowed to hold citizenship rights.	Incorrect – The amendment did not focus on women’s citizenship rights. Citizenship rights include the right to serve on juries and run for public office.
C	Women were allowed to hold public offices.	Incorrect – The amendment did not focus on women holding public office.
D	Women were allowed to vote in national elections.	Correct – Suffrage is the right to vote; this amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees that women could vote in national elections.

