



Preparation Manual

History 7–12 (233)

Overview and Exam Framework
Sample Selected-Response Questions
Sample Selected-Response Answers and Rationales

Answer

Option C is correct. Historiography involves the study of the methodology and changing interpretations of history as a discipline. Studying a variety of interpretive sources would provide students with examples of the differing ways that historians study and write about certain topics. **Option A is incorrect.** A study of mapmaking would best suit a lesson on cartography or geography. **Option B is incorrect.** A study of legislative documents would best suit a lesson on law and government. **Option D is incorrect.** A collection of primary sources would best suit a lesson on historical inquiry or research.

32. After a lesson on vocabulary words about the United States government, which of the following instructional activities would best facilitate students' understanding of the term "separation of powers"?

- A. A reading on the Madisonian form of government including separation of powers
- B. A lecture explaining the reason behind Madison's idea of separation of powers
- C. A nonlinguistic representation of the roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government
- D. A summative assessment on the roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government

Answer

Option C is correct. Displaying the working relationships of the three branches in a nonlinguistic representation, such as a graphic organizer or chart, would best facilitate students' understanding of the separation of powers because it would require them to process the information in a different mode. **Option A is incorrect.** Reading materials on the Madisonian form of government after a vocabulary lesson would not specifically facilitate students' understanding of the term "separation of powers." Such reading would be best used for a reading comprehension and historical analysis exercise. **Option B is incorrect.** A lecture on the Madisonian form of government would be best held after a deeper understanding of the vocabulary terms has been established. **Option D is incorrect.** A summative assessment on the roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government would not be appropriate after only an introductory vocabulary lesson on the term. Given the complexity of the concept and common student misunderstandings (e.g., confusing it with federalism), further reinforcement should come before a summative assessment.