

Name _____

Date _____

What Led to the Chinese Exclusion Act? - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. In the 1850s, many Chinese immigrants worked { } in the West.

- ☒ A. in mining and construction
- B. farming land that they owned
- C. managing large factories
- D. in schools and hospitals

2. Why didn't many Chinese laborers join strikes or unions?

- A. Because White laborers would not let them join
- ☒ B. Because they did not plan on staying in the US permanently
- C. Because the unions were violent
- D. Because working conditions at their jobs were already safe

3. The Workingmen's Party of California blamed Chinese immigrants for which of these?

- A. Earthquakes in San Francisco
- B. A decrease in the immigrant population
- ☒ C. Low wages and economic problems
- D. The abrupt end of Reconstruction

4. In the years before the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882, { }.

- A. The immigration facility on Angel Island closed permanently
- B. Congress and the president were completely unaware of racial tensions on the West Coast
- C. The Workingmen's Party changed tactics and advocated for immigrant rights
- ☒ D. Growing anti-Chinese sentiment resulted in violence

5. Which of these best describes the Chinese Exclusion Act?

- A. The last in a series of restrictive immigration policies the US passed in the 1880s
- ☒ B. The first US law to restrict immigration based on race and nationality
- C. A further expansion of US citizenship opportunities for immigrants
- D. The first significant trade law the US passed with China

6. The Chinese Exclusion Act was extended until which year?

- A. 1903
- B. 1923
- ☒ C. 1943
- D. 1963

7. Under the Chinese Exclusion Act, thousands of Chinese people were { }.

- A. relocated to Wyoming
- B. automatically naturalized as US citizens
- ☒ C. detained on Angel Island for months
- D. forced to work laying the railroad tracks

8. True or False: Some detainees on Angel Island carved poems about their experiences into the walls.

- ☒ A. True
- B. False

9. The Chinese Exclusion Act { }.

- ☒ A. restricted the rights of Chinese people living in the US
- B. declared a trade war with China
- C. limited travel to China
- D. stated that Chinese people needed to wait an extra year for US citizenship

10. Which of these best summarizes the context in which the Chinese Exclusion Act emerged?

- A. Chinese immigration was expanding rapidly with Chinese immigrants making up over 50% of the US population.
- ☒ B. Fear and economic uncertainty led to racist scapegoating.
- C. President Arthur was increasing his power and passing policies without Congressional oversight.
- D. Congress was pressured to respond to China's ban of US immigrants.

