CSET I: California History

For the most part, I think the Test Prep videos are a pretty good source of information. There were several questions about slavery and Black Americans that aren’t covered by TestPrep. Also, one on Mexicans in California that isn’t covered.

The TestPrep videos on California History are summarized in this PowerPoint. The photos from the Test Prep slides are outlined in blue. I’ve added maps and more photos.

**Blue font is used for the CSET Domain information of what you need to know.**

**Green font and outlined text boxes are for questions on the test I took that were definitely covered in the TestPrep videos.**

**Questions in red are ones TestPrep didn’t cover at all.**

**Orange font indicates lists that could lead to essay question.**

**Pink are areas TestPrep talked about, but didn’t hit the actual question asked, but gave info you could reason an answer from.**

I’ve indicated what I think are the correct answers, and for those not covered by TestPrep, I’ve added info from the review books that contains the answers, or info about them.

**Questions from the CA practice test on the CSET website are in purple.**

Of the 26 history questions on the test, 8 multiple choice, and 1 essay were from California History. In one of the review books, someone who had taken the test said essentially the same thing. CA history has about 1/3 of the questions, but has the smallest amount of information to learn. The multiple choice questions were identical on the 2 exams.
Domain 3: California History
3.1 The Pre-Columbian Period Through the Gold Rush
3.1a Candidates identify the impact of California’s physical geography on its history.
3.1b They describe the geography, economic activities, folklore, and religion of California’s American Indian peoples.

**Video: California’s American Indian Peoples (1:38)**

Native Americans came to North America from Asia, walking across the Bering Strait from Asia into Alaska. Then migrated throughout the continent.

At the time Europeans came to America, more Native Americans were in the area that became California than in other parts of the country. They were a Hunter Gatherer Society (hunted for game and gathered plants for food).

There were lots of natural resources in California. Fishing, hunting, gathered food. Main food source was wild Oak trees that produced acorns. Most Indians lived along the base of Sierra Mountains. They ground acorns into flour and leached out acidity by soaking in water. Wove baskets from plants so they could store the acorns in them.

Religion was polytheistic (worshipped multiple gods).

21. Why were more Native Americans living in California than other places in the US. Picked: mild climate and abundant food resources. (Think this is correct answer based on video.)
46. On the eve of European colonization, most of California’s American Indians belonged to:

A. pastoral societies in which people domesticated herd animals for food and clothing.
B. horticultural societies in which people cultivated a variety of crops for consumption and exchange.
C. handicraft societies in which artisans produced a wide range of trade goods.
D. hunting and gathering societies in which people fished, hunted, and harvested wild plants.

46 D

22. Characteristic of American Indians living in California at the time the explorers arrived.

First Exam: Tribal unit was highest level of organization

2nd Exam. Village community was the highest unit of social structure.

California Indians occupied the coastal, central, and northwestern parts of the state. In these areas several rancherias (villages) that recognized a single chief formed a tribelet. In turn, several tribelets formed a tribe. Over thirty diverse tribes thrived in the region. Chiefs (who were occasionally women) almost

Essay question on 2nd Exam: Name two things that shaped the perspective of the natural world of Pre-Columbian Native American living in California, and how did these things shape their everyday lives.

1) They thought animate and inanimate objects had spirits and when you killed something you released its spirits and their ancestors could come back and help them after spirits had been released.

1) They believed in living in harmony with nature and that they didn’t own the land. Unlike Mesoamerican cultures, they didn’t slash and burn or build islands in lakes. They lived in harmony with the land and didn’t take more than they needed. This was portrayed in the movie Avatar.
3.1c They discuss the impact of Spanish exploration and colonization, including the mission system and its influence on the development of the agricultural of early California.

Video: Spanish Exploration, Colonization, and The Mission System (2:07)

Mission system had a religious and an economic impact on California. Spanish explorers crossed South America from the East Coast and came into California through Mexico. They established Missions 1) to spread Christianity to Native Americans, and 2) to exploit (use) the Native Americans as labor to grow food (agriculture). This didn’t work well. Native Americans didn’t want to convert, and Missions didn’t produce enough food to make it worthwhile. Later the Mexicans became independent of Spain and abolished the Missions (in the next video). Government gave the land to private people who had supported the government. These people became the Ranchero class and lived on Rancheros. They farmed and raised cattle. Pueblos = small towns. Presidio = fort/jail to maintain order and protect trade routes.
3.1d They describe Mexican rule in California.

**Video: Mexican Rule in California (1:51) – The Effects of the Mission System**

1822 – Mexico won its independence from Spain. California became a province of Mexico. Mexico abolished the Mission System. It wasn’t working economically or socially.

Governors sent from Mexico ruled California. Manuel Victoria ruled with a strong hand.

Californians (Californios) resented being ruled by outsiders from Mexico. Pio Pico led a rebellion against Mexico. Felt Mexico didn’t understand them. Californios wanted to have their own separate state or country.

45. Which of the following best describes a shared function of the mission, the presidio, and the pueblo in early California history?

   A. to maintain social order
   B. to transmit cultural values
   C. to promote trade
   D. to convert non-Christians

**Correct Response: A.** (SMR Code: 3.1) A common function of the missions, the presidios, and the pueblos was to maintain control over the indigenous population. In the missions, Spanish priests attempted to regulate all facets of American Indian life; the duties of soldiers stationed in presidios included the suppression of rebellious activity on the part of both European settlers and American Indians; and the pueblos were viewed as a means of establishing and maintaining some semblance of order in isolated frontier areas.

47. Which of the following best describes an important development in California society during the era of Mexican rule (1821–1848)?

   A. The decline of the ranchero class opened up new opportunities for poorer settlers.
   B. Growing criticism of the mission system prompted efforts to transfer mission holdings into private hands.
   C. The creation of an effective judicial system reduced conflict among settlers.
   D. The collapse of commercial relations with foreign states undermined the economy.

**47**  **B**
3.1e They state the causes of the war between Mexico and the United States and its consequences for California.

Video: War Between Mexico and the United States (1:44) – The Mexican-American War

1846 – US declared war on Mexico. Main reason for war was border disputes, particularly area along the Rio Grande River. The Rio Grande River starts in what is now Colorado, runs through what is now New Mexico, and then becomes border between what is now Texas and Mexico (see red arrow on Rio Grande map in next slide).

US defeated Mexico. Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo gave control of California and nearby areas to US. California Territory was a much larger area than California is today. California, Oregon, Arizona, part of New Mexico, Nevada, part of Utah, part of Colorado were all part of California Territory (see California Territory map to left). Before the war, the US tried to buy this area from Mexico for 35 million dollars. After war, Mexico was forced to sell the area for 15 million dollars. The result was that the US now stretched from East to West Coast. This was called Manifest Destiny (will study in US history section) which is the idea that US should control all land from Atlantic to Pacific Ocean. President Monroe proposed Manifest Destiny, so it is called the Monroe Doctrine.
11. What led to the Mexican-American War. Increasing influence of Manifest Destiny

Contrary to the posturing of Polk, the U.S. was hardly engaged in a defensive struggle against the significantly weaker country of Mexico. The Mexican War was fundamentally a war of conquest. Polk, along with large sectors of American society, was convinced that expansion was the key to both economic stability and sectional harmony. He was also fueled by the racist, imperialist doctrine of manifest destiny, which, "by divine right," decreed the entire continent to the U.S.

48. As a result of the Mexican War of the 1840s, California became a territory of the United States. Which of the following was the immediate cause of the war?

A. commercial rivalry between the United States and Mexico

B. Mexican opposition to U.S. efforts to acquire the Oregon Territory

C. a boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico

D. U.S. opposition to Mexican expansionism on the Pacific Coast

48 C
The Bear Flag Revolt

The one major prewar incident that did take place in California was the Bear Flag Revolt. As tensions mounted between the United States and Mexico, a group of men, inspired by John C. Fremont, an Army major who encouraged rebellion against Mexican rule in California, devised a new flag with a bear and star on it. They declared themselves members of a new Republic of California, and captured General Mariano Vallejo. After a few brief skirmishes, word came that the United States had declared war on Mexico, and the Bear Flaggers joined the U.S. efforts. The bear flag, though, became the official flag of California.
After California became a state what were the consequences for Mexicans who were living there. There were legal challenges to the land titles given them by the Mexicans and Spanish governments, and many lost their land through legal challenges.

While the 1848 treaty promised the californios citizenship and the “free enjoyment of liberty and property,” such “enjoyment” was hardly theirs to have. Even as the document was being negotiated, the Gold Rush was spelling out dire consequences for the rancheros. Upon arriving, many newcomers began squatting upon californio land, killing the cattle and cultivating crops. Even more deleterious were the actions of land speculators who legally and illegally purchased and enclosed both the estates of the gente de razon and large plots of communal land. While state land laws validated many Spanish and Mexican land grants, litigation costs money and time, two resources the californios simply did not have. By the time the commissioners and courts legitimated their claims, squatters, moneylenders, tax-collectors, and attorneys drained the rancheros of their possessions. In the span of a single generation, californios were made politically powerless in a region they had lived in their entire lives. Confronted with various forms of violence and disenfranchisement, many Mexicans withdrew into insulated barrios, where they could retain the traditions of the past and establish new cultural imperatives for the future.
Gold was discovered in CA at Sutter’s Fort in 1848. Look for Coloma on the Gold Rush map. That is where Sutter’s Fort is where gold was discovered. Coloma is a town close to Placerville, on the road going up to Lake Tahoe from Sacramento on Hwy 50. Sutter’s Mill was a sawmill that used water from the American River to run the saw to cut wood. Gold was discovered in the river. After gold was discovered, the population of CA grew from 15,000 to 380,000 between 1847 and 1860. CA became a state because it had so many people. People came from all over the world to mine gold.

It became a state just a few years before the Civil War started. Every time there was a new state proposed, there was controversy over whether it would be allowed to have slaves or not (slave state or free state). CA became a free state and this made an unequal number of slave states and free states. This was a problem and helped lead to the Civil War. Abolitionists were people who wanted to abolish slavery.

CA becoming a state had a big effect on the US government, because the House of Representatives is based on the state’s population, so CA had quite a few representatives in Congress who could vote.
3.2 Economic, Political, and Cultural Development Since the 1850s

3.2a Candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials identify key principles of the California Constitution, including the Progressive-era reforms of initiative, referendum and recall, and they recognize similarities and differences between it and the U. S. Constitution.

**Video: California’s Constitution and Government (3:08)**

CA constitution is similar to US Constitution. US has 3 branches: Legislative (Congress makes laws, Senate and House of Representatives), Executive (President, Vice President executes laws), Judicial (Supreme Court and lower courts, determines if laws are constitutional). VP presides over US Senate.

CA has 3 branches: Legislative (State Legislature = State Senate and Assembly, make laws, Bicameral = 2 houses), Executive (Governor, Lieutenant Governor), Judicial (State Supreme Court and lower courts). Lieutenant Governor presides over State Senate.

3 branches provides for Checks and Balances or Separation of Powers, so one branch doesn’t have too much power.

4 Differences between CA and US: 1) CA Governor has “line item veto” which means he can veto any part of a bill (law) before he signs it. US President has to accept or veto an entire bill. This leads to Congressmen or Senators adding “riders” which are things that don’t really relate to the bill but they are trying to get extra money for special projects they want funded.

Early 1900s citizens wanted more power so they added 2) Initiative, 3) Referendum, and 4) Recall powers to the constitution. These cannot be done at Federal (US) level.

2) Initiative means citizens can write a petition and get signatures to put a law on the ballot. If passed, it becomes a law. 3) Referendum means citizens can get signatures to put a measure on the ballot to remove a law. 4) Recall means citizens can get signatures to call an election to remove an elected official. Example was Governor Gray Davis was recalled.
All political power is inherent in the people. Government is instituted for their protection, security, and benefit, and they have the right to alter or reform it when the public good may require.

The excerpt above best illustrates which of the following principles of the California Constitution?

A. freedom of assembly
B. limited government
C. equal protection of the law
D. popular sovereignty

51. D

Popular sovereignty or the sovereignty of the people is the principle that the authority of the government is created and sustained by the consent of its people, through their elected representatives (Rule by the People), who are the source of all political power.

17. Difference between CA and US Constitution. CA constitution has referendum, recall and initiative. (This is correct answer, discussed in video.)
Waves of immigration to CA (large groups of people coming into the state).
1) Gold Rush – 1847 discovered gold. Between 1847 and 1860 large number of people came to CA to mine gold. Population grew from 15,000 to 380,000 people.
2) 20 years later in 1880s – CA land boom of 1880s. People were given free or cheap land if they would move to CA to farm. Called “homesteaders”.
3) Great Depression – There was a drought (no rain) in Oklahoma, Kansas, Arkansas. There was no rain and fields dried up and soil blew away up into the air. Called these areas the “Dust Bowl”. Farmers moved to CA to try to find jobs. But there were not enough jobs, so workers were exploited and abused. John Steinbeck wrote book “Grapes of Wrath” to describe what happened.
4) 1965 reforms to US Immigration Laws. Immigration Reform Act. McClaren-Walters Act. “Nativist”, racist laws that were in effect to keep people from immigrating into the US were repealed. Nativist means people who already lived in US thought they had become natives, and had more right to live here than new immigrants. In particular, Asians had been excluded: Chinese Exclusion Act. When laws were changed or repealed, many more people came to US, and many chose to live in CA. CA had good economic opportunities. Huge numbers of Asians moved to CA in late 60s and early 70s.

23. When were Africans most used in the labor force in California. Answer: During and after World War II

During and after World War II, thousands of African Americans came to California seeking work, but encountered discrimination in housing and unions. In 1965, racial tension erupted in riots in the Watts section of Los Angeles. (from Kaplan book)
The Immigration Reform Act of 1965 replaced the national-origins-based immigration policy of the 1920s with a system that emphasized education and special skills; it also permitted up to 170,000 persons to enter the United States from nations of the Eastern Hemisphere each year. These changes prompted a considerable increase in Asian immigration to the United States.

49. Which of the following acts established the basis for a substantial increase in the Asian population of California?

A. Displaced Persons Act of 1948
B. Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952
C. Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962
D. Immigration Reform Act of 1965

Correct Response: D. (SMR Code: 3.2)
In the 1930s, approximately 300,000 people migrated from the southern plains region of the United States to California.

Using your knowledge of California history, prepare a response in which you:

- identify three effects (social, economic, political, cultural) of this migration on California;
- select one of the effects you have identified; and
- explain how the effect of the migration you have selected helped shape modern California society.

RESPONSE: During the Great Depression of the 1930's California was subjected to a mass immigration of poor farmers from the Southern Plains states. Although poor, these were proud people who valued their families, had a strong work ethic, found solace in a strong evangelistic Protestant faith, and who believed in the Democratic party.

The initial reception for these people was quite negative, and in some cases California police turned people back at the borders. Those who persevered and did take up residence within California made up two important groups. One group continued their work in agriculture but found themselves competing with other immigrants for poor-paying migrant jobs. The second group added to the state's growing urban population, especially in Los Angeles, where they competed for entry-level jobs. Eventually, as the economy strengthened during World War II and more jobs became available, the members of the "Okie subculture" found themselves helping to form a solid middle class.

Because of their physical features, assimilation was eventually easier for them than for other immigrants; however, their contributions to the development of the California defense industries, along with such cultural factors as food and music, added another dimension to the diversity of cultures that comprise California.

Photo of dust bowl in Oklahoma
3.4e Candidates understand the development and identify the locations of California’s major economic activities: mining, large-scale agriculture, entertainment, recreation, aerospace, electronics and international trade.

Video: California’s Major Economic Activities (5:27)
Major Economic Activities

Need to know historic and geographic info about major economic activities. CA economy is bigger than that of many countries.

7 Major Economic Activities:

1) Mining – started with Gold Rush, but CA mines other ores such as silver, and is still very important industry.

2) Agriculture – Major agriculture producer for most of US. Central Valley is where most of agricultural production is, but other important areas are the Imperial Valley, and Central Coast (Ventura and Monterey). Wine is the number 1 agricultural industry in terms of dollars: Napa, Sonoma, Paso Robles, Stockton, Fresno. Alfalfa is number 1 in terms of number of acres, but it is a low value crop. Alfalfa is used to feed cows in dairies. CA provides food for US and much of world.

3) Entertainment – Southern CA is seat of entertainment industry because of good weather (good climate). They didn’t have to worry about rain keeping them from shooting movies outdoors. Western’s were popular and there were good areas to shoot them in S CA. John Ford was a director who made lots of westerns. Variety of terrain (mountains, beaches, deserts) for making movies.
4) Recreation – many people want to come to CA for theme parks located in Los Angeles area (Disneyland, Sea World, Knott’s Berry Farm, Universal Studios), national and state parks (Yosemite, Sequoia), popular cities to visit (San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco). Theme parks are located here also, because they are an offshoot of the movie industry.  
5) Aerospace – producing rockets, plane, defense products in 1950’s and 1960’s in Orange County. Companies – Lockheed, Boeing, Hughes, Autonauics, McDonnell Douglas. Then there were cuts in the defense budget in the 1970s and lots of people lost their jobs. But, still a major industry.  
6) Electronics – Silicon Valley (San Jose, south of San Francisco) produces computer micro chips.  
7) International Trade – Important ports are Los Angeles/Long Beach, and San Francisco, San Diego. Trade route between Los Angeles/Long Beach and Asia is the busiest in the world. Most goods come to US through that port. Then trucks and trains distribute to rest of US. 

19. Movie industry moved to California for what reasons.  
Answer: Climate and terrain.

1. Essay: Name 2 of California’s major industries and discuss how they have affected the development of California. (Discussed in video.)

3.5e They identify factors leading to the development of California’s water delivery system, and describe its relationship to California geography.

California’s Water Delivery System
Sci is a desert and doesn’t have enough water without bringing it in from outside. There are some local reservoirs and canals, but biggest source is California Aqueduct. It brings water from Northern California.

18. Conflict since the 1950’s over water in California has been between what groups. Answer: North and South.
52. Which line in the table below best matches a California industry with a major historical turning point in that industry's development?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Turning Point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>steel industry</td>
<td>World War I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>automobile industry</td>
<td>consumer revolution of the 1920s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>aircraft industry</td>
<td>World War II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>computer industry</td>
<td>postwar economic boom, 1945–1960</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Line 1  
B. Line 2  
C. Line 3  
D. Line 4  

52 C