

## Handouts A–B Answer Keys

### Handout A: Excerpts from “The Great Society” Speech by Lyndon Johnson (1964) Answer Key

1. The Great Society is the vision the Johnson Administration had for the nation. Johnson states that it “rests on abundance and liberty for all. It demands an end to poverty and racial injustice, to which we are totally committed in our time... [and]... is a place where every child can find knowledge to enrich his mind and to enlarge his talents.”
2. The three actions were to rebuild urban centers, the countryside, and classrooms.
3. “Nation” is not usually capitalized. Johnson may have capitalized it for emphasis to show national strength. Accept reasoned answers.
4. The Civil Rights Movement and desegregation, the beginning of the Equal Rights Movement, the Cold War, and the Vietnam War were all occurring during the Great Society. Accept reasoned answers.
5. Both the New Deal and the Great Society put in place social welfare programs. The New Deal implemented programs to provide employment during the Great Depression, protect farmers by providing crop subsidies, and provide pensions and aid to the elderly and disabled. The Great Society implemented programs to protect the civil rights of minorities, provide money for educational opportunities, and provide housing and food to low-income families. Arguments continue regarding the constitutionality of such programs.
6. Accept reasoned answers based on the law the students discussed in the essay.

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### Handout B: Great Society Laws and Programs Answer Key

Topic/Question	Weak	Basic	Proficient	Strong
<b>Goal of Law and Programs Instituted Under Law</b>	Supporting details and information are typically unclear or not related to the topic. No sources are referenced.	Supporting details are relevant, but several key issues or portions of the information are unsupported. Sources are referenced.	Supporting details are relevant, but one key issue or portion of the information is unsupported. Credible sources are referenced.	Relevant, telling, quality details give the reader important information that goes beyond the obvious or predictable. Credible sources are referenced.
<b>Arguments for or against program</b>	No supporting references that adds to reader understanding of the arguments. No sources are referenced.	One supporting reference that adds to reader understanding of the arguments. Sources are referenced.	Some supporting references that add to reader understanding of the arguments. Credible sources are referenced.	Numerous supporting references that greatly add to reader understanding of the arguments. Credible sources are referenced.
<b>Outcomes and Current Status</b>	Basic explanation of outcomes and status, but explanation is quite broad. Minimal specific details are included. No sources are referenced.	Explanation of outcomes and status, but explanation is broad. Specific details are sporadically included. Sources are referenced.	Quality explanation of outcomes and current status. Concise with specific details included in most areas of explanation. Credible sources are referenced.	High-quality explanation of outcomes and current status. Concise with specific details included. Credible sources are referenced.
<b>Constitutional argument</b>	Writer does not take a position on the question OR claims two positions are equally valid. No sources are referenced.	Claim responds to the question but is unclear or confused OR does not take a stand on the issue.	There is a clear claim that responds to the question. Credible sources are referenced.	There is a clear claim that responds to the question. It presents at least one reason in support of the claim. Credible sources are referenced.