Document-Based Question

This question is based on the accompanying documents. The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purposes of this question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document.

Historical Context:

Throughout history, the usage and control of waterways such as rivers, canals, straits, and seas have had economic and political effects on many societies.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to

- Discuss how the usage or control of waterways has had economic effects
- and/or political effects on societies

In developing your answers to Part III, be sure to keep this general definition in mind: discuss means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”
Part A
Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1

Hymn to the Nile
ca. 2100 B.C.

Adoration to the Nile!
Hail to thee, O Nile!
Who manifesteth thyself over this land
And comest to give life to Egypt!
Mysterious is thy issuing forth from the darkness,
On this day whereon it is celebrated!
Watering the orchards created by Ra
To cause all the cattle to live,
Thou givest the earth to drink, inexhaustible one!
Path that descendest from the sky,
Loving the bread of Seb and the first-fruits of Nepera,
Thou causest the workshops of Ptah to prosper!
Lord of the fish, during the inundation,
No bird alights on the crops.
Thou createst the corn [grain], thou bringest forth the barley,
Assuring perpetuity to the temples.
If thou ceasest thy toil and thy work,
Then all that exists is in anguish.
If the gods suffer in heaven
Then the faces of men waste away. . . .

Source: Oliver J. Thatcher, ed., The Library of Original Sources, University Research Extension Co. (adapted)

1 Based on this poem, identify two ways the Nile River influenced the economic development of Egypt. [2]

(1) ________________________________________________________________

(2) ________________________________________________________________

Score □
2 Based on this graphic organizer, identify **two** river systems in Asia, and for **each**, state **one** effect of that river system on society.  [2]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>River Systems in Asia</th>
<th>Effect on Society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>(1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>(2)</td>
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</table>

- Tigris and Euphrates
  - Mesopotamia — site of one of the world's first civilizations
  - 30 dams along the rivers provide fresh water and hydroelectric power
  - Flows through Turkey, Syria, and Iraq

- Yangxi (Yangtze)
  - Most fertile region of China
  - Navigable
  - Three Gorges Dam displaced millions while under construction; provides hydroelectric power

- Indus
  - Site of one of the earliest civilizations
  - Led to tension over the territory of Kashmir
  - Part of one of the largest irrigation networks in the world used for agriculture
  - Flows through northern India and Thailand

- Mekong
  - Provides irrigation for crops
  - Flood waters enrich soil deposits on banks
  - Dry season causes lower water level
  - Forms border between Laos and Thailand

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. . . Most dramatically, hydropolitics, or the interplay of water resource issues and politics, has raised tensions between countries that share drainage basins. For example, Sudan’s plans to expand its irrigation networks along the upper Nile and Ethiopia’s Blue Nile Dam project are both causes of concern in Egypt. To the north, Turkey’s growing development of the upper Tigris and Euphrates rivers (the Southeast Anatolian Project) has raised issues with Iraq and Syria, who argue that capturing “their” water might be considered a provocative [challenging] political act. Hydropolitics has also played into negotiations between Israel, the Palestinians, and other neighboring states, particularly in the valuable Jordan River drainage, which runs through the center of the area’s most hotly disputed lands. Israelis fear Palestinian and Syrian pollution; nearby Jordanians argue for more water from Syria; and all regional residents must deal with the uncomfortable reality that, regardless of their political differences, they must drink from the same limited supplies of freshwater. . . .

Source: Les Rowntree et al., Diversity Amid Globalization, Prentice Hall, 2003 (adapted)

3 According to the authors of Diversity Amid Globalization, what is one way that water resource issues have increased tension between countries? [1]

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Score [ ]
The Aral Sea, covering an area the size of Lithuania, started receding in the 1960s after Soviet state planners diverted its water sources, the Amu Dar’ya and the Syr Dar’ya rivers, to irrigate cotton and other crops.

From 1960 to 1990, the area of irrigated land in Central Asia increased from 3.5 million hectares to 7.5 million. Cotton production soared, making the region the world’s fourth largest producer. But by the 1980s the annual flow of fresh water into the Aral was barely one-tenth of the 1950 supply. The salinity [salt] level increased, destroying the sea’s flora and fauna. The fishing industry suffered; all but two of the 30 species once found in the sea died out.

With no other means of water supply, the sea started to recede, eventually losing half of its former area and a third of its volume. In 1989, it divided into a smaller northern sea and a larger southern one. The two main fishing ports, Moynaq in Uzbekistan and Aralsk in Kazakhstan were left high and dry, and fishing communities found themselves 100 kilometres or more away from the shore.

Source: Lloyd-Roberts and Anbarasan, “The Aral Sea: Back From The Brink?,” UNESCO Courier

4 According to the UNESCO Courier, what is one impact the Soviet policies had on the Aral Sea region? [1]
**Trade Routes**

The Panama Canal, with its unique location at the narrowest point between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, has had a far-reaching effect on world economic and commercial developments throughout most of this 20th century. By providing a short, relatively inexpensive passageway between these two great bodies of water, the Canal has influenced world trade patterns, spurred growth in developed countries, and has been a primary impetus [force] for economic expansion in many remote areas of the world. For example, a vessel laden with coal sailing from the east coast of the United States to Japan via the Panama Canal saves about 4,800 kilometers (3,000 miles) versus the shortest alternative all-water route, and for a vessel laden with bananas sailing from Ecuador to Europe the distance saved is about 8,000 kilometers (5,000 miles).

By far, most of the traffic through the Canal moves between the east coast of the United States and the Far East, while movements between Europe and the west coast of the United States and Canada comprise the second major trade route at the waterway. Other regions and countries, however, such as the neighboring countries of Central and South America, are proportionately more dependent on this vital artery to promote their economic development and expand trade. . . .

Source: Maritime Industry, Panama Canal Authority

5 According to the Panama Canal Authority, what are two reasons the Panama Canal is important to world trade? [2]

(1) ____________________________________________________________________________

(2) ____________________________________________________________________________

Score [ ]

Score [ ]
6a Based on this document, state the definition of a chokepoint.  [1]

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

b Based on this document, state **two** reasons chokepoints are strategically important.  [2]

(1) ________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

(2) ________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Map Source: Mountain High Maps (adapted)
The Strait of Malacca is one of the most important strategic passages of the World because it supports the bulk of the maritime trade between Europe and Pacific Asia, which accounts for 50,000 ships per year. About 30% of the world's trade and 80% of Japan's, South Korea's and Taiwan's imports of petroleum transits through the strait, which involved approximately 11.7 Mb/d [millions of barrels per day] in 2004. It is the main passage between the Pacific and the Indian oceans with the strait of Sunda (Indonesia) being the closest alternative. It measures about 800 km in length, has a width between 50 and 320 km (2.5 km at its narrowest point) and a minimal channel depth of 23 meters (about 70 feet). It represents the longest strait in the world used for international navigation and can be transited in about 20 hours.

Traditionally, the Strait was an important passage point between the Chinese and the Indian worlds and was controlled at different points in time by Javanese and Malaysian kingdoms. From the 14th century, the region came under the control of Arab merchants who established several fortified trading towns, Malacca being the most important commercial center in Southeast Asia. Again, the control of the trade route shifted as the era of European expansion began in the 16th century. In 1511, Malacca fell to the Portuguese and this event marked the beginning of European control over the Strait...
**Part B**

**Essay**

*Directions:* Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from *at least four* documents in your essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.

**Historical Context:**

Throughout history, the usage and control of waterways such as rivers, canals, straits, and seas have had economic and political effects on many societies.

**Task:** Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, write an essay in which you

- Discuss how the usage or control of waterways has had economic effects and/or political effects on societies

**Guidelines:**

In your essay, be sure to
- Develop all aspects of the task
- Incorporate information from *at least four* documents
- Incorporate relevant outside information
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme