

Sample STAAR Test Questions

This is a sample of an elementary math question:

Emilio has a bag containing different-colored buttons. He randomly selects a button from the bag, records its color, and puts it back. The table below shows his results after selecting 32 buttons from the bag.

Buttons

Color	Number of Buttons
Purple	8
Orange	4
Brown	16
Green	4

Based on these results, which of the following is the most reasonable prediction of the number of orange buttons Emilio will select from the bag in his next 64 tries?

A 4 **B** 8 **C** 32 **D** 16

This is a sample of a middle school science question:

Mangrove trees have special roots that let them live in the somewhat salty water where rivers meet the ocean. These roots collect sediments, debris, and mud. This gradually helps coastlines stretch farther into the sea. Forests of mangrove trees also provide shelter for wildlife.

The high winds of hurricanes and typhoons often destroy mangrove forests. The destruction of these forests most likely affects ecosystems by —

- . **A** reducing beach erosion in sea-turtle nesting areas
- . **B** reducing the amount of saltwater flowing into lakes
- . **C** causing pollution in inland rivers and streams
- . **D** forcing migratory birds to find other places to rest

This is a sample of a high school social studies question:

“A system of government therefore which shall prevent ignorance, and consequently crime, will be infinitely superior to one, which, by encouraging the first, creates a necessity for the last, and afterwards inflicts punishment on both. . . .

That government, then, is the best, which in practice produces the greatest happiness to the greatest number; including those who govern, and those who obey. . . .

By adopting the proper means, man may by degrees be trained to live in any part of the world without poverty, without crime, and without punishment; for all these are the effects of error in the various systems of training and governing error proceeding from very gross ignorance of human nature.”

—Robert *Owen*, *A New View of Society*

These arguments most directly contributed to the development of —

- . **A** socialism during the Industrial Revolution
- . **B** communist economic programs during the Cold War
- . **C** totalitarianism during World War II
- . **D** liberal social programs during the French Revolution