

Handout C: Document Guide

1. He refused to follow the spoils system; supported the Pendleton Bill; canceled orders from inefficient Navy contractors; ended contracts with railroad companies who had not lived up to the terms of their contracts.
2. They were fraudulent.
3. He did not believe the Constitution authorized the federal government to provide citizens with unearned, direct assistance.
4. Cleveland did his best to uphold his oath of office and preserve the Constitution; he believed the crisis would be better met by individuals and communities helping each other.
5. Accept reasoned answers.
6. It would prevent the crisis from continuing and allow farmers to plant new crops.
7. He described it as generous and charitable.
8. The Constitution does not authorize it, and further, the government should not support the people.
9. When the government provides direct assistance, it discourages people from helping each other, and therefore damages the bonds between individuals and within communities.
10. Cleveland expects that the people will help the farmers.
11. The president would adhere to the Constitution during a crisis because he believed that it provided a means to empower individuals to help each other get through that crisis, and because he had taken an oath to uphold the Constitution. Accept additional reasoned answers.
12. Accept reasoned answers.
13. Accept reasoned answers.
14. Individuals giving money to charity decide where to give their money. When individuals give money to the government to use for direct assistance, government officials decide how to allocate those resources.
15. Individuals do not have the same experience of helping each other when the government is involved in direct assistance. Some may give less, counting on others to give more. Some may grow to resent the direct assistance given to some to whom they would not have chosen to give their money or resources. Accept additional reasoned answers.
16. Accept reasoned answers.