## Incentive Dates to Help You Pace Yourself (Tip: Voluntary & Extra Credit)

### Three definitions from Merriam-Webster’s Online Dictionary

* **Due** = “the day by which something must be done, paid, etc.” – **Due dates** are covered on the **1st** page.
* **Incentive** = “something that makes a person try or work hard or harder.” – **Incentive** dates are **on the last page**.
* To **pace** yourself = “to establish a moderate or steady pace for (oneself)” – Incentive dates to help you **pace** yourself.

### Stacking of Similar Sounding Items to Help People Compare

* **Due** date = the **last** day you can do a quiz for **points** because Blackboard **automatically** closes the quiz at the end of the day.
* **Incentive** date = the date when you can complete (or previously completed on **any** earlier date) a quiz with **80% or more** of the questions right, with the **incentive** being 1 point of extra credit on the **next** day

### Two Traits of Incentive Dates

* They are **earlier** than the due date
* They are **spread out** so you can **pace** yourself but be complete by the due date

**Guys, this is common sense.** When I had a bunch of stuff to do by a due date, especially on a tight schedule, I’d look at the calendar and spread the work out just the way I did with your incentive dates. I don’t assume something will be easy until I try it. I set a **pace** early and I follow it. If things are going slower than I hoped, I know I am likely to fail before I actually do fail so I can speed up my pace.

### Why 2 Chances to Be Correct on 80% of the Self-Test or Full-Test?

The permission your prof got for these quizzes was that they would:

* **Not** cause busy work for students who already know vocabulary and map locations for history

**What happens:** You take the Self-Test and are correct on 80% or more of the questions and you are **done**. When the Unit closes, your prof enters full points in the Full-Test grade.

* Help students who did not know these things teach themselves by taking the Full-Test

**What happens:** You take the Self-Test but had fewer than 80%. You take the Full-Test until you have 80% or more correct. In other words, you take the Full-Test until you learn those vocabulary words.

### Why the Extra Credit for Keeping Up with the Learning Quizzes in a Unit at a Regular Pace?

* Research says learning is more successful if you do not try to cram at the end.
* I’d rather reward you for pacing yourself than watch some of you fail because you never finished.

**FYI:** If you want to wait until the end of Unit 1 to do these quizzes, then that is fine. It is your decision. You just will **not** get the **extra** credit.

### Reminder about the Reality of Math and of the Word *Extra Credit*

Just to say the obvious, my putting:

* A 0 for a grade that is **extra credit**does **not** take away from your points
* A 1 for a grade to help you remember to pace yourself may help your future—and I want to help your future.

**Tip:** If you have questions about what is written above, I am glad to help you.

### Unit 1 Incentive Dates for Learning Quizzes

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Incentive Date** | **Lesson #** | **# of Questions** | **# for 80%** | **Title of Self- and Full-Test** |
| 1/28-11:59 PM | 1 | 10 | 8 | Essential Terms in Unit 1 (in Sets) – Sets=Blackboard displays different questions. |
| 1/30-11:59 PM | 1 | 12 | 10 | Map of Regions and Nations after 1492 (Uses a modern map.) |
| 2/1-11:59 PM | 2 | 10 | 8 | Map of the English Colonies and Sections |
| 2/4-11:59 PM | 2 | 13 |  | Scarcity and Surplus |
| 2/4-11:59 PM | 3 | 4 | 3 | Traits of Colonial Sections |
| 2/6-11:59 PM | 3 | 5 | 4 | Representative Colonies |
| 2/6-11:59 PM | 4 | 3 | 3 | Looking at Geography |
| 2/6-11:59 PM | 4 | 3 | 3 | Looking at the Revolution in Words |

### Unit 2 Incentive Dates

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Incentive Date** | **Lesson #** | **Questions** | **Title of Self- and Full-Test** |
| 2/11-11:59 PM | 1 | 10 | Essential Terms in Unit 2 (in Sets) – Sets=Blackboard displays different questions |
| 2/13-11:59 PM | 2 | 11 | Basics of the Constitution |
| 2/18-11:59 PM | 3 | 6 | Map of North America, 1783 to circa 1803 |
| 2/20-11:59 PM | 4 | 7 | Major Canals, Lakes, Rivers, and Roads Linking the East and West, 1810-1860 |

#### Unit 3 Incentive Dates

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Incentive Date** | **Lesson #** | **Questions** | **Title of Self- and Full-Test** |
| 2/25-11:59 PM | 1 | 10 | Essential Terms in Unit 3 (in Sets) – Sets=Blackboard displays different questions |
| 2/27-11:59 PM | 2 | 5 | Impending Crisis Map |
| 2/27-11:59 PM | 2 | 3 | Map of US Territories (Free and Slave) and Sectionalism |
| 3/3-11:59 PM | 3 | 5 | Map of Key Events in the Civil War |
| 3/3-11:59 PM | 3 | 5 | Civil War in the East |
| 3/5-11:59 PM | 4 | 20 | The Constitution – Seeing the Past, Reconstruction, and the Future |
| 3/5-11:59 PM | 4 | 4 | Amendments Plus |