

International Academic Competitions

Historical Geography Examination European Championships 2024

Name _____

School _____

Age _____

Instructions – Mark your answers on the scantron provided. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points. Write the answer to your tiebreaker question in the box at the top of your scantron.

1. What historical region between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers was home to the Sumerians and Babylonians?
 - A. Mesoamerica
 - B. Nubia
 - C. Mesopotamia
 - D. Inner Mongolia
2. What modern day nation's practice of Shia Islam can be traced back to the Safavid Empire?
 - A. Turkmenistan
 - B. Iran
 - C. Yemen
 - D. Egypt
3. The Ottomans established themselves as a major player in the Middle East with their 1453 conquest of what city?
 - A. Shanghai
 - B. Riga
 - C. Constantinople
 - D. Jerusalem
4. What nomadic empire amassed the largest contiguous land empire in history in the 13th century?
 - A. Vijayanagara Empire
 - B. Tokugawa Shogunate
 - C. Abbasid Caliphate
 - D. Mongol Empire
5. The Basmachi movement was a 1916 revolt against Russian rule in what region?
 - A. Western Europe
 - B. Central America
 - C. Central Asia
 - D. South Africa
6. Which of these was a large theater festival in Athens that featured important performances of tragedies and comedies?
 - A. the City Dionysia
 - B. Ostracism
 - C. the Olympics
 - D. the Academy
7. St. Benedict of Nursia established the first monastery of his religious order in 529 CE on a rocky hill at what location about 80 miles outside of Rome?
 - A. Pompeii
 - B. Herculaneum
 - C. Mount Etna
 - D. Monte Cassino
8. The Roman Empire reached its maximum territorial extent under the rule of what emperor?
 - A. Trajan
 - B. Julius Caesar
 - C. Augustus
 - D. Romulus Augustulus
9. The Charles Bridge, completed in the 14th century, crosses the Vltava River in what central European capital?
 - A. Warsaw
 - B. Kiev
 - C. Tirana
 - D. Prague
10. Perserschutt or 'Persian rubble' is the term for archaeological remains from the sack of what major Greek city-state by the Persians in 480 BCE?
 - A. Delos
 - B. Athens
 - C. Syracuse
 - D. Latium
11. What important shipping channel between the Indian and Pacific oceans was the main target of Portuguese colonizers in the 16th century?
 - A. Godavari River
 - B. Indus River
 - C. Strait of Gibraltar
 - D. Strait of Malacca
12. The Mekong Delta has been under control of what nation since 1757?
 - A. Vietnam
 - B. North Korea
 - C. Japan
 - D. Pakistan
13. What largest Philippine island holds both the capital city and most populous city of the Philippines?
 - A. Cebu
 - B. Siquijor
 - C. Samal
 - D. Luzon

14. The 1689 Boston Rebellion and Leisler's Rebellion in New York overthrew what administrative union of the American colonies started by the English in 1686?
- the Albany Plan
 - the Dominion of New England
 - the Philadelphia Convention
 - the Annapolis Convention
15. The National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN includes the Lorraine Motel, the site of the 1968 assassination of what civil rights leader?
- Jesse Jackson
 - John Lewis
 - Bayard Rustin
 - Martin Luther King, Jr.
16. Japan and the US clashed in the Solomon Islands for the Battle of Coral Sea during what conflict?
- World War II
 - Vietnam War
 - First Opium War
 - Malayan Emergency
17. What landing spot for James Cook in 1770 became the focus of Britain's initial plans for colonization in Australia?
- Korea Bay
 - Bay of Bengal
 - Botany Bay
 - Bay of Islands
18. Saudi Arabia, Libya, and Algeria captured the interest of the US in the early 20th century to the discovery of what resource?
- oil
 - sugar
 - timber
 - limestone
19. Egypt closed the Suez Canal after the Six-Day War due to Israel's seizure of what territory?
- Persian Gulf
 - the Dardanelles
 - Cyprus
 - Sinai Peninsula
20. What two nations were united together as the United Arab Republic from 1958 to 1961?
- Greece and Italy
 - Egypt and Syria
 - India and Bangladesh
 - North Korea and South Korea
21. The Dayton Agreement was signed in 1995 to end the war in what former constituent of Yugoslavia?
- Slovakia
 - Poland
 - Czech Republic
 - Bosnia
22. The French state headed by Philippe Petain during World War II is commonly referred to using the name of what French city?
- Mont-Saint-Michel
 - Vichy
 - Avranches
 - Tanis
23. The International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice are located in The Hague, a city in what western European nation?
- the Netherlands
 - France
 - Sweden
 - Denmark
24. Checkpoint Charlie was a famous crossing between the eastern and western sides of what divided European city during the Cold War?
- Vienna
 - Prague
 - Berlin
 - Paris
25. Veii, Tarchna, and Velch were members of the 'League' named for what civilization that bordered ancient Rome in the 8th century BCE?
- Gauls
 - Etruscans
 - Corsicans
 - Syracusans
26. The town of Deadwood in the Dakota territory became an important center for what industry in the late 1870s?
- shipbuilding
 - fur trading
 - gold mining
 - whaling

27. The Florida East Coast Railway, which resulted in a settlement boom in Florida in the early 20th century, was built by Henry Flagler, who was one of the principal shareholders of what powerful industrial company?
- Standard Oil
 - Woolworth's
 - Macy's
 - Sears and Roebuck
28. Zuccotti Park in New York City became the center of the 2010s social protest movement that called for the 'occupation' of what financial center?
- the Federal Reserve
 - Columbia University
 - Wall Street
 - Chemical Bank
29. The Protestant Scots-Irish immigrants who came to the American colonies came mostly from which of these parts of the UK?
- Northern Ireland
 - Wales
 - the Falkland Islands
 - India
30. The 1771 Battle of Alamance, the final skirmish of the Regulator Movement, took place in an area between the cities of Greensboro and Durham in what southern colony?
- Maryland
 - Delaware
 - Pennsylvania
 - North Carolina
31. What East African country's royals began converting to Christianity as early as 316 CE?
- Algeria
 - Zimbabwe
 - Mali
 - Ethiopia
32. The 2010-2011 Tunisian Revolution that ousted Ben Ali sparked what larger resistance movement in the Arab world?
- Hizmet Movement
 - Anti-Apartheid Movement
 - Arab Spring
 - Landless Peoples Movement
33. Europeans divided which of the following in the 1884 Berlin Conference?
- Africa
 - Ottoman Empire
 - Qing China
 - Australia
34. What nation was labeled a fragile state largely due to their inability to police the piracy in the Gulf of Aden?
- Central African Republic
 - Niger
 - Burkina Faso
 - Somalia
35. What language family first spread across sub-Saharan Africa in first millennium BCE migrations?
- Altaic
 - Bantu
 - Slavic
 - Dravidian
36. The 1985 Ganga Action Plan was launched to battle pollution of the Ganges River in what nation?
- China
 - India
 - Russia
 - Japan
37. What British India province was divided by Muslim and Hindu majorities by Lord Curzon in 1905?
- Bengal
 - Balochistan
 - Tibet
 - Tarabarov
38. What Muslim sultanate of India successfully repelled Mongol invasions in the 13th century?
- Srivijaya Empire
 - Chola dynasty
 - Maratha Empire
 - Delhi Sultanate
39. The 1947 Indo-Pakistani war flared from disputes over what territory?
- Kuwait
 - Hong Kong
 - Kashmir
 - Sri Lanka
40. Operation Searchlight was launched by Pakistan to halt efforts by Hindu nationalists to win independence for what nation?
- Nepal
 - East Pakistan
 - Afghanistan
 - Thailand
41. Which of these is NOT a major landmark in Beijing?
- the Forbidden City
 - Lenin's Tomb
 - the Temple of Heaven
 - Tiananmen Square

42. What Asian city's namesake 'Skytree' became one of the 5 tallest structures in the world upon its 2011 completion?
- Tokyo
 - Vladivostok
 - Incheon
 - Ulaanbaatar
43. Which of these is NOT a company headquartered in the Seoul Capital Area?
- Samsung
 - Volkswagen
 - Hyundai
 - LG
44. Which of these sites in modern-day Turkey is the largest and best-preserved Neolithic site in the world?
- Çatalhöyük
 - Mohenjo-Daro
 - Harappa
 - Ganeriwala
45. Which of these was the name given to cities like Venice, Pisa, and Genoa in the Middle Ages that derived their power and wealth from powerful navies and trade?
- colonies
 - maritime republics
 - trading posts
 - factory towns
46. The 1999 'Battle of Seattle' was a series of protests targeting a meeting of what international economic organization in the city?
- the European Union
 - the UN
 - the World Trade Organization
 - NATO
47. Which of these was NOT a state created out of the Northwest Territory in the nineteenth century?
- Kansas
 - Ohio
 - Indiana
 - Illinois
48. The Proclamation of 1763 set what natural feature as the western boundary of colonial settlement?
- Colorado River
 - Potomac River
 - Missouri River
 - Appalachian Mountains
49. President Joe Biden received what nickname while he was in the US Senate due to his habit of commuting by train each day from Washington, DC back to his home in Delaware?
- 'Broadway Joe'
 - 'Shoeless Joe'
 - 'Amtrak Joe'
 - 'Espresso Joe'
50. Milwaukee, WI remains the only major American city to have elected mayors from what political party?
- Republican
 - Socialist
 - Democrat
 - Federalist
51. The modern Russian city of Volgograd was renamed for what Soviet leader from the 1920s to the 1960s?
- Beria
 - Molotov
 - Yeltsin
 - Stalin
52. The Solidarity movement in Poland began in what type of industrial location in Gdansk in 1980?
- farm
 - shipyard
 - grocery warehouse
 - junkyard
53. What group attempted to assassinate Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at a hotel in Brighton in 1984?
- Red October
 - the Black Hand
 - the Taliban
 - the IRA
54. What building in Russia served as the official residence of the tsars from the eighteenth century to the early twentieth century?
- the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg
 - St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow
 - the Church of the Savior on Spilled Blood in St. Petersburg
 - Donskoy Monastery in Moscow
55. The Green Revolution sought to improve and strengthen what industry in South Asia?
- computer software
 - car manufacturing
 - banking
 - agriculture
56. What major symbol of Islamic architecture in Agra, India was built to hold the tomb of Shah Jahan's wife?
- Taj Mahal
 - Mahabodhi Temple
 - Blue Mosque
 - Angkor Wat
57. Unlike China and other developed nations, what most populous African nation is not considering a family planning program to curb rapid population growth?
- Uganda
 - Djibouti
 - Madagascar
 - Nigeria

58. In 1965, race riots broke out in the Watts neighborhood of what major West Coast city?
- Denver
 - Los Angeles
 - Tacoma
 - Eugene
59. Watson Brake and Poverty Point are pre-Columbian Native American sites in what southern 'Bayou State'?
- Texas
 - Tennessee
 - Louisiana
 - Oklahoma
60. An 1896 gold rush further complicated the US-Canada border dispute between Alaska and what Canadian territory?
- Ontario
 - Nova Scotia
 - Alberta
 - Yukon
61. What European colonizer claimed all of the Caribbean islands in the 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas?
- England
 - Spain
 - France
 - Denmark
62. What former British colony is the only nation in South America to list English as an official language?
- Peru
 - Panama
 - Brazil
 - Guyana
63. What union of Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela split in 1831 due to disagreements over centralization of power?
- Triple Alliance
 - First Mexican Empire
 - Gran Colombia
 - Inca Empire
64. At the time of European arrival, much of the Great Antilles was settled by native peoples that spoke what language?
- Arawak
 - Quechua
 - Guarani
 - Muskogean
65. Zheng He was an explorer and admiral who led the 'treasure voyages' of what Chinese dynasty in the 13th century CE?
- Qing
 - Ming
 - Han
 - Tang
66. Which of these major religions was introduced to Japan in the 550s CE from the neighboring Korean kingdom of Baekje?
- Hinduism
 - Christianity
 - Buddhism
 - Islam
67. Rangaku, or 'Dutch learning', was influential in the 17th and 18th centuries in Japan due to trade with Europeans through what port city?
- Hiroshima
 - Kyoto
 - Osaka
 - Nagasaki
68. In 1931, Japan invaded what region of China following the Mukden incident?
- Manchuria
 - Hong Kong
 - Macau
 - Shanghai
69. The kingdoms of Cao Wei, Shu Han, and Eastern Wu dominated China in the 3rd century CE during a period of Chinese history known by what name?
- the 'Three Kingdoms'
 - the 'Babylonian Captivity'
 - the 'Great Schism'
 - the 'Mongol Invasion'
70. The 1380 Battle of Kulikovo saw a force of Russians defeat what invading empire?
- Mongols
 - Koreans
 - Mughals
 - Khmer
71. Which of these declared independence from Spain in 1581 following the Act of Abjuration?
- Mexico
 - the Dutch Republic
 - Brazil
 - Cuba
72. The Sandinistas and Contras were opposing groups in which Central American nation in the late twentieth century?
- Nicaragua
 - Guatemala
 - Honduras
 - Belize

73. The 'Dancing Girl' sculpture and 'Great Bath' are associated with what ancient Mesopotamian site?

- A. Alexandria
- B. Kandahar
- C. Mohenjo-Daro
- D. Persepolis

74. Baron Haussmann is known for his transformational renovation project on which of the following cities?

- A. Paris
- B. London
- C. Moscow
- D. Cairo

75. The Lake Mungo remains, dated to about 41,000 years ago, are the oldest human remains found on what continent?

- A. Asia
- B. Europe
- C. Australia
- D. Africa

Tiebreaker

This question will only be scored if there is a tie for placement on the exam. **This is a required question, but there is no penalty for a wrong answer to this question.**

Write your answer legibly in the space provided on your scantron.

According to the UK census, what was the population of Greater London in 1901?