Competitions

Military History 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. Which of these was the most significant military technology used by the Qin and Han dynasties in their conquests and consolidation of power?
 - A. gunpowder cannons
 - B. crossbows
 - C. steel armor
 - D. 'Greek fire'
- 2. Which of these is true of the Battle of the Catalaunian Plains in 451 CE?
 - A. the Romans lost the battle and Rome was sacked by Visigoths as a result
 - B. the Pergamon surrendered to Rome and the city became part of the empire
 - C. Arminius defeated the Roman legions commanded by Varus
 - D. the Huns under Attila were defeated by the Romans and Visigoths
- 3. The Mamluks under Qutuz and Baibars defeated what invading force at the 1260 Battle of Ain Jalut?
 - A. the Third Crusade
 - B. the Ottomans
 - C. Kievan Rus
 - D. the Mongols
- 4. The end of the Thirty Years' War saw a new principle in international law regarding state sovereignty emerge that is named for what treaty that ended the war?
 - A. the Treaty of Paris
 - B. the Peace of Augsburg
 - C. the Treaty of Westphalia
 - D. the Treaty of Verdun

- 5. Which Union Civil War general was temporarily relieved of command in 1861 due to what his wife called a bout of 'melancholy insanity'?
 - A. William T. Sherman
 - B. Albert S. Johnston
 - C. Edmund Kirby Smith
 - D. Don Carlos Buell
- 6. Which of the following battles, by most estimates one of the bloodiest in human history, took place along a namesake French river between July and November 1916?
 - A. Battle of the Champagne
 - B. Battle of the Seine
 - C. Battle of the Somme
 - D. Battle of Verdun
- 7. The Battle of Kursk during World War II is considered to be the largest battle in history featuring which of these weapons?
 - A. aircraft carriers
 - B. tanks
 - C. battleships
 - D. submarines
- 8. Which of these best describes the German V-2 developed in the early 1940s?
 - A. it was the first jet aircraft
 - B. it was the first nuclear submarine
 - C. it was the codename of the Nazi atomic weapon program
 - D. it was the first long-range, guided ballistic missile
- 9. Joshua Milton Blahyi, a warlord in the First Liberian Civil War in the late 20th century, became famous for what nom de guerre?
 - A. 'Carlos the Jackal'
 - B. 'Old Gimlet Eye'
 - C. 'General Butt Naked'
 - D. 'Fighting Joe Hooker'
- 10. In 1983, a military barracks housing peacekeeping forces from France and the United States was bombed in what Lebanese city, killing hundreds of soldiers?
 - A. Sidon
 - B. Tripoli
 - C. Beirut
 - D. Byblos
- 11. The death of Alexander the Great led to a series of conflicts named for what Greek term for 'successor'?
 - A. satrap
 - B. phalanx
 - C. hoplite
 - D. diadochi

- 12. Hasdrubal Barca's defeat at Battle of the Metaurus in 207 BCE resulted in which of these?
 - A. the end of the Third Punic War and the destruction of Carthage
 - B. the beginning of Julius Caesar's dictatorship
 - C. Carthaginian reinforcements were prevented from reaching Hannibal and he had to retreat to southern Italy
 - D. the Roman army continued into Gaul and began their conquest
- 13. Which of these was defeated by the Franks under Charles Martel at the Battle of Tours in 732?
 - A. the Umayyad Caliphate
 - B. the Huns
 - C. the Mongols
 - D. the Ottomans
- 14. The Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Treaty of Alliance, both signed in 1778, brought what European power into the American Revolution against the British?
 - A. the Netherlands
 - B. Spain
 - C. Russia
 - D. France
- 15. What major Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River fell to the Union on July 4, 1863?
 - A. New Orleans
 - B. Port Hudson
 - C. Vicksburg
 - D. Baton Rouge
- 16. Which of the following commanded the American Expeditionary Force during World War I?
 - A. Smedley Butler
 - B. John J. Pershing
 - C. Dwight D. Eisenhower
 - D. Douglas MacArthur
- 17. Which of the following proved a major advantage in the American victory at the Battle of Midway?
 - A. the breaking of one of the Japanese Navy's main naval codes
 - B. the use of American nuclear weapons
 - C. suicide attacks by American aviators
 - D. the advanced technology of American aircraft carriers and fighter planes
- 18. President Lyndon Johnson sent American combat troops to Vietnam in the mid-1960s under a law named for what location?
 - A. Saigon
 - B. the Gulf of Tonkin
 - C. Khe Sanh
 - D. Hue

- 19. Which of the following men led the Sergeants' Revolt in Cuba in 1933 and controlled the country until the Communist Revolution?
 - A. Carlos Manuel de Cespedes
 - B. Fulgencio Batista
 - C. Fidel Castro
 - D. Valeriano Weyler
- 20. The incident that inspired the book and film Black Hawk Down took place at the Battle of Mogadishu during a civil war in what African nation?
 - A. Eritrea
 - B. Ethiopia
 - C. Nigeria
 - D. Somalia
- 21. Which of the following was the main cause of the ancient Roman Social War fought between 91-88 BCE?
 - A. Roman subjugation of slaves and gladiators
 - B. Rome's refusal to grant citizenship to allied Italian cities
 - C. the growing conflict between Julius Caesar and Pompey the Great
 - D. Sulla's attempt seize power in the Republic
- 22. In the 13th century, two invasions of Japan were stopped in part by typhoons that are referred to by what Japanese term?
 - A. shugo
 - B. jito
 - C. gokenin
 - D. kamikaze
- 23. The late 15th century White Elephant War was a conflict between empires based in what two Southeast Asian neighbors?
 - A. Cambodia and Thailand
 - B. China and Korea
 - C. Vietnam and Laos
 - D. India and Pakistan
- 24. The last battle for Venezuelan independence was won by Republican forces on what body of water?
 - A. Angel Falls
 - B. Orinoco River
 - C. Guri Reservoir
 - D. Lake Maracaibo
- 25. The Battle of Yalu River in 1894 was a major engagement in which of these conflicts?
 - A. the Russo-Japanese War
 - B. the First-Sino Japanese War
 - C. the Boxer Rebellion
 - D. the Taiping Rebellion

- 26. Which of these helped bring the US into World War I?
 - A. the sinking of the USS Maine
 - B. the sinking of the USS Arizona
 - C. an attack on the Aleutian Islands
 - D. the 1917 Zimmerman telegram
- 27. Which of the following was appointed commander of US Army Forces in the Far East by Franklin Roosevelt in July of 1941 amid rising tensions in the region?
 - A. Dwight Eisenhower
 - B. Omar Bradley
 - C. Douglas MacArthur
 - D. George Patton
- 28. Which of these was the leader of North Korea during the Korean War?
 - A. Kim Jong-un
 - B. Kim Il-sung
 - C. Roh Tae-woo
 - D. Lee Myung-bak
- 29. Which of these ended the Algerian War in 1962?
 - A. the Geneva Convention
 - B. the Treaty of Versailles
 - C. the Treaty of Paris
 - D. the Evian Accords
- 30. The Iran-Iraq War, which lasted from 1980 to 1988, was partly fought over a territorial dispute in which region?
 - A. Kurdistan
 - B. Gaza Strip
 - C. West Bank
 - D. Shatt al-Arab
- 31. What empire defeated the Egyptians at the Battle of Pelusium in 525 BCE and ruled during the 27th Dynasty?
 - A. Achaemenid Persia
 - B. Hittites
 - C. Phoenicians
 - D. Greeks
- 32. What dynasty was established by Kublai Khan after the Mongols conquered China in 1271?
 - A. Yuan dynasty
 - B. Song dynasty
 - C. Xia dynasty
 - D. Zhou dynasty
- 33. The defeat of Portugal at the 'Battle of Three Kings' in 1580 by the Sultanate of Morocco led to the fall of what Portuguese dynasty?
 - A. Bourbon
 - B. Hapsburg
 - C. Braganza
 - D. Aviz

- 34. The Army of the Three Guarantees united the forces of Vicente Guerrero and what future emperor of Mexico?
 - A. Hernan Cortés
 - B. Agustín Iturbide
 - C. Bartolome de las Casas
 - D. Christopher Columbus
- 35. The Boshin War helped bring about the direct rule of what emperor over Japan?
 - A. Taisho
 - B. Komei
 - C. Meiji
 - D. Ninko
- 36. Roughly what percentage of the 60 million European soldiers who fought in World War I were killed in action?
 - A. 30%
 - B. 13%
 - C. 5%
 - D. 2%
- 37. Which of these men, who served time in a prisoner of war camp, wrote about the bombing of Dresden in his novel Slaughterhouse Five?
 - A. Truman Capote
 - B. Kurt Vonnegut
 - C. John Irving
 - D. John Updike
- 38. The Falkland War resulted in which of the following in Great Britain in the early 1980s?
 - A. a rapid loss of prestige in the world community due to the British defeat
 - B. a sharp decline in the British economy due to international sanctions
 - C. a jump in popularity for Margaret Thatcher in Great Britain
 - D. the end of British colonialism due to the Falkland's independence
- 39. The NATO bombings of Yugoslavia in 1999 took place as a reaction to which of these?
 - A. the ongoing conflict in Kosovo and Yugoslav rejection of a NATO peacekeeping force in the region
 - B. violation of the Dayton Accords by the Serbs
 - C. an attack on UN peacekeepers
 - D. the escape of several prisoners from the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia
- 40. The Swat Valley in Pakistan was briefly taken over by which militant group in 2007?
 - A. the Taliban
 - B. Al-Qaeda
 - C. the PLO
 - D. ISIS

- 41. The Maccabean Revolt in Judea in the 2nd century BCE was a conflict with what empire?
 - A. Athenian
 - B. Macedonian
 - C. Seleucid
 - D. Roman
- 42. Which of these was the most decisive weapon of the Hundred Years' War?
 - A. cannon
 - B. longbow
 - C. corvus
 - D. rifle
- 43. The 1575 Battle of Tukaroi saw the Bengal Sultanate defeated by what major South Asian power led by Akbar?
 - A. the Maratha Empire
 - B. the Mughal Empire
 - C. the Kingdom of Kandy
 - D. the British Raj
- 44. Empress Dowager Cixi initially supported the Chinese rebels and declared war on the Allied invaders during what 1899-1901 conflict?
 - A. Ping-liu-li Uprising
 - B. Great Ming Uprising
 - C. Huizhou Uprising
 - D. Boxer Rebellion
- 45. A misunderstood order at the Battle of Balaclava in 1854 resulted in what famous action immortalized in a Tennyson poem?
 - A. the stand of the 'Thin Red Line'
 - B. the 'Charge of the Light Brigade'
 - C. the 'Charge of the Heavy Brigade'
 - D. the 'Balaclava Storm'
- 46. Which of the following was the German plan to justify the invasion of Poland by staging false-flag attacks?
 - A. Operation Marita
 - B. Operation Worek
 - C. Operation Peking
 - D. Operation Himmler
- 47. What author of Infantry Attacks and German field marshal committed suicide in 1944 after being implicated in a plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler?
 - A. Claus von Stauffenberg
 - B. Friedrich Olbricht
 - C. Erwin von Witzleben
 - D. Erwin Rommel
- 48. The suicide attack on the US Navy ship USS Cole took place in what port city in 2000?
 - A. Cairo, Egypt
 - B. Aden, Yemen
 - C. Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
 - D. Muscat, Oman

- 49. The Football War was a 100-hour conflict between what two nations?
 - A. Nicaragua and Belize
 - B. Mexico and Guatemala
 - C. Fl Salvador and Honduras
 - D. Panama and Costa Rica
- 50. The island of Vieques gained attention in the late 1990s and early 2000s due to which of these uses by the US Navy?
 - A. a weapons-testing ground
 - B. a prison for enemy combatants in the 'War on Terror'
 - C. a secret CIA training facility
 - D. a base for launching assaults on Cuba
- 51. The Trung Sisters led a short-lived rebellion against which of these Chinese dynasties in the 1st century CE?
 - A. Qin
 - B. Sui
 - C. Han
 - D. Tang
- 52. The Eighty Years' War resulted in the independence of which of these?
 - A. Portugal
 - B. the Dutch Republic
 - C. Prussia
 - D. Poland-Lithuania
- 53. The defeat of Toyotomi loyalist clans under Ishida Mitsunari at the Battle of Sekigahara led to the establishment of what era of Japanese history?
 - A. the Sengoku Period
 - B. the Heian Period
 - C. the Meiji restoration
 - D. the Tokugawa shogunate
- 54. Which of the following is NOT true of the period known as the Reign of Terror?
 - A. It lasted more than ten years.
 - B. France was controlled by the Committee of Public Safety.
 - C. It involved a series of massacres and public executions of French citizens.
 - D. It coincided with the War of the First Coalition.
- 55. During World War I, the Ottoman government conducted a genocide of about one million people of what ethnicity?
 - A. Russians
 - B. Hungarians
 - C. Armenians
 - D. Egyptians

- 56. General Francisco Franco led which of these factions to victory in the Spanish Civil War?
 - A. Nationalists
 - B. Royalists
 - C. Republicans
 - D. Patriots
- 57. Which of these battles of the Pacific theater largely crippled the offensive capability of the Japanese Navy and was the first in which organized kamikaze attacks were used?
 - A. Manila Bay
 - B. Tsushima Strait
 - C. Leyte Gulf
 - D. Philippine Sea
- 58. The Geneva Conventions of 1949 prohibit all of these EXCEPT which of the following?
 - A. attacking people parachuting from a crashing aircraft
 - B. fighting under a flag of truce or surrender
 - C. wearing an enemy military uniform
 - D. using the symbols of the Red Cross or United Nations to attack an enemy
- 59. ANZAC Day, observed in Australia and New Zealand, commemorates which of the following military actions?
 - A. an attempted Japanese invasion of Australia during World War II
 - B. the Battle of the Somme
 - C. the Battle of the Bulge
 - D. the Gallipoli campaign
- 60. Which of the following leaders pushed Italy to invade Ethiopia in the 1930s?
 - A. Benito Mussolini
 - B. Joseph Stalin
 - C. Franklin Roosevelt
 - D. Neville Chamberlain
- 61. An Athenian force under Miltiades defeated the Persians at what notable 490 BCE battle outside of Athens?
 - A. Marathon
 - B. Actium
 - C. Pharsalus
 - D. Syracuse
- 62. In 865 CE, England was invaded by a force known as which of the following?
 - A. the Spanish Armada
 - B. the Golden Horde
 - C. the Great Heathen Army
 - D. the Normans

- 63. The Battle of Tondibi in 1591 resulted in the collapse of which of these?
 - A. the Umayyad Caliphate
 - B. the Songhai Empire
 - C. the Kingdom of Luba
 - D. the Zulu
- 64. The Anaconda Plan was designed to do which of these at the start of the American Civil War?
 - A. prevent southern states from leaving the Union
 - B. raise 75,000 volunteers for the Union Army
 - C. blockade Confederate ports and divide the southern states at the Mississippi River
 - D. prevent the Confederacy's recognition by Great Britain
- 65. Which of the following best describes the outcome of the First Battle of Marne in 1914?
 - A. Trench warfare began on the Western Front after the German advance was halted.
 - B. The Russian Second Army was almost completely destroyed.
 - C. Germany retreated back out of France after devastating casualties.
 - D. Alsace-Lorraine was annexed by Germany.
- 66. The French Committee of National Liberation, formed in 1943 by Henri Giraud and Charles de Gaulle, set up a transitional government in what African city before reclaiming Paris in 1944?
 - A. Leopoldville
 - B. Brazzaville
 - C. Kinshasa
 - D. Algiers
- 67. Operation Husky was the codename for which of the following during World War II?
 - A. the Allied invasion of Sicily
 - B. the Allied invasion of North Africa
 - C. the German invasion of the Soviet Union
 - D. the Axis bombing campaign in England
- 68. The Selous Scouts were known for the use of biological and chemical weapons and the killing of civilians during which 20th century African conflict?
 - A. the Rhodesian Bush War
 - B. the Arab Spring
 - C. the Cedar Revolution
 - D. the Carnation Revolution
- 69. In the 1795 Battle of Krtsanisi, Qajar Iran defeated the forces of the Kingdom of Kartli-Kakheti and Kingdom of Imereti to capture what city in the Caucasus?
 - A. Baku
 - B. Tbilisi
 - C. Yerevan
 - D. Sochi

- 70. Many historians and medical experts believe that wartime censorship may have increased mortality from which of these in the 20th century?
 - A. the Pearl Harbor attacks
 - B. the Vietnam War
 - C. the 'Spanish' flu pandemic
 - D. the sinking of the Lusitania
- 71. The 331 BCE Battle of Gaugamela was a decisive blow in Alexander the Great's conquest of what empire?
 - A. Egypt
 - B. Persia
 - C. Assyria
 - D. Babylon
- 72. Attila and Bleda led which of the following nomadic groups in the fifth century CE?
 - A. Gauls
 - B. Celts
 - C. Picts
 - D. Huns
- 73. What king of England, the last monarch killed in combat, died at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485?
 - A. Henry VIII
 - B. Henry VII
 - C. George II
 - D. Richard III
- 74. The British fought a series of wars against what empire located in their colony of the Gold Coast in the nineteenth century?
 - A. the Ashanti
 - B. the Fante
 - C. the Zulu
 - D. the Ndwandwe
- 75. The Germans violated the Hague Convention at the Second Battle of Ypres in utilizing what weapon?
 - A. poison gas
 - B. machine guns
 - C. tanks
 - D. howitzers

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.

By the end of 1918, how many men were serving in the British Army?