The 2016 International History Olympiad

Polynesian History Exam

NAME: ____________________________ Affiliation: ____________________________

Division: __________________________

Instructions: Circle the correct answer or leave it blank. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are -1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

1) All Polynesian languages are ultimately derived from a distant ancestral proto-language that was spoken on which island?
   a) Oahu
   b) South Island
   c) Honshu
   d) Taiwan

2) Which island or island group was NOT first settled by Polynesians?
   a) Tokelau
   b) Mariana Islands
   c) Niue
   d) Wallis and Futuna

3) Which of these periods best corresponds to the estimated approximate date range of the first Polynesian settlement of Hawaii?
   a) 10,000-5000 BC
   b) 1000-200 BC
   c) 300-1200 AD
   d) 1800-1900 AD

4) Which Polynesian nation found a significant source of national income by selling the rights to its two-letter internet domain name in the early twentieth century?
   a) Fiji
   b) New Zealand
   c) Tuvalu
   d) Samoa

5) Polynesian cultivation of which crop, widespread by the time of first European contact, has given rise to theories of contact between Polynesians and native South Americans?
   a) Rice
   b) Sweet Potatoes
   c) Pineapples
   d) Tomatoes
6) Which Hawaiian island shares its name with a Polynesian fire god?
   a) Maui
   b) Molokai
   c) Kauai
   d) Oahu

7) The tallest mountain in New Zealand is named for which explorer, who was killed in Hawaii?
   a) William Bligh
   b) Vasco de Gama
   c) James Cook
   d) Ferdinand Magellan

8) Which vessels were instrumental in facilitating Polynesian settlement of the Pacific islands?
   a) Triremes
   b) Pirogues
   c) Ironclads
   d) Outrigger canoes

9) Which Norwegian explorer built the raft Kon-Tiki to test his controversial theories of how Polynesia could have been settled?
   a) Vidkun Quisling
   b) Thor Heyerdahl
   c) Odin Spitsbergen
   d) Fridtjof Nansen

10) Which Polynesian island is almost entirely deforested, and suffered widespread famine and social conflict 17th and 18th centuries largely due to poor land management practices?
    a) Maui
    b) Easter Island
    c) North Island
    d) Pitcairn Island

11) The native Polynesian population of New Zealand is known by what term?
    a) Rapa Nui
    b) Maori
    c) Kahuna
    d) Tapu

12) Which traditional Polynesian war dance is now commonly performed before rugby matches featuring the New Zealand national team known as the All-Blacks?
    a) Haka
    b) Hula
    c) Taupo
    d) Kea
13) Which Polynesian island group saw a large influx of indentured laborers from India when it was under British control in the 19th century?
   a) Samoa
   b) Fiji
   c) Hawaii
   d) Tonga

14) Which sport has become so popular in American Samoa that its residents are said to be 40 times more likely to become professional players of this sport than Americans from the continental USA?
   a) Basketball
   b) Ice Hockey
   c) Baseball
   d) American Football

15) Which French artist moved to Tahiti and painted many colorful paintings featuring its inhabitants?
   a) Eduard Manet
   b) Claude Monet
   c) Paul Cezanne
   d) Paul Gauguin

16) Which tall, flightless bird, somewhat similar to an ostrich, was hunted to extinction by early settlers of New Zealand?
   a) Emus
   b) Rheas
   c) Kiwis
   d) Moas

17) Easter Islanders developed an as-of-yet undeciphered written script called what?
   a) Hiva Oa
   b) Rongorongo
   c) Funafuti
   d) Moai

18) Which Tongan warrior created a unified kingdom in Tonga in the 1840’s and later declared Tonga a constitutional monarchy in 1875?
   a) Tāufaʻāhau
   b) Pōmare I
   c) Apirana Ngata
   d) David Kalākaua
19) Which American anthropologist wrote a much-criticized account of Polynesian adolescence in her book *Coming of Age in Samoa*?
   a) Ruth Benedict  
   b) Margaret Mead  
   c) Margaret Sanger  
   d) Mary Leakey  

20) Which English word was NOT borrowed from a Polynesian language?
   a) Tattoo  
   b) Taboo  
   c) Hula  
   d) Kamikaze  

21) Prior to World War I, Germany controlled a portion of which island group?
   a) Hawaii  
   b) Fiji  
   c) Samoa  
   d) Tonga  

22) What name is given to the 1887 document written by Lorrin Thurston which largely stripped the Hawaiian king of his powers and disenfranchised many native Hawaiians?
   a) Musket Treaty  
   b) Iolani Memorandum  
   c) Hilo Dispatch  
   d) Bayonet Constitution  

23) Which New Zealander became the first man to climb Mount Everest?
   a) George Mallory  
   b) Tenzing Norgay  
   c) Edmund Hillary  
   d) John Key  

24) Which island chain was first settled after the others?
   a) Marquesas  
   b) Fiji  
   c) Tonga  
   d) Samoa  

25) Which Hawaiian senator won the Medal of Honor for service in World War II and served for nearly 50 years, becoming the highest-ranking Asian-American politician in American history?
   a) Daniel Inouye  
   b) Mazie Hirono  
   c) David Ige  
   d) Daniel Akaka
26) A famous mutiny on board the *HMS Bounty* led to the resettlement of which island which had earlier been settled by a Polynesian population which vanished after economic disruptions?
   a) Norfolk Island
   b) Christmas Island
   c) Pitcairn Island
   d) Easter Island

27) Which treaty was signed between Polynesian natives and the British regarding control of New Zealand in 1840?
   a) Treaty of Otago
   b) Treaty of Wellington
   c) Treaty of Waitangi
   d) Treaty of Kermadec

28) The Pōmare Dynasty ruled which island group in the late 18th and 19th centuries?
   a) Hawaii
   b) Fiji
   c) Tahiti
   d) Samoa

29) Which archipelago features the most southerly evidence of Polynesian settlement?
   a) Chatham Islands
   b) Auckland Islands
   c) Cook Islands
   d) Samoa

30) Which island in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands was the site of a major 1942 World War II battle in which Japan lost four aircraft carriers?
   a) Midway
   b) Wake
   c) Molokai
   d) Tarawa

   a) Vijay Singh
   b) Arnold Palmer
   c) Rory McIlroy
   d) Junior Seau
32) Which island or island group has never been controlled by, or been in free association with New Zealand?
   a) Cook Islands
   b) Niue
   c) Tokelau
   d) Tahiti

33) Which author died in and is buried in Samoa under a tombstone that contains his exquisite Requiem as follows:
   Under the wide and starry sky,
   Dig the grave and let me lie.
   Glad did I live and gladly die,
   And I laid me down with a will.
   This be the verse you grave for me:
   Here he lies where he longed to be;
   Home is the sailor, home from sea,
   And the hunter home from the hill.

   a) Herman Melville
   b) Robert Louis Stevenson
   c) Daniel Defoe
   d) James Michener

34) Which New Zealand city has been the most populous city in Polynesia throughout the past 50 years, and also has the largest ethnic Polynesian population of any city on earth?
   a) Auckland
   b) Wellington
   c) Christchurch
   d) Dunedin

35) Which was not a component of traditional Polynesian navigational techniques?
   a) Following groups of birds and other animals
   b) Noting the positions of stars
   c) Recognizing wave and current patterns
   d) Using a magnetic compass and a sextant

36) Which country has controlled Tahiti and the Marquesas since the 19th century?
   a) United Kingdom
   b) Chile
   c) France
   d) United States
37) Which Polynesian island group has NOT adopted a flag featuring the Union Jack?
   a) Hawaii  
   b) Fiji    
   c) New Zealand  
   d) Tonga

38) Which Polynesian country had the word “Western” in front of its name until the 1990’s, which led to a controversy when it was dropped?
   a) Fiji  
   b) Tuvalu  
   c) Samoa  
   d) Tonga

39) Which nation was the first worldwide to grant women a comprehensive right to vote?
   a) New Zealand  
   b) Fiji 
   c) Samoa  
   d) Kingdom of Hawaii

40) Samoa (population 191,000) defeated the USA (population 320,000,000) by the score of 25-16 in the 2015 World Cup of what sport?
   a) Cricket  
   b) Soccer (Football for non-North Americans)  
   c) Rugby  
   d) Canoe Racing

41) Which island in Polynesia has become a magnet for honeymooning couples and features many resorts with private bungalows built over open water?
   a) Bora Bora  
   b) Pitcairn Island  
   c) Stewart Island  
   d) Niue

42) Who became the current king of Tonga in 2012?
   a) Fielakepa II  
   b) Mulikha’a mea I  
   c) Tupoumoheofo III  
   d) Tupou VI
43) Which aviator who crossed the Atlantic in the *Spirit of St. Louis* is buried on the island of Maui?
   a) Amelia Earhart   
   b) Charles Lindbergh   
   c) Steve Fossett   
   d) Wilbur Wright

44) Which island group was attacked by Japanese planes in 1943?
   a) Hawaii   
   b) Tuvalu   
   c) Easter Island   
   d) New Zealand

45) Which film series was directed by New Zealander Peter Jackson and was shot in New Zealand?
   a) Narnia   
   b) Star Wars   
   c) Lord of the Rings   
   d) Kung Fu Panda

46) What type of American ship was not damaged in the Pearl Harbor attack?
   a) Battleships   
   b) Cruisers   
   c) Destroyers   
   d) Aircraft carriers

47) Which nation saw a 2006 coup led by Frank Bainimarama who remains its Prime Minister?
   a) Samoa   
   b) Tonga   
   c) Fiji   
   d) New Zealand

48) Polynesian languages evolved largely lacking which type of sounds?
   a) Affricates and other consonant clusters   
   b) Glottal stops   
   c) Voiceless stop consonants   
   d) Vowels

49) Which basic Hawaiian food has been produced for centuries from the taro plant?
   a) Ahi   
   b) Poi   
   c) Keanu   
   d) Iolani
50) Which man visited Easter Island three times during his time in power in the late 20th century?
   a) Hugo Chavez  
   b) Augusto Pinochet  
   c) Alberto Fujimori  
   d) Juan Peron

51) Who was the first US president to be born in Hawaii?
   a) Bill Clinton  
   b) George W. Bush  
   c) Millard Fillmore  
   d) Barack Obama

52) Whalers and missionaries originating primarily from what region of the USA had a major impact on 19th century Hawaiian history?
   a) Texas  
   b) New England  
   c) The Southeast  
   d) Pacific Northwest

53) Effective quarantining measures helped limit the toll from which disease in American Samoa in 1918?
   a) Measles  
   b) Rabies  
   c) Influenza  
   d) Zika

54) Which New Zealand artist scored a worldwide hit with the song “Royals” in 2013?
   a) Lucy Lawless  
   b) Helen Clark  
   c) Lorde  
   d) OMC

55) Which sect of Christianity, based in Utah, has sent many missionaries to Polynesia?
   a) Seventh-Day Adventists  
   b) Mormons  
   c) Methodists  
   d) Maronites

56) Jacob Roggeveen and Abel Tasman were early European explorers of Polynesia from which country?
   a) Great Britain  
   b) France  
   c) The Netherlands  
   d) Sweden
57) Father Damien is famous for treating people suffering from which disease in an isolated community on Molokai?
   a) Halitosis
   b) Leprosy
   c) Mumps
   d) Tuberculosis

58) The Moto Nui islet played an important role in the Birdman cult of which island?
   a) Kauai
   b) North Island
   c) Hiva Oa
   d) Easter Island

59) Which woman was the last monarch of Hawaii before it became a republic?
   a) Liliʻuokalani
   b) Kaʻahumanu
   c) Liliha
   d) Bernice Bishop

60) Which natural disaster afflicted the New Zealand city of Christchurch in 2011?
   a) Earthquake
   b) Tsunami
   c) Typhoon
   d) Aurora Australis

61) Which Polynesian island group never saw native Polynesians lose political control during the colonial period?
   a) Samoa
   b) Tonga
   c) Fiji
   d) New Zealand

62) The Kingdom of Rarotonga was a short-lived polity centered in which island group?
   a) Hawaii
   b) Cook Islands
   c) Fiji
   d) Tahiti
63) Which fact is not true about the big island of Hawaii?
   a) It is where kona coffee has been grown for decades
   b) It has been home to the Ironman Triathlon World Championships for the past 35 years
   c) Its mountain of Mauna Loa has been monitored by the Hawaii Volcano Observatory since 1912
   d) It is where the Hawaiian monarchy was centered at the Iolani Palace

64) What is a former name for Tuvalu?
   a) Ellice Islands
   b) Line Islands
   c) Gilbert Islands
   d) Aotearoa

65) Which crop has been a common staple crop throughout Polynesia since before contact with Europeans except in New Zealand and Easter Island, where cold weather prevents it from flourishing?
   a) Breadfruit
   b) Sorghum
   c) Wheat
   d) Corn (also known as maize)

66) Fiji is home to a Polynesian language, but many other aspects of its culture are reflective of what other grouping of Pacific islands, which also includes the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu?
   a) Austronesia
   b) Melanesia
   c) Macaronesia
   d) Micronesia

67) Which Olympic gold medal Hawaiian swimmer helped to popularize surfing in the early 20th century?
   a) Don Ho
   b) Duke Kahanamoku
   c) David Kalākaua
   d) Johnny Weissmuller

68) New Zealand troops helped defeat Rommel’s Afrika Korps at which crucial battle fought in Egypt in 1942?
   a) Benghazi
   b) Kasserine Pass
   c) El Alamein
   d) Suez
69) Which is a common Polynesian cultural practice that has been adopted by many other cultures?
   a) Tattooing
   b) Totem poles
   c) Cargo cults
   d) Saunas

70) Clans such as the Teva and cult sites known as marae were features of Polynesian life on which island?
   a) Tahiti
   b) Easter Island
   c) Oahu
   d) South Island

71) Which neighborhood on Oahu became the center of the Hawaiian tourist industry in the 20th century?
   a) Punch Bowl
   b) Waianae
   c) Waikiki
   d) Haleakala

72) Te Kooti founded what syncretic religion in New Zealand that incorporates Christianity and traditional Polynesian beliefs?
   a) Ringatu
   b) Santeria
   c) Candomble
   d) Druze

73) The Prime Minister of Tuvalu, Enele Sopoaga, said “Let’s do it for Tuvalu. For if we save Tuvalu we save the world” at a 2015 UN conference that focused on what threat?
   a) The spread of the brown tree snake
   b) The Zika outbreak
   c) Global warming
   d) Unrestricted submarine warfare from the Samoan navy

74) Which island or island group recently shifted from driving on the right to driving on the left, and also shifted its time zone in 2011 so that it’s now west of the International Date Line?
   a) New Zealand
   b) Tahiti
   c) Easter Island
   d) Samoa
75) Which lightly-populated Hawaiian island was the site of a namesake incident involving a Japanese fighter pilot who crash landed after the Pearl Harbor attack, and was later killed? 
   a) Niʻihau  
   b) Lanai 
   c) Laysan 
   d) Kahoʻolawe