

2015 International History Olympiad

THE BATTERY

A Test of History Knowledge in Four Sections

SECTION I: The History of Europe

SECTION II: The History of the Americas, Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania

SECTION III: The History of East Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East

SECTION IV: The History of South Asia, Africa, and Assorted Miscellaneous Questions

- You will earn **THREE** points for each correct response, lose **ONE** point for each incorrect response, and neither gain nor lose any points for blank responses.
- Please write on the top portion of a new answer sheet:
 - 1) Your name
 - 2) Your affiliation
 - 3) Your division
 - 4) Which section of the Battery you are taking (**Section IV**)You do not need to fill out the School ID or Student ID portions.
- Please answer the questions on the provided sheets. Answers in this packet will not be graded unless you have made special arrangements otherwise
- Please use a pencil when filling in your answer sheet.

Part IV: South Asia, Africa, and Assorted Miscellaneous Questions

1. Led by Velupillai Prabhakaran, what terrorist organization employed suicide bombers against the government of Sri Lanka during a three-decade long civil war?
 - a) The Tamil Tigers
 - b) Euskadi Ta Askatasuna
 - c) The Naxalites
 - d) Pathet Lao
2. Under whose leadership did a period of political repression and human rights abuses such as forced sterilization take place between 1975 and 1977?
 - a) Joko Widodo
 - b) Pervez Musharraf
 - c) Indira Gandhi
 - d) Omar Bongo
3. Tenzing Norgay, who accompanied Sir Edmund Hillary on his ascent of Mt. Everest, is of what ethnic group, known for taking climbers up the world's tallest mountain?
 - a) Uyghur
 - b) Sherpa
 - c) Tamil
 - d) Hmong
4. Which Mughal emperor's passion for religious tolerance was exemplified by his creation of his own religion, the Din-i-Ilahi?
 - a) Aurengzeb
 - b) Shah Jahan
 - c) Jahangir
 - d) Akbar
5. Which of the following Indian cities was under French colonial control?
 - a) Pondicherry
 - b) Hyderabad
 - c) Bombay
 - d) Margao
6. In what Indian city did British officer Reginald Dyer order soldiers to fire into a crowd of pilgrims and peaceful protestors?
 - a) Delhi
 - b) Amritsar
 - c) Calcutta
 - d) Chennai
7. Which final human Guru of Sikhism appointed the Adi Granth – the holy text of Sikhism – to be his successor?
 - a) Guru Nanak
 - b) Guru Arjan
 - c) Guru Gobind Singh
 - d) Guru Har Rai

8. What name is given to India's first successful test of a nuclear weapon?
a) Chagai-I
b) Smiling Buddha
c) Operation Shakti
d) Kirana-I
9. What 1999 conflict broke out when Pakistan attempted to seize some areas of Kashmir controlled by India?
a) Kargil War
b) War of the Mountains
c) Jammu War
d) Balochistan War
10. Taking power in a coup, which eccentric Burmese leader bathed in dolphin blood and caused a financial panic after changing the currency on the advice of a fortune teller?
a) U Nu
b) Aang Sang
c) Ne Win
d) Smith Dun
11. Who was the winning commander at the Battle of Plassey?
a) Charles Cornwallis
b) Eyre Coote
c) Siraj ud-Daulah
d) Robert Clive
12. The rise of what Indian polity is credited in part for the decline of the Mughal Empire?
a) Gurkani Empire
b) Mysore Empire
c) Maratha Empire
d) Sultanate of Delhi
13. What Pakistani political party has traditionally been dominated by the Bhutto family?
a) Pakistan Peoples Party
b) People's Power Party
c) Socialist Party of Pakistan
d) Pakistani Front for Liberty and Progress
14. Which of the following good was NOT a major export of British Ceylon?
a) Tea b) Rubber c) Cinnamon d) Gold
15. Which rival of Mohammed Ali Jinnah became a major leader of the Non-Aligned Movement after helping India gain independence and becoming its first Prime Minister?
a) Moraji Desai
b) Indira Gandhi
c) Jawaharal Nehru
d) Mohandas K. Gandhi

16. Alexander the Great conquered an empire that stretched from:
- a) Macedonia to Greece
 - b) Greece to Asia Minor
 - c) Egypt to Persia
 - d) Greece to the Indus Valley
17. What led to Ashoka's conversion to Buddhism?
- a) He saw a large Buddha in the sky during a battle
 - b) He was horrified by the bloodiness of the Kalinga War
 - c) He was moved by one of Siddhartha Gautama's sermons
 - d) He was held prisoner by a Buddhist army for ten years
18. Which of the following was one of the earliest Indian cities?
- a) Tamil
 - b) Kachenjunga
 - c) Mohenjo-Daro
 - d) Delhi
19. From the Sanskrit word for knowledge, these books form the foundation of Indus Valley religious beliefs.
- a) Dead Sea Scrolls
 - b) Vedas
 - c) Vulgates
 - d) Ziggurats
20. Mohandas Gandhi led a march named for what material?
- a) Sand
 - b) Salt
 - c) Gold
 - d) Silver
21. It is relatively easy to invade India from the Northwest because of the:
- a) Himalaya Mountains
 - b) the Deccan Plateau
 - c) the Pyrenees Pass
 - d) the Khyber Pass
22. The most dominant feature of India's climate is the presence of seasonal winds, known as the:
- a) Protestant wind
 - b) Santa Anna
 - c) typhoons
 - d) monsoons
23. Which empire was not located in India?
- a) Maratha
 - b) Gupta
 - c) Almoravid
 - d) Mauryan
24. Which country was formerly part of Pakistan?
- a) Bangladesh
 - b) Afghanistan
 - c) Bhutan
 - d) Tajikistan

25. Which man was one of the last British viceroys of India?
a) Scharnhorst
b) Mountbatten
c) Raglan
d) Attlee
26. Which country was devastated by a 2015 earthquake?
a) Maldives
b) Myanmar
c) Turkmenistan
d) Nepal
27. Of the following, which Indian state was created most recently?
a) Mizoram
b) Karnataka
c) Himachal Pradesh
d) Telangana
28. Who wrote about his time in Burma in works like "Shooting an Elephant"?
a) Michael Crichton
b) Rudyard Kipling
c) George Orwell
d) Winston Churchill
29. What Indian cricketer, considered by some to be the best batsman ever, retired in 2013?
a) Sachin Tendulkar b) Abdul Qadir c) Shoaid Aktar d) Rajiv Gandhi
30. What British-born Sri Lankan rapper is the daughter of a rebel from that island's civil war?
a) Nicki Minaj b) Lil Kim c) M.I.A. d) Fetty Wap
31. Which explorer famously remarked "Dr. Livingstone, I presume?" after meeting up with that explorer in central Africa and also searched for the source of the Nile River?
a) Henry Morton Stanley
b) John Cabot
c) Richard Francis Burton
d) Frederick Russell Burnham
32. Ernest Hemingway titled one of his short stories after the "Snows of" what mountain, the highest one in Africa?
a) Mount Kenya
b) Mount Elgon
c) Mount Kilimanjaro
d) Table Mountain
33. Which one of these cities is not a capital of South Africa?
a) Cape Town
b) Johannesburg
c) Pretoria
d) Bloemfontaine

34. The authors Chinua Achebe and Wole Soyinka are native to what African country, where the author Ken Saro-Wiwa was executed?

- a) Senegal
- b) Nigeria
- c) Mali
- d) Algeria

35. The 1274 BC Battle of Kadesh was supposedly the largest-ever clash of what military weapons?

- a) Chariots
- b) War elephants
- c) Catapults
- d) Spears

36. What mythical Queen of Carthage self-immolated on a pyre after being abandoned by her lover, the Trojan hero Aeneas?

- a) Sheba
- b) Hatshepsut
- c) Dido
- d) Nefertiti

37. The Axumite Empire, led by King Ezana, converted to what religion in the 300s AD?

- a) Judaism
- b) Christianity
- c) Zoroastrianism
- d) Islam

38. The movie *Black Hawk Down* was inspired by a battle located in what city, the capital of Somalia?

- a) Mogadishu
- b) Asmara
- c) Hargeisa
- d) Djibouti

39. What novel by Joseph Conrad follows Marlow's search for the crazed Kurtz in the jungles of the Congo Free State?

- a) The Secret Sharer
- b) Nostromo
- c) The Secret Agent
- d) Heart of Darkness

40. What province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo names a crisis during the 1960s which led to the rule of Mobutu Sese Seko?

- a) Katanga
- b) Bandundu
- c) Orientale
- d) Maniema

41. The Camp David Accords were signed by Menachem Begin and what Egyptian President in 1978?

- a) Hosni Mubarak
- b) Mohammed Morsi
- c) Anwar Sadat
- d) Gamal Abdel Nasser

42. The Battles of Rorke's Drift and Isandlwana were fought during a British conflict against what kingdom led by Shaka and Dingane?

- a) Zimbabwe
- b) Zulu
- c) Rhodesia
- d) Kalahari

43. What President of South Africa presided over the end of apartheid and shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Nelson Mandela?

- a) F. W. de Klerk
- b) Desmond Tutu
- c) Steven Biko
- d) Ian Smith

44. During World War II, before the development of the Final Solution, Hitler briefly considered deporting some European Jews to what African country?

- a) Botswana
- b) Madagascar
- c) The Seychelles
- d) Namibia

45. What longtime dictator of the Central African Republic nearly bankrupted the nation which his lavish spending at his coronation and succeeded David Dacko?

- a) Francois Bozize
- b) Catherine Samba-Panza
- c) Jean-Bedel Bokassa
- d) Andre Kolingba

46. The pied-noirs were people of French ancestry who opposed the FLN in what nation's war of independence, which ended in 1962?

- a) Algeria
- b) Morocco
- c) Tunisia
- d) Libya

47. The shortest war in recorded history occurred in 1896 and was fought between the British Empire and what Sultanate, which later combined with Tanganyika?

- a) Zanzibar
- b) Swahili
- c) Zimbabwe
- d) Arusha

48. In 1976, Israeli Defense Forces carried out a rescue mission at Entebbe Airport in what country, then ruled by Idi Amin?

- a) Malawi
- b) Kenya
- c) Uganda
- d) Botswana

49. What is the name given to the strip of land between the Sahara Desert and the more temperate climates to the south?

- a) Savannah
- b) Transvaal
- c) Sahel
- d) African Cape

50. The founder of the Mali Empire, Sundiata Keita, was born with what physical defect?

- a) He was blind
- b) He couldn't walk
- c) He had an extra finger on his right hand
- d) He was extremely tall

51. During World War II, Bernard Montgomery repelled the forces of the "Desert Fox" Erwin Rommel at two battles named for what location in Egypt?

- a) Tobruk
- b) Alexandria
- c) El Alamein
- d) Giza

52. The Ivory Coast, Algeria, and Mali were all colonized by what European power?

- a) Spain
- b) Germany
- c) Britain
- d) France

53. Lord Kitchener, perhaps best known for appearing on posters declaring "Your country needs you!", defeated forces loyal to the Mahdi at the Battle of Omdurman in what present-day nation?

- a) Libya
- b) Sudan
- c) Ethiopia
- d) Chad

54. The 2011 revolution to remove Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali was named for what kind of flower, the national flower of Tunisia?

- a) Violet
- b) Rose
- c) Carnation
- d) Jasmine

55. What dictator of Africa leads the ZANU-PF party and has presided over massive hyperinflation in his nation since he took power in 1980?
- a) Robert Mugabe
 - b) Omar al-Bashir
 - c) Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
 - d) Edgar Lungu
56. What civilization was chronicled by the historian Manetho?
- a) Egypt
 - b) Mali
 - c) Songhai
 - d) Nubia
57. In Alex Haley's novel *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*, the protagonist, Kunta Kinte, belongs to what tribe of the Gambia?
- a) Serahuli
 - b) Jola
 - c) Wolof
 - d) Mandinka
58. The HMS Newport maneuvered its way past the French ship "L'Aigle" to accomplish what feat?
- a) Be the first to go through the Cape of Good Hope
 - b) Circumnavigate Africa
 - c) Pass through the Suez Canal
 - d) Pass through the Red Sea
59. Jane Goodall studied chimpanzees in what East African country's Gombe Stream National Park?
- a) Burundi
 - b) Uganda
 - c) Tanzania
 - d) Rwanda
60. The flag of what African nation contains a machete crossed with a cogwheel on a red and black background?
- a) Angola
 - b) Mozambique
 - c) Republic of the Congo
 - d) Namibia
51. The Gold Coast and the nation that it became, Ghana, were led by what African leader who commissioned the construction of the Akosombo Dam?
- a) Kwame Brown
 - b) Kwame Nkrumah
 - c) Julius Nyerere
 - d) Joseph Kabila

62. A 1884 Conference held in what European city led to the major European powers dividing up Africa for their own colonization?
- a) Paris
 - b) London
 - c) Rome
 - d) Berlin
63. Which one of these writers was NOT involved in the philosophical and literary tradition known as Negritude that developed in the 1930s?
- a) Aime Cesaire
 - b) Frantz Fanon
 - c) Leopold Senghor
 - d) Leon Damas
64. Queen Ranavalona I was a 19th-century isolationist monarch of what country, later ruled by France?
- a) Chad
 - b) Burkina Faso
 - c) South Africa
 - d) Madagascar
65. The area referred to as *Zenj* by Arabic traders, included cities such as:
- a) Gao
 - b) Adoghost
 - c) Barawa
 - d) Jenne
66. In the 13th century CE, the *Bet Giorgis* was built at the order of King Lalibela in the kingdom of
- a) Egypt
 - b) Morocco
 - c) Tunisia
 - d) Ethiopia
67. What cyclical event had a major effect on the farmers of ancient Egypt?
- a) Total eclipses of the sun
 - b) Hurricane season
 - c) The November Sandstorms
 - d) Inundation of the Nile
68. Which of the following is not the name of a notable Carthaginian?
- a) Hannibal
 - b) Harappa
 - c) Hasdrubal
 - d) Hamilcar
- 69) Cecil Rhodes had an unsuccessful plan for a north-south railroad link between what two places?
- a) Cape of Good Hope and Cairo
 - b) Addis Ababa and Accra
 - c) Mogadishu and Morocco
 - d) Windhoek and Western Sahara
- 70) What was the name rebels gave to the short-lived breakaway state in Northern Mali in 2012?
- a) Timbuktustan
 - b) Azawad
 - c) al-Barak
 - d) Biafra

71. Daniel Walker Howe's *What Hath God Wrought* is titled for the first words that were delivered over the Baltimore-Washington line of what invention?

- a) Telegraph
- b) Television
- c) Radio
- d) Fiber optics

72. Barbara Tuchman's account of the opening month of World War I is titled for the "Guns of" what month?

- a) September
- b) August
- c) July
- d) June

73. What Greek historian chronicled events such as the Funeral Oration of Pericles in his *History of the Peloponnesian War*?

- a) Xenophon
- b) Thucydides
- c) Heraclitus
- d) Herodotus

74. What pioneer of "soft power" and "neoliberalism" is a prominent international relations scientist at Harvard University?

- a) Joseph Nye
- b) Hedley Bull
- c) Hans Kochler
- d) E. H. Carr

75. When Gamal Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal

- a) The US supported British intervention
- b) the British supported US intervention
- c) the British and French sent in military troops
- d) The USSR sent in military troops

76. Hector Guimard designed the Art Nouveau entrances for many Parisian examples of what locations, one of which was attacked with sarin gas in Tokyo in 1995?

- a) Bus stops
- b) Art museums
- c) Gymnasiums
- d) Subways

77. *Mita*, like the *corvée* in France, and the *robot* in eastern Europe, required people to give which of the following to their Incan overlords?

- a) labor
- b) silver
- c) animals
- d) women.

78. The Golden Triangle and Golden Crescent are named for their production of what commodity, which Thomas De Quincey described in his "Confessions of a [this] Eater"?

- a) Asparagus
- b) Daffodils
- c) Opium
- d) Sunflower

79. The Dunning School studied what period of American history, which was also studied by the Nationalist, Marxist, and Southern Agrarian schools?

- a) Reconstruction
- b) Second Great Awakening
- c) First Great Awakening
- d) Second Industrial Revolution

80. Edward Gibbon's *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* was often criticized in his day for blaming what factor for the destruction of the empire?

- a) Excessive public drunkenness
- b) Pederasty
- c) The spread of Christianity
- d) Hunnic invasions

81. What American academic championed "consensus history" in the post-WWII period and wrote works such as *The Age of Reform* and *Anti-intellectualism in American Life*?

- a) Clinton Rossiter
- b) Allan Bloom
- c) Richard Hofstadter
- d) Viktor Frankl

82. What author's incredibly lengthy 12-volume *A Study of History* examines the rise and fall of 26 different civilizations?

- a) Eric Voegelin
- b) Oswald Spengler
- c) Arnold Toynbee
- d) Melvyn Leffler

83. The House of Wisdom was an example of what kind of building, of which examples in the modern world include the Regenstein at the University of Chicago and the Widener at Harvard University?

- a) Library
- b) Concert hall
- c) Research lab
- d) Courthouse

84. What resident of the Kingdom of Northumbria is frequently referred to as the "Venerable" and wrote *The Ecclesiastical History of the English People*?

- a) Boethius
- b) Winston Churchill
- c) Asser
- d) Bede

85. What phrase first used in John Dryden's *The Conquest of Granada* describes an ideal sought out by the Earl of Shaftesbury and not, as usually described, by Jean-Jacques Rousseau?

- a) "Good human"
- b) "Noble savage"
- c) "Beloved infidel"
- d) "Worthy adversary"

86. What amateur painter and historian won the Nobel Prize in Literature for his six-volume *History of the Second World War*, which includes the sections "Gathering Storm" and "Their Finest Hour"?

- a) Clement Attlee
- b) Franklin D. Roosevelt
- c) Winston Churchill
- d) George Orwell

87. What Roman orator and historian was famous for ending each speech with "Carthago delenda est", or "Carthage must be destroyed"?

- a) Cato the Elder
- b) Cato the Younger
- c) Pliny the Elder
- d) Cicero

88. The most powerful state to rule in northern Peru prior to the Incan conquest was the coastal kingdom of

- a) Cuzco
- b) Chimor
- c) Texcoco
- d) Tupiza

89. One of the most important deities of the Aztec religion was Huitzilopochtli, whose strength was derived from:

- a) offerings of human sacrifice
- b) continued territorial expansion into Mesoamerica
- c) building massive temples and pyramids to the gods
- d) erecting stone sculptures glorifying war heroes

90. Jules Michelet is best known for coining what term for the flourishing of culture in Italy during the 15th and 16th centuries?

- a) The Rejouissance
- b) The Renaissance
- c) The Puissance
- d) The Ressentiment

91. What institution was ended in Brazil with the Golden Law of 1888 and was campaigned against by William Wilburforce in the UK?

- a) Compulsory public schooling
- b) Sending children to work
- c) Slavery
- d) Miscegenation

92. Which of these animals is commonly thought to have been the first one domesticated by humankind?
a) Sheep b) Goats c) Cattle d) Dogs
93. A Mycenaean artifact discovered in 1876 by Heinrich Schliemann depicts the golden funeral mask of what ancient Greek figure?
a) Achilles
b) Agamemnon
c) Heracles
d) Poseidon
94. Edward Drinker Cope and Othniel Charles Marsh competed during the Gilded Age in the United States to be the one to accumulate the most of what kind of object?
a) Gold coins b) Dinosaur bones c) Oil fields d) Salt flats
95. Which one of these authors caused a controversy in 1964 when he rejected the Nobel Prize in Literature, declaring that “a writer must therefore refuse to let himself be transformed into an institution”?
a) Jean-Paul Sartre
b) William Faulkner
c) Miguel Asturias
d) Samuel Beckett
96. What founder of the Foursquare Church was reportedly kidnapped in 1926, causing a great national controversy?
a) Aimee McPherson
b) Pattie Hearst
c) Billy Sunday
d) Father Coughlin
97. The *Hindenburg* disaster and the setting of Orson Welles' *The War of the Worlds* both occurred in what U.S. east coast state?
a) New York b) Pennsylvania c) Virginia d) New Jersey
98. The exotic dancer Mata Hari was tried and executed in 1917 for allegedly spying FOR what nation during World War I?
a) Great Britain b) France c) Germany d) Russia
99. What scientist who worked at Bletchley Park during World War II was played by Benedict Cumberbatch in the 2014 movie *The Imitation Game*?
a) Kim Philby
b) Richard Feynman
c) Stephen Hawking
d) Alan Turing
100. What Roman soldier, politician, and author wrote the *Commentaries on the Gallic War* to chronicle his experiences fighting Vercingetorix on the frontier?
a) Augustus
b) Julius Caesar
c) Marcus Aurelius

d) Hadrian