

International History Olympiad
Sample Questions – Recent History Bee

Varsity / Junior Varsity Samples

Up to a thousand protestors against this event were killed in the Rabaa Square massacre. At the end of this event, Supreme Constitutional Court head Adly Mansour was named interim head of state, and the leader of the Freedom and Justice Party was placed under house arrest at the Presidential Republican Guards Club. General al-Sisi was believed to be the driving force behind this event, which took place on July 3, 2013. For the point, identify this event in which the winner of the 2012 Egyptian presidential election was forcibly removed from office.

ANSWER: the **overthrow** of Mohamed **Morsi** [or military **coup** against Mohamed **Morsi**, etc.]

This man denied throwing a chair at Mark Lukovsky in 2005, which led to a 2009 video which claimed he fired an employee for insufficient enthusiasm over a new search engine. Futurama actor John DiMaggio played this man in the 1999 movie *Pirates of Silicon Valley*, which was released a year before he began a fourteen-year CEO stint that ended with his replacement by Satya Nadella. Following the Donald Sterling scandal, this man purchased the Los Angeles Clippers in 2014. For the point, name this successor to Bill Gates as CEO of Microsoft.

ANSWER: Steve **Ballmer**

This event occurred after a failed grenade attack by a group including Abu-Bakr Yunis Jabr. Rami al-Obeidi claimed this event was made possible by Bashar al-Assad, who sold a phone number to French intelligence in exchange for softer French treatment of Syria. This event took place on October 20, 2011 during the National Transitional Council's capture of Sirte. It was captured on a cell phone video which showed that it resulted from a beating and a bullet to the head, as opposed to a death in combat as first claimed. For the point, identify this event which ended the life of a dictator of Libya.

ANSWER: **death** of Muammar **Gaddafi**

This city is the namesake of an economic bloc of countries that has recently expanded to include several former Soviet Republics in Central Asia. This city was the site of a disaster on New Year's Eve 2014 that saw dozens of people trampled to death along the Bund. This city is now home to the world's second tallest building, though by most measures, it has become the world's largest by population. For the point, name this city where a maglev train originally meant for Germany was installed to connect its center with Pu Dong Airport.

ANSWER: **Shanghai**

This country won the 2004 European Football Championships as a 100-1 shot, finishing with a 1-0 victory in the final over Portugal. This country has seen the controversial rise of the neo-fascist Golden Dawn party, whose logo bears resemblance to a swastika. Economist Paul Krugman has defended this nation's calls for easing austerity policies, which he claims have led this country into a depression, though many German officials disagree with him. For the point, name this country, where the Syriza party triumphed in a 2015 election amid fears this nation might be the first to leave the Eurozone.

ANSWER: **Greece**

Middle School / Junior Varsity Samples

This country is the largest in South America to have used the US dollar as its official currency in the 21st century, although its president Rafael Correa has taken anti-US stances along with the governments of Venezuela and Bolivia. This country has seen protests against its plans to expand oil drilling in its part of the Amazon rain forest. One of this country's embassies is where Julian Assange of Wikileaks fame sought asylum in London. For the point, name this nation in the Andes whose Galapagos Islands have been an important source of tourist income in recent years.

ANSWER: **Ecuador**

Instruments carried by this vessel include the "ChemCam" and the Dynamic Albedo of Neutrons, which was used to probe subterranean water. This vessel made ground contact in the Gale Crater at a site named in honor of a recently deceased author, Bradbury Landing. This vessel's successful landing was the subject of news coverage that elevated engineer Bobak Ferdowsi into Internet fame as "Mohawk guy." It touched down in August 2012 and is one of two currently active probes on its planet, along with *Opportunity*. For the point, name this NASA Mars rover.

ANSWER: **Curiosity**

This country's People Channel was taken off the air due to sympathy for anti-government demonstrators during protests dubbed "Cruel April" and "Savage May." This country's United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship launched the Red Shirt protests against Abhisit Vejjajiva and eventually brought Yingluck Shinawatra to power. This country has also seen recent separatist conflict near its southern border with Malaysia. For the point, name this country where a 2014 military coup once again targeted Bangkok.

ANSWER: **Thailand** [Kingdom of **Thailand**; or **Ratcha Anachak Thai**; or **Prathet Thai**]