

Sample German Military History Questions

(Note: These were taken from past NHBB sets – the actual set used at the Olympiad may have somewhat more obscure answerlines on average, as we have 130 questions to ask on this topic)

1. This man allegedly spared the town of Rothenburg after its mayor was able to drink 3.25 liters of wine. The term "magdeburgization" arose from an incident in which this man's troops pillaged Magdeburg. This man, who was killed crossing the Lech River during the Battle of the Rain against the Swedes, gained notice for leading the Catholic League to victory at White Mountain. The Imperial army was led by Albrecht von Wallenstein and this man, who was born Johann Tserclaes. For the point, name this Bavarian commander of the Thirty Years War whose service granted him the title "count."
Answer: Count (of) **Tilly** (accept Johann Tserclaes before mentioned)

2. One of these objects was nicknamed the "Auntie Ju," and another produced by Heinkel was nicknamed the "Griffin." The most famous of these objects employed automatic divebrakes and was known for the sirens produced by the "Jericho Trumpet." These objects were often protected by Messerschmitt 109s. The most famous of these vehicles was the Stuka, and these vehicles carried out a raid on Coventry during the Blitz. For the point, name these aircraft whose dropped explosives caused firestorms during the Blitzkrieg.

Answer: Nazi German **bombers** (accept divebombers; prompt on general terms for aircraft, but do not accept or prompt specific types, like fighters)

3. One side in this battle refused to give combat until two swords were sent to their general as a challenge. The Siege of Marienberg occurred shortly before this battle, which led to the Peace of Thorn. Ulrich von Jungingen was killed leading a charge against the troops of Vytautas and Jagiello, leading to a romanticization of this battle in Nazi propaganda. Though it took place nowhere nearby, the greatest victory of Hindenberg and Ludendorff in World War 1 shares a name with this battle so that the defeat of the Teutonic Knights in this battle could be avenged. For the point, name this large medieval battle between Poland-Lithuania and the Teutonic Order.

Answer: Battle of **Grunwald** (or Battle of Zalgiris; accept First Battle of Tannenberg; prompt on Tannenberg)

4. On the night before this battle, when a commander went amongst his soldiers to observe their behavior, they lit their straw bedding to guide him back to his tent. The victor at this battle killed many retreating forces by having his soldiers shoot the ice they fled over. That commander deliberately abandoned a plateau before this battle, allowing Nicolas Soult to charge up the plateau and destroy the enemy's center; that plateau was the Pratzen Heights. The losers at this battle were forced to sign the Treaty of Pressburg, which created the Confederation of the Rhine. For the point, name this 1805 battle in the modern-day Czech Republic, where Napoleon defeated Francis II and Alexander I.

Answer: Battle of **Austerlitz** (or the Battle of the Three Emperors)

5. These people gained independence following the War of the Thuringian Succession, though they would later form unions with cities like Kassel and Marburg. A king of these people, Philip, lost the Battle of Mulberg while leading the Schmalkaldic League against Charles V. In another war, a force of these people were attacked by troops using the call-sign "victory or death;" in that attack, Johann Rall led a group of these people that were ambushed after an opposing general crossed an icy river on Christmas night. For the point, name these German mercenaries who fought for England in the Revolutionary War and were ambushed when Washington crossed the Delaware.

Answer: **Hessians** (prompt on Germans)

6. In this battle, the XII Corps [[twelfth "core"]] under Barthelemy Lebrun blocked off several streets in Bazeilles [[bah-zay-uh]]. During this battle, a cavalry charge on the town of Floing injured General Marguerite, and command passed to General Ducrot [[do-crow]] after one commander was wounded. The Army of Chalons under MacMahon attacked the Third Army and Army of the Meuse in this battle, in which Chassepot [[shass-poh]] rifles and Krupp artillery were used. General von Moltke won this battle, sealing enemy forces in Metz and capturing Napoleon III. For the point, name this decisive battle of the Franco-Prussian War.

Answer: Battle of **Sedan**

7. At the start of this battle, Herwarth von Bittenfeld held a defensive position on the Bystrice River. The cutting of telegraph lines before this battle delayed the arrival of Frederick III's 2nd Army. A month after this battle, the winners pushed for lenient surrender terms in the Peace of Prague and the North German Confederation was formed without this battle's loser, which formed a dual monarchy with Hungary a year later. For the point, name this decisive victory for the elder Helmuth von Moltke during the Seven Weeks War in which the Prussians triumphed over Austria.

Answer: Battle of **Königgrätz** (or Battle of Sadowa)

8. Though this general was pushed back to Gazala during Operation Crusader, he managed to capture Tobruk from Claude Auchinleck shortly after. This man's strategy of setting wooden poles to block glider landings led the logs to become known as this man's "asparagus." This man was put in charge of defending the Atlantic Wall during D-Day two years after he lost to Bernard Montgomery at the First Battle of El Alamein. For the point, name this German general whose North African campaigns earned him the nickname "Desert Fox."

Answer: Erwin **Rommel**

9. This man was appointed to lead a foreign intervention in the November Uprising after August von Gneisenau died of cholera, though this man later died of cholera, too. This man described a "fascinating trinity" made up of violence, chance, and subordination and, while discussing decision making in the face of uncertain circumstances, coined the term "fog of war." This man noted that "War is the continuation of politics by other means" in his most famous work. For the point, name this 19th century Prussian commander, the author of On War.

Answer: Carl von **Clausewitz**

10. The losers of this battle marched from the Weser River while another force was occupied in Pannonia. One general in this battle had served with the other side by orders of his father, Segimerus the Conqueror. The losers of this battle fell into a trap near the Kalkriese Hill. Maroboduus rejected an alliance from the victor at this battle, Arminius, who was later twice defeated by a man who recaptured two eagle standards, Germanicus. For the point, name this 9 AD Roman defeat to Germanic tribes that caused Augustus to cry "Quintilius Varus, give me back my legions!"

Answer: Battle of **Teutoburg Forest**