



2022 Country Exam – History of Poland

Name _____

Country OR State _____

Division (circle ONE) – V JV MS Elementary

ID Number _____

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.

1. The earliest known example of which of these in Europe dates to the Neolithic period in Poland?

- A. winemaking
- B. bread making
- C. cheesemaking
- D. dairy farming

2. Biskupin is an archaeological site representing what culture of early Iron Age Poland?

- A. Lusatian
- B. Carpathian
- C. Macedonian
- D. Slovene

3. The 'house' and 'face' urns of the Pomeranian culture starting in the 7th century BCE are thought to be influenced by which other European culture of the period?

- A. Phoenician
- B. Etruscan
- C. Minoan
- D. Gallic

4. During antiquity, Roman legions were sent to modern-day Poland to protect the lucrative trade route for which good?

- A. olive oil
- B. silk
- C. wheat
- D. amber

5. Which of these was NOT an ancient population in modern-day Poland in the period from 400 BCE to 500 CE?

- A. Celts
- B. Sarmatians
- C. Huns
- D. Slavs

6. Which of these was NOT one of the Lechitic-speaking Polish tribes mentioned in the Primary Chronicle by Nestor in the 11th century CE?

- A. the Rus
- B. the Polans
- C. the Pomeranians
- D. the Mosavians

7. Which of these leaders brought about the Christianization of Poland in the late 10th century?

- A. Bořivoj I
- B. Wenceslas
- C. Adalbert
- D. Mieszko I

8. Which of these is considered the first person to describe the history of Poland, including the origins of the Piast dynasty?

- A. Josephus
- B. Bede
- C. Gallus Anonymus
- D. Strabo

9. Which of these men was crowned the first king of Poland in 1025?

- A. Bolesław I
- B. Otto I
- C. Casimir I
- D. Vojtěch

10. Which of these was NOT a cause of the first collapse of the Piast dynasty in the 1030s?

- A. invasions from Germany and Kievan Rus' in the early 1030s
- B. raids on Polish towns by the Huns
- C. the death of Mieszko II Lambert in 1034
- D. a rebellion by pagans and peasants in the 1030s

11. Due to his recovery of lands lost prior to his reign, King Casimir I gained which of these epithets?

- A. 'the Great'
- B. 'the Conqueror'
- C. 'the Restorer'
- D. 'the Builder'

12. Which of these men was martyred during the reign of Bolesław II and became the first Polish-born Catholic saint?

- A. Stanislaus of Szczepanów
- B. Adalbert of Prague
- C. Bruno of Querfurt
- D. Jovan Vladimir

13. Bolesław III did which of these in the Testament of 1138, helping to further internal conflict within Poland?
- ceded much of Eastern Poland to Keivan Rus'
 - divided his lands among his sons, including Władysław II the Exile
 - opened Poland to the Teutonic Knights
 - began a systematic persecution of Christians
14. The Battle of Legnica was the culmination of an invasion of Poland by which of these in the early 1240s?
- the Ottomans
 - the Greeks
 - a Crusader army
 - the Mongols
15. Which of these is NOT true of Casimir the Great?
- he founded the Jagiellonian University in 1364
 - he lost his throne as a result of the Congress of Krakow
 - he died in 1370 from a hunting injury
 - he is called the 'Polish Justinian' for his reform of the law code
16. Before he was King of Poland, Wladyslaw Jagiello served as the Grand Duke of which of the following?
- Estonia
 - Lithuania
 - Finland
 - Latvia
17. The Union of Krewo brought which of the following regions under Polish control?
- Ruthenia
 - Galatia
 - Carinthia
 - Dalmatia
18. Which of the following best describes the szlachta estate of Poland?
- Catholic clergyman
 - noble landowners
 - urban peasants
 - indentured servants
19. Wladyslaw III's reign was cut short with his death at what Polish-Ottoman conflict?
- Battle of Gallipoli
 - Battle of Polog
 - Battle of Oranik
 - Battle of Varna
20. Prussia was incorporated into Poland with the marriage of Casimir IV and what Hapsburg princess?
- Catherine of Henneberg
 - Sophia of Halshany
 - Elizabeth of Austria
 - Anne of Luxembourg
21. Which of the following describes the Nihil novi act adopted in 1505?
- It transferred most of the legislative power from the king to the Sejm.
 - It created the office of Prime Minister.
 - It granted judicial powers to the king.
 - It abolished the king's council and established the Sejm.
22. The Chicken War Rebellion was a 1537 anti-absolutist rebellion in what city in Lesser Poland?
- Chelm
 - Sanok
 - Lwow
 - Braclaw
23. Sigismund I the Old established which of the following to consolidate his power?
- a military officer academy
 - a permanent conscription army
 - a joint committee of foreign ministers
 - a cabinet of economic advisors
24. What Polish Jesuit produced the predominant translation of the Bible used in Poland from the 16th to the mid-20 century?
- Kasper Straube
 - Jakub Wujek
 - Stanislaw Murzynowski
 - Jan Leopolita
25. The Polish Brethren split from what Protestant sect in the 16th century?
- Methodists
 - Lutherans
 - Anglicans
 - Calvinists
26. The Warsaw Confederation of 1573 guaranteed which of the following?
- religious tolerance
 - equal treatment before the law
 - abolition of serfdom
 - freedom of the press
27. Which of the following was forced to sign the pacta conventa when elected king of Poland in 1573?
- John the Good
 - Phillip of Hapsburg
 - Stephen Bathory
 - Henry de Valois
28. The Swedish House of Vasa began their rule of the Polish commonwealth in what year?
- 1565
 - 1587
 - 1599
 - 1603

29. Sigismund III held all of the following titles EXCEPT?

- A. Grand Duke of Muscovy
- B. King of Sweden
- C. Grand Duke of Finland
- D. King of Poland

30. Zaporozhian Cossacks and Crimean Tatars rebelled against the Commonwealth in what 1648-1657 conflict?

- A. Lumbomirski's Rebellion
- B. Polish-Muscovite War
- C. Khmelnytsky Uprising
- D. Zbrzydowski Rebellion

31. A war over control of Estonia and Livonia occurred between which of the following from 1600-1611?

- A. Poland and Finland
- B. Poland and Sweden
- C. Poland and Bohemia
- D. Poland and Russia

32. Hostilities between Poland and Russia were sparked in October 1632 over what control of which of the following?

- A. Semlevo
- B. Polyanovka
- C. Vologda
- D. Smolensk

33. Sigismund III was commemorated with the first secular monument of what form?

- A. bridge
- B. pyramid
- C. column
- D. fountain

34. Wladyslaw IV prioritized the expansion and modernization of what Commonwealth military?

- A. Navy
- B. Infantry
- C. Calvary
- D. Gendarmerie

35. John II Casimir Vasa withdrew his claims to the Swedish throne in what treaty signed in 1660?

- A. Treaty of Copenhagen
- B. Treaty of Bromberg
- C. Treaty of Oliva
- D. Treaty of Cardis

36. Which of the following best describes the purpose of the Crimean-Nogai raids into Polish land from the 15th to 18th centuries?

- A. They were looking to expand Russian territory through annexation.
- B. They were capturing slaves to sell in Ottoman export markets.
- C. They were working to overthrow the Polish monarchy.
- D. They were helping Tatars escape Polish persecution.

37. Poland supported their Baltic expansion goals by signing a 1675 treaty in secret with which of the following?

- A. Hungary
- B. Prussia
- C. Finland
- D. France

38. The First Partition of Poland occurred in what year?

- A. 1768
- B. 1772
- C. 1780
- D. 1789

39. Which of the following best describes the Silent Sejm of 1717?

- A. It was the last session of the Commonwealth's parliament.
- B. It was the session of parliament that discussed the partition of Poland.
- C. It was the session of parliament that adopted the Constitution of 3 May.
- D. It was the session of parliament that occurred under Russian control in Warsaw.

40. King Stanislaw II oversaw the creation of what ministry that is often considered the first of its kind in the world?

- A. War
- B. Justice
- C. Education
- D. Health

41. Which of these is NOT true of the Constitution of 3 May 1791?

- A. it was opposed by the Targowica Confederation
- B. it banned the liberum veto
- C. it placed serfs under government protection
- D. it was the first modern written constitution in the world

42. Which of these was the precipitating incident for the Third Partition of Poland?

- A. the end of the Napoleonic Wars
- B. the Kościuszko Uprising
- C. the end of the Polish-Russian War of 1792
- D. the end of the Bar Confederation

43. The Kingdom of Poland, a semi-autonomous Polish state controlled by Russia, was created in 1815 at what international conference?
- London
 - Vienna
 - Geneva
 - Paris
44. Which of these was the official chosen by the Russian tsar to be the 'King of Poland' during the Congress period?
- the Duke of Warsaw
 - the president of Poland
 - the Namiestnik
 - the speaker of the Sejm
45. Which of these is NOT one of Poland's 'Three Bards' of Polish romanticism?
- Jan Kochanowski
 - Adam Mickiewicz
 - Juliusz Słowacki
 - Zygmunt Krasiński
46. The November Uprising of 1830-1831 is also known by what name due to the participation of young Polish officers?
- the Sergeant's Revolt
 - the Lieutenant's Rebellion
 - the Ensign's Uprising
 - the Cadet Revolution
47. Which of these is NOT true of the January Uprising?
- Tsar Alexander II rewarded Polish nobles in 1864 for opposing the uprising
 - it occurred following the weakening of Russia due to the Crimean War
 - its ultimate aim was the restoration of the Polish-Lithuanian commonwealth
 - it was inspired in part by the success of the Italian independence movement
48. Which of these best describes the period of 'Organic Work' in Poland during the late 19th century?
- it was a movement by intellectuals in Poland to embrace russification
 - it was a plan by Polish elites to rebel against Russia in the early 20th century
 - it was an effort to preserve Polish society and identity through education, economic development, and modernization
 - it was the Polish offshoot of the Kulturkampf
49. The Kingdom of Galicia and Lodomeria was the part of Poland ruled by which of these until 1918?
- Russia
 - Prussia
 - Austria
 - Lithuania
50. Which of these is true of the Września children strike of the early 20th century?
- it was a major labor action involving child laborers
 - it was a protest of Polish children and their parents against Germanisation of schools
 - it was a protest of children and parents against massive budget cuts to public schools
 - it involved massive nationwide protests against the elimination of Catholic religious education in Polish schools
51. Which of these is NOT true of Rosa Luxemburg's time in Poland?
- she strongly supported the ideals of the Polish Socialist Party in the late 1890s
 - she was the first Polish woman and one of the first in the world to receive a doctorate in economics
 - she co-founded the Social Democracy of the Kingdom of Poland and Lithuania party
 - she was arrested in Warsaw by the Okhrana during the Revolution of 1905
52. One of the major events in the Revolution of 1905 in Poland was an uprising by workers in what Polish city in June of 1905?
- Wrocław
 - Łódź
 - Toruń
 - Radom
53. Which of these is NOT true of the Polish Legions?
- they were led by Józef Piłsudski
 - following the 'Oath crisis' they switched their allegiance from the Central Powers to the Entente
 - one of their most important aims was a guarantee of Polish independence following the war
 - following the war the Polish Legions were largely absorbed into the Austrian Army
54. Immediately following World War I, rival Polish governments were led by Józef Piłsudski and which of these men?
- Kazimierz Bartel
 - Roman Dmowski
 - Władysław Mazurkiewicz
 - Wacław Jędrzejewicz
55. Which Polish industry was most affected by the German-Polish customs war that began in 1925?
- coal mining
 - automobile manufacturing
 - textile manufacturing
 - cash-crop agriculture

56. All of these are true of the Locarno Pacts EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. they helped to normalize relations between European nations and Weimar Germany
- B. France agreed to come to the aid of Poland or Czechoslovakia if they were attacked by Germany
- C. Germany agreed never to go to war with other countries
- D. they solidified the borders between Poland and Weimar Germany

57. In 1921, Poland concluded an alliance with Romania to guard against the growing power of which of the following?

- A. France
- B. Yugoslavia
- C. Greece
- D. the USSR

58. Which of these is NOT true of Marie Curie?

- A. she was the first person to win two Nobel Prizes
- B. during World War I she developed mobile radiography units to provide X-rays to field hospitals
- C. she developed a way to make the explosive nitroglycerin more stable and easier to use
- D. she named the element polonium after her native country

59. In the 1930s, Polish military headquarters planned which of these to deal with a possible invasion by Germany?

- A. Plan Karpaty
- B. Plan Modlin
- C. Plan Zachód
- D. Plan Wschód

60. In the lead-up to World War II, Polish cryptologists broke the code produced by what German cipher device?

- A. Bombe
- B. Enigma
- C. Typex
- D. Adonis

61. The Polish government-in-exile was based in which of these cities during World War II?

- A. Oslo
- B. Paris
- C. Brussels
- D. London

62. Which of these is NOT true of the Curzon Line?

- A. it was originally proposed following World War I
- B. the current border between Poland and Ukraine and Belarus roughly follows the Curzon line
- C. Stalin opposed the use of the Curzon Line at the Yalta Conference but agreed in exchange for temporary control of Poland after the war
- D. it was originally proposed as a border between the Second Polish Republic and the USSR

63. In 1956, events in what month resulted in both the 'Polish thaw' and sparked protests and upheaval in Hungary?

- A. January
- B. June
- C. October
- D. December

64. Which of these documents ruled Poland throughout most of the communist period?

- A. the July Constitution
- B. the August Novelization
- C. the April Constitution
- D. the Small Constitution

65. Which of these is NOT true of the rule of Władysław Gomułka?

- A. he ordered crackdowns on both student protesters in 1968 and widespread strikes in 1970
- B. he bolstered and supported the remaining Jewish community in Poland during his rule
- C. his government concluded a 1970 treaty with West Germany to confirm post-war borders
- D. he ruled Poland as First Secretary of the Communist Party from 1956 to 1970

66. The 'Kniefall von Warschau' or 'Warsaw Genuflection' refers to a 1970 act of remembrance at the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising memorial by what European leader?

- A. Willy Brandt
- B. Clement Atlee
- C. Charles de Gaulle
- D. Francisco Franco

67. A crisis over which of these just before the Christmas holiday in 1970 eventually resulted in the downfall of Władysław Gomułka's government?

- A. widespread layoffs at state-owned businesses
- B. adoption of compulsory military service for Polish men
- C. the price of gasoline and heating oil
- D. food prices

68. Which of these is NOT true of the economic reforms enacted by Edward Gierek as leader of Poland in the early 1970s?

- A. they involved large amounts of borrowing from Western banks
- B. they were intended to bolster Poland's export economy
- C. demand for Polish exports increased throughout the 1970s as a result of the programs
- D. luxury goods were imported to give Polish workers incentives for hard work

69. Poland signed on to what 1975 agreement with over 30 nations in Europe, along with the USSR and the United States, to strengthen the detente between East and West?

- A. the Maastricht Treaty
- B. the Helsinki Accords
- C. the Geneva Convention
- D. the Paris Agreement

70. What Polish archbishop and cardinal was elected pope in 1978?

- A. Karol Wojtyła
- B. Franciszek Macharski
- C. Stanisław Dziwisz
- D. Eugeniusz Baziak

71. During the 1980 Lenin Shipyard strike, the Inter-Enterprise Strike Committee formulated which of these documents that formed the basis for the Gdansk Agreement?

- A. the '21 demands'
- B. the '14 points'
- C. the '4 principles'
- D. the '95 theses'

72. In addition to the Gdansk Agreement, major labor agreements were signed in each of these cities EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Szczecin
- B. Jastrzębie-Zdrój
- C. Katowice
- D. Łódź

73. Which of these best describes the nomenklatura in Eastern Bloc countries during communist rule?

- A. they were the members of the governments-in-exile of Eastern Bloc countries
- B. they were people within Eastern Bloc governments that specifically resisted joining the communist party
- C. they were people who held various key administrative positions in the bureaucracies of Eastern Bloc countries
- D. they were dissidents who were arrested and sent to prison camps

74. Which of these men took over as the leader of Poland in 1981, thus becoming the final leader of the Polish People's Republic?

- A. Stanisław Kania
- B. Zdzisław Sadowski
- C. Zbigniew Messner
- D. Wojciech Jaruzelski

75. Which of these was adopted by Polish leadership in the 1980s in response to labor unrest and economic upheaval early in the decade?

- A. widespread political and economic repression
- B. market socialism
- C. stronger price controls and wage caps
- D. a government-sanctioned black market

76. Which of the following was NOT included in the Polish Round Table Agreement of 1989?

- A. legalization of independent trade unions
- B. completely free parliamentary elections
- C. office of the president
- D. formation of a Senate

77. Which of these was elected president by the National Assembly in 1989?

- A. Edward Gierek
- B. Bolesław Bierut
- C. Wojciech Jaruzelski
- D. Bronisław Komorowski

78. In 1989, Tadeusz Mazowiecki became the first non-communist since 1946 to hold what position?

- A. Prime Minister
- B. Marshal of the Senate
- C. Marshal of the Sejm
- D. President of the Supreme Court

79. Which of the following best describes the "shock therapy" applied to the Polish economy in 1989?

- A. massive influx of hard currency to combat deflation
- B. rapid transition from a centrally planned economy to a capitalist market economy
- C. inclusion into the European Union and adoption of new currency
- D. coup d'état of the Polish president due to allegations of corruption

80. Which of the following is NOT true of Lech Wałęsa?

- A. He was the first President of Poland elected in a popular vote.
- B. He helped end communist rule in Poland as part of the Solidarity movement.
- C. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work to protect human rights in Poland.
- D. He served as President of Poland for 10 years.

81. The current Constitution of Poland was finalized and approved in what year?

- A. 1990
- B. 1993
- C. 1997
- D. 1999

82. Poland joined what intergovernmental alliance in 1999?

- A. Quadrilateral Security Dialogue
- B. North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- C. Collective Security Treaty Organization
- D. Five Power Defense Arrangements

83. Which of the following was the main successor of the Polish United Workers' Party?

- A. Law and Justice
- B. Citizens' Movement for Democratic Action
- C. Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland
- D. Christian National Union

84. Territorial self-government was reinstated in Poland in March 1990 with the division of Poland into what units?

- A. gmina
- B. emirates
- C. oblasts
- D. prefectures

85. What Polish foreign minister negotiated and signed the German-Polish Border Treaty of 1990?

- A. Andrzej Olechowski
- B. Krzysztof Skubiszewski
- C. Władysław Bartoszewski
- D. Dariusz Rosati

86. Which of these is the capital and largest city of Lesser Poland?

- A. Lublin
- B. Sandomierz
- C. Bielsko-Biała
- D. Kraków

87. Which of these is NOT true of the office of the President of Poland?

- A. the president is the head of government but not the head of state
- B. the president can veto acts of the legislature
- C. the president is the supreme commander of the armed forces
- D. the president can dissolve parliament under certain circumstances

88. Since 2001, Poland has used the D'Hondt method to allocate which of these in their government?

- A. the size of the Supreme Court
- B. seats in the National Assembly
- C. tax revenue to local constituencies
- D. the number of candidates allowed in presidential elections

89. What Polish composer is known for his compositions such as the 'Minute Waltz' and 'Revolutionary' etude?

- A. Krzysztof Penderecki
- B. Frédéric Chopin
- C. Ignacy Jan Paderewski
- D. Artur Rubinstein

90. Which of these is NOT a Polish-born winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature?

- A. Henryk Sienkiewicz
- B. Wisława Szymborska
- C. Isaac Bashevis Singer
- D. Stanisław Lem

91. What notable work of Leonardo da Vinci is housed at the Czartoryski Museum in Kraków, making it arguably the most famous artwork in Poland?

- A. Lady with an Ermine
- B. Ginevra de' Benci
- C. La Belle Ferronnière
- D. Virgin and Child with St. Anne

92. Which of these is traditionally part of Christmas Eve celebrations in Poland?

- A. a widely-popular doughnut and sweet pastry feast
- B. a twelve-dish meatless supper
- C. pagan dyngus festivities, including water fights
- D. visiting cemeteries and graves of deceased loved ones

93. Which of these was NOT one of the A10 countries that, like Poland, joined the European Union on 1 May 2004?

- A. Lithuania
- B. Malta
- C. Bulgaria
- D. Cyprus

94. In 2008, Poland agreed to allow which of these into the country, causing heightened tensions with Russia?

- A. dissidents fleeing the Putin regime
- B. Chechen separatists, who wanted to form a settlement in northeastern Poland
- C. refugees from the Russia-Georgia conflict
- D. a missile defense system provided and initially manned by the United States

95. All of these are true of Wrocław EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it is the largest city in the historical region of Silesia
- B. it is the second-largest city in Poland
- C. it lies on the banks of the River Oder
- D. it has a student population of over 130,000

96. Which of these prominent Polish politicians died in the 2010 Smolensk air crash?

- A. Donald Tusk
- B. Bronisław Komorowski
- C. Lech Kaczyński
- D. Jarosław Kaczyński

97. Which of these is NOT true of the Wielkopolska Chronicle?

- A. it is one of the first significant works written in Polish
- B. it contains the story of Lech, Czech and Rus', who were legendary founders of the Poles, Czechs and Rus' peoples
- C. it is considered a gesta ducum, which chronicles the lives and deeds of kings and nobles
- D. it was likely written at the end of the 13th century

Questions 98 to 100 are about Polish swords.

98. The Polish saber first became popular during the reign of what 16th century Polish king?

- A. Sigismund III Vasa
- B. Władysław IV Vasa
- C. Stephen Báthory
- D. John II Casimir

99. The karabela saber was known for its distinctive handle which was in the shape of what animal?

- A. an eagle
- B. an elephant
- C. a lion
- D. a bull

100. Stanisław Sosabowski, who buried his saber after the fall of Warsaw in 1939, was the commander of which of these regiments?

- A. the 1st Infantry Regiment, the 'Defenders of Praga'
- B. the 21st Infantry Regiment, the 'Children of Warsaw'
- C. the 43rd Infantry Regiment, the 'Bayonne Legion'
- D. the 60th Infantry Regiment, the 'Wielkopolski'

Tiebreaker

Write your answer to this question on the back of your scantron.

According to the 1931 census, what was the population of Poland in 1931?