

Test: Historical Geography HS

Question 1 of 75

The Zagwe dynasty ruled a significant area of what modern-day country the Horn of Africa in the 12th and 13th centuries CE from its capital at Lalibela?

- A) Djibouti
- B) Somalia
- C) Ethiopia
- D) Eritrea

Question 2 of 75

The Semipalatinsk Test Site in Kazakhstan was used by the Soviet Union for which of the following purposes until 1991?

- A) to launch rockets for the Soviet space program
- B) to explode nuclear weapons both above and below ground
- C) as a site to conduct medical experiments on political prisoners
- D) to fly experimental aircraft for the Soviet military

Question 3 of 75

All of these cities in Anatolia were the sites of early ecumenical councils EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Nicaea
- B) Ephesus
- C) Adrianople
- D) Chalcedon

Question 4 of 75

In which of the following regions were the oldest cities in history located?

- A) ancient Mesoamerica
- B) ancient North Africa
- C) ancient Northern Europe
- D) the ancient Near East

Question 5 of 75

According to the best estimates of demographers, which of these figures most closely approximates the percentage of the world's population that lived in the Qing Empire in 1800?

- A) 50%
- B) 30%
- C) 10%
- D) 5%

Question 6 of 75

Lahore was the capital of which of the following empires from 1799 until its capture by the British in 1849?

- A) the Sikh Empire
- B) the Maratha Empire
- C) the Durrani Empire
- D) the Mughal Empire

Question 7 of 75

Which of these best describes the location of the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone established by the Geneva Convention in 1954?

- A) it ran through the city of Vinh about 200 miles south of Hanoi
- B) it ran directly west from the city of Nha Trang
- C) it was located along the Ben Hai River and the 17th parallel
- D) it was located at the 38th parallel

Question 8 of 75

Which of these was a trackway used by ancient Britons that was paved over by the Romans beginning in the first century CE?

- A) Appian Way
- B) Abbey Road
- C) Watling Street
- D) Canterbury Road

Question 9 of 75

The Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty of 1903 gave the United States control over which of the following Latin American territories?

- A) Puerto Rico
- B) the Panama Canal Zone
- C) Cuba
- D) the Virgin Islands

Question 10 of 75

Pataliputra served as the capital of all of these empires EXCEPT for which of the following?

- A) Maurya
- B) Gupta
- C) Nanda
- D) Bactrian

Question 11 of 75

The temple complex of Angkor Wat is located just outside of what modern-day city in Cambodia?

- A) Battambang
- B) Siem Reap
- C) Kampong Cham
- D) Phnom Penh

Question 12 of 75

All of these were among the Three Kingdoms of Korea EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Liaodong
- B) Goguryeo
- C) Silla
- D) Baekje

Question 13 of 75

Pasargadae, Susa and Persepolis were all significant cities in what ancient empire from the sixth to the fourth century BCE?

- A) Seleucid Empire
- B) Elamite Empire
- C) Akkadian Empire
- D) Achaemenid Empire

Question 14 of 75

Mount Paektu is, according to official North Korean government sources, the birthplace of what former Korean leader?

- A) Syngman Rhee
- B) Kim Il-sung
- C) Kim Jong-il
- D) Kim Jong-un

Question 15 of 75

The Kingdom of Ruthenia, also known as the Principality of Galicia–Volhynia, was comprised of territory in all of these modern states EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Turkey
- B) Poland
- C) Ukraine
- D) Slovakia

Question 16 of 75

In which of the following modern Mexican states are the ruins of the ancient city of Teotihuacan located?

-
- A) the State of Mexico
 - B) Oaxaca
 - C) Nuevo Leon
 - D) Quintana Roo

Question 17 of 75

Which of the following wrote the influential text *Geographia*, which was a compilation of geographical and cartographic knowledge in the Roman Empire in the second century CE and included an influential world map?

-
- A) Hipparchus
 - B) Eratosthenes
 - C) Anaximander
 - D) Ptolemy

Question 18 of 75

The towns of Kirtland, Ohio; Independence, Missouri and Nauvoo, Illinois were significant in the development of which of the following religious movements in the United States in the nineteenth century?

-
- A) the Latter-Day Saints
 - B) the Nation of Islam
 - C) the Seventh-day Adventists
 - D) the Shakers

Question 19 of 75

Which of the following was called 'a million people's city' in Chinese records in 750 CE?

-
- A) Chengdu
 - B) Lanzhou
 - C) Chang'an
 - D) Ningyuan

Question 20 of 75

In 1940, the Soviet Union annexed the regions of Bessarabia, northern Bukovina and Hertza from which of the following countries?

-
- A) Ukraine
 - B) Moldova
 - C) Finland
 - D) Romania

Question 21 of 75

Veii, Volsinii and Caere were city-states that were part of what culture in the seventh and sixth centuries BCE?

-
- A) Celtic
 - B) Etruscan
 - C) Samnite
 - D) Apulian

Question 22 of 75

In the Holy Roman Empire, the term 'free and imperial city' is best defined by which of the following?

-
- A) it is a reference to the city of Vienna and its environs
 - B) a city with direct economic power over and the ability to collect taxes from neighboring cities and towns in the region
 - C) a self-ruling city with a certain level of autonomy that was subordinate only to the Holy Roman Emperor
 - D) an ecclesiastical city that was ruled directly by an archbishop

Question 23 of 75

Which of the following names an independence movement in the Pacific Northwest that would include areas of British Columbia in addition to the US states of Oregon and Washington?

-
- A) Yukon Republic
 - B) Astoria
 - C) Franklin
 - D) Cascadia

Question 24 of 75

Which of the following names is given to the system of land grants from the Spanish crown to certain conquistadors in the sixteenth century?

-
- A) mita
 - B) encomienda
 - C) reconquista
 - D) hacienda

Question 25 of 75

Port Arthur in Tasmania is part of a network of UNESCO World Heritage sites in Australia built during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by the British for what purpose?

-
- A) slave trading
 - B) fortifications against Indigenous Australians
 - C) convict settlement
 - D) plantation agriculture

Question 26 of 75

The United Arab Emirates was formed in 1971 with the independence of which of the following areas?

-
- A) Balochistan
 - B) the Sultanate of Muscat
 - C) the Trucial States
 - D) Gilgit-Baltistan

Question 27 of 75

Which of the following was the capital of the British Raj from the end of East India Company rule until 1911?

-
- A) Calcutta
 - B) Bombay
 - C) Delhi
 - D) Islamabad

Question 28 of 75

Fraunces Tavern in New York City, the French Arms Tavern in Trenton, New Jersey and the Maryland State House in Annapolis are all significant in the history of the early American republic for which of the following reasons?

- A) all of these were places where major demonstrations were held against the adoption of the United States Constitution
- B) they were the locations of major engagements in the War of 1812
- C) they were all headquarters for the Continental Army at various times in the period from 1781 to 1783
- D) they were all locations at which sessions of the Confederation Congress were held, thus serving as the de facto capital of the United States

Question 29 of 75

Which of the following cities was ruled by the Attalid Dynasty during the Hellenistic Period?

- A) Antioch
- B) Pergamon
- C) Ctesiphon
- D) Alexandria

Question 30 of 75

Which of these was an immigrant neighborhood in Lower Manhattan that gained notoriety for large amounts of gang activity, crime and poverty in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries?

- A) Five Points
- B) Greenwich Village
- C) Roosevelt Island
- D) Williamsburg

Question 31 of 75

All of these represent events commemorated by a red star on the flag of the city of Chicago EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) the Great Chicago Fire of 1871
- B) the 'Century of Progress' Exposition of 1933
- C) the founding of the city in the 1780s
- D) the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893

Question 32 of 75

In which of the following regions of India was the Vijayanagara Empire located between the fourteenth and seventeenth centuries CE?

- A) the Indo-Gangetic Plain
- B) the Thar Desert
- C) the Deccan Plateau
- D) the Himalayas

Question 33 of 75

All of these were effects of the completion of the Erie Canal EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) there was a huge population increase in areas along the canal
- B) it greatly decreased the profitability of agriculture in the Midwest
- C) Niagara Falls became a huge tourist attraction for Americans and foreign visitors
- D) transportation costs for goods in the region were cut as much as 95%

Question 34 of 75

Which of these works, one of the Five Classics of Chinese literature, contains what is considered to be the first geographical writing about China in its Yu Gong section?

- A) the *Book of Documents*
- B) the *Book of Poetry*
- C) the *I Ching*
- D) the *Book of Rites*

Question 35 of 75

Which of the following is not a member of the Council of Europe, largely due to concerns over human rights abuses?

- A) Bulgaria
- B) Poland
- C) Hungary
- D) Belarus

Question 36 of 75

The Battle of Derna, the first land battle for the new United States on foreign soil following the American Revolution, was fought in what modern-day nation?

- A) Libya
- B) Mexico
- C) Canada
- D) Cuba

Question 37 of 75

In 1963, Governor George Wallace made his 'Stand in the Schoolhouse Door' in what Alabama city to prevent the integration of its major university?

- A) Mobile
- B) Tuscaloosa
- C) Auburn
- D) Montgomery

Question 38 of 75

The Balkan League, which fought the declining Ottoman Empire in the early twentieth century, was made up of all of these countries EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Serbia
- B) Montenegro
- C) Albania
- D) Bulgaria

Question 39 of 75

Hagatna is the capital of which of the following American insular areas?

- A) the US Virgin Islands
- B) Guam
- C) Puerto Rico
- D) American Samoa

Question 40 of 75

The Dominion Lands Act of 1872 was a Canadian law designed to do which of the following?

- A) open up settlement of coastal areas of Newfoundland to encourage development of the fishing and whaling industries
- B) encourage settlement of the Canadian Prairies by granting 160-acre homesteads to anyone willing to live on and improve the land
- C) forcibly remove members of indigenous nations from territories in eastern Canada
- D) confiscate land from French-speaking residents of Canada who would not sign loyalty oaths to the new nation

Question 41 of 75

All of these were cities along the Silk Road EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Tbilisi
- B) Baku
- C) Novgorod
- D) Antioch

Question 42 of 75

Monuments commemorating the 'Battle of Liberty Place' and Confederate General Robert E. Lee were removed under heavy guard at the direction of the city council and Mayor Mitch Landrieu in which southern city in 2017?

- A) Richmond, VA
- B) New Orleans, LA
- C) Jackson, MS
- D) Austin, TX

Question 43 of 75

All of these were visited on the first circumnavigation of the globe, undertaken by the Magellan expedition in the sixteenth century, EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Hawaii
- B) Guam
- C) the Philippines
- D) Timor

Question 44 of 75

In the 1840s, the United States and Mexico had a boundary dispute over the area between the Rio Grande and what other river that became one of the causes of the Mexican-American War?

- A) the Colorado
- B) the Conchos
- C) the Nueces
- D) the Pecos

Question 45 of 75

Khanbaliq, the capital of the Yuan Dynasty and main center of the Mongol empire under Kublai Khan, was located in what modern-day city?

- A) Kharkhorin
- B) Beijing
- C) Shanghai
- D) Ulaanbaatar

Question 46 of 75

During which of the following periods were the Spanish missions in California established?

- A) 1550s to 1600s
- B) 1630s to 1660s
- C) 1710s to 1740s
- D) 1760s to 1830s

Question 47 of 75

Which of these were maps made to aid sailing and navigation beginning in the thirteenth century and known for their high degree of cartographic accuracy?

- A) topographic maps
- B) portolan charts
- C) planisphere maps
- D) Balkhi school maps

Question 48 of 75

Prior to Roman conquest in the second century BCE, the Lusitanians were an Indo-European people living in which of the following areas?

-
- A) northern Italy and Switzerland
 - B) northern Germany and the Netherlands
 - C) southern France
 - D) the western Iberian Peninsula

Question 49 of 75

Which of the following, now the largest uninhabited island in the United States, was invaded by Japan in 1943?

-
- A) Howland Island
 - B) Baker Island
 - C) Attu
 - D) Niue

Question 50 of 75

The Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia were granted to the British under the treaty signed in 1960 by the UK, Greece and Turkey that granted independence to what British Overseas Territory?

-
- A) Iraq
 - B) Brunei
 - C) Bahrain
 - D) Cyprus

Question 51 of 75

Which of the following was the capital city of the Mali Empire throughout most of its existence?

-
- A) Timbuktu
 - B) Niani
 - C) Jenne
 - D) Gao

Question 52 of 75

The closure of the Straits of Tiran resulted in a brief 1967 conflict between what two nations?

- A) Iran and Iraq
- B) the UAE and Saudi Arabia
- C) Jordan and Lebanon
- D) Egypt and Israel

Question 53 of 75

In which of the following decades did New York City overtake London as the most populous city in the world?

- A) 1880s
- B) 1920s
- C) 1950s
- D) 1970s

Question 54 of 75

The city of Petra was the capital of what kingdom during classical antiquity?

- A) Nabatea
- B) Elam
- C) Ammon
- D) Moab

Question 55 of 75

Which of the following best describes the lomafanu texts that record the history of the Maldives?

- A) they are written in an ancient Greek script and collected into codices
- B) they are written on copper plates in the Divehi script
- C) they are written on scrolls in Vedic Sanskrit
- D) they are carved on stone tablets in a largely indecipherable language

Question 56 of 75

Which of these best describes Srivijaya?

- A) it was a major Muslim empire based on Java starting in the seventh century BCE
- B) it was the Hindu empire that built the temple complex at Angkor Wat
- C) it was the tenth century CE empire that consolidated power at Bangkok
- D) it was a Buddhist maritime empire based on the island of Sumatra starting in the seventh century CE

Question 57 of 75

In which of the following East Asian countries are the Yamato the predominant ethnic group?

- A) China
- B) Korea
- C) Taiwan
- D) Japan

Question 58 of 75

All of these were British colonies in Africa prior to the mid- twentieth century EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Guinea
- B) Ghana
- C) Nigeria
- D) Sudan

Question 59 of 75

Citadelle Laferriere and Sans-Souci Palace are UNESCO World Heritage sites in what Caribbean nation?

- A) Haiti
- B) the Dominican Republic
- C) Cuba
- D) St. Lucia

Question 60 of 75

Lumbini is a significant pilgrimage site in Nepal for which major world religion?

- A) Sikhism
- B) Hinduism
- C) Buddhism
- D) Islam

Question 61 of 75

The ruins of St. Paul's church, Sendao Square and the Guia Lighthouse are all cultural landmarks in what East Asian city?

- A) Taipei
- B) Hong Kong
- C) Macau
- D) Shanghai

Question 62 of 75

Some of the most important Byzantine mosaics are located in the Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo and the Basilica of San Vitale in what Italian city?

- A) Venice
- B) Ravenna
- C) Milan
- D) Pisa

Question 63 of 75

Thebes is the largest city in what modern regional unit of Greece?

- A) Achaea
- B) Euboea
- C) Boeotia
- D) Piraeus

Question 64 of 75

In the 1875 Treaty of Saint Petersburg, Japan gave Russia its portion of Sakhalin Island in exchange for which of the following territories, which was ultimately seized by the USSR at the end of World War II?

- A) Hokkaido
- B) the Aleutian Islands
- C) Cape Patience
- D) the Kuril Islands

Question 65 of 75

The six Cataracts of the Nile begin and end near what two cities in northern Africa?

- A) Cairo and Khartoum
- B) Aswan and Wadi Halfa
- C) Abu Simbel and Meroe
- D) Aswan and Khartoum

Question 66 of 75

Which of the following was an ancient kingdom centered in Sri Lanka and named for its capital city?

- A) Dholavira
- B) Magadha
- C) Anuradhapura
- D) Chalukya

Question 67 of 75

Nineteenth century authors like Herman Melville, Edgar Allan Poe and Jules Verne all described a 'maelstrom' that is based on the Moskstraumen, a real system of whirlpools and tidal eddies off the coast of the Lofoten archipelago in what European nation?

- A) Finland
- B) Denmark
- C) Sweden
- D) Norway

Question 68 of 75

From which of the following modern regions did the Saxons migrate to England in the fifth century CE?

-
- A) Hanover
 - B) Burgundy
 - C) Schleswig-Holstein
 - D) Bavaria

Question 69 of 75

In which of the following areas did diplomats, foreign residents and Chinese Christians seek refuge in June of 1900 during the Boxer Rebellion?

-
- A) in the Forbidden City
 - B) under the Imperial Ancestral Temple
 - C) in the Temple of Heaven
 - D) inside the Legation Quarter

Question 70 of 75

What national capital is the largest Francophone urban area in the world?

-
- A) Rabat
 - B) Kinshasa
 - C) Brazzaville
 - D) Hanoi

Question 71 of 75

Cities like Venice, Amalfi and Pisa were collectively referred to by what term due to their relative power in the later Middle Ages?

-
- A) the Maritime republics
 - B) the Papal States
 - C) the Crusader States
 - D) the Hanseatic League

Question 72 of 75

Which of the following caused a huge increase in the population of Carson City, Nevada in the mid-nineteenth century?

- A) the legalization of casino gambling by the territorial legislature
- B) the completion of the transcontinental railroad
- C) the discovery of the Comstock Lode in 1859
- D) the opening of Lake Tahoe to tourism

Question 73 of 75

Seattle and Austin, the two fastest growing cities in the United States since 2012, are both characterized by all of these EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) both have major research universities
- B) both have a large number of jobs in the technology sector
- C) both are major governmental centers as the capitals of their respective states
- D) real estate prices in both have risen sharply since 2012

Question 74 of 75

In the early nineteenth century, the United Provinces of the Rio de la Plata contained portions of all of these modern-day South American countries EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Bolivia
- B) Argentina
- C) Uruguay
- D) Peru

Question 75 of 75

Which of the following is a historical region of the Australian Northern Territory with a population that is mostly made up of Indigenous Australians?

- A) Arnhem Land
- B) Willandra Lakes Region
- C) Swan River Colony
- D) Jervis Bay Territory