

**Historical Geography Examination  
NHBB Nationals 2021**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

**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.**

**All levels**

1. In 1907, Bolsheviks stole over 200,000 rubles bound for the branch of the State Bank of the Russian Empire located in Erivansky Square in which of the following cities?

- A. Tallinn
- B. Tbilisi
- C. Helsinki
- D. Astana

2. What period of Japanese history takes its name from the Tokyo neighborhood where archaeologists first discovered artifacts and features from the era?

- A. Jomon
- B. Kofun
- C. Yayoi
- D. Asuka

3. The walled city of Shahjahanabad, founded in 1639, is located within what modern-day Indian city?

- A. Delhi
- B. Agra
- C. Chennai
- D. Pune

4. All of these were constituents of French Indochina EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Cochinchina
- B. Annam
- C. Thailand
- D. Laos

5. The Peloponnesian War was fought during the Archaic Period of Greek History between what two prominent city-states?

- A. Thebes and Corinth
- B. Athens and Sparta
- C. Ionia and Naxos
- D. Chalcis and Eretria

6. All of these were Iron Age kingdoms with territory in the modern country of Jordan EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Ammon
- B. Moab
- C. Edessa
- D. Edom

7. Blombos Cave and Diepkloof Rock Shelter are archaeological sites in South Africa that demonstrate which of the following?

- A. complex early human behaviors like the use of symbols, the making of pigments and the creation of art

B. the beginnings of domestication of livestock and the cultivation of crops

C. advanced maritime technology in early hominids

D. the creation of the first cities

8. Which of these is among the Sapta Puri or Seven Sacred Cities of India?

- A. Delhi
- B. Varanasi
- C. Mumbai
- D. Hyderabad

9. Grave Creek Mound, Miamisburg Mound and the Wolf Plains group are sites built by which of the following pre-Columbian Native American cultures?

- A. Hopi
- B. Nez Perce
- C. Anasazi
- D. Adena

10. The site of the oldest surviving free-standing building and oldest megalith in the world is which of the following?

- A. Ggantija in Malta
- B. Stonehenge in England
- C. Gobekli Tepe in Turkey
- D. Monte d'Accoddi in Italy

11. The Union of Lublin in 1569 established a commonwealth that joined Poland with what other European nation?

- A. Lithuania
- B. Germany
- C. Ukraine
- D. Austria

12. Which of the following began in 1850 in Guangxi?

- A. the Boxer Rebellion
- B. the Taiping Rebellion
- C. the Wuchang Uprising
- D. the Yellow Turban Rebellion

13. In what decade was the settlement of New Orleans founded?

- A. 1600s
- B. 1660s
- C. 1690s
- D. 1710s

14. Which of these was NOT one of the seven hills of Ancient Rome?

- A. Palatine
- B. Tiberian
- C. Aventine
- D. Capitoline

15. Woodrow Wilson ordered the internment of about 2,000 people of which of the following ethnicities at Fort Douglas, Utah and Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia in late 1917?

- A. German
- B. Japanese
- C. Italian
- D. Chinese

16. The ancient Nubian culture of Kerma and the kingdom of Sai were both located in what modern-day country?

- A. Burkina Faso
- B. Mali
- C. Sudan
- D. Niger

17. Which of the following, located in the Orkhon Valley World Heritage site, served briefly as the capital of both the Mongol Empire and the Northern Yuan?

- A. Karakorum
- B. Ordu-Baliq
- C. Avarga
- D. Khanbaliq

18. The al-Aqsa Mosque and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre are holy sites in which of the following cities?

- A. Damascus
- B. Baghdad
- C. Beirut
- D. Jerusalem

19. The Hoover Dam was completed in the Black Canyon of what American river in 1936?

- A. the Missouri
- B. the Colorado
- C. the Columbia
- D. the Mississippi

20. Which of the following is believed to have been the most populous city in the world in 100 BCE?

- A. Constantinople
- B. Uruk
- C. Athens
- D. Alexandria

21. All of these were members of the Quadruple Alliance during an early eighteenth-century war against Spain EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Russia
- B. France
- C. Austria
- D. the Dutch Republic

22. Which of the following, located in the city of Chang'an, was the main imperial palace complex of the Han and numerous other Chinese dynasties?

- A. the Forbidden City
- B. the Chaotian Palace
- C. the Porcelain Tower
- D. the Weiyang Palace

23. Which of these was the final province to join the Canadian confederation in 1949?

- A. Alberta
- B. Nova Scotia
- C. Newfoundland
- D. Quebec

24. The Temple of the Feathered Serpent, the Avenue of the Dead and the Pyramid of the Sun are prominent sites in what ancient Mesoamerican city in Mexico?

- A. Tikal
- B. El Mirador
- C. Teotihuacan
- D. Xochicalco

25. The cities of Meerut and Gwalior were key sites in what event that helped bring about the end of British East India Company rule in India?

- A. the Indian Rebellion of 1857
- B. the Anglo-Mysore Wars
- C. the Hindu-German Conspiracy
- D. the Christmas Day Plot

26. The United States used the 1846 Treaty of Mallarino-Bidlack as an excuse to intervene in the Thousand Days' War fought in what Latin American nation?

- A. Mexico
- B. Colombia
- C. Cuba
- D. Argentina

27. The Ajuran Empire, which controlled the Shebelle and Jubba Rivers and Mogadishu, dominated trade in which of the following during the 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries?

- A. the Mediterranean Sea
- B. the Adriatic Sea
- C. the Aegean Sea
- D. the northern Indian Ocean

28. Which of these cities was the capital of the Visigothic Kingdom during the 5<sup>th</sup> century CE?

- A. Rome
- B. Toulouse
- C. Lisbon
- D. Granada

29. The Eureka Rebellion was an uprising against British colonial authority in Australia instigated by workers in what industry?

- A. gold miners
- B. prison guards
- C. sheep ranchers
- D. cowboys

30. Which of the following was the venue for the 1925 Scopes 'Monkey Trial'?

- A. Columbus, Ohio
- B. Bowling Green, KY
- C. Dayton, TN
- D. Milwaukee, WI

31. From 1918 to 1929 the Kingdom of Yugoslavia was officially known by which of the following names?

- A. the Kingdom of Vojvodina
- B. the Dalmatian Kingdom
- C. the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes
- D. Pan-Slavia

32. Which of the following was the site of both a 1419 raid by the Joseon dynasty against wokou pirates and an 1861 attempt by the Russians to establish a naval base on Japanese territory?

- A. Tsushima Island

- B. Okinawa
- C. Iwo Jima
- D. Nishino-shima

33. Which of the following significant ancient sites is located in the Sindh province in Pakistan?

- A. Seleucia
- B. Mohenjo-Daro
- C. Petra
- D. Nineveh

34. Which of the following most closely estimates the percentage of the world's population that currently lives in China?

- A. 25%
- B. 18%
- C. 10%
- D. 6%

35. Both the Baikunur Cosmodrome and the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site were established by the USSR in what modern-day nation?

- A. Moldova
- B. Uzbekistan
- C. Kazakhstan
- D. Azerbaijan

36. American writer O. Henry coined the term 'banana republic' in 1904 to describe the dominance of companies like United Fruit and Standard Fruit in what country?

- A. Honduras
- B. Panama
- C. Columbia
- D. Brazil

37. Which of the following is a distinguishing characteristic of Werner and Bonne map projections?

- A. they are the only perfect representations of the Earth on a two-dimensional map
- B. they are heart-shaped
- C. they never include Africa
- D. they always have north at the bottom of the map

38. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle records that Alfred the Great 'refounded' what English city in 886 by reviving an abandoned settlement left over from Roman Britain?

- A. London
- B. Kent
- C. Hastings
- D. Cardiff

39. Governor Orval Faubus attempted to use the Arkansas National Guard to prevent the integration of Central High School in what city in 1957?

- A. Fayetteville
- B. Hot Springs
- C. Little Rock
- D. Fort Smith

40. Baker Island, Howard Island and Midway Atoll were claimed by the United States as a result of which of the following?

- A. the Guano Islands Act
- B. the Treaty of Paris of 1898

- C. the Tripartite Convention
- D. the Gadsden Purchase

41. Following World War I, the territory of Ruanda-Urundi was a mandate of which of the following nations?

- A. France
- B. the United States
- C. Belgium
- D. Japan

42. Which of the following was the site of a decisive fourteenth century battle during the Red Turban Rebellion in China?

- A. Lake Tai
- B. Lake Poyang
- C. Namtso
- D. Kanas Lake

43. The Haymarket Square riot in Chicago in 1886 took place outside the headquarters of what American corporation?

- A. Pullman Palace Car Company
- B. McCormick Harvester Company
- C. Carnegie Steel
- D. Baltimore and Ohio Railroad

44. Namibia was a colony of which of the following until South Africa was given mandatory control by the League of Nations in 1920?

- A. Portugal
- B. Belgium
- C. France
- D. Germany

45. In what area are the group of cities generally considered the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world located?

- A. Oceania
- B. Western Europe
- C. the Levant
- D. the Swahili Coast

46. Which of the following reached its geographical height under the Tughlaq Dynasty in the fourteenth century CE?

- A. the Gupta Empire
- B. the Delhi Sultanate
- C. the Maurya Empire
- D. the Nanda Empire

47. In 1971 the Shah of Iran held lavish celebrations for the 2500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Persian empire at what former ceremonial capital of the Achaemenid dynasty?

- A. Sardis
- B. Pelusium
- C. Behistun
- D. Persepolis

48. Democratic Kampuchea was the state proclaimed in Cambodia in 1975 by which of the following?

- A. Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge
- B. Lon Nol backed by the United States
- C. the Vietnamese government during the Cambodian-Vietnamese War
- D. King Norodom Sihanouk following his restoration

49. In what decade did London reach a population of 2 million people?

- A. the 1750s
- B. the 1840s
- C. the 1890s
- D. the 1910s

50. General Order No. 1, approved by President Truman on August 17, 1945, had which of the following practical effects?

- A. the removal of colonial forces from French Indochina
- B. the placement of Poland in the Soviet sphere of influence
- C. the partition of Korea at the 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel
- D. the establishment of the 'Iron Curtain'

**HS only**

51. Which of these is the largest city in the historical region of Silesia?

- A. Prague
- B. Vienna
- C. Wroclaw
- D. Budapest

52. Countries like Albania, Cuba and Vietnam were all members of what Soviet-led organization designed to promote economic development and cooperation among socialist countries worldwide?

- A. the Warsaw Pact
- B. SEATO
- C. the GATT
- D. Comecon

53. The 1858 Treaty of Amity and Commerce opened all of these Japanese ports to trade with the United States EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Kanagawa
- B. Tokyo
- C. Nagasaki
- D. Hyogo

54. Which of the following became the independent nation of Bangladesh in 1971?

- A. Punjab
- B. Gangaridai
- C. West Bengal
- D. East Pakistan

55. The Sakalava, Merina and Betsimisaraka are major ethnic groups in which of the following African countries?

- A. Ethiopia
- B. South Africa
- C. Madagascar
- D. Morocco

56. Which of the following was called 'our heel of Achilles' by Theodore Roosevelt in 1907?

- A. Cuba
- B. Puerto Rico
- C. Hawaii
- D. the Philippines

57. The Sandinistas and Contras were opposing groups in which Central American nation in the late twentieth century?

- A. Nicaragua
- B. Guatemala
- C. Honduras
- D. Belize

58. Which of the following is a UNSECO World Heritage Site and a notable example of karst topography in Vietnam?

- A. the Mekong River Delta
- B. Ha Long Bay
- C. the Annamite Mountains
- D. Fanispan mountain

59. The short-lived and extralegal Transylvania Colony was established by Richard Henderson in 1775 in an area mostly within what modern-day US state?

- A. Wisconsin
- B. Kansas
- C. Florida
- D. Kentucky

60. All of these mosques were associated with the University of Timbuktu EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Sankore
- B. Djinguereber
- C. Masjid al-Haram
- D. Sidi Yahya

61. Which of the following groups established a kingdom in the former Roman province of Gallaecia in the 5<sup>th</sup> century CE?

- A. Gutones
- B. Cimbrians
- C. Dacians
- D. Suebi

62. The Grand Canal, begun during the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE, connects which of the following pairs of modern Chinese cities?

- A. Kaifeng and Wuhan
- B. Beijing and Hangzhou
- C. Shanghai and Hong Kong
- D. Shenzhen and Chengdu

63. Which of the following is a pilgrimage site in Nepal said to be the birthplace of Siddhārtha Gautama?

- A. Kathmandu
- B. Pokhara
- C. Lalitpur
- D. Lumbini

64. The Venezuelan debt crisis of 1902-03 helped lead to which of the following in the United States?

- A. the formulation of the Roosevelt Corollary
- B. the Panic of 1907
- C. the US invasion of Grenada
- D. US participation in the Spanish-American War

65. Which of these was the second city in the United States to reach a population of 1 million people?

- A. Cleveland
- B. Boston
- C. St. Louis
- D. Philadelphia

66. All of these were among the Crusader states established following the First Crusade EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the Sultanate of Rum
- B. the County of Edessa
- C. the Principality of Antioch
- D. the County of Tripoli

67. Captain James Cook was killed on which of the following islands in 1779?

- A. Tasmania
- B. South Island
- C. Hawaii

D. Tahiti

68. Which American city was host to the Century 21 Exposition in 1962 and was thrown into a deep recession in the late 1960s by the financial troubles of its major employer, Boeing?

- A. Portland
- B. Seattle
- C. Los Angeles
- D. San Francisco

69. The United Arab Republic joined which of the following pairs of Middle Eastern nations from 1958 to 1961?

- A. Egypt and Syria
- B. Lebanon and Jordan
- C. Iraq and Iran
- D. Israel and Palestine

70. The earliest evidence of maritime trade in world history occurred in Oceania and maritime Southeast Asia during which of the following periods?

- A. late Paleolithic
- B. late Neolithic
- C. Chalcolithic
- D. late Bronze Age

71. Which of the following declared independence from Spain in 1581 following the Act of Abjuration?

- A. Portugal
- B. Mexico
- C. the Dutch Republic
- D. Cuba

72. The Newborn Monument was unveiled in February of 2008 to celebrate the declaration of independence of what European nation?

- A. Kosovo
- B. North Macedonia
- C. Bosnia and Herzegovina
- D. Serbia

73. All of these were among the competing states of the Three Kingdoms period of China EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Wei
- B. Wu
- C. Ming
- D. Shu

74. All of these are countries along the Grand Trunk Road EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Pakistan
- D. Bangladesh

75. The battles at Rock Island Rapids and Credit Island as well as the Battle of the Sink Hole all took place during the War of 1812 along what waterway?

- A. the Mississippi River
- B. the Potomac River
- C. the Colorado River
- D. the Cumberland River

**MS only**

51. The historical region of Silesia lies mostly within which of these modern-day countries?

- A. Czech Republic
- B. Austria
- C. Poland
- D. Hungary

52. Which of the following pairs nations was a member of both the Warsaw Pact and Comecon in the 1950s?

- A. West Germany and Sweden
- B. Finland and Switzerland
- C. Norway and Denmark
- D. Albania and Romania

53. The 1854 Convention of Kanagawa opened trade between Japan and which of the following?

- A. China
- B. the United States
- C. Korea
- D. Vietnam

54. Which of the following happened to East Pakistan in 1971?

- A. it became the independent country of Pakistan
- B. it became part of the territory of Kashmir
- C. it became the independent country of Sri Lanka
- D. it became the independent country of Bangladesh

55. Which of these was an uprising in the late 1940s against French colonial rule in Madagascar?

- A. the Morant Bay Rebellion
- B. the Castle Hill convict uprising
- C. the Malagasy Uprising
- D. Bacon's Rebellion

56. Which of the following territories was acquired by the United States in the 1890s?

- A. Louisiana
- B. Alaska
- C. California
- D. Hawaii

57. The Sandinistas and Contras were opposing groups in which Central American nation in the late twentieth century?

- A. Nicaragua
- B. Guatemala
- C. Honduras
- D. Belize

58. Ha Long Bay is a UNSECO World Heritage Site and a notable example of karst topography in Quang Ninh Province in which of the following Southeast Asian nations?

- A. Laos
- B. Vietnam
- C. Cambodia
- D. Thailand

59. The short-lived and extralegal Transylvania Colony was established by Richard Henderson in 1775 in an area mostly within what modern-day US state?

- A. Wisconsin
- B. Kansas

- C. Florida
- D. Kentucky

60. The mosques of Sankore, Djinguereber and Sidi Yahya made up the 'university' named for what city in the Mail Empire?

- A. Mecca
- B. Medina
- C. Timbuktu
- D. Mosul

61. The Suebi established a kingdom in which of the following former Roman provinces, located in the modern-day nation of Portugal?

- A. Gallia Cisalpina
- B. Gallia Narbonensis
- C. Baetica
- D. Gallaecia

62. The Grand Canal, begun during the 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE, connects which of the following pairs of Chinese rivers?

- A. the Mekong and Amur
- B. the Yellow and Yangtze
- C. the Xi and Huai
- D. the Liao and Wei

63. What religious leader's birthplace in Lumbini, Nepal is now a major pilgrimage site for members of his faith?

- A. Gobind Singh
- B. Guru Nanak
- C. Rishabhathatha
- D. Siddhārtha Gautama

64. A debt crisis 1902-03 in which of the following nations helped lead Theodore Roosevelt to formulate the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine?

- A. Venezuela
- B. Brazil
- C. Cuba
- D. Guyana

65. Which of the following was the most populous city in the United States in both the 1790 and 1800 censuses?

- A. Salem, MA
- B. Washington, DC
- C. Charleston, SC
- D. New York, NY

66. The Principality of Antioch and the Kingdom of Jerusalem were among the Crusader states created after which of the following?

- A. the First Crusade
- B. the Fourth Crusade
- C. the Children's Crusade
- D. the Albigensian Crusade

67. Which of the following explorers was killed on the island of Hawaii in 1779?

- A. Ferdinand Magellan
- B. Francis Drake
- C. James Cook
- D. Walter Raleigh

68. Which American city saw the creation of its iconic Space Needle for the Century 21 Exposition in 1962?

- A. Portland
- B. Seattle
- C. Los Angeles
- D. San Francisco

69. The United Arab Republic joined which of the following pairs of Middle Eastern nations from 1958 to 1961?

- A. Egypt and Syria
- B. Lebanon and Jordan
- C. Iraq and Iran
- D. Israel and Palestine

70. The earliest evidence of short-distance trade using ships happened in Oceania and Southeast Asia during which of the following periods?

- A. late Paleolithic
- B. late Neolithic
- C. Chalcolithic
- D. late Bronze Age

71. All of these are considered part of the Low Countries EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the Netherlands
- B. Luxembourg
- C. England
- D. Belgium

72. The Newborn Monument was unveiled in February of 2008 in Pristina to celebrate the declaration of independence of what European nation?

- A. Kosovo
- B. North Macedonia
- C. Bosnia and Herzegovina
- D. Serbia

73. The period of Chinese history between 220 and 280 CE that featured an intense and bloody rivalry between the states of Wu, Wei and Shu is known by what name?

- A. the Yuan dynasty
- B. the Spring and Autumn period
- C. the Three Kingdoms period
- D. the 'golden age'

74. All of these are countries along the Grand Trunk Road EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. India
- B. China
- C. Pakistan
- D. Bangladesh

75. The Battle of Credit Island in present-day Iowa and the Battle of the Sink Hole in present-day Missouri took place during the War of 1812 along what waterway?

- A. the Mississippi River
- B. the Potomac River
- C. the Colorado River
- D. the Cumberland River