

Test: Asian History NCE (Varsity/JV)

Question 1 of 75

Which of the following best describes cuju in ancient China?

- A) it is a type of sailing vessel
- B) it is the name for the earliest Chinese calendar
- C) it is a game that involves kicking a ball into a net and is considered the earliest form of football (soccer)
- D) it is a branch of Confucianism

Question 2 of 75

The leaders of the Yellow Turban Rebellion were adherents of which of the following belief systems?

- A) Buddhism
- B) Christianity
- C) Islam
- D) Taoism

Question 3 of 75

During which of the following time periods did the Yuan dynasty rule China?

- A) the 960s to the 1270s
- B) the 1270s to the 1360s
- C) the 1360s to the 1640s
- D) the 1640s to the 1660s

Question 4 of 75

Which of the following best describes the career of Zheng He?

- A) he was a military leader and general during the Han dynasty
- B) he was the most powerful emperor of the Song dynasty
- C) he served Wu Zetian in several capacities during her time as Empress regnant of the Zhou Dynasty
- D) he was an explorer, diplomat and imperial official during the Ming dynasty

Question 5 of 75

All of these were consequences of the Chinese imperial examination system EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) the 'eight-legged essay' format helped to promote original thought and creativity among scholars during the Ming and Qing eras
- B) they helped unify the empire by ensuring a common knowledge of reading, writing and composition among high government officials
- C) the degree of jinshi was essential for the highest offices and positions
- D) the system helped to subordinate the military to the civil government and lessened the power of the hereditary aristocracy

Question 6 of 75

All of these were among the Five Dynasties of tenth century CE China EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Later Liang
- B) Later Han
- C) Later Ming
- D) Later Zhou

Question 7 of 75

According to legend, silkworms were discovered in China by Leizu who was which of the following?

- A) a military leader from the Yuan period
- B) the wife of the Yellow Emperor
- C) a Qing-era aristocrat
- D) a notable poet of the Han period

Question 8 of 75

All of these groups were among the 'Five Black Categories' during the Cultural Revolution EXCEPT which of the following?

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- A) landlords
 - B) counter-revolutionaries
 - C) workers
 - D) rightists

Question 9 of 75

In 1931 Japan staged which of the following as a pretext for invading Manchuria?

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- A) the Port Arthur affair
 - B) the Mukden Incident
 - C) the Nanking Incident
 - D) the assassination of Puyi

Question 10 of 75

Which of the following best describes 'Project National Glory'?

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- A) it was a plan of Chiang Kai-shek's Republic of China formulated in the 1960s to recapture mainland China
 - B) it was the war plan of the new People's Republic of China to pacify and eventually eliminate resistance to the revolution
 - C) it was the name given to Chinese aid to North Korea in the 1950s
 - D) it was the term for resistance to Soviet influence during the Sino-Soviet split

Question 11 of 75

In Chinese politics, Jiang Qing, Zhang Chunqiao, Yao Wenyuan and Wang Hongwen were known collectively by what name?

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- A) the Anti-Party Group
 - B) the Natolin Faction
 - C) the capitalist roaders
 - D) the Gang of Four

Question 12 of 75

Which of these is true of the economy of modern China?

- A) state-owned enterprises account for nearly 70% of GDP
- B) it is the largest in the world in terms of nominal GDP
- C) it is the world's largest importer of goods
- D) since market reforms in 1978 economic growth has consistently been 6% or more per year

Question 13 of 75

The Kofun period of Japanese history takes its name from which of the following?

- A) the typical bronze weapon used by warriors of this period
- B) a type of burial mound typical of this era
- C) a type of pottery found across the region created and traded by the Kofun people
- D) the founding ruler of the period who was the first to unite the island of Honshu under a single ruler

Question 14 of 75

Which of the following was a result of the failed Mongol invasions of Japan in the thirteenth century?

- A) Japan acquired vast territory in China and Korea as a result of the Mongol defeat
- B) the Kamakura shogunate was able to increase its authority through land grants to the gokenin
- C) raids by the woku on the Chinese and Korean coasts intensified
- D) Korea's naval power and control over the seas in the region significantly increased

Question 15 of 75

The Meiji period began in Japan immediately following which of these events?

- A) the end of the Boshin War
- B) the start of the Russo-Japanese War
- C) the rice riots of 1918
- D) the end of World War II

Question 16 of 75

The Anpo Protests in the second half of the twentieth century in Japan were largely in opposition to which of the following?

- A) the beginning of the reign of Emperor Akihito
- B) the US-Japan Security Treaty
- C) the normalization of relations with the Soviet Union
- D) the hosting of the Olympic Games in Tokyo in 1964

Question 17 of 75

Which of these was a confederation of city-states that existed in the Nakdong River basin during the Three Kingdoms Period of Korea?

- A) Dongye
- B) Gaya
- C) Okejo
- D) Buyeo

Question 18 of 75

Which of these is true of the political career of Syngman Rhee?

- A) his government allied itself closely with China following the conclusion of the Korean War
- B) he was a strong supporter of a peace treaty to end the Korean War after military setbacks in 1951, even if it meant a permanent division of the peninsula
- C) his administration in South Korea was characterized by authoritarianism and limited economic development
- D) he was brought back to Korea following World War II by the US primarily to repair relations with Japan

Question 19 of 75

Which of the following was known for leading the Russian 'conquest of Siberia' in the 1580s and for taking Qashliq from the Khanate of Sibir in 1582?

- A) Stenka Razin
- B) Ivan Mazepa
- C) Yemelyan Pugachev
- D) Yermak Timofeyevich

Question 20 of 75

The Han Dynasty fought a long-running conflict with which of the following groups, a nomadic confederation based in Mongolia?

- A) the Xiongnu
- B) the Rouran
- C) the Uyghurs
- D) the Liao

Question 21 of 75

All of these are true of Timur EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) he rose to power by gaining control of the Kipchak Khanate in 1370
- B) he attacked the Tughluq dynasty in India and captured Delhi in late 1398
- C) he fought a war with his former ally Tokhtamysh of the Golden Horde in the 1380s and 1390s
- D) his empire disintegrated shortly after his death but his descendant Babur went on to found the Mughal Empire

Question 22 of 75

Nursultan Nazarbayev served as the president of which of the following from 1990 until 2019?

- A) Tajikistan
- B) Kyrgyzstan
- C) Kazakhstan
- D) Turkmenistan

Question 23 of 75

Which of the following established a vast Hellenistic empire in the fourth century BCE that included territory in Anatolia, the Levant and Persia?

- A) Ptolemy
- B) Antipater
- C) Lysimachus
- D) Seleucus

Question 24 of 75

Which of the following best identifies the historical time period of the Sassanid Empire?

- A) 500 BCE to 200 BCE
- B) 200 BCE to 200 CE
- C) 200 CE to 650 CE
- D) 650 CE to 900 CE

Question 25 of 75

Which of the following was the first of the four major caliphates to arise after the death of Muhammad?

- A) Rashidun
- B) Umayyad
- C) Abbasid
- D) Fatimid

Question 26 of 75

The period known as the 'Era of Transformation' in the Ottoman Empire is bookended by what two major events?

- A) the demise of the Sultanate of Rum and the conquest of Constantinople
- B) the death of Suleiman the Magnificent and the end of the War of the Holy League
- C) the Austro-Turkish War and the Serbian Revolution
- D) the Crimean War and World War I

Question 27 of 75

All of these Middle Eastern nations gained their independence in the years immediately following World War II EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Jordan
- B) Syria
- C) Iraq
- D) Saudi Arabia

Question 28 of 75

All of these occurred during the reign of Darius the Great EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Aramaic became the official language of the Achaemenid Empire
- B) Egypt mounted a successful rebellion against Persian rule
- C) the Persians were defeated at the Battle of Marathon
- D) satraps were placed in charge of the provinces of the empire

Question 29 of 75

Which of the following dynasties ruled Iran from the early 18th century until the early 20th century?

- A) the Safavid
- B) the Bagration
- C) the Qajar
- D) the Afsharid

Question 30 of 75

All of these were important cities in the Indus River Valley civilization EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Kish
- B) Harappa
- C) Dholavira
- D) Mohenjo-daro

Question 31 of 75

Which of these is true of the Gupta Empire?

- A) it controlled the entire Indian subcontinent by 600 CE
- B) it was the first military force to use elephants in warfare
- C) it was a center for scholarship, including advances like base 10 numerals, as well as literature and art
- D) its military victories helped spread Buddhism across India

Question 32 of 75

The term 'Three Crowned Kings' or 'Three Golrified of Heaven' refers to rulers from all of these families EXCEPT which of the following, who dominated he politics of ancient Tamilakam?

- A) Pandya
- B) Chera
- C) Chola
- D) Sindh

Question 33 of 75

All of these are true of the Delhi Sultanate EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) it was an Islamic empire that controlled much of the Indian subcontinent until the 14th century CE
- B) it was able to assert dominance in the region by conquering the Mughal Empire
- C) it oversaw a period of both rapid economic and population growth in its territory
- D) it was able to fend off invasion attempts from the Chagatai Khanate

Question 34 of 75

Which of the following was the result of the Indian Rebellion of 1857?

- A) British East India Company forces were decisively defeated and kicked out of India
- B) the Mughal Empire was strengthened and was able to exert direct control over more of the subcontinent
- C) Company rule came to an end in India and the British Raj was created
- D) India was partitioned and Pakistan was created by the East India Company

Question 35 of 75

Which of the following was founded in 1906 by Nawab Khwaja Salimullah at a conference in Dhaka?

- A) the Indian National Congress
- B) the All-India Muslim League
- C) the Bharatiya Janata Party
- D) the Awami League

Question 36 of 75

The 1947-48 war between India and Pakistan was fought largely over which of the following?

- A) the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir
- B) Pakistan's rapidly developing nuclear program
- C) self-rule in East Pakistan and the creation of Bangladesh
- D) the aftermath of Operation Blue Star

Question 37 of 75

All of these happened during 'The Emergency' EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) elections for state governments and Parliament were postponed
- B) a compulsory sterilization program was undertaken to limit population growth
- C) Prime Minister Gandhi eliminated the office of President of India
- D) the 42nd Amendment to the Indian Constitution was enacted

Question 38 of 75

Which of the following became prime minister of India in 1984 following the assassination of Indira Gandhi?

- A) V.P. Singh
- B) Chandra Shekhar Singh
- C) P.V. Narasimha Rao
- D) Rajiv Gandhi

Question 39 of 75

Ram Baran Yadav became the first president of which of the following in 2008 following its 2006 Democracy Movement?

- A) the Maldives
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Nepal
- D) Bangladesh

Question 40 of 75

The Aligarh Movement was focused on establishing which of the following for the Muslim population of British India?

- A) a modern education system
- B) a homeland in southern India
- C) economic self-sufficiency
- D) a substantial military force

Question 41 of 75

Which of these was the last of the Sinhalese Kingdoms to exist in Sri Lanka before being absorbed into the British Empire in 1818?

- A) the Kingdom of Gampola
- B) the Kingdom of Kotte
- C) the Kingdom of Sitawaka
- D) the Kingdom of Kandy

Question 42 of 75

The Yayoi people migrated to the Japanese archipelago in ancient times from what other area?

- A) the Indochinese Peninsula
- B) the Korean Peninsula
- C) the Malay Peninsula
- D) Java

Question 43 of 75

The Ilkhanate controlled which of the following areas in the late 13th and early 14th centuries?

- A) only a small area of Inner and Upper Mongolia, along with a small part of Siberia
- B) large parts of Mongolia and northern China
- C) a vast territory in Siberia and Central Asia into parts of Eastern Europe
- D) parts of Iran, Azerbaijan and Turkey, along with territory in Iraq, Armenia, Georgia and surrounding areas

Question 44 of 75

Transoxania is the ancient name given to which of the following regions?

- A) the area of Central Asia between the Amu Darya and Syr Darya rivers
- B) northeastern China
- C) Anatolia and the Levant
- D) the northern half of the Indian subcontinent

Question 45 of 75

All of these are among the Four Great Inventions of ancient China EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) gunpowder
- B) paper
- C) silk
- D) the compass

Question 46 of 75

Which of the following became queen regnant of Vietnam after leading a successful rebellion against Han dynasty rule?

- A) Lady Trieu
- B) Ly Chieu Hoang
- C) Phung Thi Chinh
- D) Trung Trac

Question 47 of 75

The dissolution of French Indochina in 1954 resulted in the creation of all of these independent nations EXCEPT which of the following?

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

Question 48 of 75

Which of the following best describes the time period of the Khmer Empire?

- A) first century BCE to third century CE
- B) third century CE to ninth century CE
- C) ninth century CE to fifteenth century CE
- D) fifteenth century CE to twentieth century

Question 49 of 75

Which of the following has ruled Thailand since the late eighteenth century?

- A) the Chakri dynasty
- B) the Thonburi dynasty
- C) the Sukhothai dynasty
- D) the Phra Ruang dynasty

Question 50 of 75

In 1945 Sukarno and Mohammad Hatta proclaimed the independence of Indonesia from which of the following colonial powers?

- A) Great Britain
- B) France
- C) Portugal
- D) the Netherlands

Question 51 of 75

Modern scholars have identified the mythical Xia dynasty with which Bronze Age culture in the Yellow River valley?

- A) Erlitou
- B) Houli
- C) Nanzhuangtou
- D) Daxi

Question 52 of 75

All of these are true of the *Records of the Grand Historian* EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) it covers a roughly 2500-year period of Chinese history
- B) it set the model for later works like the Twenty-Four Histories
- C) it is completely narrative in style and sticks closely to Confucian doctrine
- D) its authors were court historians to the Han emperor

Question 53 of 75

Li Bai and Du Fu were notable poets writing during which of the following dynasties?

- A) Tang
- B) Song
- C) Yuan
- D) Ming

Question 54 of 75

All of these were major causes of the Boxer Rebellion EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) extreme weather events in Shandong province in 1897-1898
- B) agreements like the Convention of Peking and the Treaty of Tientsin signed in the wake of the Second Opium War
- C) attempts by European powers and Japan to carve out spheres of influence in the late 1890s
- D) heavy taxes imposed under the Hundred Days' Reform

Question 55 of 75

The 'Warlord Era' of Chinese history began with the death of which of the following in 1916?

- A) Sun Yat-sen
- B) Yuan Shikai
- C) Li Hongzhang
- D) Feng Yuxiang

Question 56 of 75

Which of these best describes the policy of Boluan Fanzheng undertaken in China in the late twentieth century?

- A) it was a set of measures undertaken by Xi Jinping to consolidate power following his appointment as General secretary
- B) it was the name given to the effort of Jian Zemin to quiet tensions in the wake of the Tiananmen Square protests in 1989
- C) it describes a set of policies undertaken by Deng Xiaoping to reverse many of the steps taken by Mao in the Cultural Revolution
- D) it was a last-ditch effort by Mao Zedong to hold on to power in the final years of his life

Question 57 of 75

Which of the following was the conclusive battle of the Genpei War?

- A) the battle of Dan-no-ura
- B) the battle of Uji
- C) the battle of Tsushima
- D) the battle of Hakata Bay

Question 58 of 75

In the aftermath of the Great Kanto earthquake of 1923 all of these occurred in Japan EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) the Japanese government strongly considered moving the capital out of Tokyo due to the devastation
- B) death rates from typhoid spiked in Tokyo due to high population density and a lack of sanitary conditions
- C) Emperor Taisho was deposed due to popular discontent over the government response to the earthquake
- D) ethnic Koreans were massacred due to false rumors that they were committing acts of sabotage and theft following the disaster

Question 59 of 75

The Blue House raid was launched in 1968 by North Korea as an attempt to do which of the following?

- A) steal sensitive military secrets from South Korea, including nuclear technology
- B) launch a preemptive invasion with the goal of overrunning South Korean and American positions along the DMZ
- C) retaliate for the killings of several North Korean soldiers in the DMZ in the Paul Bunyan incident
- D) assassinate South Korean President Park Chung-hee

Question 60 of 75

All of these are true of the Pax Mongolica EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Islamic scholarship in areas such as mathematics, science and astronomy spread to Africa, East Asia and Europe
- B) the Black Death had only a marginal effect on the stability of the Pax Mongolica
- C) new business methods such as deposit banking and bills of exchange were introduced to Europe as a result of increased long-distance trade
- D) the Yam system helped maintain reliable communication during the Pax Mongolica

Question 61 of 75

Which of these is true of the Scythians in the period between the 7th and 3rd centuries BCE?

- A) they were able to conquer much of the Achaemenid Persian empire
- B) they were skilled at mounted warfare, including the use of early saddles, composite bows and stirrups
- C) they were eventually conquered by the Cimmerians in the 3rd century
- D) they spoke a non-Indo-European language and followed Zoroastrianism

Question 62 of 75

Which of the following is the author of such significant 11th century works as *The Revival of Religious Sciences* and *The Incoherence of the Philosophers*?

- A) Avicenna
- B) Averroes
- C) Al-Ghazali
- D) Rumi

Question 63 of 75

Which of these best describes the result of the Battle of Hattin in 1187?

- A) the Crusader states decisively defeated the Ayyubids and confirmed their dominance over the Levant for the next several decades
- B) the battle was a draw with both sides suffering horrific casualties
- C) Crusader forces suffered a small defeat but Frederick Barbarossa was killed during the battle
- D) the decisive defeat of the Crusader states by Saladin resulted in the calling of the Third Crusade

Question 64 of 75

All of these were results of the Six-Day War EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) Israel won a decisive victory but left the military forces of Egypt, Jordan and Syria largely intact
- B) Israel seized the West Bank from Jordan
- C) Israel seized the Golan Heights and Sinai Peninsula from Egypt
- D) antisemitic purges began in both Middle Eastern and communist countries

Question 65 of 75

'Operation Boot' was the British name for which of the following?

- A) British involvement in the 1916 Arab Revolt, led by T.E. Lawrence
- B) the 1932 granting of independence to Iraq
- C) the 1953 overthrow of Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh
- D) the planned 1956 invasion of Egypt in response to the Suez Crisis

Question 66 of 75

Which of the following provides substantial evidence of the extent of the Maurya Empire in the third century BCE?

- A) the historical writings of Herodotus
- B) the location of the Edicts of Ashoka throughout the former territory of the Empire
- C) the 14th century CE accounts of Merutunga
- D) the presence of Greek populations in the Maurya Empire in the third century

Question 67 of 75

Which of the following is a 17th century collection of sharia-based guidelines on statecraft, economics, law and ethics compiled under Aurangzeb?

- A) *Fihi ma fihi*
- B) the *Fatawa 'Alamgiri*
- C) *Majāles-e Sab'a*
- D) the *Book of Idols*

Question 68 of 75

Which of the following is considered by many as the beginning of British East India Company rule in India?

- A) the aftermath of the defeat of the Mughal Empire at the Third Battle of Panipat
- B) the signing of the Treaty of Seringapatam by Lord Cornwallis
- C) the conclusion of the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War
- D) the victory of the Company at the Battle of Plassey in 1757

Question 69 of 75

Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated in 1948 by which of the following?

- A) Herbert Reiner
- B) Digambar Badge
- C) Nathuram Godse
- D) Madanlal Pahwa

Question 70 of 75

In March 2001 the Taliban government of Afghanistan destroyed which of the following?

- A) the Great Mosque of Herat
- B) the Minaret of Jam
- C) the Buddhas of Bamiyan
- D) the Victory Arch at Paghman

Question 71 of 75

Which of the following resulted from the invasions of the Huns starting in the fourth century CE?

- A) groups like the Alans and Goths, along with other tribes conquered by the Huns, were pushed westward further into the Roman Empire
- B) the Vikings were displaced and began to invade England
- C) the Jin Dynasty in China fell
- D) the Greeks and Macedonians rose up against the Western Roman Empire

Question 72 of 75

The Clemenceau-Lloyd-George Agreement of 1918 resulted in the cession of which specific territories from France to Great Britain?

- A) Mecca and Medina
- B) Palestine and Mosul
- C) the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz
- D) Jerusalem and Cairo

Question 73 of 75

All of these were provisions of the Treaty of Tientsin (Tianjin) following the Second Opium War EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) the United States, Russia, Great Britain and France received most-favored nation status at treaty ports all over China
- B) China was forbidden from referring to representatives of the four nations with a character meaning 'barbarian' in official documents
- C) Hong Kong Island was leased to the British for a period of 99 years
- D) the four nations were allowed to establish diplomatic legations in the formerly closed city of Beijing

Question 74 of 75

All of these were core beliefs of the Khmer Rouge government of Cambodia EXCEPT which of the following?

- A) autarky
- B) agricultural collectivization
- C) military dominance of the former Indochina
- D) elimination of foreign influences

Question 75 of 75

Which of the following was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize with Henry Kissinger in 1973?

- A)** Ngo Dinh Diem
- B)** Le Duc Tho
- C)** Nguyen Van Thieu
- D)** Ho Chi Minh