



2022-2023 Regional Finals Study Guide – Red Question Set

Instructions: This study guide should be your first resource in preparing for the National History Bee Regional Finals on the Red Question Set. Most of the facts below are found at some point in the 120 questions that compose the Red Question Set. Thus we have selected these facts for this study guide to help make your preparation easier and more efficient. Remember that the questions are all short paragraphs on a particular topic, so if a topic is referenced below, then it is a good idea to learn a bit more about it on your own than what is listed here (since additional facts about a topic will also be referenced in the question). It is also helpful to read the introduction of a Wikipedia page on a topic to gain additional historical context about why it is significant.

Please also use the [National Capitals Study Guide found here](#) and our past question sets (especially National History Bee Regional Finals questions from past years) [which can be found here](#). Many of the topics that are found in past years' questions will again be found in the questions at this year's Regional Finals, and at the National Championships too. Good luck!

Ancient History

1. Babylon was an ancient city in Mesopotamia, which was led by Hammurabi, who created a code of laws.
2. [Hermes](#) (pr. HER-meez) was the Greek messenger god & [Dionysus](#) (pr. die-oh-NIGH-sus) was the Greek god of wine.
3. A huge wooden [Trojan Horse](#) was used by the Greeks to successfully attack the city of Troy in the Trojan War.
4. Pythagoras was a Greek philosopher and mathematician. He discovered the Pythagorean Formula of $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ which explains the side lengths of right triangles (i.e. triangles with a right angle).
5. Ancient Greek civilization grew among independent city-states like Corinth, Sparta, and Athens.
6. [Alexander the Great](#) was a Macedonian Greek conqueror whose empire spanned from Greece to India.
7. Augustus was the first Roman Emperor. Other important Roman Emperors included Nero, Trajan, and Hadrian.
8. Chariots were ancient wheeled vehicles led by horses. They were used for races at the Circus Maximus in Rome.

Asian History

1. The city of Calcutta was the center of the [British East India Company](#).
2. The House of Saud rules Saudi Arabia, the largest country on the Arabian Peninsula.
3. Mao Zedong led the Chinese Communist Party to victory in the Chinese Civil War in the late 1940's.
4. Israel occupied the [Gaza Strip](#) after the Six-Day War, in which it defeated Egypt, Syria, and Jordan in 1967.
5. The USA and communist China established diplomatic relations during President Richard Nixon's visit to China in 1972. Following the visit, the US and China engaged in [ping-pong diplomacy](#) which was when table tennis players from each country visited the other in an effort to build ties and friendship.
6. China regained the colony of Hong Kong from the United Kingdom in 1997, and the colony of Macau from Portugal in 1999.

European History

1. Denmark has the oldest national flag. It consists of a white cross on a red background.
2. King Henry the Eighth of England had six wives, including Catherine of Aragon and Anne Boleyn.
3. Galileo Galilei was an Italian astronomer who was put on trial for believing in heliocentrism, the belief that the earth revolves around the sun.
4. Oliver Cromwell served as Lord Protector of England after defeating the forces of King Charles I in the English Civil War.
5. Catherine the Great was an 18th century empress of Russia.
6. Karl Marx was a German philosopher who wrote *The Communist Manifesto* together with Friedrich Engels.
7. [Simone de Beauvoir](#) was a 20th century French feminist writer.
8. Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated in Sarajevo in 1914, sparking World War One.
9. [Vladimir Lenin](#) was the first leader of the Soviet Union, a communist country that existed from 1917 – 1991 and included what is now both Russia and Ukraine, along with many other countries.
10. In 1941 during World War II, Germany under Adolf Hitler, invaded the Soviet Union.
11. Joseph Stalin was the leader of the Soviet Union in World War II.
12. World War II ended in 1945 with the victory of the Allies (led by the Soviet Union, USA, France, and the United Kingdom) over the Axis powers (Germany, Italy, and Japan).
13. The Soviet Union led the communist nations of the Warsaw Pact (which no longer exists) in the Cold War.
14. The USA led the democratic nations of NATO against the Warsaw Pact in the Cold War. NATO still exists today.
15. The Cold War is called the Cold War because the countries in NATO and the Warsaw Pact never fought a direct conflict against each other, though they supported each other's opponents in smaller wars, like the Vietnam War.
16. The Cold War ended with the fall of communism in the Warsaw Pact nations. This happened from 1989-1991.

Latin America History

1. The Olmecs were the first Central American civilization. They are famous for creating colossal stone heads.
2. The [Incan Empire](#) was centered at the city of Cuzco in the Andes Mountains in what is now the country of Peru.
3. Disputed claims over the Falkland Islands led to a 1982 war between Argentina and the United Kingdom – the United Kingdom won the war and maintains control over the Falklands to this day.

US History

1. The Battle of Bunker Hill was a Revolutionary War battle fought near Boston in 1775.
2. The [California Gold Rush](#) began in 1848, when gold was found at Sutter's Mill.
3. The Pony Express was a mail service in the American West run by couriers on horseback from 1860-1861.
4. Alaska, which is separated from Russia by the Bering Strait, was purchased by the USA from Russia in 1867.
5. George Armstrong Custer was a US army colonel, famous for his "Last Stand", at the Battle of the Little Bighorn in Montana, where he died fighting the Sioux (pr. Sue) American Indian tribe in 1876.
6. Mark Twain wrote the novels entitled [The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn](#) and *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.
7. [Henry Ford](#), who revolutionized manufacturing through techniques of mass production, was the founder of the Ford Motor Company. Ford was famous for its black Model T car in the early 20th century.
8. During World War Two, General Douglas MacArthur was the top US Army commander in the Pacific, and General Dwight Eisenhower was the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe. Eisenhower was US president from 1953-1961.
9. [Malcolm X](#) was a Black nationalist leader who was assassinated in Harlem in 1965.
10. After New York, Los Angeles is currently the second most populous city in the USA. Chicago is the third.