



**National Historical Geography Examination
IAC Nationals 2022
Middle School Division**

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.**

1. What Non-Aligned Movement leader guided Indonesian independence in the tumultuous Cold War era?

- A. Sukarno
- B. Nehru
- C. Nkrumah
- D. Nasser

2. Indian Ocean traders utilized what natural phenomenon to make their maritime travel more secure and reliable?

- A. tsunamis
- B. ocean currents
- C. monsoons
- D. hurricanes

3. Which of the following land-based trade networks was created to carry China's most lucrative exports to Europe?

- A. Mediterranean Basin
- B. Indian Ocean Basin
- C. Trans-Atlantic Trade
- D. Silk Roads

4. Which of the following was first created in China to embellish traditional ceremonies but soon became a vital tool in armed conflicts?

- A. trebuchets
- B. crossbows
- C. gunpowder
- D. battering rams

5. Gayatri Spivak's influential "Can the Subaltern Speak?" discusses the effects of India's colonization by what imperial power?

- A. Spain
- B. the Netherlands
- C. Great Britain
- D. France

6. It could be argued that China was indirectly involved in the exploration of the Americas because of their high demand for what resource?

- A. spices
- B. silver
- C. silk
- D. petroleum

7. Which of the following titles has been used for leaders throughout the history of Iran until the late twentieth century?

- A. czar
- B. shah
- C. caliph
- D. sultan

8. Which of the following was the last traditional Japanese government that oversaw economic isolation of Japan?

- A. Ashikaga
- B. Kamakura
- C. Tokugawa
- D. Momoyama

9. The British instigated a 19th century conflict with China over the sale of what good?

- A. opium
- B. silk
- C. gunpowder
- D. porcelain

10. The Dutch East India Company operated a lucrative colony on what East Asian island in the 17th century?

- A. Taiwan
- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Honshu
- D. Singapore

11. Which of the following programs was launched by Chairman Mao to improve China's agricultural output?

- A. the Cultural Revolution
- B. the Great Leap Forward
- C. the Five-Year Plan
- D. the Education Movement

12. Chandragupta was the 1st emperor of what namesake empire that united most of India in the 4th century BCE?

- A. Haryanka Dynasty
- B. Shishunaga Dynasty
- C. Nanda Dynasty
- D. Mauryan Dynasty

13. Which of the following companies is the largest based in South Korea?

- A. Samsung
- B. Toyota
- C. Hyundai
- D. Huawei

14. India has long contested the control of the Kashmir region with what neighbor?

- A. Nepal
- B. Bhutan
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Pakistan

15. The Byzantine Empire was dealt its last blow after which of the following conquered Constantinople in 1453?

- A. Mongols
- B. Ottomans
- C. Safavids
- D. Seljuk Turks

16. China adopted which of the following systems of government after the fall of the Qing dynasty?

- A. monarchy
- B. oligarchy
- C. republic
- D. theocracy

17. Which of the following was a major focus of the Meiji Restoration to modernize Japan?

- A. industrialization
- B. agriculture
- C. communism
- D. isolationism

18. Which of the following navigational tools is attributed to the Chinese?

- A. astrolabe
- B. compass
- C. quadrant
- D. lead line

19. What dynasty that gives China its name also created the famous terracotta army?

- A. Shang
- B. Zhou
- C. Qin
- D. Han

20. Which of the following Muslim caliphates consolidated power in Baghdad where they constructed the famous House of Wisdom?

- A. Rashidun
- B. Umayyad
- C. Abbasid
- D. Ottoman

21. Which of the following nations was created by the Zionist movement in the twentieth century?

- A. Israel
- B. Lebanon
- C. Palestine
- D. Jordan

22. The Chinese Civil War was made more complicated by the invasion of what neighboring nation?

- A. Soviet Union
- B. Korea
- C. Japan
- D. Germany

23. To combat overpopulation, China passed legislation to limit each Chinese family to which of the following?

- A. zero children
- B. one child
- C. two children
- D. three children

24. Japan came into a conflict with which of the following nations over Manchuria in 1895?

- A. France
- B. China
- C. Korea
- D. Russia

25. Juche is the national identity of what nation that declared it a distinct ideology from communism?

- A. Vietnam
- B. North Korea
- C. China
- D. Russia

26. Japanese tradition that emphasizes the kami that inhabits all living things originates in which of the following traditions?

- A. Shintoism
- B. Hinduism
- C. Confucianism
- D. Zoroastrianism

27. The Japanese Heian Period is most known for which of the following, including *The Pillow Book* and *The Tale of Genji*?

- A. literature
- B. opera
- C. printmaking
- D. fashion and clothing

28. The Korean peninsula is divided by which of the following lines of latitude?
- A. 17th parallel
 - B. 20th parallel
 - C. 38th parallel
 - D. 50th parallel
29. The Trans-Siberian Railway was constructed to connect Moscow to what eastern city?
- A. Vladivostok
 - B. Perm
 - C. St. Petersburg
 - D. Kazan
30. Six Central Asian republics were created after the 1991 fall of which of the following?
- A. Ottoman Empire
 - B. Soviet Union
 - C. Qing Dynasty
 - D. British Empire
31. Kemal Ataturk served as the first president of what nation founded in 1923?
- A. Turkey
 - B. Syria
 - C. Kuwait
 - D. Saudi Arabia
32. Which of the following was the first sitting American president to visit China in 1972?
- A. Harry Truman
 - B. John F. Kennedy
 - C. Richard Nixon
 - D. John F. Kennedy
33. Which of the following men consolidated nomadic tribes into the Mongol Empire in 1206?
- A. Genghis Khan
 - B. Kublai Khan
 - C. Batu Khan
 - D. Mongke Khan
34. The Cultural Revolution was enforced by guards named for what color?
- A. black
 - B. yellow
 - C. green
 - D. red
35. Turkmenistan's textile industry is famous for producing which of the following decorative goods?
- A. shirts
 - B. rugs
 - C. blankets
 - D. pants
36. The filial piety and social responsibility that defines Chinese tradition was inspired by what Chinese philosopher?
- A. Laozi
 - B. Confucius
 - C. Mencius
 - D. Zhuangzi
37. Which of the following involved student-led protests demanding for protections of speech and press in China in 1989?
- A. Tiananmen Square
 - B. Tibetan uprising
 - C. Xinfu protest
 - D. Sichuan riots
38. Which of the following families has maintained control of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea since its creation in 1948?
- A. Choe
 - B. Pak
 - C. Ri
 - D. Kim
39. The Translation Movement translated significant numbers of Greek texts into which of the following languages so scholars could access the information?
- A. Arabic
 - B. Aramaic
 - C. Latin
 - D. Hebrew
40. Mao Zedong helped lead the charge to transform modern China under what political philosophy?
- A. socialism
 - B. communism
 - C. democracy
 - D. anarchism
41. The Tang Dynasty was able to publish The Diamond Sutra in creating which of the following?
- A. block printing
 - B. cylinder seals
 - C. pottery imprints
 - D. cloth printing
42. Japan instituted the Sakoku isolation policy largely to try to combat the growing influence of what major religion introduced by European traders?
- A. Islam
 - B. Christianity
 - C. Judaism
 - D. Buddhism

43. Saudi Arabia has large natural reserves of which of the following lucrative resources?
- oil
 - uranium
 - gold
 - silver
44. Which of the following Central Asian nations houses the tomb of Mongol-Turkic leader Tamerlane in the city of Samarkand?
- Azerbaijan
 - Iraq
 - Uzbekistan
 - Afghanistan
45. The United States fought to liberate Kuwait from Iraq in a conflict named after which of the following?
- Persian Gulf
 - Caspian Sea
 - Black Sea
 - Gulf of Aden
46. The Song Dynasty enjoyed economic success due to their improvement and expansion of which of the following?
- Summer Palace
 - Great Wall of China
 - Grand Canal
 - Iron Pagoda
47. The Parthians are well known as antagonists of what southern European empire that spanned 3 continents at its largest?
- Gallic Empire
 - Macedonian Empire
 - Roman Empire
 - Seleucid Empire
48. In 2022, Qatar will be the first Arab world nation to host what international football contest?
- Confederations Cup
 - Summer Olympics
 - Champions League
 - FIFA World Cup
49. Which of the following explorers was employed by Kublai Khan to write about the Mongol presence in China in the 13th century?
- Antonio Pigafetta
 - Marco Polo
 - Christopher Columbus
 - Giovanni de Verrazzano
50. The Srivijaya Empire was the first unified kingdom to dominate which of the following?
- Indochina
 - Moluccas
 - Borneo
 - Malay Peninsula
51. Which of the following, which originated in Iran, is said to be the oldest monotheistic religion in the world?
- Islam
 - Judaism
 - Zoroastrianism
 - Christianity
52. Portuguese presence in Ceylon was eliminated by the Kingdom of Kandy's alliance with which of the following?
- the Dutch
 - the British
 - the Spanish
 - the Chinese
53. India finally achieved its independence from Great Britain after which of the following major international conflicts?
- World War I
 - World War II
 - Cold War
 - Opium Wars
54. Iranian students took hostages at the embassy of which of the following nations in 1979?
- United States
 - East Germany
 - Switzerland
 - France
55. Admiral Zheng He took seven voyages to explore the Indian Ocean on behalf of which of these?
- the Russian Empire
 - Japan
 - Zanzibar
 - China
56. The 1857 Sepoy Mutiny was sparked by which of the following groups who refused to use new European equipment that violated their religious beliefs?
- doctors
 - miners
 - soldiers
 - merchants
57. Which of the following was built as memorial for the wife of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan?
- Taj Mahal
 - Jama Masjid
 - Jamali Kamali
 - Babri Masjid
58. Which of the following early civilizations was based in the Fertile Crescent between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers?
- Mesopotamia
 - Indus Civilization
 - Ancient Egypt
 - Ancient China

59. Jyoti Basu became the world's longest-serving elected communist leader in his role as chief minister of what eastern state of India?
- Gujarat
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Punjab
 - West Bengal
60. Author Rabindranath Tagore composed the national anthem of both India and what other nation?
- Nepal
 - Bangladesh
 - Afghanistan
 - Pakistan
61. The Vietnam War ended when South Vietnam fell to the North Vietnamese Army after the capture of what capital city?
- Saigon
 - Hanoi
 - Da Nang
 - Dien Bien Phu
62. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her bodyguards after her Operation Blue Star removed worshippers of what faith from the holy Golden temple?
- Islam
 - Hinduism
 - Buddhism
 - Sikhism
63. The early Bronze-Age civilization located in modern-day India and Pakistan was centered around what river?
- Ganga
 - Narmada
 - Indus
 - Godavari
64. Which of the following was the focus of Old Kingdom builders in Ancient Egypt?
- pyramids
 - stadiums
 - dams
 - city walls
65. The Taiping Rebellion was led by a self-proclaimed prophet of what major religion?
- Buddhism
 - Hinduism
 - Muslim
 - Christianity
66. Which of these is NOT one of the top five spices currently produced in India?
- chili
 - salt
 - cumin
 - turmeric
67. Which of the following best describes the bodhisattvas vital to Mahayana Buddhism?
- earthly saviors
 - saintly guides
 - isolated monks
 - spiritual students
68. In 1989, Burma changed its English name to which of the following?
- Myanmar
 - Thailand
 - Bangladesh
 - Cambodia
69. What Mughal emperor used religious tolerance to consolidate the empire?
- Humayun
 - Aurangzeb
 - Akbar
 - Bahadur Shah
70. Which of the following led the Viet Minh independence movement starting in 1941?
- Ngo Dinh Diem
 - Ho Chi Minh
 - Le Duan
 - Ngo Dinh Nhu
71. The nation of Bhutan got its name for a word that means "south of Tibet" in which of the following languages?
- Urdu
 - Bengali
 - Sanskrit
 - Persian
72. The Achaemenid Empire reached its highest under what king who conquered much of ancient Greece?
- Xerxes
 - Sogdianus
 - Darius
 - Cambyses
73. The Sassanid Empire was the last traditional Iranian empire before which of the following groups conquered the area?
- Muslims
 - Christians
 - Hindus
 - Jews
74. Which of the following was a communist government that massacred a quarter of Cambodia's population in the 1970s?
- Funan Kingdom
 - Administration of Sihanouk
 - Chenla Kingdom
 - Khmer Rouge

75. Which of the following is a wealthy city-state was completely transformed by the anti-corruption administration of Lee Kuan Yew?

- A. Papua New Guinea
- B. Brunei
- C. Singapore
- D. Malaysia

Tiebreaker

Write your answer on the BACK of your scantron. Please label your responses 1-5.

List in order the five most populous nations in Asia after China and India.