



US History Bee - C Set Qualifying Examination

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

Email address _____

Instructions - Circle the correct answer or leave it blank. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth -1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

1. Ross Perot ran as a third-party candidate against what recent Democratic president in the 1990s?

- A. Jimmy Carter
- B. Bill Clinton
- C. Al Gore
- D. Barack Obama

2. Nikola Tesla and Thomas Edison established significant patents in the late nineteenth century in what industry?

- A. electricity
- B. integrated circuits
- C. aerospace
- D. explosives

3. The battles of Saratoga and Yorktown were turning points in what American conflict?

- A. World War I
- B. the Spanish-American War
- C. the Mexican-American War
- D. the American Revolution

4. Frederick Douglass was an outspoken advocate for which of the following causes in the early antebellum period?

- A. the creation of a League of Nations
- B. the abolition of slavery
- C. the free coinage of silver
- D. eliminating the income tax

5. Which of the following best describes the Great Awakening?

- A. a religious revival in the 18th century American colonies
- B. a post-Revolutionary idea calling for separation of church and state
- C. the belief that the United States should expand from coast to coast
- D. the idea that all white male Americans should be allowed to vote

6. Which of the following led a rebellion against the colonial government of Virginia in 1676?

- A. Daniel Shays
- B. Benjamin Lincoln
- C. Thomas Dorr
- D. Nathaniel Bacon

7. Which of the following was revived in the 1910s and became a leading advocate of segregation and restriction of immigration into the United States?

- A. the NAACP
- B. the KKK
- C. the ACLU
- D. the NWSA

8. The Emancipation Proclamation did which of the following?

- A. abolished slavery in the entire United States
- B. abolished slavery in the border states, like Maryland
- C. set a timeline for abolishing slavery after the war
- D. abolished slavery in areas of the South still in rebellion against the United States

9. Which of these late nineteenth century leaders stressed the importance of vocational education for African Americans as a path to economic empowerment?

- A. W.E.B. Du Bois
- B. Stokely Carmichael
- C. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- D. Booker T. Washington

10. The Federal Reserve Act did which of the following?

- A. required the government to greatly increase the amount of gold and silver it held in reserve
- B. implemented the first income tax
- C. established a new central banking system for the United States
- D. made it illegal for Americans to hoard gold during the Great Depression

11. Which of the following was accomplished by the Northwest Ordinance of 1787?

- A. the removal of Native Americans to reservations west of the Mississippi
- B. prohibition of slavery in the Northwest territory
- C. the imposition of tariffs on Canada
- D. the end of the American Revolution

12. Margaret Sanger was a leading advocate for which of these causes in the early twentieth century?

- A. rights for Native Americans
- B. education reform
- C. access to birth control
- D. environmental protection

13. Which of the following vice presidents killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel in 1804?
- Schuyler Colfax
 - Hannibal Hamlin
 - Daniel Tompkins
 - Aaron Burr
14. The Haymarket Square and Homestead incidents in the late nineteenth century were both violent clashes involving
- civil rights protesters
 - women advocating for suffrage
 - labor unions
 - soldiers in the US Army
15. During the Great Depression, which of the following programs was created to grant a pension to elderly Americans?
- Social Security
 - the FDIC
 - the AAA
 - the 'Share Our Wealth' program
16. The Navigation Acts were imposed by England to regulate which of the following?
- trade and commerce in the American colonies
 - settlement in the Ohio Valley
 - acquisition of Florida from Spain
 - the recruitment of sailors from the American colonies
17. Which of the following had a profound negative effect on the US economy in the 1970s?
- the Great Depression
 - oil embargoes by Middle Eastern countries
 - very low unemployment and interest rates
 - a lack of hard currency and a rapid contraction of the money supply
18. Which of these men led a revolt against Spanish colonization in the late seventeenth century?
- Po'pay
 - Billy Bowlegs
 - Red Cloud
 - Chief Joseph
19. Which of these was a leader of the prohibition movement in the United States?
- William Lloyd Garrison
 - Carrie A. Nation
 - Susan B. Anthony
 - William James
20. The initiative, referendum and recall were democratic reforms advocated in the early twentieth century by which of these groups?
- Free Soilers
 - Progressives
 - Know-Nothings
 - Constitutional Unionists
21. The Virginia Resolves and the creation of the Sons of Liberty occurred as a reaction to which of the following?
- the Proclamation of 1763
 - the Stamp Act
 - the Quebec Act
 - the Boston Port Act
22. The atomic bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were ordered by which American president?
- Franklin Roosevelt
 - Harry Truman
 - Dwight Eisenhower
 - John Kennedy
23. Standard Oil rose to prominence in the US in the late nineteenth century by using what method of business organization?
- sole proprietorship
 - pooling
 - stock watering
 - trust
24. The Embargo Act of 1807 was passed in response to which of the following?
- ongoing conflicts with Native Americans in the Louisiana Purchase territory
 - disagreements with Russia over the Alaska fur trade
 - conflicts with Canada over Atlantic fisheries
 - threats to American merchant ships due to the Napoleonic Wars in Europe
25. Babe Ruth was one of the most famous Americans of the 1920s due to his success in what sport?
- horse racing
 - boxing
 - football
 - baseball
26. According to the Proclamation of 1763
- British soldiers were required to be housed in American homes
 - colonial paper money could not be printed
 - colonists were prohibited from settling across the Appalachians
 - colonists were required to purchase English tea

27. Ronald Reagan first won the presidency in what election year?
- 1972
 - 1980
 - 1988
 - 1996
28. The systems of separation of powers and checks and balances among the branches of the US government were established by which of the following?
- the Articles of Confederation
 - the Bill of Rights
 - the Declaration of Independence
 - the Constitution
29. Which of these men served as General of the Army in World War II, led the occupation of Japan, and also commanded UN forces during the early stages of the Korean War?
- Omar Bradley
 - George Marshall
 - Dwight Eisenhower
 - Douglas MacArthur
30. During Reconstruction, what term was used for Northerners who moved south for political or financial gain?
- copperheads
 - cavaliers
 - carpetbaggers
 - exodusters
31. The Adams-Onis Treaty in 1819 resulted in the annexation of which of the following territories?
- Louisiana
 - Florida
 - Texas
 - California
32. Shantytowns that grew up in large American cities due to high levels of poverty and homelessness during the Great Depression were commonly known by what name?
- Roosevelt shacks
 - Tin Pan Alleys
 - Hoovervilles
 - the Dust Bowl
33. Prior to the Civil War, Senator John Calhoun used what phrase to characterize his belief that slavery provided tangible benefits for both slaveowner and slave?
- 'necessary evil'
 - 'peculiar institution'
 - the 'mudsill theory'
 - 'positive good'
34. Horace Mann and John Dewey are most notable for their theories and reform efforts in which area of American life?
- health care
 - labor and workplace issues
 - education
 - prisons
35. What first Chief Justice of the United States also helped write the Federalist papers?
- Alexander Hamilton
 - James Madison
 - John Jay
 - James Monroe
36. Mirabeau Lamar, Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin were key figures in the early history of what US state?
- Alabama
 - Mississippi
 - Louisiana
 - Texas
37. The sinking of the steamship SS Central America with a cargo of nearly 15 tons of gold and the failure of the Ohio Life Insurance company helped cause which of the following crises?
- the Yazoo land scandal
 - the Panic of 1857
 - Credit Mobilier
 - the Utah War
38. Which of the following best describes NAFTA, which went into effect in 1994?
- it is a collective security agreement between the US and its European allies
 - it is a trade pact between the US and China
 - it governs fishing and trade in the Arctic and Antarctic regions
 - it is a free trade agreement among the US, Canada and Mexico
39. All of these occurred during the administration of Dwight Eisenhower EXCEPT which of the following?
- the Cuban Missile Crisis
 - the creation of the Strategic Air Command
 - the 'Kitchen Debate' between Nikita Khrushchev and vice president Richard Nixon
 - the launching of Sputnik I by the USSR
40. Which of the following was the catalyst for Francis Scott Key's composition of the poem that became the Star-Spangled Banner?
- the siege of Fort McHenry
 - the Battle of New Orleans
 - the Battle of the Thames
 - the Battle of Lake Erie

41. The 'Compromise of 1877' resulted in which of the following?
- A. settled the disputed presidential election of 1876 and brought about an end to Reconstruction
 - B. established a formal peace treaty to end the Civil War
 - C. settled damage claims from the Civil War against Great Britain by American merchant ship owners
 - D. the end of the business rivalry between John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie
42. All of these are true of Theodore Roosevelt EXCEPT which of the following?
- A. he assumed the presidency on the assassination of William McKinley
 - B. he won a Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating an end to the Russo-Japanese War
 - C. he was elected to a third term in the presidency in 1912
 - D. he fought in the Spanish-American War
43. Which of the following is true about the Quasi-War (or 'Undeclared War') with France?
- A. it resulted in part from the XYZ affair
 - B. John Adams resisted calls from the public, the press and politicians to declare war on France
 - C. Alexander Hamilton advocated the creation of a new American army to fight France
 - D. All of these are true of the Quasi-War with France
44. The 'Kitchen Cabinet' advised which of the following presidents?
- A. John Adams
 - B. Andrew Jackson
 - C. George Washington
 - D. William Henry Harrison
45. Which of the following best characterizes the beliefs of the Populist Party of the late nineteenth century?
- A. that free enterprise and capitalism should be abolished
 - B. that government at all levels should enact policies and pass laws to protect farmers and workers in the US
 - C. that the US should acquire vast overseas territories to promote economic growth
 - D. that the US should immediately enter World War I
46. Henry Ford applied scientific management and the moving assembly line to the production of what consumer good in the early twentieth century?
- A. radios
 - B. lightbulbs
 - C. phonographs
 - D. automobiles
47. During Reconstruction, what party was largely in control of state and local governments in the former Confederate states?
- A. Constitutional Union
 - B. Republican
 - C. Copperhead
 - D. Know-Nothing
48. In 1940, Franklin Roosevelt became the first American president to do which of the following?
- A. die in office
 - B. be elected to a third term in the presidency
 - C. ask Congress for a declaration of war
 - D. deliver a State of the Union address
49. Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez are notable for which of the following?
- A. as environmental activists and founders of Earth Day
 - B. as advocates for Native American rights and founders of AIM
 - C. as labor activists and advocates for rights for Hispanic-Americans
 - D. for their contributions to the arts, especially film and television
50. Prior to the 1820s, which of the following was required in order to vote in most states?
- A. slave ownership
 - B. that voters were above 35 years old
 - C. that voters owned property
 - D. being a Catholic