



US History Bee - C Set Qualifying Examination

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

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.

- The United States bought Alaska from which of the following?
 - China
 - France
 - Russia
 - Germany
- Which of the following was a result of Nat Turner's Rebellion?
 - rioting and violence in northern cities
 - Turner and the other slaves won their freedom
 - a national antislavery convention was held in support
 - slave codes were strengthened across the South
- The Native American settlement of Cahokia was which of the following?
 - a significant Mississippian city with many temple mounds
 - a southwestern cliff-dwelling community
 - a society in Florida destroyed by the Spanish
 - a village in the Pacific Northwest
- William Randolph Hearst's and Joseph Pulitzer's sensationalist style of journalism was known by which of the following terms?
 - paparazzi
 - muckraking
 - gonzo journalism
 - yellow journalism
- Which of the following was taken over by American planters and businessmen in the 1890s?
 - Panama
 - Hawaii
 - Texas
 - Alaska
- The Crittenden Compromise of 1861 included which of the following?
 - an amendment to the Constitution to protect slavery where it existed
 - the repeal of the Kansas-Nebraska Act
 - an immediate end to slavery
 - full recognition of the Confederate government
- Which of the following battles marked the end of the American Revolution?
 - Saratoga
 - Yorktown
 - Quebec
 - Trenton
- Which of the following best describes the Scopes 'monkey trial'?
 - it centered on the teaching of evolution in a Tennessee classroom
 - it was largely ignored by the media and only considered significant by historians in later decades
 - John Scopes was convicted of murder despite a lack of evidence
 - it drew attention to the death penalty in the United States
- The movement for women's rights developed out of which of the following in the nineteenth century?
 - Mormonism
 - the Second Great Awakening
 - various utopian communities
 - the Civil War
- Which of the following best describes the Wilmot Proviso?
 - it would have ended slavery in the United States
 - it would have allowed for popular sovereignty in all American territories
 - it would provide for gradual emancipation in the Southern states
 - it would have prohibited slavery in territory gained from the Mexican War
- Which of these is true of the Korean War?
 - an intense antiwar movement developed in the United States
 - defense spending decreased drastically during the war despite the desires of Truman and Eisenhower
 - the United States radically reduced its involvement in Asian affairs in the aftermath of the war
 - Korea remained divided at the 38th parallel
- Which of these replaced canals as the primary form of transportation in the United States in the nineteenth century?
 - railroads
 - clipper ships
 - covered wagons
 - roads

13. Which of the following is true of the Civilian Conservation Corps?
- it enlisted mostly young American women for its projects
 - it hired hundreds of thousands of young men to perform reforestation and conservation work on public land
 - it built major dam projects like the Hoover Dam
 - it provided labor for the TVA and worked mainly on rural electrification
14. Which of these played an important role in opening up the Great Plains to farming in the nineteenth century?
- steel plows and other farm machinery
 - drought-resistant grains
 - synthetic pesticides
 - advanced irrigation techniques
15. The Fifteenth Amendment did which of the following?
- prohibited state governments from using literacy tests or poll taxes
 - granted voting rights to all adult Americans in every state
 - forbade states from denying male citizens the right to vote on the grounds of race, color, or previous condition as a slave.
 - prohibited state governments from seizing property from former Confederates
16. Which of the following is the term for the exclusion of African American homebuyers from white suburbs by the Federal Housing Authority and American banks?
- 'white flight'
 - urban sprawl
 - redlining
 - gerrymandering
17. The three-fifths compromise dealt with which of the following issues?
- presidential terms
 - slavery
 - interstate commerce
 - the federal court system
18. Which of the following was most important to the economy of the Virginia colony in the 1700s?
- fish
 - cotton
 - corn
 - tobacco
19. The Confederacy financed the Civil War primarily by which of the following?
- selling bonds to wealthy planters
 - a heavy export tax on cotton
 - printing large amounts of paper currency that was not backed by gold or silver
 - borrowing from Great Britain
20. President Jackson relied on which of the following for advice early in his administration?
- Senators like Henry Clay and Daniel Webster
 - His official cabinet
 - An informal group called the 'Kitchen Cabinet'
 - John Marshall and the other members of the Supreme Court
21. Which of the following rose to prominence as the leader of the United Farm Workers?
- Malcolm X
 - Eugene Debs
 - Cesar Chavez
 - Jimmy Hoffa
22. Which business strategy did John D. Rockefeller pioneer in the late nineteenth century?
- horizontal integration
 - scientific management
 - vertical integration
 - the creation of the corporation
23. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 addressed which of the following?
- the gender pay gap
 - racial discrimination in many areas of American society
 - special education services for American children
 - mandated busing for school integration
24. Which of the following is true of many indentured servants in the American colonies?
- they quickly broke their contracts with their masters
 - they did not escape from poverty
 - they were considered slaves under the law
 - they came from France and the Netherlands
25. Which segment of the American population drove the creation of the Populist Party in the early 1890s?
- Irish immigrants
 - farmers
 - wealthy bankers
 - middle class business owners
26. Which region of the US was LEAST likely to support the War of 1812?
- the South
 - the West
 - Maryland and Virginia
 - New England
27. Francis Townsend called for which of the following during the Great Depression?
- the 'Share Our Wealth' plan
 - lower taxes for the wealthy
 - rural electrification projects
 - pensions for elderly Americans

28. Immigration patterns in the early twentieth century reflected growing emigration from which of the following locations?
- eastern Africa
 - northern Europe
 - southern and eastern Europe
 - southeast Asia and Australia
29. In the mid-nineteenth century, nativist groups like the Know-Nothings attacked which of the following most frequently?
- women
 - Irish immigrants
 - Native Americans
 - free people of color
30. Which English immigrant became the 'father of the factory system' after he secretly brought plans for the spinning machine to America in the 1780s?
- Isaac Singer
 - Eli Whitney
 - Cyrus McCormick
 - Samuel Slater
31. The Immigration Act of 1965 did which of the following?
- raised quotas for certain types of immigrants
 - allowed unrestricted immigration for everyone except those from Latin America
 - replaced the national origins quota system of the 1920s with numerical limits not based on country of origin
 - opened the borders of the United States
32. Rachel Carson is most closely associated with which of the following movements?
- environmental activism
 - the defeat of the equal rights amendment
 - consumer safety
 - the antiwar movement
33. Vice President Spiro Agnew was forced out of office in 1973 for which of the following reasons?
- Richard Nixon replaced him on the ticket with Nelson Rockefeller
 - he was denied an appointment to the US Supreme Court and resigned the vice presidency
 - he was indicted for crimes committed while governor of Maryland
 - his involvement in the Watergate scandal was exposed
34. During the 1850s, proslavery expansionists attempted to acquire which of the following regions?
- Haiti
 - Cuba
 - Panama
 - Puerto Rico
35. Which American colony was established in the 1660s as a haven for Quakers?
- New York
 - Pennsylvania
 - Connecticut
 - Massachusetts
36. The presidential candidate most identified with the issue of segregation in 1968 was which of the following?
- Lyndon Johnson
 - Robert Kennedy
 - Richard Nixon
 - George Wallace
37. Which of these figures led Bill Clinton's health-care task force in 1993?
- Ted Kennedy
 - Hillary Clinton
 - Barack Obama
 - Al Gore
38. The French and Indian War started in part as a result of a land dispute in which of the following regions?
- the Ohio River Valley
 - southern New York
 - the Mississippi River delta
 - Quebec
39. According to the Twelfth Amendment, who chooses the president if no candidate receives a majority of the electoral votes?
- the House of Representatives
 - the candidate with the most electoral votes wins whether they have a majority or not
 - the Senate
 - the Supreme Court
40. Which of the following best describes the presidential election of 1960?
- Richard Nixon won the election over Hubert Humphrey
 - John Kennedy defeated Richard Nixon in a fairly close election
 - Lyndon Johnson won a landslide victory over Barry Goldwater
 - Dwight Eisenhower easily won his second term
41. Which of the following resulted in the growth of skyscrapers in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries?
- steel girders, plate glass, and elevators
 - competition between American and European architects
 - canals that connected cities to sources for building materials
 - federal government subsidies to contractors who would build these buildings
42. HUAC is best known for which of the following in the 1940s and 1950s?
- investigating Joseph McCarthy and other anticommunists for abuses of power
 - assisting the former Allies in the trial of Nazi war criminals
 - helping to balance the federal budget under Truman and Eisenhower
 - targeting the film industry as part of its anticommunist agenda

43. American colonists objected to the Sugar Act for which of the following reasons?
- A. they did not want to pay the cost of their own defense
 - B. the high tax rate would cause merchants to lose money
 - C. they resented the British taking increased control of American affairs
 - D. it raised prices on sugar in the colonies by over 300%
44. Which of these was part of Alexander Hamilton's financial plan during George Washington's administration?
- A. elimination of paper currency
 - B. personal income taxes
 - C. federal government assumption of state war debts
 - D. complete elimination of the US national debt
45. The War Powers Act, the Freedom of Information Act and the Federal Intelligence Surveillance Act were passed as a result of which of the following?
- A. the growing threat of China and the USSR
 - B. the abuses and scandals of the Nixon presidency
 - C. the civil rights movement
 - D. hippies and the counterculture movement
46. The Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty cleared the way for what major US project in the early twentieth century?
- A. the Interstate Highway System
 - B. the Hoover Dam
 - C. the Transcontinental Railroad
 - D. the Panama Canal
47. Which of these men played a critical role in creating and passing the Missouri Compromise?
- A. James Madison
 - B. Henry Clay
 - C. John C. Calhoun
 - D. John Quincy Adams
48. Which of the following best defines the term Manifest Destiny?
- A. citizens of the United States had a right to conquer the land all the way to the Pacific Ocean
 - B. Americans were culturally equal to the native and Hispanic populations of North America
 - C. the United States should take over Mexico and Central America
 - D. the western boundary of the United States should be the Rocky Mountains
49. What was the purpose of Henry David Thoreau's book *Walden*?
- A. to advise farmers how to increase the profitability of farms
 - B. it was a survival manual
 - C. to warn of the dangers of social reform
 - D. it was a chronicle of Thoreau's quest for spiritual discovery while living in his cabin at Walden
50. Which of these imported the smallest number of slaves in the early eighteenth century?
- A. the Chesapeake colonies
 - B. the British West Indies
 - C. Brazil
 - D. Central America