



US History Bee - C Set Qualifying Examination

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

Email address _____

Instructions – Print the letter of the correct answer in the space provided or leave it blank. Write neatly and in capital letters. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

_____ 1. Thomas Jefferson held all of these positions in the United States Government EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Secretary of the Treasury
- B. Vice President
- C. President
- D. Secretary of State

_____ 2. Which of the following was a result of the presidential election of 1876?

- A. the end of Reconstruction
- B. the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment
- C. the end of segregation in America
- D. the beginning of the Great Depression

_____ 3. Joseph Pulitzer was a significant figure in which of the following American industries?

- A. oil
- B. steel
- C. publishing
- D. agriculture

_____ 4. As president, Andrew Jackson was considered the champion of which of the following groups of Americans?

- A. bankers and factory owners
- B. Native Americans
- C. the 'common' man
- D. immigrants and free people of color

_____ 5. Most colonists who came to the English North American colonies prior to 1800 fell into which of these categories?

- A. criminals and debtors
- B. indentured servants
- C. soldiers
- D. wealthy English landowners

_____ 6. Which of the following resulted in significant legislation in the early twentieth century in New York that improved workplace safety?

- A. the Anthracite Coal Strike
- B. the Great Railroad Strike
- C. the Triangle Shirtwaist fire
- D. the Panic of 1893

_____ 7. Frances Perkins became the first female cabinet secretary when she was appointed Secretary of Labor by what president?

- A. Harry Truman
- B. Dwight Eisenhower
- C. Franklin Roosevelt
- D. Herbert Hoover

_____ 8. Which of the following issued the Declaration of Independence in 1776?

- A. the Albany Congress
- B. the First Continental Congress
- C. the Second Continental Congress
- D. the House of Representatives

_____ 9. Which of these was the largest contribution of the United States to the Allied victory in World War II?

- A. espionage against Japan and Germany
- B. immense industrial production
- C. diplomatic efforts to bring the USSR into the war
- D. American citizens purchasing war bonds

_____ 10. The United States concluded a treaty in 1803 to annex which of the following territories?

- A. Louisiana
- B. Florida
- C. the Northwest Territory
- D. Texas

_____ 11. Horace Mann is best known as an early nineteenth century advocate of reform in which of the following areas?

- A. prisons and criminal law
- B. public education
- C. treatment of factory workers
- D. relations with Native Americans

_____ 12. Four college students were killed by National Guardsmen during a protest over the Vietnam War in 1970 at what institution?

- A. UCLA
- B. University of Florida
- C. Kent State University
- D. Ole Miss

- _____ 13. Impressment of American sailors was a major cause of which of the following?
- the American Revolution
 - the War of 1812
 - the Aroostook War
 - the Mexican-American War
- _____ 14. Which of these was a major defense program of the Reagan administration?
- the Strategic Defense Initiative ('Star Wars')
 - the Manhattan Project
 - the Apollo Program
 - the creation of NATO
- _____ 15. Which of the following was the last major battle of the American Revolution?
- Bunker Hill
 - Lexington
 - Yorktown
 - West Point
- _____ 16. Who was elected president of the United States in 2008?
- George W. Bush
 - Bill Clinton
 - Barack Obama
 - George H.W. Bush
- _____ 17. The Great Awakening took place in America in which of the following eras?
- 1600-1650
 - 1650-1700
 - 1700-1750
 - 1900-1950
- _____ 18. Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau were leaders in which of the following movements in nineteenth century America?
- Transcendentalism
 - the Hudson River School
 - the Ashcan School
 - the utopian movement
- _____ 19. Which prominent American politician was assassinated in 1968, shortly after the killing of Martin Luther King?
- Malcolm X
 - Robert Kennedy
 - Gerald Ford
 - Franklin Roosevelt
- _____ 20. The Missouri Compromise resulted in the admission of which of the following as a free state?
- Maryland
 - Nebraska
 - Vermont
 - Maine
- _____ 21. The Camp David Accords were the signature foreign policy accomplishment of what American president?
- Richard Nixon
 - Jimmy Carter
 - Ronald Reagan
 - Calvin Coolidge
- _____ 22. Which of the following became the fourteenth state after joining the union in 1791?
- Vermont
 - Tennessee
 - Mississippi
 - Florida
- _____ 23. The 'Great Compromise' at the Constitutional Convention concerned which of the following?
- the existence of the presidency
 - the formation of the Supreme Court
 - the makeup of the Congress
 - the ability of the new government to collect taxes
- _____ 24. Which of the following was the major political scandal of the Harding administration?
- the Whiskey Ring
 - Iran-Contra
 - Watergate
 - Teapot Dome
- _____ 25. The Alien and Sedition Acts were signed into law by which US president?
- John Adams
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - Andrew Jackson
 - James Monroe
- _____ 26. The most controversial part of the Compromise of 1850 was which of the following?
- the admission of California as a free state
 - the Fugitive Slave Law
 - popular sovereignty in New Mexico territory
 - adjustments to the border of Texas
- _____ 27. The Erie Canal was built to connect which of the following?
- the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes
 - New York City and the Great Lakes
 - the Atlantic and Pacific oceans
 - the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers
- _____ 28. Andrew Carnegie was a pioneer of which of the following types of business organization?
- vertical integration
 - the trust
 - the holding company
 - the use of pools to regulate prices
- _____ 29. What work by Jacob Riis chronicled the lives of the poor in late nineteenth century New York City?
- The Grapes of Wrath
 - Maggie: Girl of the Streets
 - Sister Carrie
 - How the Other Half Lives

_____ 30. Which of the following was president of the United States for most of the 1830s?

- A. William Henry Harrison
- B. John Quincy Adams
- C. Andrew Jackson
- D. James Monroe

_____ 31. Medicare and Medicaid, along with various arts, educational and cultural programs were all a part of what domestic policy program in the twentieth century?

- A. the Square Deal of Theodore Roosevelt
- B. the Fair Deal of Harry Truman
- C. the New Freedom of Woodrow Wilson
- D. the Great Society of Lyndon Johnson

_____ 32. In which decade was the Kansas-Nebraska Act passed by Congress?

- A. the 1840s
- B. the 1850s
- C. the 1860s
- D. the 1870s

_____ 33. The Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution did which of the following?

- A. allowed the government to levy an income tax
- B. provided freedom of speech and religion
- C. defined national citizenship
- D. granted the right to vote to American women

_____ 34. Which of the following was mainly intended to place a small tax on printed material in the American colonies, including newspapers?

- A. the Stamp Act
- B. the Declaratory Act
- C. the Sugar Act
- D. the Currency Act

_____ 35. Vice President Millard Fillmore became president in 1850 following the death of what man?

- A. William Henry Harrison
- B. Zachary Taylor
- C. Abraham Lincoln
- D. James Garfield

_____ 36. Which of the following laws in the early republic outlined the method for admitting new states?

- A. the Treaty of Paris of 1783
- B. the Northwest Ordinance of 1787
- C. the Jay-Gardoqui Treaty
- D. the Connecticut Compromise

_____ 37. In what decade of American history did the Woodstock festival occur?

- A. the 1930s
- B. the 1940s
- C. the 1950s
- D. the 1960s

_____ 38. What religious group was instrumental in the founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the seventeenth century?

- A. Quakers
- B. Roman Catholics
- C. Puritans
- D. Jews

_____ 39. The steel plow, known in America as 'the plow that broke the plains' was invented in the nineteenth century by which of the following?

- A. John Deere
- B. Cyrus McCormick
- C. Jethro Tull
- D. Norman Borlaug

_____ 40. All of these took place during William McKinley's administration EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the sinking of the USS Maine
- B. the annexation of Hawaii
- C. the Spanish-American War
- D. the admission of Alaska as a state

_____ 41. What future president drafted the Monroe Doctrine while serving as Secretary of State in 1823?

- A. James Madison
- B. Thomas Jefferson
- C. Henry Clay
- D. John Quincy Adams

_____ 42. Alfred Thayer Mahan was an important figure in the modernization and development of which of the following institutions?

- A. the Supreme Court
- B. the United States Navy
- C. the Department of Agriculture
- D. the White House Press Office

_____ 43. Which of the following was a leading advocate for the conservation of natural resources in the United States?

- A. Earl Warren
- B. Morrison Waite
- C. John Muir
- D. John Marshall

_____ 44. J. Edgar Hoover served as the director of which of the following for decades?

- A. the CIA
- B. the Secret Service
- C. the US Marshalls
- D. the FBI

_____ 45. The ruling in the Supreme Court case of Gibbons v. Ogden helped define federal government power over which of these?

- A. the election of US senators
- B. the power to make treaties
- C. interstate commerce
- D. amending the Constitution

_____ 46. Isaac Singer is best known for his improvements to which of the following devices in the nineteenth century?

- A. the telephone
- B. the sewing machine
- C. the automobile
- D. the steamboat

_____ 47. Prior to becoming president, Dwight Eisenhower held which of the following positions?

- A. general in the United States Army
- B. United States Senator
- C. Vice President
- D. Governor of Kansas

_____ 48. Which nineteenth century American politician was known as 'The Great Compromiser'?

- A. Daniel Webster
- B. Henry Clay
- C. John C. Calhoun
- D. Stephen Douglas

_____ 49. In which of the following decades did the American Civil War end and the United States purchase the territory of Alaska?

- A. 1850s
- B. 1860s
- C. 1870s
- D. 1880s

_____ 50. The 'Double V' campaign of World War II was aimed at which of the following in America?

- A. ending Japanese internment
- B. ending racism against African Americans
- C. ending sexism in government employment
- D. ending isolationism in foreign policy