



# National History Bee

## 2023-2024 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 and our past question sets (especially National History Bee Regional Finals questions from past years) which can all 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!

### African History

1. [Rwanda](#) was the site of a major [genocide](#) in 1994 perpetrated by the Hutu ethnic majority against the Tutsi population.
1. After the [Second Boer War](#), the Orange Free State and the Transvaal Republic were annexed into the British Empire.
2. [Idi Amin](#) (1924 or 1925-2003) became the dictator of Uganda after he declared himself president in 1971.

### Asian History

1. The last Chinese imperial dynasty was the Manchu-led [Qing dynasty](#).
2. [Akbar](#) (1542-1605) was a Mughal emperor who was credited with extending the empire across the Indian subcontinent.
3. The [Forbidden City](#) is a palace complex in Beijing, China containing 9,999 rooms.
4. [Shinzo Abe](#) (1954-2022) served as the Prime Minister of Japan from 2012 until 2020.
5. The [Philippines](#) was the site of the first major engagement of the Spanish-American War, the 1898 Battle of Manila Bay.
6. [Mahatma Gandhi](#) (1869-1948) led the 24-day Salt March to protest against British's monopoly of salt production in India.
7. Al-Qaeda is a militant Sunni Islamic organization founded by [Osama bin Laden](#) (1957-2011).

## Ancient History

1. Leonidas led 300 Spartans against the Achaemenid Persian Empire in the Battle of [Thermopylae](#).
2. The [Library of Alexandria](#) in ancient Egypt was believed to contain over half a million documents.
3. [Julius Caesar](#)'s (100 BCE-44 BCE) crossing of the Rubicon in 49 BCE sparked his namesake civil war.
4. [Confucius](#) (551 BCE-479 BCE) was a Chinese philosopher whose teachings highlight love, morality, and respect.
5. The [Great Pyramid of Giza](#) is the only surviving example of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.
6. Rome's third emperor was [Caligula](#) (12-41), whose four-year reign was marked by tyranny, paranoia, and cruelty.

## European History

1. World War I was formally ended in 1919 with the signing of the [Treaty of Versailles](#) [[vehr-SIGH]].
2. During World II, the Soviet Union was led by [Joseph Stalin](#) (1878-1953).
3. [Warsaw](#), Poland was the site of a failed 1944 uprising, nearly five years after the city was invaded by Hitler's army.
4. The marriage of Queen [Isabella I](#) of Castille (1451-1504) and King [Ferdinand II](#) of Aragon (1452-1516) unified Spain in 1469.
5. The [Provisional Irish Republican Army \(IRA\)](#) sought to end British rule in Northern Ireland and reunify Ireland.
6. The [Berlin Wall](#) separated East and West Germany, beginning in 1961 until its demolition in 1989.
7. [Pablo Picasso](#) (1881-1973) and Georges Braque (1882-1964) were co-founders of a Modern Art style called Cubism.
8. Beheading by the [guillotine](#) was the primary mode of execution during the French Revolution.
9. [Adam Smith](#) (1723-1790) was a Scottish moral philosopher who wrote *The Wealth of Nations*.
10. The [Crimean War](#) was fought between the Russians and an alliance of the British, French, and the Ottoman Empire.
11. Queen [Victoria](#) (1819-1901) ruled the United Kingdom from 1837 until her death in 1901.
12. Italian Fascism was founded by [Benito Mussolini](#) (1883-1945), who led Italy during World War II.

## Latin American History

1. The [Incan Empire](#) extended from modern-day Argentina to southern Colombia.
2. [Ernesto "Che" Guevara](#) (1928-1967) was an Argentine Marxist revolutionary who was a key figure in bringing Fidel Castro to power in Cuba.
3. [Simón Bolívar](#) (1783-1830) was a military leader who led the effort in South America's independence from the Spanish Empire, leading to his nickname, "The Liberator."
4. [Frida Kahlo](#) (1907-1954) was a Mexican surrealist painter whose notable works include *Memory, the Heart* and *Self-Portrait with Thorn Necklace and Hummingbird*.
5. [Mexico](#) was home to five major civilizations, including the Aztec, Maya, and the Olmec.

## U.S. History

1. Between 1848 and 1855, the [California Gold Rush](#) saw the migration of prospectors, or “forty-niners”, after gold nuggets were found in the Sacramento Valley.
2. The “[I Have a Dream](#)” speech was delivered by [Martin Luther King Jr.](#) (1929-1968) on August 28, 1963.
3. [Henry Kissinger](#) (1923 - ) served as the secretary of state under Richard Nixon.
4. The [Whig Party](#) was a political party that rivaled the Democratic Party between the mid-1830s to the mid-1850s.
5. [Geronimo](#) (1829-1909) was an Apache leader who led resistance against American and Mexican incursions of the Apache homeland.
6. [Kit Carson](#) (1809-1868) was an American frontiersman who lends his name to the capital of Nevada.
7. [Henry Clay](#) (1777-1852) was a former Secretary of State and Congressman whose incredible negotiation skills earned him the nickname “The Great Compromiser.”
8. The [American Red Cross](#) was founded by Clara Barton (1821-1912).
9. The [Louisiana Purchase](#) was the 1803 acquisition of land west of the Mississippi River.
10. [Frederick Douglass](#) (1817 or 1818-1895) was an abolitionist who published the *North Star*.
11. The inaugural First Lady of the United States was [Martha Washington](#) (1731-1802).
12. In January 2002, George W. Bush (1946 - ) established the [Guantánamo Bay](#) detention camp following the 9/11 attacks.
13. [Robert E. Lee](#) (1807-1870) was the overall commander of the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War.