



National History Bee

2023-2024 Regional Finals Study Guide – Blue Question Set

Instructions: This study guide should be your first resource in preparing for the National History Bee Regional Finals on the Blue Question Set. Most of the facts below are found at some point in the 120 questions that compose the Blue 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. [Alexandria](#) was the capital of Egypt's [Ptolemaic Empire](#). Founded by [Alexander the Great](#) in 331 B.C.E. The city was known for its massive [library](#), as well as its [Pharos lighthouse](#), one of the [Seven Wonders of the Ancient World](#).
2. [Oromia](#) is a separatist region of [Ethiopia](#). Other areas of Ethiopia that have been the site of separatist tension include the [Tigray region](#) in the country's north.
3. [Shaka](#) was a leader of the [Zulu kingdom](#) of Southern Africa.

Ancient History

1. [Romulus](#) was a legendary [king of Rome](#), who founded the city after killing his brother, [Remus](#).
2. [Hippocrates](#) was a Greek physician known as the "Father of Medicine."
3. The modern distance race known as a [marathon](#) originated from the legend of a messenger named [Pheidippides](#) who ran 25 miles to deliver news of an Athenian victory over the Persians at the [Battle of Marathon](#).
4. The [Battle of Kadesh](#) was the earliest [reliably recorded battle in history](#).
5. The [Muses](#) were a group of nine goddesses who represented inspiration and the arts.

Asian History

1. [Vietnam](#) is a country in [Southeast Asia](#) that was involved in a [long war with the United States](#) from 1955 to 1975.
2. [Cuneiform](#) was an ancient writing system of [Mesopotamia](#) that was notable for its use of wedge-shaped characters.
3. [Hammurabi](#) was a [Babylonian](#) king best known for his [eponymous law code](#).
4. [Krishna](#) was a charioteer of [Arjuna](#) in the [Mahabharata](#), as well as an avatar of [Vishnu](#), a reincarnation of the Hindu preserver god.
5. [New Delhi](#) served as the final capital of the [British Raj](#). The city's landmarks include the [Red Fort](#), which formerly contained the [Koh-i-Noor](#), a massive diamond.
6. This dissolution of the [Qing dynasty](#) was preceded by a series of several uprisings and revolts, such as the [Xinhai Revolution](#), the [Dungan Revolt](#), and the [Boxer Rebellion](#).
7. The [Moro Rebellion](#) was a prolonged conflict between the United States and the [native people of the Philippines](#).

Latin American History

1. [Dom Pedro the Second](#), the final emperor of [Brazil](#), signed the [Golden Law](#), which made Brazil the last country in the western world to [legally outlaw slavery](#).
2. [Mexico](#) was once an empire led by [Maximilian the First](#) before the country gained independence and elected presidents such as [Benito Juarez](#).

European History

1. [Igor Stravinsky](#) was a Russian [modernist](#) composer who was best known for his ballet [The Rite of Spring](#), which legendarily caused a riot at its 1913 premiere in Paris.
2. The first European to sight the [Mississippi River](#) was the Spanish explorer [Hernando de Soto](#).
1. [Ivan the Terrible](#) was a leader of the [Rurikid dynasty](#) who initiated the construction of [Saint Basil's Cathedral](#) in [Moscow](#), and is considered the first tsar of Russia.
3. Swedish king [Gustavus Adolphus](#) led Protestant forces during the [Thirty Years' War](#).
4. [Monaco](#) is a microstate on the [French Riviera](#) that gained international attention when [Prince Rainier the Third](#) married the American actress and Academy Award-winner [Grace Kelly](#).
5. The [Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica](#) was a 1687 work by [Sir Isaac Newton](#) that established the scientist's [laws of motion](#) and [universal gravitation](#).
6. The [Hanseatic League](#) was a union of traders that was centered in the German port of [Lubeck](#).
7. The [Gallipoli campaign](#) was a failed operation during World War One in which the Allied powers attempted to weaken the [Ottoman Empire](#).
8. The [Inquisition](#) was a series of trials and executions begun under [Ferdinand](#) and [Isabella of Spain](#) that specifically targeted Jewish and Muslim citizens of the Iberian peninsula.
9. [Ada Lovelace](#) was a British scientist who is considered the world's first computer programmer. Lovelace designed a set of notes concerning the [analytical engine](#), an early type of computer developed by [Charles Babbage](#).
10. [Jane Goodall](#) is a British primatologist who conducted a 30-year study of chimpanzees at [Gombe Stream National Park](#) in [Tanzania](#).
11. [King Otto](#) was the first monarch of the [Kingdom of Greece](#).
12. [Wilhelm the Second](#) led Germany as Kaiser during World War One after dismissing the 'Iron Chancellor,' [Otto von Bismarck](#).

US History

1. [Amelia Earhart](#) co-founded an organization known as the [Ninety Nines](#), which today works to secure opportunities for women in aviation.
2. [George B. McClellan](#) was a general who served as the leader of the [Army of the Potomac](#) during the [American Civil War](#) before being relieved by President [Abraham Lincoln](#) and replaced with General [Ambrose Burnside](#).
3. While serving as senator from [Tennessee](#), [Al Gore](#) promoted the modern idea of the internet via the [High Performance Computing Act](#) of 1991.
4. Works of art by major artists such as [Pablo Picasso](#), [Vincent van Gogh](#), and [Claude Monet](#) are located in the city of [Chicago](#) at its namesake [art institute](#).
5. [Evacuation Day](#) is a regional holiday celebrated in [New York City](#) on November 25th in commemoration of the end of the city's British occupation in 1783.
6. The mega company [Starbucks](#) was founded at [Pike Place Market](#) in [Seattle](#), Washington.
7. The New York neighborhood of [Harlem](#) is home to several historic venues associated with the neighborhood's [namesake Renaissance](#).
8. The [Medal of Honor](#) is an award given to individuals who demonstrate extraordinary valor. Among the all-time recipients of the award, 40 percent of honorees earned the distinction for actions during the Civil War.
9. [Camp David](#) is the name of the president's official retreat in [Frederick County, Maryland](#).
10. The [Alabama](#) city of [Montgomery](#) was the site of landmark [Civil Rights](#) moments, such as [Rosa Parks'](#) refusal to give up her bus seat.
11. The [Era of Good Feelings](#) was the term used to describe the relative political stability and cordiality during the presidency of [James Monroe](#).
12. The [Lakota](#) and [Dakota](#) are part of the larger [Sioux](#) group of Native American tribes.