



**Black American History Examination  
Middle School Division  
IAC Nationals 2023**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions – Mark your answers on the scantron provided. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points. Write the answer to your tiebreaker question on the back of your scantron.**

1. The busiest slave port in colonial America was at Charleston in what colony?

- A. Delaware
- B. Nova Scotia
- C. New Hampshire
- D. Carolina

2. Black freedmen established Fort Mose in 1739 to defend what Florida city that is the oldest European settlement in the US?

- A. Annapolis
- B. Raleigh
- C. St. Augustine
- D. Nashville

3. What colony's House of Burgesses established the basic legal framework for slavery in 1705?

- A. Virginia
- B. Vermont
- C. Ohio
- D. Maine

4. What Philadelphia religious group issued a 1688 petition against slavery?

- A. Jews
- B. Quakers
- C. Catholics
- D. Mormons

5. Which of the following was promised by Dunmore's Proclamation to slaves if they joined the British army during the American Revolution?

- A. freedom
- B. government positions
- C. transportation to Africa
- D. British wives

6. Which of the following became the 'first casualty of the American Revolution' when he was killed in the Boston Massacre of 1770?

- A. Samuel Adams
- B. Aaron Burr
- C. Roger Williams
- D. Crispus Attucks

7. What successful 1804 slave revolt in the Caribbean caused early discussions of emancipation in the US?

- A. War of the Roses
- B. Haitian Revolution
- C. Mexican War for Independence
- D. French Revolution

8. The plans of what famous traitor were foiled by black patriot Jack Peterson who helped repel British forces from New York?

- A. Benjamin Franklin
- B. Paul Revere
- C. Benedict Arnold
- D. John Adams

9. What Georgia city was successfully defended by the British in October 1779 due to the addition of 200 black soldiers to their ranks?

- A. Savannah
- B. Jacksonville
- C. Columbia
- D. Gulf Port

10. Which of the following New England colonies created a regiment of enslaved men in 1778 due to trouble in meeting Continental Congress troop quotas?

- A. Maryland
- B. Rhode Island
- C. Kentucky
- D. West Virginia

11. What Garden State was the last Northern state to abolish slavery in 1804?

- A. North Carolina
- B. Tennessee
- C. New Jersey
- D. Michigan

12. The Three-Fifths Compromise solved the debate in what founding document over representation of slaves in the Congress?

- A. US Constitution
- B. Magna Carta
- C. Northwest Ordinance
- D. Mayflower Compact

13. Which of the following, patented by Eli Whitney in 1794, led to the growth of slavery in the South?

- A. steamboat
- B. cotton gin
- C. telegraph
- D. refrigerator

14. What escaped slave and abolitionist published an 1845 autobiography that became one of the most influential slave narratives in US history?

- A. Henry Clay
- B. John Tyler
- C. John C. Calhoun
- D. Frederick Douglass

15. Harriet Tubman used what network of secret passages and safe houses to guide escaped slaves to freedom in the 19th century?

- A. Transcontinental Railroad
- B. Underground Railroad
- C. New York City Subway
- D. Interstate Highway System

16. In David Walker's Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World, he argued that slavery violated what prominent American belief system?

- A. Islam
- B. Baha'i
- C. Hinduism
- D. Christianity

17. Black poet Phyllis Wheatley addressed a 1776 work concerning freedom to what first president of the United States?

- A. George Washington
- B. Alexander Hamilton
- C. John Hancock
- D. Robert Livingston

18. What enslaved preacher organized a slave revolt that killed more than 55 white people in Southampton County, Virginia in 1831?

- A. George Whitfield
- B. Charles Sumner
- C. Nat Turner
- D. Andrew Jackson

19. Due to its position on the Gulf of Mexico and Mississippi river, what southern port city became a hub for the national slave trade in the early 19th century?

- A. St. Louis
- B. Chicago
- C. San Francisco
- D. New Orleans

20. The American Colonization Society's mission to return black Americans to Africa resulted in the establishment of what west African nation?

- A. Liberia
- B. Tunisia
- C. Egypt
- D. Chad

21. What Chief Justice handed down the Dred Scott decision in 1857?

- A. Roger Taney
- B. Bushrod Washington
- C. John Quincy Adams
- D. William Howard Taft

22. What 1854 act used popular sovereignty to decide if slavery would be allowed in two namesake US territories?

- A. West Virginia-Virginia Act
- B. Vermont-Connecticut Act
- C. California-Utah Act
- D. Kansas-Nebraska Act

23. A bloody border war over slavery from 1854 to 1861 dominated what territory that borders Missouri?

- A. Iowa
- B. Kansas
- C. Idaho
- D. Arizona

24. The Ostend Manifesto was an 1854 proposal to annex what Caribbean island as a slave state?

- A. Cabo Verde
- B. Guatemala
- C. Cuba
- D. Galapagos Islands

25. The Compromise of 1850 that admitted California as a slave-free state also included what national law that required escapees be returned to their owners?
- Social Security Act
  - Spooner Amendment
  - Fugitive Slave Law
  - Comstock Act
26. Which of the following was published in 1831 by William Lloyd Garrison to promote abolition of slavery through appeals to morality?
- The Liberator
  - La Gazette
  - The Boston Post
  - The North Star
27. The 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments passed just after the American Civil War are known collectively as which of the following?
- Bill of Rights
  - Civil Trial Acts
  - Volstead Acts
  - Reconstruction Amendments
28. Which of the following was declared by Abraham Lincoln in 1862 to free slaves in parts of the South?
- Articles of Confederation
  - Emancipation Proclamation
  - Warren Commission
  - Manhattan Project
29. Which of the following were first founded during Reconstruction to open access to higher education for black Americans?
- historically black colleges and universities
  - liberal arts colleges
  - women's colleges
  - tribal colleges and universities
30. Which of the following cases ruled that racial segregation was constitutional as long as facilities were equal in quality?
- Tinker v. Des Moines
  - McCulloch v. Maryland
  - Marbury v. Madison
  - Plessy v. Ferguson
31. Which of the following served as a leader of the civil rights movement as the spokesman for the Nation of Islam in the 1950s and 60s?
- Diane Nash
  - Malcolm X
  - A. Phillip Randolph
  - Ella Baker
32. The Brown v Board of Education decision declared that which of the following doctrines concerning segregation was unconstitutional?
- "separate but equal"
  - "slippery slope"
  - "knock and talk"
  - "substance over form"
33. President Eisenhower deployed troops to what state in 1957 to oversee the integration of Central High School in Little Rock?
- Colorado
  - Oregon
  - Wyoming
  - Arkansas
34. The Niagara Movement developed in 1905 grew into what larger organization that uses court cases to fight against racial inequality?
- Boys & Girls Club of America
  - American Federation of Labor
  - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
  - National Organization for Women
35. Booker T. Washington delivered a famous speech in 1895 at a fair in what Georgia capital?
- Richmond
  - Philadelphia
  - Baton Rouge
  - Atlanta
36. Duke Ellington's Cotton Club residency made him an integral part of what revival of black culture named for a New York neighborhood?
- Harlem Renaissance
  - Second Great Awakening
  - pan-Africanism
  - Azusa Street Revival
37. What first black man to earn a doctorate from Harvard University published The Souls of Black Folk in 1903 to argue for black progress?
- Henry Ford
  - Andrew Carnegie
  - W.E.B. DuBois
  - William Tweed
38. Dr. Charles Drew, Columbia University's first black doctorate, revolutionized the study of plasma to help create which of the following?
- petting zoos
  - blood banks
  - state fairs
  - technical schools

39. What 20th century conflict saw black Army general Benjamin Davis Sr. command the Buffalo soldiers in Liberia and the Philippines?
- Mexican War
  - War of 1812
  - French and Indian War
  - World War II
40. Mary McLeod Bethune helped organize the Federal Council of Negro affairs in 1933 to be a “black cabinet” of advisors for what president?
- Franklin D. Roosevelt
  - Chester Arthur
  - Woodrow Wilson
  - William H. Taft
41. Which of the following delivered the “ I have a dream” speech at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963?
- Martin Luther King Jr.
  - John Brown
  - George Wallace
  - Claudette Colvin
42. Thurgood Marshall was the first man to sit on what highest court after his 1967 confirmation?
- Court of Federal Claims
  - Article I Courts
  - Supreme Court of the US
  - Third Court of Appeals
43. John Lewis led a 1965 Selma to Montgomery march that resulted in Bloody Sunday in what southern state?
- Alabama
  - Kentucky
  - Virginia
  - Missouri
44. The Montgomery bus boycott of 1955 was sparked by the arrest of what civil rights leader for refusing to give up her seat?
- Ida B. Wells
  - Rosa Parks
  - Hosea Williams
  - James Farmer
45. The Greensboro sit-ins of February 1960 inspired a larger sit-in movement that challenged segregation in which of the following places?
- restaurants
  - music festivals
  - national parks
  - sporting events
46. The freedom riders occupied seats on what form of transportation throughout the south to protest segregation in the early 1960s?
- bicycles
  - buses
  - airplanes
  - cruise ships
47. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 that outlawed discrimination based on race was passed under what US president?
- Gerald Ford
  - Jimmy Carter
  - Theodore Roosevelt
  - Lyndon B. Johnson
48. The brutal murder of what 14-year-old in 1955 earned international attention for the civil rights movement due to his mother’s decision to have an open-casket funeral?
- Roy Wilkins
  - Horace Mann
  - Robert Kennedy
  - Emmett Till
49. Which of the following was taken from Henrietta Lacks without her consent in 1951 but has since transformed the study of viruses?
- a page from her diary
  - a piece of her clothing
  - a sample of her cancer cells
  - a lock of her hair
50. Jimi Hendrix’s famous live rendition of the Star Spangled Banner was performed at the 1969 iteration of what music festival?
- Summerfest
  - Lollapalooza
  - Coachella
  - Woodstock
51. What “Respect” singer was the first woman inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1987?
- Taylor Swift
  - Dolly Parton
  - Lady Gaga
  - Aretha Franklin
52. The 1978 Regents of the University of California v. Bakke case debated the use of race as a factor in which of the following processes?
- getting a driver’s license
  - college admissions
  - getting healthcare
  - being able to play sports

53. The black power organization founded by Bobby Seale and Huey Newton in 1966 used which of the following mammals in its name?

- A. panther
- B. ostrich
- C. snake
- D. iguana

54. Before running for president, Shirley Chisholm became the first black woman elected to which part of the federal government?

- A. Committee of Economic Advisors
- B. Joint Chiefs of Staff
- C. House of Representatives
- D. White House Press Corps

55. Alice Walker became the first black woman to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for what 1982 novel?

- A. Gone with the Wind
- B. Tom Sawyer
- C. Huckleberry Finn
- D. The Color Purple

56. What "Queen of All Media" was the richest black American of the 20th century due to her success in television, film, and publishing?

- A. Oprah Winfrey
- B. Hillary Clinton
- C. Serena Williams
- D. Venus Williams

57. The beating of Rodney King by four California Highway Patrol officers in March 1991 led to riots in what Southern California city?

- A. Las Vegas
- B. Reno
- C. Eureka
- D. Los Angeles

58. What Oklahoma city saw the attack of black residents and destruction of black businesses in the Greenwood District by white mobs in 1921?

- A. Hot Springs
- B. Dallas
- C. Tulsa
- D. Texarkana

59. Which of the following was the first black person to be confirmed as Secretary of State in 2001?

- A. John Kerry
- B. Colin Powell
- C. George Marshall
- D. John Dulles

60. The Black Lives Matter movement was organized after the 2012 murder of Trayvon Martin in what southeastern state?

- A. Florida
- B. Utah
- C. New Jersey
- D. Indiana

61. Which of the following was the first black man elected as president of the United States?

- A. George H. W. Bush
- B. Ronald Reagan
- C. Barack Obama
- D. Donald Trump

62. What 2016 film tells the story of black, female mathematicians like Katherine Johnson who contributed to the success of NASA?

- A. Interstellar
- B. Hidden Figures
- C. The Astronaut's Wife
- D. The Martian

63. What six-time Chicago Bulls NBA champion and namesake of a Nike shoe is now an owner of the Charlotte Hornets?

- A. Tim Duncan
- B. Michael Jordan
- C. Larry Bird
- D. Charles Barkley

64. The 2013 film 42 tells the story of Brooklyn Dodgers second baseman Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in what sport?

- A. baseball
- B. curling
- C. racquetball
- D. soccer

65. San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick protested police brutality before a 2016 game by kneeling during which of the following?

- A. the halftime show
- B. the press conference
- C. the coin toss
- D. the national anthem

66. Which of the following was the destination of black Americans during the early 20th century Great Migration?

- A. northern cities
- B. Mexican beaches
- C. southern plantations
- D. tropical rainforests

67. Jack Johnson became the first black man to win the World Heavyweight title in what sport in 1908?

- A. rowing
- B. gymnastics
- C. boxing
- D. golf

68. The black airmen that received national acclaim for their service in World War II were named for what Alabama university that trained them?

- A. Tulane University
- B. Emory University
- C. Auburn University
- D. Tuskegee Institute

69. Which protest slogan against police brutality was popularized after the murder of Eric Garner by chokehold in 2014?

- A. "My body my choice"
- B. "Me too"
- C. "Si se puede"
- D. "I can't breathe"

70. Which of the following was the most recent addition to the EGOT club with her 2023 Grammy for narrating her memoir, *Finding Me*?

- A. Viola Davis
- B. Michelle Obama
- C. Josephine Baker
- D. Nina Simone

71. In 1967, heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali was convicted for refusing to be drafted into what controversial foreign conflict?

- A. Spanish Civil War
- B. Vietnam War
- C. Iraq War
- D. War of the Triple Alliance

72. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar led what Milwaukee team to their first NBA championship in 1971?

- A. Bucks
- B. Nets
- C. Jazz
- D. Nuggets

73. Maya Angelou was invited to recite her poem *On the Pulse of Morning* at the 1993 inauguration of which of the following?

- A. Bill Clinton
- B. Harry Truman
- C. Joe Biden
- D. John F. Kennedy

74. John-Michel Basquiat created art in which of the following forms on the streets of Manhattan's Lower East Side during the 1970s?

- A. cubism
- B. digital art
- C. printmaking
- D. graffiti

75. The 15th amendment granted suffrage to black men in 1870, but those rights were severely restricted by what collection of state and local laws passed in the south?

- A. Charters of Freedom
- B. New Deal laws
- C. Jim Crow laws
- D. Townshend Acts

## Tiebreaker

This question will only be scored if there is a tie for placement on the exam. There is no penalty for a wrong answer to this question. Write your answer legibly on the back of your scantron.

To the nearest tenth of a percent, what percentage of Americans identified as 'Black' in the 2020 Census?