



European History Examination IAC Nationals 2025

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 in the box at the top of your scantron.

1. The Royalists and the Parliamentarians waged a 17th century civil war for control of what nation?

- A. Spain
- B. Turkey
- C. England
- D. Serbia

2. What Italian Renaissance painter was commissioned by Pope Julius II to paint The Last Judgment?

- A. Michelangelo
- B. Bruni
- C. Ficino
- D. Alberti

3. Which of the following began forming as early as the 18th century to protect the rights of industrial workers?

- A. levellers
- B. correspondence committees
- C. salons
- D. trade unions

4. Operation Barbarossa was Hitler's failed attempt to invade what massive neighbor?

- A. United States
- B. Soviet Union
- C. United Arab Emirates
- D. South Sudan

5. What tsar and emperor of Russia is often studied as an example of absolutism?

- A. James I
- B. Peter the Great
- C. Phillip II
- D. Gustav II Adolph

6. What city that lent its name to trials that convicted Third Reich leaders was also the namesake of the racial laws used as evidence?

- A. Dresden
- B. Leipzig
- C. Munich
- D. Nuremberg

7. Nicolaus Copernicus challenged the idea that Earth was the center of the universe in what alternative model of the solar system?

- A. heliocentric
- B. Tyconic
- C. elliptical
- D. geocentric

8. The English levying of the Navigation Acts to monopolize colonial trade was an example of what economic system?

- A. totalitarianism
- B. communism
- C. mercantilism
- D. anarchism

9. What European capital hosted a congress of European nations after the end of the Napoleonic Wars?

- A. London
- B. Rome
- C. Warsaw
- D. Vienna

10. Both the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman empires collapsed due to losses in what global conflict?

- A. Napoleonic Wars
- B. World War I
- C. Hundred Years' War
- D. World War II

11. What ethical philosophy founded by Jeremy Bentham judges actions on their ability to promote happiness or well-being?

- A. Marxism
- B. utilitarianism
- C. postmodernism
- D. romanticism

12. 95 Thesis was published in October 1517 by what German priest and theologian?

- A. Thomas Cartwright
- B. John Calvin
- C. Martin Luther
- D. Conrad Grebel

13. Which of the following developments did NOT occur during the commercial revolution?

- A. Europeans used the steam engine to develop more efficient machinery.
- B. Colonization was organized by the formation of joint-stock companies.
- C. Colonizers implemented mercantilist policies to increase their wealth.
- D. Banks and bills of exchange were used to manage growing European wealth.

14. What compound in Poland consisting of over 40 concentration and extermination camps housed over 1.3 million people during World War II?

- A. Dachau
- B. Natzweiler-Struthof
- C. Janowska
- D. Auschwitz

15. The English Bill of Rights strengthened what branch of government?

- A. the Cabinet
- B. the monarchy
- C. Parliament
- D. the Bank of England

16. Which of the following was NOT a composer of the Romantic period?

- A. Claudio Monteverdi
- B. Ludwig van Beethoven
- C. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
- D. Frederic Chopin

17. Physician Andreas Vesalius is often referred to as the founder of which of the following?

- A. astrology
- B. planetary behavior
- C. alchemy
- D. modern human anatomy

18. The First Industrialization Revolution in Europe focused mainly on the mechanization of what industry?

- A. food
- B. textiles
- C. consumer goods
- D. cars

19. The Mines Act of 1842 prohibited all of the following from working in English mines EXCEPT?

- A. men over the age of eighteen
- B. boys under the age of ten
- C. all girls
- D. all women

20. Victorian novelist Mary Ann Evans wrote seven novels, including Middlemarch, under what pen name?

- A. Charles Dickens
- B. Jane Austen
- C. George Eliot
- D. Thomas Hardy

21. The process of using heat to kill harmful microorganisms in liquids is named for what French germ theorist?

- A. Galileo Galilei
- B. William Harvey
- C. Robert Boyle
- D. Louis Pasteur

22. Both Jean-Jacques Rousseau and John Locke believed that consent of the governed was best represented by what theory?

- A. social contract
- B. rationalism
- C. separation of church and state
- D. free markets

23. The War of the Three Henrys was a series of religious civil wars in what nation?

- A. Russia
- B. France
- C. Italy
- D. Norway

24. The Seven Years' War was a global fight over colonial holdings between which of the following?

- A. Sweden and Norway
- B. Portugal and Spain
- C. Britain and France
- D. Germany and Italy

25. The 1821-1829 Greek War of Independence resulted in Greece achieving its freedom from what neighbor?

- A. Austrian Empire
- B. Malta
- C. Sardinia
- D. Ottoman Empire

26. Antonie van Leeuwenhoek was one of the first scientists to observe and experiment with microbiology using what tool?

- A. pendulum
- B. microscope
- C. thermometer
- D. telescope

27. The Indian National Congress first formed in the late 19th century to organize resistance to its colonization by what European power?

- A. French Empire
- B. Spanish Empire
- C. British Empire
- D. German Empire

28. Giuseppe Garibaldi and Giuseppe Mazzini played important roles in the Risorgimento of what nation?

- A. Italy
- B. Belgium
- C. Bohemia
- D. Prussia

29. All of these were formerly Soviet republics EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Moldova
- B. Belarus
- C. Latvia
- D. Croatia

30. Which of the following best describes the purpose of the Concert of Europe?

- A. It was a treaty settling the border between European colonies in Africa.
- B. It was an endowment to support arts programs in Europe.
- C. It was an agreement between nations to avoid war and maintain political balance.
- D. It was a free trade agreement between nations bordering the North Atlantic.

31. London, Antwerp, and Amsterdam served as vital ports in what 16th century movement of goods across the Atlantic Ocean?

- A. Columbian Exchange
- B. Canton System
- C. Gold-Salt Trade
- D. Silk Roads

32. What sociocultural emphasis on infants and parenthood developed and grew in popularity in the 20th century due to declining birth rates?

- A. nationalism
- B. conservatism
- C. surrealism
- D. neonatalism

33. Which of the following best describes the industrial era Luddite Movement?

- A. They opened settlement houses to offer free and safe shelter to the unhoused.
- B. They pushed sanitary reforms that led to the construction of sewage systems.
- C. They protested mechanization and threats to their jobs by destroying factory equipment.
- D. They chained themselves to monuments to protest for universal male suffrage.

34. Many European absolutists justified their power with which of the following ideas?

- A. parliamentary sovereignty
- B. divine right of kings
- C. checks and balances
- D. constitutionalism

35. Which of the following convened the Council of Trent in 1545 in response to the Protestant Reformation?

- A. Catholic Church
- B. Eastern Orthodox Church
- C. the Anabaptists
- D. the Nation of Islam

36. The Easter Rebellion was an attempt to free what republic from English control while it was distracted by World War I?

- A. Ireland
- B. India
- C. Indonesia
- D. Iran

37. What European Union currency was first introduced to world markets on January 1, 1999?

- A. lira
- B. franc
- C. euro
- D. pound

38. Which of the following was the first woman to serve a Prime Minister of France?

- A. Angela Merkel
- B. Mary Robinson
- C. Margaret Thatcher
- D. Edith Cresson

39. Britain's mishandling of their debt and colonies after the Seven Years' War is seen as a major catalyst in which of the following?

- A. Anglo-Dutch Wars
- B. War for Austrian Succession
- C. Spanish Civil War
- D. American Revolution

40. The death of the childless King Charles II in 1700 led to what war for the throne between the Bourbons and Habsburgs?

- A. War of Spanish Succession
- B. Thirty Years War
- C. French Wars on Religion
- D. Swedish War of Liberation

41. What novel written by Fyodor Dostoevsky after his Siberian exile details the moral dilemmas of Rodion Raskolnikov?

- A. Les Misérables
- B. Crime and Punishment
- C. Anna Karenina
- D. Tess of the d'Urbervilles

42. Under the cover of World War I, the Ottoman empire perpetrated a genocide of what people?

- A. Syrians
- B. Russians
- C. Estonians
- D. Armenians

43. What 1789 event is largely seen as the symbolic start to the French Revolution?

- A. the storming of the Bastille
- B. the Tennis Court Oath
- C. the execution of Robespierre
- D. the storming of Tuileries Palace

44. What American crop boosted European populations in the 16th and 17th centuries after its introduction by the Columbian Exchange?

- A. sugarcane
- B. pineapple
- C. potato
- D. tobacco

45. "Brexit" refers to Britain's exit from what political and economic union?

- A. North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- B. European Union
- C. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
- D. Paris Climate Agreement

46. What Scientific Revolution polymath formulated the laws of gravity in the Principia?

- A. Rene Descartes
- B. Adam Smith
- C. Voltaire
- D. Sir Isaac Newton

47. The October March on Versailles signaled the involvement of which of the following in the French Revolution?

- A. mercenaries
- B. clergymen
- C. women
- D. prisoners

48. A wave of early 20th century antisemitism in France was brought on by the wrongful conviction of what Jewish officer for treason?

- A. Alfred Dreyfus
- B. Klemens von Metternich
- C. Alexander Ypsilantis
- D. Yevgeny Obolensky

49. King Henry VIII broke from the Catholic church to form which of the following in the 16th century?

- A. Lutheran Church
- B. Church of England
- C. Church of Christ
- D. Hussite Church

50. Which of the following was used as the main fuel source for steam powered engines during the First Industrial Revolution?

- A. water
- B. electricity
- C. wind
- D. coal

51. Scholasticism, especially as practiced by Thomas Aquinas, sought to:

- A. Reject classical learning in favor of divine revelation
- B. Harmonize Christian theology with Aristotelian philosophy
- C. Promote mysticism over rational thought
- D. Encourage lay participation in Church councils

52. Which of the following was a result of the Fourth Crusade?

- A. The capture of Jerusalem
- B. The defeat of the Mongols
- C. The sack of Constantinople by Western Christians
- D. The conversion of Egypt to Christianity

53. What was the significance of the Concordat of Worms?

- A. It initiated the Crusades
- B. It resolved part of the Investiture Controversy
- C. It declared the Pope infallible
- D. It abolished monastic orders

54. Which of the following was a major innovation of the High Middle Ages that contributed to economic growth?

- A. The three-field system
- B. The abolition of trade guilds
- C. The introduction of absolute monarchy
- D. A return to Roman coinage

55. What was the main consequence of the Battle of Tours?

- A. The end of Viking raids in the West
- B. The fall of the Byzantine Empire
- C. The beginning of the Reconquista
- D. The halting of Muslim expansion into Western Europe

56. Which of the following best describes the Roman economy during the late empire?

- A. Widespread coinage debasement and inflation
- B. Rapid industrialization
- C. Complete free-market capitalism
- D. Extensive trade with China

57. The Hellenistic period is best characterized by:

- A. Isolationism in Greek city-states
- B. The dominance of Sparta
- C. The spread of Greek culture across the eastern Mediterranean and Near East
- D. The rise of Rome

58. Which of the following was a major consequence of the Peloponnesian War?

- A. The expansion of Athenian democracy across Greece
- B. The permanent unification of Greek city-states
- C. The beginning of Roman domination in Greece
- D. The decline of Athenian power and the rise of Sparta

59. What was the primary governmental structure of the Roman Republic?

- A. Absolute monarchy
- B. Direct democracy
- C. Oligarchic senate with elected magistrates
- D. Theocratic council led by priests

60. The system of landholding and mutual obligations known as feudalism emerged primarily due to:

- A. The rise of centralized monarchies
- B. The Viking and Magyar invasions
- C. The growth of the merchant class
- D. Papal reforms

61. Much of Rembrandt's work was produced during what artistic period?

- A. Purismo
- B. Impressionism
- C. Art Nouveau
- D. Dutch Golden Age

62. What "leave it alone" economic policy first appeared in a meeting between Jean-Baptist Colbert and M. Le Gendre in 1681?

- A. developmentalism
- B. social credit
- C. laissez-faire
- D. sabbath economics

63. The 1625-1629 phase of the Thirty Years War is named for the intervention of what nation under Protestant King Christian IV?

- A. Denmark
- B. France
- C. Portugal
- D. Ireland

64. What Jungle Book author wrote The White Man's Burden in defense of American colonization of the Philippines?

- A. Friedrich Nietzsche
- B. Rudyard Kipling
- C. Max Planck
- D. Otto von Bismarck

65. The Time of Troubles in Russia ended in 1613 with the accession of Michael I of what house?

- A. Stuart
- B. Bourbon
- C. Hapsburg
- D. Romanov

66. James Watt's development of the steam engine in 1769 helped to advance what technological transformation?

- A. Agricultural Revolution
- B. the Enlightenment
- C. Industrial Revolution
- D. Scientific Revolution

67. Which of the following best describes the purpose of Stalin's Five Year Plans?

- A. division of feudal land among nobles
- B. rapid industrialization and collectivization
- C. expansion of naval fleet for trading
- D. improvements in equal access to education

68. The Second Industrial Revolution largely began with using the Bessemer process to mass produce which of the following?

- A. steel
- B. timber
- C. copper
- D. gold

69. The 1884 Berlin Conference saw European colonizers draw divisions across what continent?

- A. Australia
- B. Asia
- C. Africa
- D. Antarctica

70. One example of global opposition to European imperialism was what 1899-1901 Chinese revolt against western ideas?

- A. Zulu War
- B. Boxer Rebellion
- C. Sepoy Rebellion
- D. Philippine Revolution

71. Adolf Hitler first tested the Treaty of Versailles with an order to remilitarize what region in March 1936?

- A. the Rhineland
- B. Crimea
- C. Siberia
- D. the Sudetenland

72. What Catholic religious order focused on education and proselytism was founded by Ignatius of Loyola in 1540?

- A. Episcopalians
- B. Quakers
- C. Pentecostals
- D. Jesuits

73. What Donatello bronze, freestanding sculpture was commissioned by the Medicis in the 1440s?

- A. Transfiguration
- B. Bacchus
- C. Madonna with Child
- D. David

74. After the Revolution, which of the following sought to conquer all of Europe in the name of a French empire?

- A. Jacques Necker
- B. Thomas Hobbes
- C. Edmund Burke
- D. Napoleon Bonaparte

75. The Price Revolution occurred in the 16th and 17th centuries due to Spain's unregulated influx of what into the global economy?

- A. corn
- B. slaves
- C. silver
- D. horses

Tiebreaker

This question will only be scored if there is a tie for placement on the exam. **This is a required question, but there is no penalty for a wrong answer to this question.**

Write your answer legibly in the space provided on your scantron.

According to the British government, how many British soldiers fought in the Crimean War?