

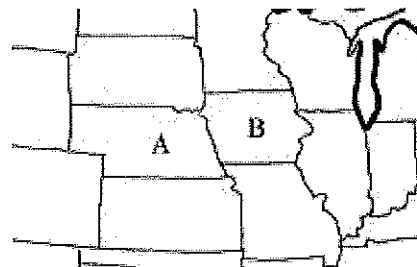


# Social Studies Exam #1

## 2020-21 – Middle Grades - Practice Questions

### Student Instructions:

- Write your complete ID code on your answer sheet.
  - If you change your answer, erase well.
1. One federal official became a household name for presenting information about the pandemic that struck the U.S. in 2020. Which of the following was, as of August 2020, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases?
    - A. Dr. Anthony Fauci
    - B. Dr. Deborah Birx
    - C. Dr. Stella Immanuel
    - D. Dr. Robert Redfield
  2. Many nations were hard hit in 2020 by a new coronavirus strain identified in 2019 and called COVID-19. In which of the following cities was the first large outbreak reported?
    - A. Hong Kong
    - B. Wuhan
    - C. New York
    - D. Rome
  3. Which of the following British politicians was elected prime minister in July 2019 after promising to pull the United Kingdom out of the European Union whether a deal was reached or not?
    - A. Theresa May
    - B. David Cameron
    - C. Margaret Thatcher
    - D. Boris Johnson
  4. The section of the U.S. map at right shows two states, one marked A, the other B. Which of the following rivers forms the boundary between those two states?
    - A. Platte
    - B. Ohio
    - C. Missouri
    - D. Mississippi
  5. Kings Canyon National Park was established in 1940 and is bounded on the south by another national park. Which of the following, established in 1890, is jointly administered with Kings Canyon and is home to some of the earth's largest and oldest living things?
    - A. Sequoia National Park
    - B. Zion National Park
    - C. Joshua Tree National Park
    - D. Arches National Park
  6. A wind velocity of 231 miles per hour was recorded in 1934 on a peak in the Presidential Range. Which of the following peaks in the White Mountains is known for its extreme weather?
    - A. Mount Madison
    - B. Mount Adams
    - C. Mount Jefferson
    - D. Mount Washington



7. The structure shown at right was built over a period of some 1,500 years, beginning about 3000 B.C. What World Heritage site is found on Salisbury Plain in southern England?
- Amesbury
  - Sarsen
  - Stonehenge
  - Durrington Walls



8. The mountain chain that stretches from the Bay of Biscay to the Mediterranean has played a major role in the history of the two nations it separates. Which of the ranges below forms the border of France and Spain?
- Alps
  - Pyrenees
  - Atlas
  - Urals

9. Four deserts, three mountain ranges, and Uluru are all considered part of a particular region. What name is given to inland areas of Australia far from urban centers and with few water resources?
- Bogan
  - Larrikin
  - Outback
  - Billabong

10. Match the country with its capital.

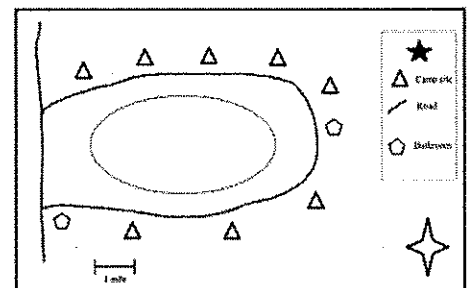
- Colombia
- Chile
- Costa Rica

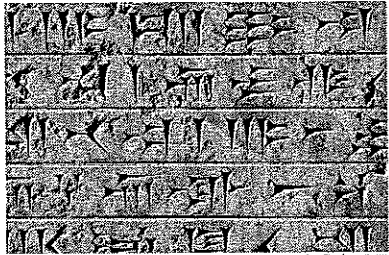
- San José
- Bogotá
- Santiago

- x-2, y-3, z-1
- x-1, y-3, z-2
- x-2, y-1, z-3
- x-3, y-2, z-1

11. On June 21, the sun lies directly over an imaginary line encircling the globe. Which of the following lines lies at 23 degrees, 27 minutes north latitude?
- Tropic of Gemini
  - Tropic of Cancer
  - Tropic of Taurus
  - Tropic of Capricorn

12. The drawing at right shows a simple map, including a text box with a black star at the top. Which of the following names is given to the part of the map that explains what the symbols on the map mean?
- compass
  - scale
  - title
  - legend



13. Scientists believe certain inlets could only have been created by glaciers that eroded valley floors below sea level, allowing the sea to rush in. What long, deep, narrow valleys are generally associated with Chile and Norway?
- arroyos
  - wadis
  - fjords
  - canyons
14. In 1901, a French archaeologist uncovered a stele at Susa that contained a lengthy list of laws set forth by a ruler of Babylon. What is that set of laws called?
- Code of Hammurabi
  - Code of Ashurbanipal
  - Code of Nebuchadnezzar
  - Code of Marduk
15. The writing system shown at right was used by many ancient civilizations. Which of the following systems takes its name from Latin and means “wedge-shaped”?
- demotic
  - cuneiform
  - pictographic
  - hieroglyphic
- 
16. After succeeding his father, Amenhotep IV made radical changes in Egyptian art and religion. Which of the following names did Amenhotep IV adopt as part of his decision to have Egypt venerate the disk of the sun god?
- Tutankhamun
  - Ptolemy
  - Rameses
  - Akhenaten
17. Most classical scholars thought one city below was fictional, but Heinrich Schliemann proved otherwise with his excavations at Hisarlık. Which of the following cities in northern Anatolia was the subject of an epic poem by Homer?
- Delphi
  - Ephesus
  - Troy
  - Herculaneum
18. Rome fought three so-called servile wars between 135 and 71 B.C. The third of those wars, which pitted tens of thousands of former slaves and other rebels against Roman troops, was led by which of the following men?
- Spartacus
  - Crasus
  - Germanicus
  - Appian
19. A general who served under Julius Caesar supported Caesar when civil war broke out in 49 B.C. Which of the following joined forces with Cleopatra but was defeated by Octavian in the last of the civil wars that ended the Roman Republic?
- Marcus Brutus
  - Scipio Africanus
  - Pompey the Great
  - Mark Antony

20. Match the monarch with his action.
- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| x. John Lackland    | 1. signed the Magna Carta                 |
| y. Alfred the Great | 2. kept England from falling to the Danes |
| z. Charles Martel   | 3. defeated Muslim forces at Poitiers     |
- A. x-3, y-1, z-2  
 B. x-1, y-3, z-2  
 C. x-1, y-2, z-3  
 D. x-2, y-1, z-3
21. Despite resentment, William I of England ordered a complete description of England, which was carried out by seven or eight groups of commissioners. By what name is the summary of that effort known?
- A. Book of Kells  
 B. Domesday Book  
 C. Census of England  
 D. Constitution of England
22. In the 13th century, a Mongol led his people on a series of wars that created one of the largest empires ever recorded. Which of the following conquered China and most of Central Asia before his death in 1227?
- A. Batu Khan  
 B. Tamerlane  
 C. Genghis Khan  
 D. Kublai Khan
23. When Christopher Columbus landed on a Caribbean island in 1492, he named it The Spanish Island. Which island below was commonly called Santo Domingo after the Spanish settled it?
- A. Hispaniola  
 B. Cuba  
 C. Puerto Rico  
 D. Jamaica
24. Fray Marcos de Niza claimed to have seen fabled cities of gold from a distance. Based on that report, Coronado was sent on an expedition to find which cities?
- A. Aztlán  
 B. Darién  
 C. Croatoan  
 D. Cibola
25. In 1578, an explorer wintered in an area near what is now San Francisco. Which of the following claimed that area, which he called New Albion, for England?
- A. Martin Frobisher  
 B. Sir Francis Drake  
 C. Henry Hudson  
 D. John Cabot
26. After Pedro Menéndez de Avilés destroyed Fort Caroline, built by the French in 1564, he founded a city between the San Sebastian and Matanzas rivers. What is the oldest continuously settled city in the U.S.?
- A. St. Augustine, Florida  
 B. St. Petersburg, Florida  
 C. St. Johns, Florida  
 D. St. Lucie, Florida

27. A plant first domesticated in the Americas about 10,000 years ago developed into a food staple in many places around the world. Which plant below is a cereal plant?
- A. potato
  - B. maize
  - C. squash
  - D. pumpkin

28. Members of the League of the Iroquois played a game called baggataway, shown in the graphic at right. What modern game is based on baggataway, which sometimes had hundreds of players with goals miles apart and lasted two or three days?
- A. field hockey
  - B. croquet
  - C. lacrosse
  - D. badminton



29. Founded about 1325, by 1519 it had an estimated 400,000 inhabitants, making it the most heavily populated city in Mesoamerica. Which of the following was the capital of the Aztec Empire?
- A. Teotihuacan
  - B. Tlaxcala
  - C. Tikal
  - D. Tenochtitlán

30. Match the colonial city with its founder.

- x. Boston, Massachusetts
- y. Savannah, Georgia
- z. Santa Fe, New Mexico

- 1. Pedro de Peralta
- 2. James Oglethorpe
- 3. John Winthrop

- A. x-1, y-3, z-2
- B. x-3, y-2, z-1
- C. x-2, y-1, z-3
- D. x-3, y-1, z-2

31. A 1765 act of Parliament led to the ratification of the Third Amendment to the Constitution. Which act below required colonists to provide room, board, transportation, and fuel to British forces?
- A. Quartering Act
  - B. Tax Act
  - C. Townshend Act
  - D. Quebec Act
32. One colonial war began two years before the European war that it is considered to be a part of. Which of the following wars lasted from 1754 to 1763 and ended with Canada being given to the British?
- A. Queen Anne's War
  - B. King Philip's War
  - C. Anglo-Powhatan War
  - D. French and Indian War

33. A group called the Baratarians was commended by Andrew Jackson for their help at the Battle of New Orleans, and President James Madison proclaimed a pardon for its members. Which of the following pirates was the leader of the Baratarians?
- A. Edward Teach
  - B. Henry Morgan
  - C. Jean Lafitte
  - D. Eli Boggs
34. Congress created the Northwest Territory in 1787. Five states, plus a part of another state, were ultimately formed from that territory. Which of the following was not one of the states formed from the Northwest Territory?
- A. Ohio
  - B. Iowa
  - C. Illinois
  - D. Michigan
35. In the winter of 1777 and 1778, General George Washington and his troops bivouacked while Baron von Steuben turned the Continental Army into an effective fighting force. At which of the following places was the Continental Army camped?
- A. Brandywine
  - B. Princeton
  - C. Valley Forge
  - D. Germantown
36. Realizing that working for gradual change was not working, advocates such as John Greenleaf Whittier, William Lloyd Garrison, and Frederick Douglass began calling for immediate action. What action did they call for?
- A. abolition of slavery
  - B. removal of Eastern tribes to Oklahoma
  - C. seceding from the Union
  - D. wresting Texas and the Southwest from Mexico
37. An invention patented in 1837 in England and in the U.S. became feasible in 1844, changing the face of communications. Which of the following was patented by Samuel F.B. Morse in the U.S. in 1837?
- A. dactylograph
  - B. telephone
  - C. typewriter
  - D. telegraph
38. One incident that helped propel the U.S. to a civil war occurred when a group of abolitionists raided a federal armory in Virginia. The armory at which town below was seized by a group led by John Brown?
- A. Harpers Ferry
  - B. Richmond
  - C. Newport News
  - D. Shenandoah
39. The leader of the Whig Party's antislavery wing joined the Republican Party in 1856 and served as secretary of state from 1861 to 1869. Which of the following was instrumental in buying Alaska from Russia?
- A. Salmon P. Chase
  - B. William H. Seward
  - C. Edwin Stanton
  - D. Gideon Welles

40. Match the Civil War or post-Civil War term with its meaning.
- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| x. scalawag     | 1. Northern white who went south to support Reconstruction |
| y. carpetbagger | 2. Southern white who supported Reconstruction             |
| z. Copperhead   | 3. Northerner who opposed the Civil War                    |
- A. x-1, y-3, z-2  
 B. x-3, y-1, z-2  
 C. x-3, y-2, z-1  
 D. x-2, y-1, z-3
41. July 4, 1863, was an important date in the Civil War. On that date, General John C. Pemberton surrendered which of the following cities to General Ulysses S. Grant, splitting the Confederacy in two?
- A. Jackson, Mississippi  
 B. Memphis, Tennessee  
 C. Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
 D. Vicksburg, Mississippi
42. After his men's clothing store failed, a future president became connected to a political machine in Kansas City. Which of the following ordered the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan?
- A. Herbert Hoover  
 B. Harry S. Truman  
 C. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
 D. Calvin Coolidge
43. Considered the most significant statesman of the early republic by his contemporaries, he tarnished his reputation by signing the Alien and Sedition Acts. Which president below served from 1797 to 1801?
- A. George Washington  
 B. Thomas Jefferson  
 C. John Adams  
 D. James Madison
44. The first woman to be on the editorial staff of the *Harvard Law Review* was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals in 1980. Which woman below was the second woman named to the U.S. Supreme Court?
- A. Ruth Bader Ginsburg  
 B. Sandra Day O'Connor  
 C. Sonia Sotomayor  
 D. Elena Kagan
45. One of the most stirring speeches given at a presidential inauguration included these words: "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country." Which president below gave that challenge to the nation?
- A. Ronald Reagan  
 B. Barack Obama  
 C. Donald Trump  
 D. John F. Kennedy
46. The U.S. Constitution begins with the words, "We, the People of the United States..." What name below is given to the opening part of the Constitution?
- A. Prologue  
 B. Preamble  
 C. Preface  
 D. Invocation

47. Filing income taxes is an annual chore for millions of people. In a normal filing year, what is the deadline for U.S. residents to file their federal income taxes?
- June 15
  - May 15
  - April 15
  - July 15
48. The petro, introduced by Venezuela in 2018, is one example of a term that entered economics in 2009. What name is given to such forms of exchange as Ethereum and Bitcoin?
- cryptocurrency
  - counterfeit
  - hard cash
  - security
49. Which of the following economic terms can be simple or compound and is defined as the cost paid for the use of money or credit?
- debit
  - consumption
  - tariff
  - interest
50. Match the description with the economic system.
- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| x. promotion of state power at expense of rival nations | 1. capitalism   |
| y. production is done in service to local lords         | 2. mercantilism |
| z. most means of production are privately owned         | 3. feudalism    |
- x-3, y-2, z-1
  - x-2, y-3, z-1
  - x-3, y-1, z-2
  - x-1, y-3, z-2