

2017-2018 US History Bee – B Set National Qualifying Exam

Name _____

School _____
(if homeschooled, just write "Homeschool")

Grade _____

Email to report score to:

(print neatly!)

Instructions - Circle the correct answer or leave it blank. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth -1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.

1. Which of the following battles of the American Revolution resulted in the signing of the Franco-American Alliance and French entry into the war against the British?

- A. Bunker Hill
- B. Yorktown
- C. Trenton
- D. Saratoga

2. In 1968, the United States was rocked by the assassinations of which two prominent American leaders?

- A. Malcolm X and Harvey Milk
- B. Medgar Evers and Anton Cermak
- C. John F. Kennedy and Harry S. Truman
- D. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Kennedy

3. Which of the following was chartered in 1870 in Ohio by John D. Rockefeller?

- A. International Business Machines
- B. Standard Oil
- C. Union Pacific Railroad
- D. United States Steel

4. Which of the following best characterizes the July 1863 Battle of Gettysburg?

- A. An army under Ulysses Grant defeated Confederates led by Albert Sydney Johnston and P.G.T. Beauregard in a costly two-day battle
- B. Thomas Jackson gained his nickname 'Stonewall' as a Confederate force defeated a Union army led by Irvin McDowell
- C. Two ironclad ships met in combat for the first time in history
- D. The Union army stopped Robert E. Lee's advance into the North in the bloodiest battle of the war

5. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter helped negotiate the Camp David Accords between Egypt and what other nation?

- A. Israel
- B. England
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Jordan

6. Which of the following best describes the Lend-Lease Program during World War II?

- A. a covert program to develop atomic weapons in the US
- B. a program to provide military aid to the Allies at a low upfront cost during the war
- C. aid to communists during the Spanish Civil War
- D. a program to isolate the Soviet Union by arming client states in the Baltics and Eastern Europe

7. President Richard Nixon resigned as a result of the fallout from which of the following political scandals?

- A. Teapot Dome
- B. the Whiskey Ring
- C. the release of the Pentagon Papers
- D. Watergate

8. Which of the following most accurately describes the resolution of the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962?

- A. The USSR agreed to remove the missiles from Cuba, the US agreed not to invade Cuba and secretly removed missiles from Turkey
- B. The United States invaded Cuba at the Bay of Pigs to remove the missiles
- C. Both sides agreed to eliminate intermediate range missiles in the START treaty
- D. The missiles remained in Cuba under UN supervision and without warheads

9. Which of the following was the most immediate cause for the Compromise of 1850?

- A. the annexation of Texas
- B. the California Gold Rush
- C. John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry
- D. the completion of the transcontinental railroad

10. The Committee of Safety, led by men such as Lorrin Thurston and Sanford Dole, helped to overthrow the government of which monarchy in the 1890s in order to gain annexation to the United States?

- A. Cuba
- B. Puerto Rico
- C. Hawaii
- D. the Philippines

11. George F. Kennan was the architect of which of the following Cold War policies?

- A. America First
- B. Containment
- C. the invasion of Grenada by the US
- D. the Marshall Plan

12. Which of the following best characterizes settlers in the Virginia colony in the early seventeenth century?

- A. they were exclusively adventurers and military men from several countries, including France and Spain
- B. they were dissenters looking for religious freedom
- C. they were mainly middle-class families with many children
- D. they were largely young, unmarried men

13. The Selective Service Act of 1940 was significant for which of the following reasons?
- It was the beginning of the cash and carry program for Allied countries
 - It was the official declaration of war on Germany
 - It provided for the first peacetime conscription of soldiers in American history
 - It began the Marshall Plan
14. Which of the following best characterizes the 1890 work *How the Other Half Lives*?
- It described the lives of American farmers during the Dust Bowl and their migration towards the West Coast
 - It exposed the abuses of monopolistic corporations like Standard Oil
 - It described the living conditions of poor and immigrant residents of New York City
 - It chronicled the lives of freedmen in the South and advocated for their equality
15. LBJ's Great Society did which of the following in the 1960s?
- Created a system of old-age pensions funded by payroll taxes
 - Guaranteed each American a universal basic income
 - Created Medicare and Medicaid, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Public Broadcasting, among many other programs
 - Established universal, single-payer healthcare
16. The diplomatic incident in which French agents sought bribes from American ambassadors in the 1790s was known by what name?
- the Gaspee incident
 - the Amistad case
 - the XYZ Affair
 - the Citizen Genet Affair
17. The Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution did which of the following?
- Prohibited the sale, manufacture or transport of alcoholic beverages
 - Allowed the federal government to levy an income tax
 - Provided for the direct election of United States Senators
 - Granted American women the right to vote
18. Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson were most closely associated with which movement in nineteenth century America?
- the Hudson River School
 - Romanticism
 - Realism
 - Transcendentalism
19. Which of the following was passed by the British Parliament in order to raise revenue to pay for colonial defense?
- the Proclamation of 1763
 - the Sugar Act
 - the Quebec Act
 - the Declaratory Act
20. The Force Acts, also known as the Civil Rights Acts of 1870 and 1871, were primarily aimed ending the influence of which organization in the Reconstruction South?
- the Freedmen's Bureau
 - the Republican Party
 - the Ku Klux Klan
 - the American Federation of Labor
21. During the Great Depression, Huey Long's 'Share Our Wealth' program advocated which of the following?
- increased government aid to individuals in the form of unemployment insurance and old age pensions
 - support for American allies during the early stages of World War II
 - confiscation of large personal fortunes and the redistribution of wealth to poor Americans
 - high corporate taxation and a national minimum wage
22. Which of the following assumed the presidency on the death of Zachary Taylor in 1850?
- Franklin Pierce
 - William Henry Harrison
 - Millard Fillmore
 - John Tyler
23. The term 'Era of Good Feelings' can best be defined by which of the following?
- The spirit of nationalism and republicanism in the newly-created nation following the American Revolution
 - The period of one-party government in America, taking place mostly during the administration of James Monroe.
 - The national unity which swept the country following the assassination of John F. Kennedy
 - The period of bipartisan cooperation during the first hundred days of Franklin Roosevelt's administration
24. Franklin Roosevelt's group of advisors, including Frances Perkins and Harold Ickes, who helped formulate the policies and programs of the New Deal, were known by what collective name?
- the Brain Trust
 - the 'Kitchen Cabinet'
 - Excomm
 - the 'California Cabinet'
25. Which of the following was an effect of the completion of the transcontinental railroad?
- The influx of settlers and incursion of the railroads resulted in increased conflict with Native Americans
 - Most American heavy industry, especially steel production, moved West
 - Large American cities experienced a decrease in population
 - The cost of transporting goods to the West became more expensive.

26. Which of the following was the primary economic activity of New France during the early seventeenth century?
- mining and lumber
 - plantation agriculture
 - fur trading
 - fishing and shipbuilding
27. Which of the following resulted in the creation of NASA and increased federal government spending on science and math education with the National Defense Education Act?
- the U2 spy plane incident in 1960
 - the successful test of the Soviet hydrogen bomb
 - the launching of Sputnik 1 in 1957
 - the Cuban Missile Crisis
28. 'Our constitution is color-blind, and neither knows nor tolerates classes among citizens. In respect of civil rights, all citizens are equal before the law. The humblest is the peer of the most powerful.'
- The quotation above is from Justice John Marshall Harlan's famous dissent in which nineteenth century Supreme Court case?
- Plessy v. Ferguson
 - Marbury v. Madison
 - Dred Scott v. Sanford
 - Brown v. Board of Education
29. In 1858, Stephen Douglas ran for reelection to the Senate against which man?
- James Buchanan
 - Abraham Lincoln
 - John C. Calhoun
 - Joshua Speed
30. The Adena and Hopewell cultures, and sites like Poverty Point and Cahokia in North America are associated with which of the following?
- plantation farming
 - warfare with English and French colonists
 - slave rebellions
 - mound building
31. Jonathan Edwards and George Whitfield were among the leaders of what American religious movement during the colonial period?
- the 'Halfway Covenant'
 - the Great Awakening
 - Deism
 - the Quaker Revival
32. Which American Indian tribe or group of tribes did not live in what is now the Eastern United States?
- Lenni Lenape
 - Sioux
 - Powhatan Confederacy
 - Iroquois
33. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were convicted of which of the following?
- Spying for Germany during World War II
 - Giving American nuclear weapon designs to the Soviet Union in the 1950s
 - Kidnapping Charles Lindbergh, Jr.
 - Attempting to assassinate Harry Truman
34. Which of the following economic policies was advocated by Secretary of the Treasury Andrew Mellon and other Republicans in the 1920s?
- socialism
 - the Gospel of Wealth
 - Progressivism
 - laissez-faire economics
35. Which of the following was the most immediate cause of the United States entering World War I?
- the sinking of the RMS Lusitania
 - the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
 - the use of poison gas at the Battle of Ypres
 - the release of the Zimmerman telegram
36. All of the following were powers of the central government under the Articles of Confederation EXCEPT
- the power to make war and declare peace
 - the power to conduct foreign relations for the nation
 - the power to admit Quebec to the Confederation if it asked to join
 - the power to regulate interstate commerce
37. Which of the following ended all slavery in the United States?
- the Fourteenth Amendment
 - the Thirteenth Amendment
 - the Fifteenth Amendment
 - the Emancipation Proclamation
38. Which of the following works discussed 'the problem that has no name' and was a foundational text of Second-Wave Feminism?
- The Second Sex
 - The Feminine Mystique
 - An American Dilemma
 - Silent Spring
39. What turning-point 1942 battle in the Pacific theater of World War II resulted in the sinking of four Japanese aircraft carriers?
- Midway
 - Iwo Jima
 - Solomon Islands
 - Guadalcanal
40. Frances Perkins was notable for which of the following during the administration of Franklin Roosevelt?
- being the only person the United States Senate to vote against the declaration of war against Japan in 1941
 - advocating for the right of American women to vote
 - becoming the first female Supreme Court Justice
 - being the first female Cabinet member and the principal author of the Social Security Act

41. In his 'Farewell Address' to the nation, George Washington warned against which of the following?
- the evils of slavery
 - the dangers of political parties and permanent foreign alliances
 - the failure of the Constitutional government
 - a second American Revolution
42. Which presidential administration was affected by the Petticoat Affair, the Nullification Crisis and the Bank War?
- Andrew Jackson
 - William Henry Harrison
 - John Quincy Adams
 - Martin Van Buren
43. All of the following were provisions of the Monroe Doctrine as originally issued EXCEPT
- the United States would serve as policeman and debt collector for the Western Hemisphere
 - the era of colonization in the Western Hemisphere was over
 - the United States would stay out of European conflicts
 - European countries should not interfere in the affairs of the Western Hemisphere
44. Which of the following became the youngest president of the United States when he assumed the presidency on the assassination of William McKinley?
- Theodore Roosevelt
 - John Tyler
 - Benjamin Harrison
 - Chester A. Arthur
45. The Calvinist group popularly known as 'Pilgrims' settled at which of the following colonies in 1620?
- Plymouth
 - Salem
 - New Netherland
 - Massachusetts Bay
46. Jane Addams is most closely associated with which of the following social movements in the nineteenth century?
- settlement houses
 - temperance
 - the Gospel of Wealth
 - abolitionism
47. Which of the following best describes the impeachment of President Bill Clinton?
- He was impeached by the House for perjury and obstruction of justice but acquitted by the Senate
 - Articles of impeachment were drafted, but Clinton resigned before they were passed
 - Bill Clinton was not impeached at any point during his two terms in office
 - He was impeached for violating the Tenure of Office Act and acquitted by a single vote in the Senate
48. What 'Trial of the Century' was the result of a Tennessee teacher's violation of the Butler Act by teaching evolution in a public school?
- the Sacco-Vanzetti trial
 - the trial of Leo Frank
 - the Leopold and Loeb trial
 - the Scopes 'Monkey' trial
49. The Court of Oyer and Terminer conducted trials involving which of the following subjects in Salem, Massachusetts in 1692?
- colonial rebellions involving Massachusetts farmers
 - witchcraft
 - freedom of the press
 - land disputes with Native Americans
50. Which of the following best characterizes Ronald Reagan's foreign policy towards the Soviet Union during his administration?
- He pursued an aggressive policy towards the USSR in the early days of his administration, but was more cooperative after 1985 with new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev
 - He practiced the detente of previous Republican administrations
 - He opened diplomatic relations with China in an effort to achieve concessions from the USSR
 - He pursued an end to nuclear armament and a reduction in conventional weapons