

2017-2018 US History Bee - C Set Qualifying Examination

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____ (11th & 12th grade are Varsity, younger is JV)

Write your email below to get your score. 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. What pair of Japanese cities were attacked by the United States with atomic weapons in August of 1945?

- A. Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- B. Osaka and Yokohama
- C. Tokyo and Toyama
- D. Kyoto and Nagoya

2. In a 2002 speech, President George W. Bush referred to North Korea, Iraq and Iran by what collective name?

- A. 'Cradle of Extremism'
- B. 'Axis of Evil'
- C. 'Bad Hombres'
- D. 'Evil Empire'

3. The Declaration of Sentiments, drafted at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, was a major nineteenth century document for which social movement in America?

- A. abolitionism
- B. temperance
- C. populism
- D. women's rights

4. Which of the following political parties would have advocated immigration restrictions and opposed religious schools in the mid-nineteenth century?

- A. the Greenback-Labor Party
- B. the Know-Nothing Party
- C. the Free Soil Party
- D. the Liberty Party

5. The Teller Amendment and the Platt Amendment were enacted in the wake of the Spanish-American War to govern American relations with which former possession of the Spanish Empire?

- A. Cuba
- B. The Philippines
- C. Guam
- D. Puerto Rico

6. Which of the following Supreme Court rulings led to the desegregation of public schools in the United States?

- A. *Plessy v. Ferguson*
- B. *Guinn v. United States*
- C. *Brown v. Board of Education*
- D. *Griswold v. Connecticut*

7. The Embargo Act of 1807 and the Non-Intercourse Act of 1809 were meant to restrict trade with which two nations?

- A. China and Japan
- B. Britain and France
- C. Spain and Italy
- D. Canada and Mexico

8. Which of the following became famous as a gangster and bootlegger in prohibition-era Chicago?

- A. Vito Corleone
- B. George Patton
- C. Elliot Ness
- D. Al Capone

9. Planters and businessmen with ties to the United States took over which of the following places in the late nineteenth century with the intention of being annexed to the United States?

- A. California
- B. Texas
- C. New Jersey
- D. Hawaii

10. The area of Manhattan was originally settled by which of the following European powers?

- A. the English
- B. the Dutch
- C. the Swedish
- D. the French

11. Which of the following best characterizes the Navigation Acts?

- A. British laws meant to restrict westward expansion of the American colonies
- B. British laws meant to tax colonial manufacturing to raise revenue in the wake of the French and Indian War
- C. A mutual defense pact to protect the American colonies from French and Native American attacks
- D. British laws to regulate American trade within the mercantilist system

12. Sharecropping is best described by which of the following?

- A. the system in which farmers used a pledge of future crop production to purchase supplies and food from plantation stores and local merchants on credit
- B. a system of forced labor by which prisoners were leased to plantations and factories in the South
- C. the labor system, dominant in the South after the Civil War, in which tenant farmers paid landowners annual rent based on a percentage of crops raised
- D. the system of payments to indentured servants in colonial America, usually in the form of land or crops, when an indenture contract was complete

13. The America First Committee, led by Charles Lindbergh, had which of the following as its mission in the early 1940s?

- A. keeping the United States from falling further into the Great Depression
- B. preventing the United States from entering World War II
- C. reforming the American political process and promoting increased voter participation
- D. the advancement of civil rights

14. Horace Mann and John Dewey were both significant reformers in which aspect of American life during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries?
- education
 - medicine and public health
 - prohibition
 - civil service
15. The role of women in educating their children in civic and moral virtue in the period after the American Revolution is referred to by which of the following terms?
- Salem Witch Trials
 - second-wave feminism
 - women's liberation
 - republican motherhood
16. Which of the following, composed of a board of governors and twelve regional banks, was created during Woodrow Wilson's administration in 1913?
- the Department of the Treasury
 - the Federal Reserve System
 - the Bank of the United States
 - the FDIC
17. Which Senator and 2008 Republican Presidential Candidate was held as a prisoner for years in Vietnam?
- Mitch McConnell
 - Mitt Romney
 - John McCain
 - Sarah Palin
18. The Sixteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution enabled which of the following Progressive goals?
- suffrage for American women
 - the levying of an income tax
 - the direct election of United States senators
 - the prohibition of the sale and manufacture of alcohol
19. Which of the following authors coined the term 'Gilded Age' in an 1870s satire?
- Mark Twain
 - H.L. Mencken
 - F. Scott Fitzgerald
 - Al Franken
20. During the administration of Warren G. Harding, which of the following scandals involved bribery tied to federal government oil leases?
- the Black Friday scandal
 - the Star Route scandal
 - the Gold Ring
 - Teapot Dome
21. During the New Deal, the Civilian Conservation Corps can best be described by which of the following?
- a program of large-scale public works, including the construction of municipal buildings, schools and other projects
 - a program employing young men to build infrastructure and protect natural resources in National Parks and National Forests
 - an agency to provide direct relief payments to unemployed American workers
 - an agency dedicated to massive irrigation and electrification projects in the southeastern United States
22. The Iroquois fought the Beaver Wars against the French and which of the following Native American groups?
- Huron
 - Hopi
 - Anasazi
 - Narragansett
23. During the Great Depression and World War II, Franklin Roosevelt communicated directly with the American people in a series of addresses popularly known by what name?
- Executive addresses
 - Presidential minutes
 - Fireside chats
 - Living room lectures
24. The Bessemer process was instrumental in the creation of what major industry in the late nineteenth century?
- telephone
 - steel
 - oil
 - electricity
25. In July of 1948, President Harry S. Truman issued an executive order that did which of the following, an action that caused Southern Democrats to abandon the party in the 1948 presidential election?
- forced the integration of Little Rock Central High School
 - desegregated the United States armed forces
 - freed Martin Luther King from a jail in Birmingham, Alabama
 - led to the prosecution of KKK members in the South
26. During which American conflict was Washington, DC burned and the Star Spangled Banner written?
- the American Civil War
 - the French and Indian War
 - the War of 1812
 - the American Revolution
27. Which of the following women was a leading reformer for improving treatment of the mentally ill in the nineteenth century?
- Carrie Chapman Catt
 - Dorothea Dix
 - Susan B. Anthony
 - Jane Addams

28. President Ronald Reagan delivered a famous speech in 1987 in which he challenged Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down what structure?
- the Kremlin
 - the White House
 - London Bridge
 - the Berlin Wall
29. During his administration, President Jimmy Carter advocated which of the following in response to economic issues effecting the country?
- large tax cuts for businesses and wealthy individuals
 - the end of the gold standard
 - protectionist tariffs and trade sanctions on the Soviet Union and China
 - research into alternative energy sources and conservation of energy
30. In 1801, John Adams appointed which of the following men to be Chief Justice of the United States?
- Tecumseh
 - Earl Warren
 - John Marshall
 - John Roberts
31. In the spring of 1961, President John Kennedy authorized which of the following operations, a covert attack on the island of Cuba?
- Executive Order 9066
 - the Cuban Missile Crisis
 - the Bay of Pigs invasion
 - NSC-68
32. Which state was where Indian tribes were forced to relocate to, and prior to statehood was known as Indian Territory?
- Alaska
 - Delaware
 - Oregon
 - Oklahoma
33. During the Civil War, Ulysses Grant's victory at the siege of Vicksburg was significant for which of the following reasons?
- It gave the Union control of the Mississippi River and degraded the Confederacy's ability to transport men and supplies
 - It gave Abraham Lincoln the political capital to issue the Emancipation Proclamation to begin the process of freeing slaves in the South
 - It resulted in a very quick end to the war, causing Robert E. Lee to surrender within weeks
 - It halted the only Confederate advance into the North
34. Alexander Hamilton served as Secretary of the Treasury under which president's administration?
- Thomas Jefferson
 - John Adams
 - James Madison
 - George Washington
35. Which of the following groups is most associated with cliff dwellings in the American Southwest?
- Pueblo
 - Cherokee
 - Sioux
 - Apache
36. Which of the following best characterizes the Quebec Act of 1774?
- a British law forcing Acadians to leave the newly acquired territory of French Canada
 - a law to punish American colonists for the Boston Tea Party and other tax protests
 - a treaty ceding New France to Great Britain following the Seven Years War
 - a British law establishing governing procedures and policies in the Province of Quebec, and granting political rights to French Catholics
37. Which of the following pioneered mail-order retailing in the late nineteenth century?
- J.P. Morgan
 - John D. Rockefeller
 - Montgomery Ward
 - Bill Gates
38. Which of the following men was elected president in 1896 after waging a famous 'front porch' campaign?
- Grover Cleveland
 - Theodore Roosevelt
 - William Howard Taft
 - William McKinley
39. Which of the following groups controlled Congress during Reconstruction and imposed military rule on the South in the late 1860s?
- Radical Republicans
 - Scalawags
 - Bourbon Democrats
 - the Northern Democrats
40. 'Free silver', regulation of railroads, and the breakup of trusts would have been supported by which of the following political movements in the late nineteenth century?
- populists
 - free soilers
 - environmentalists
 - nativists
41. The 'War of the Currents' during the Second Industrial Revolution involved a conflict over which of the following?
- the adoption of a standard for electrification of the United States
 - the sale of newspapers in New York City and other major metropolitan areas
 - the conversion from electric and steam-powered automobiles to internal combustion engines
 - the proper method for laying and maintaining the trans-Atlantic telegraph cable

42. Which of the following organizations was formed in 1909 with the mission of ‘to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination’?

- A. the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry
- B. the AFL-CIO
- C. the John Birch Society
- D. the NAACP

43. Which of the following treaties resulted in the acquisition of Florida from the Spanish?

- A. the Webster-Ashburton Treaty
- B. the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo
- C. the Adams-Onis Treaty
- D. the Treaty of Washington

44. Which of the following pairs of political parties were formed during George Washington’s administration and contested most national elections in the early nineteenth century?

- A. Federalist and Democratic-Republican
- B. Democrats and Whigs
- C. Constitutional Union and Free Soil
- D. Democrats and Republicans

45. At the start of the Civil War, the ‘Anaconda Plan’ was the name given to which of the following?

- A. the Confederate use of commerce raiders like the CSS Alabama to harass Union shipping and cut off supplies
- B. the Southern plan to use cotton exports to offset the Union’s economic advantages
- C. the Union diplomatic effort to keep the European powers out of the Civil War
- D. the Union plan to blockade Confederate ports and to advance down the Mississippi River to divide the South

46. Which recent first lady, who also served as Secretary of State, led a failed effort to reform health care during her husband’s term?

- A. Barbara Bush
- B. Laura Bush
- C. Nancy Reagan
- D. Hillary Clinton

47. After World War I, which of the following international organizations was formed to prevent the outbreak of another major war?

- A. FIFA
- B. the United Nations
- C. the League of Nations
- D. the World Bank

48. Which of the following best describes the Harlem Renaissance?

- A. the construction of the Harlem neighborhood in the early seventeenth century
- B. a literary and artistic movement in Harlem in the 1920s
- C. the gentrification of the Harlem neighborhood during the early 2000s
- D. an economic recovery in Manhattan following the Great Depression

49. Which of the following religious groups was most responsible for the settlement of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in the 1630s?

- A. Puritans
- B. Huguenots
- C. Mormons
- D. Quakers

50. Which labor union, led for decades by Samuel Gompers, was created in 1886 as an alliance of craft unions dissatisfied with the Knights of Labor?

- A. the Industrial Workers of the World
- B. the Molly Maguires
- C. the United Mine Workers
- D. the American Federation of Labor