

World History to 1550

Exam -24

1. "The Gordian Knot" has become an expression indicating a problem that is complex and difficult to unravel. It comes from the legend that \_\_\_\_\_ "untied" the knot by cutting it.

- A.  
Genghis Kahn
- B.  
King Solomon
- C.  
Julius Caesar
- D.  
Alexander the Great

2. Athens was a city in Greece with high levels of cultural influence, but whose political power became limited after being defeated by \_\_\_\_\_ in the Peloponnesian War.

- A.  
Macedonia
- B.  
Carthage
- C.  
Sparta
- D.  
Persia

3. The first Emperor of Rome and enforcer of the "Pax Romana" was \_\_\_\_\_

- A.  
Augustus Caesar
- B.  
Charlemagne
- C.  
Julius Caesar
- D.  
Romulus

4. Vasco Nunez de Balboa discovered \_\_\_\_\_ and claimed it for Spain.

- A.  
the Pacific Ocean
- B.  
the Philippines
- C.  
Venezuela
- D.  
the Gulf of Mexico

5. Thomas a Becket was a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ in the 12th century, defending the church against the king. He gained notoriety after being murdered by 4 of the king's men.

- A.  
pope
- B.  
priest of an Anglican parish
- C.  
Archbishop of Canterbury
- D.  
prelate of London

6. The illegitimate son of Pope Alexander VI, this Italian was known for being a statesman, cardinal and general, but was infamous for his cruelty.

A.

Cesare Borgia

B.

Niccolo Machiavelli

C.

Piero Soderini

D.

Giovanni Botero

7. "Bread and circuses", a quote by a contemporary political observer, referred to \_\_\_\_\_ and described that entity's decline into a citizenry placated by food and flash, rather than interested in substantive issues of statehood.

A.

the Greek city-state of Athens

B.

the Frankish Kingdom

C.

the Sung Dynasty

D.

the Roman Empire

8. The wheel and ox-drawn plow were features of this age, which preceded the Iron Age.

A.

Bronze Age

B.

Copper Age

C.

Stone Age

D.

Paleolithic Age

9. A rival to Rome before 0 AD, this North African city featured the general Hannibal and was defeated in the Third Punic War.

A.

Tunis

B.

Cairo

C.

Alexandria

D.

Carthage

10. This first emperor of the Holy Roman Empire was held as a model for later Christian rulers, and remembered for encouraging education.

A.

Constantine

B.

Charlemagne

C.

Saint Peter

D.

Caligula

11. Romantically linked to both Julius Caesar and Mark Antony, this queen eventually committed suicide by asp.

- A.  
Helen of Troy
- B.  
Cassadra
- C.  
Nefertiti
- D.  
Cleopatra

12. Hernando Cortez was a Spanish explorer who arrived in \_\_\_\_\_ in the 16th century, spreading Catholicism, but also disease while establishing Spanish hegemony in the region.

- A.  
Mexico
- B.  
the Carribbean
- C.  
Venezuela
- D.  
Florida

13. Demosthenes was...

- A.  
a Roman general.
- B.  
the greatest orator of ancient Greece.
- C.  
part of Homer's intrepid band in The Odyssey.
- D.  
ruler of Carthage during the Second Punic War.

14. \_\_\_\_\_ was a Dutch scholar, Catholic priest and humanist of the early 16th century that satirized the excesses of the Catholic Church, but later attempted to mitigate aftereffects of the Reformation.

- A.  
Huldrych Zwingli
- B.  
William Farel
- C.  
John Calvin
- D.  
Desiderius Erasmus

15. A landed estate given by a lord to a vassal in return for the vassal's service.

- A.  
Commune
- B.  
Feif
- C.  
Appandage
- D.  
Sharecrop

16. Lady Godiva was an English noblewoman of the 11th century, best known for

- A. dalliances with French royalty.
- B. riding naked through Coventry to protest high taxes.
- C. requesting that her daughter be made head of state.
- D. conniving to unseat her husband by having him seduced.

17. Guilds might be said to be the forerunners of what modern type of organization?

- A. Municipal boards.
- B. Political parties.
- C. Sporting clubs.
- D. Trade unions.

18. A general from Carthage, known for taking 100,000 men with elephants from Spain to Italy in an attempt to conquer Rome. Though he failed, this logistical effort is considered one of the greatest troop movements in history.

- A. Trajan
- B. Hannibal
- C. Plutarch
- D. Tanit

19. The Battle of Hastings was won by \_\_\_\_\_ and paved the way for \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. William the Conqueror / the Norman conquest of England.
- B. England / a continued British resistance to the Germans.
- C. the Russians / the crushing of the November uprising.
- D. the French / continued French success in the Napoleonic Wars.

20. Declaring himself head of the church in England, this monarch ended England's time as a Catholic nation; it has been Protestant ever since.

- A. William I
- B. Richard I
- C. Edward IV
- D. Henry VIII

21. Herodotus was an ancient Greek, and is remembered primarily for for his...

- A.  
role as the first person to attempt a narrative history writing.
- B.  
role as advisor to Alexander the Great.
- C.  
sedition during the Peloponnesian War.
- D.  
coining of the phrase "bread and circuses", in derision of the Romans.

22. Joan of Arc helped rally the French to expel the English in this/these war(s), which ended in the 15th century.

- A.  
Saintonge War.
- B.  
Hundred Years' War.
- C.  
Seven Years' War.
- D.  
Napoleonic Wars.

23. The ides of March, or March 15, saw who assassinated?

- A.  
Henry IV of England
- B.  
Ivan VI of Muscov
- C.  
Julius Ceaser
- D.  
Phillip II of Macedon

24. This period followed the Bronze Age, and saw the development of hardened tools and weapons.

- A.  
Paleolithic Age
- B.  
Iron Age
- C.  
Neolithic Age
- D.  
Modern Age

25. Warned by the Senate to disband his army, this general instead crossed the Rubicon and declared himself dictator.

- A.  
Alexander the Great
- B.  
Augustus Caesar
- C.  
Marcus Aurelius
- D.  
Julius Caesar

26. Ferdinand Magellan is known for \_\_\_\_\_, though he died in the effort.

- A.  
seeking gold in Florida.
- B.

sailing around the earth.

C.

attempting to return unknown spices from India.

D.

finding Antarctica south of Argentina.

27. It can be said that this document is the stem from which the history of modern constitutional rights can be understood.

A.

Constitution of the Athenians.

B.

John Locke's Two Treatises of Government.

C.

The English Magna Carta.

D.

The Ten Commandments.

28. This empire flourished from its base in Timbuktu in the 13th and 14th centuries, and fostered Islamic learning during the European Middle Ages.

A.

Mali Empire.

B.

Rashidun Caliphate

C.

Mamluk Dynasty.

D.

Abbasid Caliphate.

29. The Battle of Marathon featured the \_\_\_\_\_, and was won by the former against overwhelming odds.

A.

English and French.

B.

Muslims and Byzantines.

C.

Greeks and Persians.

D.

Norwegians and Russians.

30. This Chinese Dynasty ran from the 14th to 17th centuries, and is noted for its expansion of Chinese commerce into Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia.

A.

Ming Dynasty.

B.

Han Dynasty.

C.

Yuan Dynasty.

D.

Tang Dynasty.

31. Beheaded by Henry VIII, this English statesman, humanist and author of Utopia is admired for putting principles above personal ambition, and is a saint of the Roman Catholic Church in England.

A.

Thomas Arundel

B.

Plegmund

- C.  
Thomas More
- D.  
William of Ockham

32. The Roman emperor infamous for persecuting Christians and killing his wife, mother and mistress, and allegedly burning his imperial city.

- A.  
Nero
- B.  
Tiberius
- C.  
Claudius
- D.  
Vitellius

33. What was the Norman Conquest?

- A.  
The relocation of the French monarchy into northern France.
- B.  
The Prussian defeat of France, leading to a reunified Germany.
- C.  
The overthrow of England by William I, leader of Normandy.
- D.  
A battle leading to the end of the Wars of Scottish Independence.

34. Thucydides wrote a remarkable chronicle of this conflict, which is still referenced in modern military theory.

- A.  
The Peloponnesian War
- B.  
The Hundred Years' War
- C.  
Gallic Wars
- D.  
First Punic War

35. Attempting to unite the country under the leadership of his city Athens, this leader was a promoter of democracy. His rule is sometimes referred to as the Golden Age of Greece, and he led the Greeks into battle against Sparta. He was killed in battle, and Athens came under Spartan hegemony.

- A.  
Plutarch
- B.  
Pericles
- C.  
Thucydides
- D.  
Hipparchos

36. This "eastern" empire came into conflict with ancient Greece, but was eventually defeated in the Battle of Marathon.

- A.  
Soga Japanese Empire
- B.  
Scythian Empire
- C.

Persian Empire  
D.  
Chaldean Empire

37. This ancient, sea-going nation in modern-day Lebanon and Israel was known for thriving trade, but is remembered for contributing an alphabet that was the basis for Hebrew and Arabic, and contributed to the eventual formation of the Etruscan alphabet.

- A.  
Persia
- B.  
Babylon
- C.  
Carthage
- D.  
Phoenicia

38. Francisco Pizarro is known for...

- A.  
following Cortez to Mexico and establishing governmental systems.
- B.  
overthrowing the Incas and establishing Spanish rule in Peru.
- C.  
entreatng King Ferdinand to allow Columbus to sail for Spain.
- D.  
leading the Children's Crusade to the Holy Land in the 13th century.

39. This intrepid Italian explorer visited the court of Kublai Khan and became a government official in China.

- A.  
Giovanni da Verrazzano
- B.  
Marco Polo
- C.  
Niccolo Machiavelli
- D.  
Lorenzo de Medici

40. This ancient theory of celestial movement that suggested that the planets, sun and stars were embedded in clear spheres and revolved around the Earth was proposed by

- A.  
Copernicus
- B.  
Epicures
- C.  
Ptolemy
- D.  
Socrates

41. The series of wars that eventually led to the defeat of Carthage by Rome.

- A.  
Peloponnesian War
- B.  
Punic Wars
- C.  
Ionian Revolts
- D.



## Trojan Wars

42. Romulus and Remus are legendary brothers that founded what empire?

- A.  
Roman
- B.  
Greek
- C.  
Persian
- D.  
Akkadian

43. Henry Tudor, father of Henry VIII, led the House of Lancaster to victory over the House of York to gain total control of England in the 15th century in the conflict known as the...

- A.  
Norman Conquest
- B.  
Cornish Rebellion
- C.  
Wars of the Roses
- D.  
First Baron's War

44. This Kurdish muslim conquered Jerusalem from the Christians in the 12th century, and is known for his military genius and generosity.

- A.  
Suleiman the Magnificent
- B.  
'Ali ibn Abi Talib
- C.  
Selim the Excellent
- D.  
Saladin

45. Girolamo Savonarola was eventually executed for

- A.  
inciting fervor against church corruption.
- B.  
suggesting that the Italian city-states unify under secular authority.
- C.  
sedition against the Medici family.
- D.  
attempting to declare himself Pope, after becoming leader of Florence.

46. Which of the following is not typically considered one of the 7 wonders of the ancient world?

- A.  
Colossus of Rhodes
- B.  
Temple of Diana
- C.  
Tomb of Mausolus
- D.  
Stonehenge

47. Spartacus was a \_\_\_\_\_ who defeated several \_\_\_\_\_ armies in battle before being crushed.

- A.  
Greek general / Persian
- B.  
Roman slave / Roman
- C.  
Greek demigod / Carthage
- D.  
Roman emperor / Gaul

48. 1066 is considered an important date in human history for what reason?

- A.  
The fall of the French monarchy
- B.  
Creation of the Muscovy state in Russia
- C.  
Conquest of England by the Normans
- D.  
First defeat of Byzantine army by Muslim Arabs.

49. This leader of the Spanish Inquisition has had his name come to be synonymous with ruthless persecution, especially against Jews.

- A.  
Pope Gregory IX
- B.  
Ferrant Martinez
- C.  
Alonso de Hojeda
- D.  
Tomas de Torquemada

50. The Vandals were from \_\_\_\_\_ and did what many before had failed to do: \_\_\_\_\_.

- A.  
Spain / defeat the Muslim armies massed in the Iberian.
- B.  
England / drive out the Normans.
- C.  
Prussia / defeat the French and unify Germany.
- D.  
Northern Europe / sack Rome.

51. The term "vestal virgin" dates back to...

- A.  
early Christian writings regarding the return of Christ.
- B.  
Roman virgins that tended the flame of the goddess Vesta.
- C.  
Jewish maidens that served in Babylonian courts.
- D.  
French women that were used by the monarchy in political deals.