

US History Bee – A Set Qualifying Examination

Name _____

School _____

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. All of the following are true of the Second Continental Congress EXCEPT

- A. It approved the ratification of the Constitution in 1789
- B. It was responsible for adopting the Declaration of Independence in 1776
- C. It appointed George Washington to be commander of the Continental Army
- D. It was the primary governing body of the American colonies and the new United States from 1775 to 1781

2. In 1947, Secretary of State George C. Marshall advanced his namesake 'plan' to do which of the following in post-war Europe?

- A. Give aid, including arms and money, to nations fighting communist insurgency
- B. Invade East Germany to expel the USSR
- C. Begin a system of collective security agreements
- D. Establish a system of economic assistance to help Western European nations rebuild their economies

3. Which of the following men, a dark horse candidate from New Hampshire, won the presidency in 1852?

- A. Millard Fillmore
- B. Martin Van Buren
- C. Franklin Pierce
- D. Zachary Taylor

4. Roger Williams, John Wheelwright and Thomas Hooker are all significant figures in colonial America for which of the following reasons?

- A. They were dissenters who founded important settlements in Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Connecticut respectively
- B. They were early plantation owners in the Jamestown colony
- C. They were among the leading voices for independence in the Continental Congress
- D. They were leading generals for the British in the French and Indian War

5. The city of Chichen Itza in modern-day Mexico was built by which of the following Mesoamerican cultures?

- A. Pueblo
- B. Maya
- C. Inca
- D. Aztec

6. Which of the following popular and controversial books, written by Bruce Barton in 1925, portrayed Jesus as the 'founder of modern business' and was very significant to Protestantism in 1920s America?

- A. *Wealth*
- B. *The Last Tycoon*
- C. *What Social Classes Owe to Each Other*
- D. *The Man Nobody Knows*

7. In May of 1970, four unarmed students protesting the bombing of Cambodia were shot and killed by National Guard troops at which university in Ohio?

- A. Kenyon College
- B. Miami University
- C. Kent State
- D. Ohio State

8. The Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution did which of the following?

- A. guaranteed voting rights for freedmen
- B. called for direct election of United States Senators
- C. defined national citizenship
- D. abolished slavery

9. In 1680, a Native American leader named Pope led what rebellion against the Spanish in present-day New Mexico?

- A. the Pequot War
- B. King Phillip's War
- C. the Pueblo Revolt
- D. the German Coast Uprising

10. Which of the following senators was responsible for leading anti-Communist 'witch hunts' in the 1950s, including investigations of the State Department and the US Army?

- A. Robert F. Kennedy
- B. Robert La Follette
- C. Strom Thurmond
- D. Joseph McCarthy

11. All of the following were significant decisions handed down by the United States Supreme Court under Chief Justice Earl Warren between 1953 and 1969 EXCEPT

- A. *Plessy v. Ferguson*
- B. *Brown v. Board of Education*
- C. *Miranda v. Arizona*
- D. *Loving v. Virginia*

12. Which of the following best describes the 1859 raid on Harper's Ferry in what is now West Virginia?

- A. It was an attempt by abolitionist John Brown to incite an armed slave revolt in Virginia.
- B. It was part of a plot to kidnap the newly elected president Abraham Lincoln on the way to his inauguration.
- C. It was a raid by Virginia officials on a major outpost of the Underground Railroad.
- D. It was part of an attempt by the United States to deprive the newly formed Confederacy of badly needed arms and supplies.

13. Which of the following rose to fame for her exploits in support of the prohibition movement, including using a hatchet to destroy Kansas saloons in the late nineteenth century?

- A. Ellen Gates Starr
- B. Lucy Stone
- C. Carrie A. Nation
- D. Jane Addams

14. In 1803, Robert Livingston and James Monroe signed a treaty with France resulting in the purchase of what territory by the United States?

- A. Cuba
- B. Florida
- C. Quebec
- D. Louisiana

15. Which of the following assumed the presidency on the 1923 death of Warren G. Harding?

- A. Woodrow Wilson
- B. William Howard Taft
- C. Calvin Coolidge
- D. Herbert Hoover

16. Which of the following best describes the result of the presidential election of 1800?

- A. John Adams won a second term in the presidency over Thomas Jefferson.
- B. James Madison gained the presidency over a weak slate of Federalist candidates.
- C. Alexander Hamilton was elected to his only term as president.
- D. Thomas Jefferson won a disputed election over John Adams and his own running mate, Aaron Burr.

17. Rosa Parks, Claudette Colvin, and Martin Luther King, Jr. were all key figures in what 1955-1956 civil rights action?

- A. 'Freedom Summer'
- B. the integration of Little Rock Central High School
- C. the Montgomery bus boycott
- D. the 'March on Washington'

18. The popular mid-nineteenth century idea that the United States had the God-given right to expand its territory in North America was known by what name?

- A. the Social Gospel
- B. Imperialism
- C. Manifest Destiny
- D. Social Darwinism

19. The Equal Rights Amendment, submitted to states for ratification in the early 1970s, would have done which of the following had it been added to the Constitution?

- A. provided additional benefits for American veterans, especially those returning from the Vietnam War
- B. provided additional rights for those Americans between the ages of 18 and 21, including the right to vote
- C. guaranteed equal rights for American women
- D. strengthened 1960s civil rights legislation for African Americans with a new Constitutional amendment

20. Which of the following products was made using pioneering manufacturing techniques like the moving assembly line beginning in 1908?

- A. the Ford Model T
- B. Pullman Palace Cars
- C. Fulton steamships
- D. the Rolls Royce Silver Ghost

21. Carrie Chapman Catt, Victoria Woodhull and Susan B. Anthony were all leaders in which twentieth century American social and political movement?

- A. socialism
- B. anti-war protests
- C. women's suffrage
- D. prohibition

22. During the Gulf War in 1991, the United States led a coalition of 35 nations in response to what incident in the region in 1990?

- A. Iraq's invasion and takeover of Kuwait
- B. the ongoing war between Iran and Iraq
- C. the worsening humanitarian crisis in the Syrian civil war
- D. an intensive bombing campaign by Israel against Lebanon

23. Which of the following best describes Jim Crow laws in the United States?

- A. Laws passed immediately following the Civil War to force freed slaves into yearly labor contracts, but eliminated by constitutional amendments and civil rights legislation in the 1870s
- B. The strict policy of removal of Native Americans to western reservations in the nineteenth century.
- C. A system of legal segregation and disenfranchisement against African Americans in the United States from the late nineteenth century to the 1960s.
- D. The effort by some states to end discrimination against immigrants and foreign-born Americans in the 1920s and 1930s.

24. Which of the following colonial rebellions began over changes in policy towards Native Americans in colonial Virginia and resulted in the burning of Jamestown in 1676?

- A. the Regulator Rebellion
- B. the German Coast Rebellion
- C. Whiskey Rebellion
- D. Bacon's Rebellion

25. Which of the following, best described as consolidating control of each step in the production of one particular good or commodity, was pioneered by Andrew Carnegie in the late nineteenth century for the production of steel?

- A. vertical integration
- B. holding companies
- C. horizontal integration
- D. pools

26. The first battle(s) of the American Revolution were fought in 1775 at which of the following locations?
- Trenton
 - Saratoga
 - Lexington and Concord
 - Bunker Hill and Breed's Hill
27. Which of the following is true of the US presidential election of 2008?
- It was one of three times since 2000 that the winner of the popular vote did not win the presidency.
 - Candidate John McCain, who was born in the US Panama Canal Zone, was declared not to be a 'natural-born citizen' under the Constitution.
 - President Obama won over 69.5 million popular votes, which is the largest number for any candidate in American history.
 - President Obama became only the fourth candidate to receive over 500 electoral college votes.
28. President Franklin Roosevelt referred to which of the following events as 'a date which will live in infamy'?
- the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor
 - the atomic bombing of Hiroshima
 - the D-Day invasion of France
 - the sinking of the *USS Ruben James*
29. Alexander Hamilton's financial plan for the new United States included all of the following EXCEPT
- using the US Army to take over fur trading posts controlled by the British
 - establishing a national bank
 - raising taxes on certain goods, including whiskey
 - creating a stable national currency
30. All of the following were part of Lyndon Johnson's Great Society EXCEPT
- the creation of the Medicare and Medicaid programs
 - the foundation of the Public Broadcasting Service
 - increased funding for public schools and universities
 - escalation of troop deployment to South Vietnam
31. The term 'Columbian Exchange' is best described by which of the following?
- Another name for the 'triangle trade' of the 17th and 18th centuries between European countries and their New World colonies
 - The system of land ownership in the Spanish North American colonies in the 16th century
 - The transfer of plants, animals, technology and diseases between the Old World and the New World in the period following the voyage of Christopher Columbus in 1492
 - The intricate system of trading networks between Mesoamerican peoples.
32. Founded in 1565, which of the following is the oldest permanent European settlement in what is now the continental United States?
- New Orleans, LA
 - St. Augustine, FL
 - Plymouth, MA
 - Jamestown, VA
33. Lewis Powell, George Atzerodt and John Wilkes Booth were all participants in which of the following events?
- the plot to assassinate Abraham Lincoln
 - the kidnapping of Charles Lindbergh, Jr.
 - the foundation of the Ku Klux Klan
 - the assassination of James Garfield
34. Harriet Beecher Stowe is best known as the author of which of the following nineteenth century novels?
- A Century of Dishonor*
 - Looking Backward*
 - Silent Spring*
 - Uncle Tom's Cabin*
35. All of the following men commanded the Army of the Potomac during the Civil War EXCEPT
- Albert Sidney Johnston
 - George McClellan
 - Ambrose Burnside
 - George Meade
36. In August 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered what famous speech during the March for Jobs and Freedom?
- 'I Have a Dream'
 - 'The Ballot or the Bullet'
 - 'Beyond Vietnam'
 - the Poor People's Campaign
37. Progressive reformers of the early twentieth century advocated all of the following EXCEPT
- direct election of United States Senators
 - reform of city and state governments
 - large-scale public works projects to stimulate the American economy
 - regulation of corporations in the public interest
38. In January 1918, Woodrow Wilson laid out a statement of principles for peace negotiations in World War I, including respect for national borders and freedom of the seas, known collectively by what name?
- the Bretton Woods system
 - the Atlantic Charter
 - the Bill of Rights
 - the Fourteen Points
39. William Lloyd Garrison, publisher of the newspaper *The Liberator*, was a notable advocate of which of the following?
- temperance
 - abolition of slavery
 - the utopian community at Brook Farm
 - transcendentalism

40. Which of the following best describes the First United States Volunteer Cavalry, better known as the 'Rough Riders'?
- They were a group of soldiers commanded by Leonard Wood and Theodore Roosevelt who fought with distinction in the Spanish-American War.
 - They set out on an expedition in 1916 to hunt down the Mexican leader Pancho Villa.
 - They were among the first American troops to invade Normandy on D-Day.
 - They were the first American troops to land in Europe and fight in World War I.
41. Which of the following men served as Postmaster General of the United States, Governor of Pennsylvania, Ambassador to France, and delegate to the Continental Congress during his long and distinguished political career?
- John Rutledge
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - George Mason
 - Benjamin Franklin
42. Franklin Roosevelt's Good Neighbor policy can best be described by which of the following?
- A series of loan guarantees to bail out the Mexican Peso after an economic collapse.
 - An agreement to defend Cuba against communist takeover.
 - A policy of non-intervention and non-interference in the affairs of Latin American nations.
 - A free trade pact with Canada and Mexico.
43. All of the following were part of President Ronald Reagan's economic plan in the early 1980s EXCEPT
- monetary policies to control high inflation
 - large income tax cuts for individuals
 - sharp increases in the corporate tax rate
 - reduction of government regulation
44. Charles Grandison Finney, Henry Ward Beecher and William Miller were all major figures in what American religious revival movement of the early nineteenth century?
- the Enlightenment
 - the Second Great Awakening
 - deism
 - the Social Gospel movement
45. Which of the following was partly a result of Shays' Rebellion in Massachusetts in 1786?
- Political leaders called for strengthening the Articles of Confederation and raising a large national army
 - Leaders at the Constitutional Convention the next year advocated creating a chief executive to deal with national crises in the future
 - British diplomats were expelled from Boston for inciting the rebellion
 - Federalists called for America to abandon their wartime alliance with France
46. October 29, 1929, also known as 'Black Tuesday', was what type of event in American history?
- a stock market crash
 - a major terrorist attack
 - an attack on a major American military base
 - the landfall of a category 5 hurricane in the southern US
47. What religious group was primarily responsible for the early settlement of the Pennsylvania colony in the late seventeenth century?
- Puritans
 - Huguenots
 - Quakers
 - Catholics
48. In 1981, President Ronald Reagan fired over 10,000 federal workers in which of the following industries for staging a strike that he called 'a peril to national safety'?
- national park rangers
 - railroad conductors
 - air traffic controllers
 - airline pilots
49. Which American politician defended his reputation in a nationally televised 1952 speech in which he made reference to his family dog, Checkers?
- Adlai Stevenson
 - Richard Nixon
 - Robert Taft
 - John Kennedy
50. On June 6, 1944, popularly known as 'D-Day', Allied forces in Europe did which of the following?
- Began an amphibious assault on beaches in the Normandy region of France.
 - Won a major victory over German tank forces in North Africa.
 - Captured Berlin, thus ending the European theater of World War II.
 - Began the Allied invasion of Sicily and the liberation of Italy.