

2018-2019 US History Bee - B Set National Qualifying Exam

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

Email: _____

(please print very neatly so we can email your score to you!)

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, adopted in 1933, shortened the 'lame duck' period for Congress and the president?

- A. the Fifteenth Amendment
- B. the Eleventh Amendment
- C. the Twentieth Amendment
- D. the First Amendment

2. Which of the following describes the headright system in colonial America?

- A. the system of slavery practiced in the American colonies
- B. grants of land given to settlers in some English colonies
- C. the method by which French colonies were surveyed and organized
- D. the Spanish practice of commending land and natives to nobles

3. Anne Hutchinson was exiled from Massachusetts Bay Colony for which of these reasons?

- A. she tried to overthrow the colonial governor
- B. she was convicted of witchcraft
- C. she advocated dissenting religious views
- D. she voted illegally in an election

4. Which of the following was removed from command of American forces in Korea by President Harry S. Truman in 1951?

- A. George S. Patton
- B. Omar Bradley
- C. Dwight D. Eisenhower
- D. Douglas MacArthur

5. The publication of *Unsafe at Any Speed* by Ralph Nader is considered a catalyst for which of the following in American history?

- A. the beginning of the abolitionist movement
- B. the birth of the modern environmental movement
- C. improvement in the treatment of Native Americans in the nineteenth century
- D. an emphasis on increasing the safety of American automobiles

6. Which of the following lost the 2000 presidential election to George W. Bush?

- A. Al Gore
- B. Michael Dukakis
- C. Dan Quayle
- D. Paul Tsongas

7. Which of the following Supreme Court cases found the 'grandfather clause' unconstitutional?

- A. *Hernandez v. Texas*
- B. *Brown v. Board of Education*
- C. *Guinn v. US*
- D. *Sweatt v. Painter*

8. All of these were part of Woodrow Wilson's New Freedom EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. passing an income tax
- B. banking and finance reform
- C. increased conservation of natural resources
- D. regulating business practices

9. Gustavus Swift and Philip Armour were wealthy Chicago industrialists who made fortunes in which of the following industries in the late nineteenth century?

- A. railroads
- B. automobiles
- C. meatpacking and slaughterhouses
- D. steamboats

10. The Three-fifths compromise addressed which of the following issues at the Constitutional convention?

- A. the counting of slaves for the purposes of taxation and representation
- B. the composition of the Congress
- C. the power of the federal government to tax citizens
- D. the ability of the federal government to regulate interstate commerce

11. Which of the following granted parcels of land in the West to people willing to settle and improve the land for a period of time?

- A. the Northwest Ordinance
- B. the Homestead Act
- C. the Morrill Land Grant Act
- D. the Land Ordinance of 1785

12. The Gadsden Purchase was designed to do which of the following?

- A. organize Kansas and Nebraska into territories
- B. prevent slavery in any territory acquired from Mexico due to the Mexican War
- C. further the construction of a southern transcontinental railroad
- D. make peace with Native American tribes on the Great Plains

13. All of these are true of the Erie Canal EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it helped further industrialization in the northern United States
- B. population centers grew along the canal route in New York
- C. it decreased shipping costs for goods in the region by as much as 95%
- D. it was funded entirely by the federal government

14. The case of *Schenck v. US* involved which of the following principles?
- judicial review
 - the sanctity of contracts
 - the supremacy of the federal government over the states
 - the ability of the government to limit free speech
15. A strong belief in the power of the individual, personal freedom, and the concept of the 'Over-soul' characterize which of the following cultural and philosophical movements in American history?
- progressivism
 - Calvinism
 - pragmatism
 - transcendentalism
16. The veto of the Maysville Road Bill and the signing of the Indian Removal Act were actions undertaken by what American president?
- James Madison
 - James Monroe
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - Andrew Jackson
17. Which of the following was originally created to provide collective security for the United States and its European allies during the Cold War?
- SALT
 - NATO
 - the 'Hotline Agreement'
 - the ABM treaty
18. Lyndon Johnson became president in 1963 following the assassination of which of the following presidents?
- Richard Nixon
 - Franklin Roosevelt
 - John Kennedy
 - William McKinley
19. 'Yellow journalism' had an influence on which of the following events in American history?
- the dropping of the atomic bombs at the end of World War II
 - the outbreak of the Civil War
 - US entry into World War I
 - the beginning of the Spanish-American War
20. Which of the following was ceded to the United States by Spain as a result of the Treaty of Paris of 1898?
- Hawaii
 - Cuba
 - Florida
 - Puerto Rico
21. Which of the following conflicts began when a company of Virginia militia commanded by George Washington fought a skirmish against French Canadian troops in what is now Pennsylvania?
- the Pequot War
 - the War of Jenkins' Ear
 - King Philip's War
 - the French and Indian War
22. Which of the following was most likely a cause of the Great Depression?
- the Hawley-Smoot Tariff
 - failures of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal
 - a drop in consumer spending and demand for manufactured goods
 - the beginning of World War II
23. Which of the following American authors created notable works of satire and humor, in addition to classic novels like *Tom Sawyer*?
- Nathaniel Hawthorne
 - Mark Twain
 - James Fenimore Cooper
 - Herman Melville
24. Which of these women is, with Cesar Chavez, a co-founder of the United Farm Workers and was one of the organizers of the Delano grape strike in 1965?
- Ann Richards
 - Anita Hill
 - Rosa Parks
 - Dolores Huerta
25. Which of the following was the purpose of the Pendleton Civil Service Act of 1883?
- the reorganization of the United States military and the creation of the Department of Defense
 - the increased segregation of federal government employment
 - reform of federal government hiring practices
 - the establishment of a new system for electing United States Senators
26. Nat Turner is most notable for which of the following in nineteenth century America?
- leading the Exodusters into the American West
 - establishing a utopian community in New York
 - leading a slave revolt in Virginia in 1831
 - as the founder of the Adventist movement
27. Which of the following was known as the 'Great Compromiser' in nineteenth century American politics?
- Abraham Lincoln
 - Daniel Webster
 - Henry Clay
 - John Calhoun
28. For which of the following reasons did Spiro Agnew leave the vice presidency in 1973?
- He died in office
 - He was indicted by Watergate special counsel Archibald Cox
 - He pled no contest to a count of tax evasion from his time as governor of Maryland
 - He was impeached by the House of Representatives
29. Amelia Earhart and Charles Lindbergh are American pioneers in which of the following fields?
- aviation
 - economics
 - medicine
 - athletics

30. Which woman, a notable abolitionist and civil rights advocate, delivered the 'Ain't I a Woman?' speech at a women's rights convention in Ohio in 1851?
- Sojourner Truth
 - Sally Hemings
 - Phillis Wheatley
 - Harriet Beecher Stowe
31. William S. Burroughs, Allen Ginsberg and Jack Kerouac were all leading members of which of the following American literary movements?
- the 'Lost Generation'
 - the Harlem Renaissance
 - the 'Beat Generation'
 - the Hudson River School
32. Which of the following won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950 for his work mediating the Arab-Israeli conflict?
- A. Philip Randolph
 - Martin Luther King, Jr.
 - Ralph Bunche
 - Bayard Rustin
33. For which of these is Nellie Bly most notable?
- as a radio preacher in the 1920s
 - as the author of *How the Other Half Lives*, an expose of urban poverty in New York City
 - as the first woman in the Cabinet, serving as Franklin Roosevelt's Secretary of Labor
 - as the author of *Ten Days in a Mad-House* and as a reporter for the *New York World*
34. Which of the following was the major objective of the Gulf War fought in the early 1990s by the United States and its coalition of allies?
- the deposition of the regime of Saddam Hussein in Iraq
 - protection of Israel from a planned Iranian
 - intervention in the decade-long Iran-Iraq War
 - the liberation of Kuwait from Iraqi forces
35. The 'Good Neighbor' policy of Franklin Roosevelt brought an end to American intervention in which of these areas?
- North Africa
 - China
 - Latin America
 - Canada
36. The most important economic activities of colonial New England were which of the following?
- mining large deposits of gold and silver
 - shipping, fishing and whaling
 - tobacco cultivation
 - fur trading along the Great Lakes
37. Which of the following films helped usher in the age of 'talking' motion pictures due to its massive success in the late 1920s?
- Singin' in the Rain*
 - The Jazz Singer*
 - The Great Train Robbery*
 - Birth of a Nation*
38. Which of the following is widely regarded as a turning-point battle in the American Revolution?
- the Battle of Antietam
 - the Battle of Saratoga
 - the Battle of Gettysburg
 - the Tet Offensive
39. The Embargo Act of 1807 was passed in response to which of the following?
- the destruction of the *Caroline* by British warships
 - the continuation of the Quasi-War with France despite the Convention of 1800
 - the ongoing Napoleonic Wars in Europe and the impressment of American sailors
 - the expulsion of the Acadians from Canada by the British
40. Which of these best describes the 'Silent Sentinels'?
- a group of women who protested outside of the Wilson White House to advocate the cause of suffrage
 - the women who organized the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848
 - opponents of the Equal Rights Amendment in the 1970s
 - Vietnam War protesters at the 1968 Democratic National Convention
41. Which of the following was NOT a tax imposed on the American colonies by the British before the American Revolution?
- the Stamp Act
 - the Townshend Duties
 - the Sugar Act
 - the Coercive Acts
42. Which of the following treaties resulted in the cession of Florida to the United States?
- the Webster-Ashburton Treaty
 - the Carter-Torrijos Treaty
 - the Adams-Onis Treaty
 - the Kellogg-Briand Pact
43. Alexander Hamilton proposed which of the following methods to fund his 'financial plan' during George Washington's administration?
- tariffs and excise taxes
 - heavy taxes on businesses and corporations
 - the sale of lands granted to Native Americans by colonial treaties
 - a personal income tax
44. The first of Franklin Roosevelt's 'Fireside Chats' in March of 1933 was intended to address which of the following issues?
- the 'lend-lease' act proposed to aid Great Britain
 - the bombing of Pearl Harbor by Japanese forces
 - the banking crisis caused by the Great Depression
 - the rise of the Nazi movement in Germany

45. HUAC and Joseph McCarthy's Senate subcommittee targeted which of the following in Cold War America?

- A. organized crime
- B. corruption in state and municipal governments
- C. communists in the government and society
- D. conservative politicians

46. Protests in Selma, Alabama in 1965 were primarily concerned with which of the following issues?

- A. labor issues on Southern farms
- B. voting rights for African Americans
- C. opposition to the Vietnam War
- D. desegregation of interstate bus service

47. Babe Ruth was a popular figure in which of the following areas of American culture in the 1920s?

- A. baseball
- B. music
- C. boxing
- D. radio preaching

48. Which of these best describes the 'domino theory' in Cold War America?

- A. allowing communist infiltration of federal government agencies would result in the collapse of American society
- B. the loss of one country to communism would result in communism's spread to neighboring countries
- C. free trade policies would strengthen capitalist European economies
- D. free speech should be curtailed to protect the nation

49. The Battle of Gettysburg is significant for which of the following reasons?

- A. it enabled Abraham Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation
- B. it marked the only major battle of the war to be fought in the North
- C. it resulted in the immediate end of the Civil War
- D. the Confederate victory drove the Union to consider peace talks

50. Which of the following was responsible for the invention of the single-wire telegraph?

- A. Samuel Morse
- B. Thomas Edison
- C. George Westinghouse
- D. Alexander Graham Bell