

World History Basics

World History · Practice Test · 25 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with developing the first form of writing, cuneiform?

- A) Ancient Egypt
- B) Ancient Greece
- C) Mesopotamia
- D) Indus Valley Civilization

2. Who was the first Emperor of Rome?

- A) Julius Caesar
- B) Nero
- C) Augustus
- D) Constantine

3. The Renaissance, a period of great artistic and intellectual revival, began in which European country?

- A) France
- B) England
- C) Spain
- D) Italy

4. What was the primary reason for the construction of the Great Wall of China?

- A) To facilitate trade
- B) To mark territory
- C) To defend against invasions
- D) As a religious monument

5. Who is known for leading the Protestant Reformation and writing the Ninety-five Theses?

- A) John Calvin
- B) Martin Luther
- C) Huldrych Zwingli
- D) Desiderius Erasmus

6. The Age of Exploration was a period when Europeans began to explore the rest of the world. Which explorer is famous for reaching the Americas in 1492?

- A) Ferdinand Magellan
- B) Vasco da Gama
- C) Christopher Columbus
- D) Marco Polo

7. The Industrial Revolution, which began in the late 18th century, was characterized by a shift from agrarian economies to what?

- A) Service-based economies
- B) Manufacturing and machine production
- C) Information technology
- D) Subsistence farming

8. What event is often considered the start of World War I?

- A) The bombing of Pearl Harbor
- B) The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
- C) The invasion of Poland
- D) The Treaty of Versailles

9. Who was the leader of the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia in 1917?

- A) Joseph Stalin
- B) Leon Trotsky
- C) Vladimir Lenin
- D) Mikhail Gorbachev

10. The Cold War was a geopolitical struggle primarily between which two superpowers?

- A) United States and China
- B) United States and Soviet Union
- C) United Kingdom and France
- D) Germany and Japan

11. In which ancient civilization were the pyramids of Giza built?

- A) Mesopotamia
- B) Ancient Greece
- C) Ancient Rome
- D) Ancient Egypt

12. Who was the Carthaginian general who famously crossed the Alps with elephants to fight Rome during the Second Punic War?

- A) Scipio Africanus
- B) Hannibal Barca
- C) Julius Caesar
- D) Alexander the Great

13. The Magna Carta, a charter of rights, was signed in England in which year?

- A) 1066
- B) 1215
- C) 1492
- D) 1776

14. Which empire was known for its elaborate system of roads and its leader Ashoka the Great, who converted to Buddhism?

- A) Persian Empire
- B) Mauryan Empire
- C) Han Dynasty
- D) Roman Empire

15. The invention of the printing press by Johannes Gutenberg in the 15th century had a significant impact on the spread of what?

- A) Religious texts
- B) Scientific knowledge and ideas
- C) Both A and B
- D) Military strategies

16. What was the primary goal of the Silk Road?

- A) Military conquest
- B) Religious pilgrimage
- C) Trade and cultural exchange
- D) Exploration of new lands

17. The French Revolution, which began in 1789, aimed to overthrow the monarchy and establish what?

- A) A dictatorship
- B) A republic
- C) An empire
- D) A theocracy

18. Who is credited with the theory of relativity and developed the equation $E=mc^2$?

- A) Isaac Newton
- B) Galileo Galilei
- C) Albert Einstein
- D) Nikola Tesla

19. The United Nations was founded after World War II to promote what?

- A) Global warfare
- B) International cooperation and peace
- C) Economic isolation
- D) Cultural dominance

20. The Byzantine Empire was the continuation of which earlier empire?

- A) Persian Empire
- B) Greek Empire
- C) Roman Empire
- D) Ottoman Empire

21. What major event marked the end of the feudal system in Japan?

- A) The Meiji Restoration
- B) The Sengoku period
- C) The Edo period
- D) The Heian period

22. The voyages of Captain James Cook in the 18th century led to the European exploration and mapping of which region?

- A) Africa
- B) North America
- C) Australia and the Pacific Islands
- D) South America

23. Which pharaoh is most famous for his tomb being discovered largely intact in the Valley of the Kings?

- A) Ramesses II
- B) Akhenaten
- C) Tutankhamun
- D) Hatshepsut

24. The Magna Carta was signed by King John of England in response to demands from which group?

- A) The clergy
- B) The common people
- C) The barons
- D) Foreign rulers

25. The concept of democracy, meaning 'rule by the people,' originated in which ancient city-state?

- A) Sparta
- B) Rome
- C) Athens
- D) Corinth