

Exploration and Discovery

History And Geography · Answer Key · 25 Questions

1. Which explorer led the first expedition to successfully circumnavigate the globe, completed in 1522?

- A) Vasco da Gama
- B) Ferdinand Magellan**
- C) James Cook
- D) Christopher Columbus

2. In 1911, which explorer became the first to reach the Geographic South Pole?

- A) Robert Falcon Scott
- B) Ernest Shackleton
- C) Roald Amundsen**
- D) Douglas Mawson

3. What was the primary goal of the Lewis and Clark expedition commissioned by Thomas Jefferson in 1804?

- A) To establish colonies in Alaska
- B) To map the Louisiana Purchase and find a water route to the Pacific**
- C) To convert indigenous tribes to Christianity
- D) To discover gold in the Rocky Mountains

4. Which mountain range was Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay the first to successfully summit in 1953?

- A) K2
- B) Mount Everest**
- C) Annapurna
- D) Kangchenjunga

5. Which explorer is credited with being the first European to encounter the Pacific Ocean while crossing the Isthmus of Panama in 1513?

- A) Hernán Cortés
- B) Vasco Núñez de Balboa**
- C) Francisco Pizarro
- D) Amerigo Vespucci

6. The 'Age of Discovery' was heavily influenced by which country's early maritime advancements under Prince Henry the Navigator?

- A) Spain
- B) Portugal**
- C) England
- D) France

7. In 1960, who were the two men that descended to the bottom of the Mariana Trench in the bathyscaphe Trieste?

- A) Jacques Cousteau and Sylvia Earle
- B) Don Walsh and Jacques Piccard**
- C) Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin
- D) William Beebe and Otis Barton

8. Which explorer spent years searching for the Northwest Passage and eventually died during his final 1845 expedition?

- A) John Franklin**
- B) Henry Hudson
- C) Martin Frobisher
- D) James Ross

9. The Silk Road was an ancient network of trade routes primarily linking China with which region?

- A) The Americas
- B) The Mediterranean**
- C) Sub-Saharan Africa
- D) Australia

10. Which 19th-century explorer is famous for his extensive travels in Central Asia and his quest to find the source of the Nile?

- A) David Livingstone**
- B) Richard Francis Burton
- C) Henry Morton Stanley
- D) John Hanning Speke

11. What is the name of the strait located between Russia and Alaska that explorers historically sought as a maritime route?

- A) Magellan Strait
- B) Bering Strait**
- C) Davis Strait
- D) Torres Strait

12. Which famous botanist and explorer accompanied James Cook on his first voyage aboard the HMS Endeavour?

A) Joseph Banks

B) Charles Darwin

C) Alexander von Humboldt

D) Carl Linnaeus

13. What expedition, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, was notably aided by the Shoshone guide Sacagawea?

A) Corps of Discovery

B) Arctic Expedition

C) Great Trigonometrical Survey

D) Voyage of the Beagle

14. Which explorer is officially recognized as the first person to reach the North Pole in 1909?

A) Robert Peary

B) Frederick Cook

C) Matthew Henson

D) Richard Byrd

15. In what year did the Apollo 11 mission successfully land the first humans on the Moon?

A) 1967

B) 1969

C) 1971

D) 1973

16. The HMS Beagle, famous for carrying Charles Darwin on his scientific expedition, primarily focused on mapping which continent's coastline?

A) Africa

B) South America

C) Asia

D) Australia

17. Which explorer completed the first solo non-stop circumnavigation of the globe in 1969?

A) Robin Knox-Johnston

B) Francis Chichester

C) Bernard Moitessier

D) Joshua Slocum

18. What major geographical feature did Ibn Battuta travel across extensively during his 30-year journey throughout the 14th century?

A) The Atlantic Ocean

B) The Dar al-Islam

C) The Andes Mountains

D) The Arctic Circle

19. Who was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932?

A) Beryl Markham

B) Amelia Earhart

C) Jacqueline Cochran

D) Harriet Quimby

20. The 'Great Trigonometrical Survey' was a project that aimed to accurately map which country?

A) India

B) Brazil

C) Canada

D) Australia

21. Which desert did explorer Wilfred Thesiger famously cross in the 1940s, documenting the life of the Bedouin?

A) Sahara

B) Gobi

C) Empty Quarter (Rub' al Khali)

D) Kalahari

22. Which 15th-century Chinese admiral led seven massive naval expeditions throughout the Indian Ocean?

A) Zheng He

B) Kublai Khan

C) Marco Polo

D) Genghis Khan

23. What was the name of the ship used by Ernest Shackleton during his ill-fated 1914-1917 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition?

A) Discovery

B) Endurance

C) Terra Nova

D) Fram

24. Which explorer wrote 'The Travels of Marco Polo' after his extensive journeys in the Mongol Empire?

A) Ibn Battuta

B) Marco Polo

C) Christopher Columbus

D) Giovanni da Pian del Carpine

25. Which expedition successfully climbed the world's second-highest mountain, K2, for the first time in 1954?

A) Italian expedition

B) British expedition

C) American expedition

D) French expedition