

Philippines: A Year in Review (2024-2026)

Social Studies · Answer Key · 28 Questions

1. What major illegal operation was targeted in the Bamban POGO raid in March 2024?

- A) Illegal gambling and tax evasion
- B) Human trafficking, cyber scams, and money laundering**
- C) Drug trafficking and smuggling
- D) Illegal logging and deforestation

2. Who ordered a total ban on all POGOs in July 2024?

- A) President Rodrigo Duterte
- B) Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri
- C) President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.**
- D) Former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo

3. Where was Alice Guo arrested in September 2024 after fleeing the country?

- A) Malaysia
- B) Singapore
- C) Indonesia**
- D) Thailand

4. Which mega-infrastructure project saw Tunnel Boring Machines complete major excavations connecting Valenzuela City and Pasig City through 2025 and 2026?

- A) Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge
- B) North-South Commuter Railway
- C) Metro Manila Subway Project**
- D) Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway

5. Who officially took over the operations and maintenance of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in September 2024?

- A) GMR Megawide
- B) New NAIA Infrastructure Corp. (NNIC)**
- C) Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA)
- D) Ayala Corporation

6. What is the primary purpose of the Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge project?

- A) To connect Northern Luzon to Southern Luzon
- B) To reduce travel time between Bataan and Cavite**
- C) To facilitate trade between the Philippines and Malaysia
- D) To provide a new route for international flights

7. What public health concern did the Department of Health (DOH) address with strict surveillance and isolation protocols in mid-2024, successfully containing localized transmissions by mid-2025?

- A) Dengue Fever
- B) Tuberculosis
- C) Mpox (formerly monkeypox)**
- D) COVID-19

8. PhilHealth implemented significant expansions to its packages between 2024 and 2026, including a 30% increase in case rate packages and higher coverage for critical treatments like chemotherapy and acute stroke. What was the primary driver for these expansions?

- A) Increased government funding
- B) Response to intense economic pressures**
- C) A new international health mandate
- D) A reduction in healthcare costs

9. At the 2024 Paris Olympics, who became the first Filipino male Olympic gold medalist and the first multi-gold medalist in the nation's history by winning two gold medals in gymnastics?

- A) EJ Obiena
- B) Carlos Yulo**
- C) Hidilyn Diaz
- D) Nesthy Petecio

10. Which pole vaulter, despite battling injuries that hampered his 2024 Olympic run, consistently secured podium finishes across World Athletics indoor circuits in late 2025 and early 2026?

- A) Carlos Yulo
- B) Hurdler Eric Cray
- C) Boxer Manny Pacquiao
- D) EJ Obiena**

11. What significant energy discovery was announced in January 2026, providing a critical lifeline for the country's grid as original fields near depletion?

- A) New coal reserves
- B) A massive natural gas discovery at Malampaya East-1**
- C) An offshore wind farm project
- D) Geothermal energy potential

12. What law contributed to the rapid passing of skyrocketing global oil prices onto consumers, leading to subsequent public transport fare hikes?

A) The Renewable Energy Act

B) The Oil Deregulation Law

C) The Electric Vehicle Act

D) The Clean Air Act

13. Due to a 58% surge in pregnancies among young girls aged 10-14, what new bill were lawmakers heavily pushing for, given that abortion remains prohibited without exception in Philippine law?

A) A bill to legalize abortion

B) A bill for mandatory family planning services

C) A bill introducing compulsory comprehensive sexuality education and support for pregnant adolescents

D) A bill to lower the age of consent

14. What reforms have been accelerated by domestic courts and regional agencies to legally protect ancestral domains for indigenous communities?

A) Land titling reforms

B) Maritime boundary adjustments

C) Environmental protection zones

D) Resource extraction permits

15. Which global phenomenon served as a massive saving grace for the local economy, cushioning it from deeper external economic recessions by boosting local semiconductor manufacturing plants?

A) The global tourism boom

B) The global agricultural surplus

C) The global Artificial Intelligence (AI) boom

D) The global real estate market

16. Electronics and microchips make up more than half of the Philippines' total goods exports. This surge in demand is linked to supplying what global infrastructure?

A) Space exploration technology

B) Global AI hardware infrastructure

C) Global medical research equipment

D) Global telecommunications networks

17. The World Surf League (WSL) officially upgraded Siargao's Cloud 9 to host the Philippines Pro, marking a historic first-ever WSL Championship Tour event in the Philippines. What does this signify for the country?

- A) A decline in international tourism
- B) A shift towards local sports events
- C) An elevation of the country's status as a world-class sports destination**
- D) A reduction in surfing participation

18. In what year did authorities raid a massive illegal POGO hub in Bamban, Tarlac?

- A) 2023
- B) 2024**
- C) 2025
- D) 2026

19. What was the estimated amount of gas reserves discovered at the Malampaya East-1 field in January 2026?

- A) 50 billion cubic feet
- B) 75 billion cubic feet
- C) 98 billion cubic feet**
- D) 120 billion cubic feet

20. What was the duration of Alice Guo's legal battle and multiple criminal charges?

- A) 2024-2025
- B) 2025-2026**
- C) 2024-2026
- D) 2023-2024

21. What is the approximate length of the Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge project?

- A) 15 kilometers
- B) 22 kilometers
- C) 32 kilometers**
- D) 45 kilometers

22. How much was the increase in PhilHealth's case rate packages during the 2024-2026 expansion?

- A) 10%
- B) 20%
- C) 30%**
- D) 40%

23. What were the two gymnastics events in which Carlos Yulo won gold medals at the 2024 Paris Olympics?

- A) All-around and pommel horse
- B) Floor exercise and vault**
- C) Rings and parallel bars
- D) High bar and team competition

24. What was the main reason cited for the strain on the country's local energy market due to global energy shocks?

- A) Increased domestic energy production
- B) The country's status as a major net importer of energy**
- C) A decrease in global energy demand
- D) The closure of local power plants

25. What is the current legal status of abortion in the Philippines, as mentioned in the context of the Adolescent Pregnancy Bill?

- A) Legal with restrictions
- B) Legal for medical emergencies only
- C) Entirely prohibited without exception**
- D) Legal up to 12 weeks of pregnancy

26. What type of projects are indigenous communities facing displacement from, in addition to private commercial developments?

- A) Agricultural cooperatives
- B) Large-scale green energy projects**
- C) Tourism resorts
- D) Educational institutions

27. Which sector's boom successfully cushioned the Philippines from deeper external economic recessions, despite a slowdown in local consumer spending?

- A) Agriculture
- B) Manufacturing
- C) Artificial Intelligence (AI)**
- D) Mining

28. What is the name of the premier surfing spot in Siargao that now hosts the Philippines Pro at Cloud 9?

- A) Bato Beach
- B) Daku Island
- C) Naked Island
- D) Cloud 9**