

World History Essentials for Middle School

World History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization built the Great Pyramid of Giza?

- A) Mesopotamians
- B) Egyptians**
- C) Greeks
- D) Romans

2. The Silk Road was an ancient network of trade routes that primarily connected which two regions?

- A) China and Europe**
- B) Russia and Africa
- C) Australia and Japan
- D) Brazil and Canada

3. Which ancient Greek city-state is known for its focus on military training and discipline?

- A) Athens
- B) Corinth
- C) Sparta**
- D) Thebes

4. In which modern-day country would you find the ruins of the ancient Incan city of Machu Picchu?

- A) Mexico
- B) Peru**
- C) Spain
- D) Egypt

5. Who is credited with the invention of the printing press in Europe around 1440?

- A) Isaac Newton
- B) Leonardo da Vinci
- C) Johannes Gutenberg**
- D) Galileo Galilei

6. Which document, signed in 1215, limited the power of the King of England?

- A) The Bill of Rights
- B) The Magna Carta**
- C) The Declaration of Independence
- D) The Treaty of Versailles

7. What was the main religion of the Byzantine Empire?

- A) Buddhism
- B) Hinduism
- C) Eastern Orthodox Christianity**
- D) Shinto

8. Which explorer is famously credited with completing the first circumnavigation of the globe?

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

9. The Renaissance period began in which European country?

- A) France
- B) Germany
- C) Italy**
- D) England

10. Which ancient civilization developed the cuneiform writing system?

- A) Sumerians**
- B) Mayans
- C) Celts
- D) Vikings

11. What was the primary goal of the Crusades?

- A) To discover new lands
- B) To recover Jerusalem and the Holy Land**
- C) To trade silk and spices
- D) To expand the Roman Empire

12. Who was the leader of the Mongol Empire that conquered much of Asia?

- A) Attila the Hun
- B) Genghis Khan**
- C) Alexander the Great
- D) Julius Caesar

13. The Aztec Empire was located in which modern-day country?

- A) Peru
- B) Chile
- C) Mexico**
- D) Colombia

14. Which of these was a major cause of the French Revolution?

- A) The discovery of gold
- B) Economic hardship and inequality**
- C) The spread of the internet
- D) The invention of the steam engine

15. In feudal Japan, what were the professional warriors called?

- A) Samurai**
- B) Ninjas
- C) Shoguns
- D) Emperors

16. What period followed the fall of the Western Roman Empire in Europe?

- A) The Space Age
- B) The Middle Ages**
- C) The Industrial Revolution
- D) The Stone Age

17. Which ancient civilization is famous for its early system of democracy?

- A) Persia
- B) Rome
- C) Athens**
- D) Egypt

18. The Industrial Revolution first began in which country?

- A) United States
- B) Great Britain**
- C) Japan
- D) Germany

19. Which river valley civilization is often called the 'cradle of civilization'?

- A) Mesopotamia (Tigris-Euphrates)**
- B) Amazon
- C) Mississippi
- D) Yangtze

20. What is the name of the series of wars fought between Rome and Carthage?

- A) The Hundred Years' War
- B) The Punic Wars**
- C) The Peloponnesian Wars
- D) The Napoleonic Wars