

Trade, Commerce, and Nature History

Trade And Commerce History · Practice Test · 25 Questions

1. Which animal was famously transported across the Sahara desert in camel caravans to facilitate trade?

- A) Dromedary Camel
- B) African Elephant
- C) Horse
- D) Donkey

2. The historical 'Silk Road' was primarily named after which natural fiber produced by insects?

- A) Cotton
- B) Wool
- C) Silk
- D) Linen

3. During the age of exploration, which spice derived from a tropical tree was so valuable it was traded like gold?

- A) Black Pepper
- B) Cinnamon
- C) Salt
- D) Sugar

4. What aquatic animal was hunted extensively in the 18th and 19th centuries for its oil, which fueled lamps in global trade centers?

- A) Seal
- B) Whale
- C) Dolphin
- D) Salmon

5. Which flightless bird's feathers became a major luxury trade item in the 19th century?

- A) Emu
- B) Penguin
- C) Ostrich
- D) Kiwi

6. What precious organic material, harvested from ocean mollusks, has been used as a global currency and trade item for thousands of years?

- A) Coral
- B) Pearls
- C) Shells
- D) Amber

7. The ancient spice trade often relied on the transport of which plant's dried flower buds, native to the Moluccas?

- A) Cloves
- B) Vanilla
- C) Saffron
- D) Nutmeg

8. In the history of the fur trade, which small, semi-aquatic mammal was the primary target for its thick, waterproof pelt?

- A) Otter
- B) Beaver
- C) Seal
- D) Mink

9. Which tropical crop, requiring specific humid climates, became a massive driver of global trade during the colonial era?

- A) Wheat
- B) Sugar Cane
- C) Potato
- D) Barley

10. What natural, fossilized tree resin has been a prized trade item across the Baltic Sea region for centuries?

- A) Coal
- B) Amber
- C) Rubber
- D) Tar

11. The ancient trade of which substance, found in salt flats or mined from the earth, was essential for preserving food before refrigeration?

- A) Sugar
- B) Salt
- C) Spice
- D) Flour

12. Which insect-produced substance was historically traded as a primary sweetener before the mass production of sugar?

- A) Maple Syrup
- B) Honey
- C) Agave
- D) Molasses

13. The trade of which sturdy, natural material from trees was critical for the construction of historical trading vessels?

- A) Bamboo
- B) Timber
- C) Cork
- D) Rubber

14. Which large animal was historically used as a primary beast of burden on the mountain trade routes of the Andes?

- A) Horse
- B) Llama
- C) Donkey
- D) Camel

15. Which plant, native to Ethiopia, became one of the most traded agricultural commodities in the world due to its stimulating beans?

- A) Cocoa
- B) Coffee
- C) Tea
- D) Vanilla

16. The global trade of which natural plant fiber was so significant that it was known as 'white gold' in the 19th century?

- A) Cotton
- B) Hemp
- C) Jute
- D) Flax

17. Which animal, valued for its fine wool, was central to the economy and trade of the ancient Incan Empire?

- A) Sheep
- B) Alpaca
- C) Goat
- D) Camel

18. Historical trade of which plant, used to create a blue dye, was a major industry before synthetic dyes were invented?

- A) Indigo
- B) Rose
- C) Sunflower
- D) Lavender

19. Which aquatic creature's shells were once used in the Indian Ocean trade as a form of money known as cowries?

- A) Clam
- B) Snail
- C) Crab
- D) Lobster

20. The trade of which botanical product, sourced from the bark of a tropical tree, was a primary driver for European exploration of the East Indies?

- A) Cinnamon
- B) Clove
- C) Nutmeg
- D) Ginger

21. Which natural resource, harvested from tropical trees, became vital to trade during the industrial revolution for making tires?

- A) Latex/Rubber
- B) Resin
- C) Sap
- D) Oil

22. Which animal was historically traded across the North American plains for its hide, which was used to create thick leather?

- A) Bison
- B) Elk
- C) Moose
- D) Deer

23. What fragrant natural substance, harvested from the bark of trees in the Middle East, was one of the earliest luxury goods traded on the Incense Route?

- A) Frankincense
- B) Pine
- C) Cedar
- D) Oak

24. Which plant was historically traded from the Americas to Europe, fundamentally changing global diets and commerce?

- A) Potato
- B) Wheat
- C) Rice
- D) Barley

25. Which sea-dwelling animal was traditionally harvested in the Mediterranean for the valuable purple dye it produced for royal trade?

- A) Murex Snail
- B) Coral
- C) Oyster
- D) Seaweed