High School European History Essentials

European History · Answer Key · 25 Questions

1. Which document was signed by King John of England in 1215, limiting the power of the monarchy?

A) The Magna Carta
B) The Bill of Rights
C) The Treaty of Versailles
D) The Edict of Nantes

2. Who is credited with starting the Protestant Reformation by posting his 95 Theses in 1517?

A) John Calvin
B) Martin Luther
C) Henry VIII
D) Erasmus

3. Which period in European history is characterized by a 'rebirth' of art, culture, and science?

A) The Middle Ages
B) The Industrial Revolution
C) The Renaissance
D) The Cold War

4. The French Revolution began in 1789 with the storming of which prison?

A) The Tower of London
B) The Bastille
C) The Conciergerie
D) Spandau Prison

5. Which European leader rose to power following the French Revolution and eventually became Emperor?

A) Louis XVI
B) Maximilian Robespierre
C) Napoleon Bonaparte
D) Charles de Gaulle

6. What was the primary goal of the Industrial Revolution?

A) To expand religious influence
B) To increase agricultural output manually
C) To mechanize production and manufacturing
D) To colonize new continents

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7. Which country was the first to industrialize in the 18th century?

A) France
B) Germany
C) Great Britain
D) Italy

8. What was the name of the alliance between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy before World War I?

A) The Triple Entente
B) The Triple Alliance
C) The Axis Powers
D) The Allied Powers

9. Which treaty officially ended World War I in 1919?

A) Treaty of Paris
B) Treaty of Versailles
C) Treaty of Westphalia
D) Treaty of Utrecht

10. Who was the leader of the Soviet Union during the early years of the Cold War?

A) Vladimir Lenin
B) Joseph Stalin
C) Leon Trotsky
D) Nikita Khrushchev

11. The Berlin Wall, a symbol of the Cold War, was built in which year?

A) 1945
B) 1952
C) 1961
D) 1989

12. Which ancient civilization provided the foundation for Western political and democratic concepts?

A) Ancient Greece
B) Ancient Egypt
C) The Hittites
D) The Phoenicians

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13. What is the name of the major philosophical movement in the 18th century that emphasized reason and individualism?

A) Romanticism
B) The Enlightenment
C) Existentialism
D) Humanism

14. Which queen of England reigned for 45 years during a period known as the 'Golden Age'?

A) Mary I
B) Victoria
C) Elizabeth I
D) Anne

15. What event in 1914 is considered the immediate trigger for World War I?

A) The invasion of Poland
B) The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
C) The sinking of the Lusitania
D) The Russian Revolution

16. Which city served as the capital of the Byzantine Empire?

A) Rome
B) Athens
C) Constantinople
D) Alexandria

17. What economic and political system dominated Europe during the Middle Ages?

A) Capitalism
B) Feudalism
C) Socialism
D) Communism

18. The 'Scramble for Africa' in the late 19th century was driven by which European ambition?

A) Imperialism
B) Isolationism
C) Democracy
D) Technological exchange

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19. Which major conflict (1939-1945) involved the Axis and Allied powers?

A) World War I
B) World War II
C) The Napoleonic Wars
D) The Thirty Years' War

20. What was the main purpose of the Marshall Plan after World War II?

A) To punish Germany
B) To rebuild Western European economies
C) To spread communism
D) To organize the United Nations

21. Which explorer's 1492 voyage opened European contact with the Americas?

A) Vasco da Gama
B) Ferdinand Magellan
C) Christopher Columbus
D) Amerigo Vespucci

22. The Russian Revolution of 1917 resulted in the end of which imperial dynasty?

A) The Hohenzollerns
B) The Romanovs
C) The Habsburgs
D) The Tudors

23. What was the primary language of the Roman Catholic Church for centuries in Europe?

A) Greek
B) English
C) Latin
D) French

24. Which European country experienced the 'Reign of Terror' during its revolution?

A) France
B) Spain
C) Russia
D) Prussia

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25. What political entity was formed in 1993 to promote economic and political integration in Europe?

A) The League of Nations

B) The European Union

C) The Warsaw Pact

D) The North Atlantic Treaty Organization

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