European History Essentials

European History · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which historic fortress in Paris was stormed on July 14, 1789, marking a major event in the French Revolution?

A) The Louvre
B) The Bastille
C) Palace of Versailles
D) Notre-Dame

2. Who was the first officially recognized emperor of the Roman Empire?

A) Julius Caesar
B) Augustus
C) Nero
D) Trajan

3. In which French region did the Allied D-Day landings take place in June 1944?

A) Brittany
B) Normandy
C) Provence
D) Burgundy

4. In which year did the Berlin Wall fall, leading to the reunification of Germany?

A) 1979
B) 1989
C) 1999
D) 1969

5. Which Italian polymath painted the Mona Lisa during the Renaissance?

A) Michelangelo
B) Raphael
C) Leonardo da Vinci
D) Donatello

6. Which famous English document limiting the monarch's power was signed by King John in 1215?

A) The Bill of Rights
B) The Magna Carta
C) The Domesday Book
D) The Act of Union

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7. Which ancient Greek city-state was famous for its disciplined military culture and warfare training?

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

8. How many times was King Henry VIII of England married?

A) 4
B) 6
C) 8
D) 3

9. Who was the last emperor (Tsar) of Russia before the Russian Revolution of 1917?

A) Nicholas II
B) Peter the Great
C) Alexander II
D) Ivan the Terrible

10. The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in 1914 sparked World War I. In which city was he killed?

A) Vienna
B) Sarajevo
C) Belgrade
D) Prague

11. Which European country funded Christopher Columbus's voyage across the Atlantic in 1492?

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

12. During which century did the devastating bubonic plague known as the Black Death sweep through Europe?

A) 12th century
B) 14th century
C) 16th century
D) 18th century

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13. Which British military commander defeated Napoleon Bonaparte at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815?

A) Duke of Wellington
B) Lord Nelson
C) General Wolfe
D) Oliver Cromwell

14. From which northern region of Europe did the Vikings originate?

A) Scandinavia
B) Iberia
C) The Balkans
D) The Baltic States

15. What was the historical name of Istanbul when it served as the capital of the Byzantine Empire?

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

16. Which astronomer proposed the heliocentric model, stating that the Earth revolves around the Sun?

A) Nicolaus Copernicus
B) Isaac Newton
C) Galileo Galilei
D) Johannes Kepler

17. Which Scottish inventor dramatically improved the steam engine in the 18th century, helping fuel the Industrial Revolution?

A) James Watt
B) George Stephenson
C) Isambard Kingdom Brunel
D) Michael Faraday

18. What common official currency was introduced across many European Union countries in 1999?

A) Pound
B) Franc
C) Euro
D) Mark