

World History Midterm Study Guide

UNIT ONE

1. How did Greek culture, ideas, and language spread the most through the ancient world?

- a) A democracy was an attractive government neighboring civilizations
- b) *The Iliad's* poetry spread Greek ideals
- c) Alexander the Great's conquests established Hellenistic dominance
- d) Persian Wars demonstrated Greek superiority

2. Which Greek philosopher taught by asking questions?

- a) Socrates
- b) Homer
- c) Plato
- d) Aristotle

3. What was most helpful about a society having a surplus of food?

- a) more people can survive and can create a division of labor
- b) people were less hungry so were happier
- c) more time to explore and migrate
- d) increase of life expectancy

4. One of the ways Sparta was different than Athens was

- a) Spartans used a phalanx and Athenians did not believe in war
- b) Sparta's government was a monarchy and Athens's was representational
- c) Sparta was a center for learning and Athens had more slaves than free men
- d) Sparta was a warrior society and Athens was the first democracy

5. A city-state is best described as

- a) A city that is the largest city in a state
- b) A city that is a political unit with its own government
- c) A country with more than one city
- d) A state part of a larger country

6. Why is inflation bad for the economy?

- a) the value of houses go down
- b) there are more jobs than workers
- c) the gap between rich and poor increases
- d) prices go up while the value of money goes down

7. All of the following contributed to the fall of the Western Roman Empire EXCEPT:

- a) decline on morals
- b) emancipation (freeing) of slaves
- c) weak governors
- d) barbarian invaders

8. What power did the plebeians have in the Roman republic?

- a) voted for consuls
- b) became members of the Senate
- c) owned most of the land in Rome
- d) were governors of the provinces

9. Why are secondary sources sometimes more accurate than primary sources?

- a. secondary sources have observed an event themselves
- b. secondary sources never have a reason to lie or distort the truth
- c. secondary sources can get information from many primary sources
- d. secondary sources are always written so do not change over time

10. A ziggurat is different than a pyramid because

- a. ziggurats were built by artisans and pyramids were built by slaves
- b. ziggurats were temples and pyramids were burial monuments
- c. ziggurats were where built outside cities and pyramids were build inside cities
- d. ziggurats were three-sided and pyramids were four-sided

11. Why was the phalanx an effective military tool?

- a. citizens could become soldiers in times of war
- b. bronze weapons were stronger than copper
- c. a wall of shields allowed each soldier to be protected
- d. being on horseback allowed for faster travel

12. What was the Pax Romana?

- a) he title of the Roman emperor
- b) the era of Roman peace
- c) the Roman gladiator arena
- d) he dead of the Roman household

1. Explain the transition from Paleolithic Era to the Neolithic Era and how civilization was able to emerge from the transition.

2. What is the difference between primary and secondary sources?

3. Why did early humans live as nomads? How did domestication change the lifestyle of early man?

4. For each of the following civilizations, write briefly about any important attributes or people.

-Sumerians-

-Babylonians-

-Phoenicians-

-Persians-

-Egyptians-

5. Compare/contrast the major attributes of Sparta and Athens.

6. State who fought and who won the Peloponnesian wars, Persian wars, and Punic wars.

7. What was the Hellenistic World and how was it formed?

8. Explain the structure of government in the early Roman Republic with the roles of the two classes of Roman society.

9. How did Rome become an empire? Mention Julius Caesar, Marc Antony, Cleopatra, and Octavian/Augustus.

10. Explain the reasons why Roman Empire fell. What did Diocletian and Constantine do to prevent this from happening?

Unit 2

1. Ashoka is famous for

- a. converting to Buddhism
- b. being India's greatest ruler
- c. expanding the Mauryan Empire
- d. all of the above

2. What is a possible benefit of having a highly centralized government?

- a. different regions can have their own governments to take care of their needs
- b. the capitol is in the very center of the country
- c. fewer people are governing so decisions can be made faster
- d. every government official is elected into office so citizens have more control

3. The few who passed the difficult civil service exams in ancient China were given the honor of

- a. joining the terra cotta army
- b. receiving the Mandate of Heaven
- c. getting married
- d. serving in the bureaucracy as an official

6. What do Muslims believe about the Qur'an?

- a. it was written by Muhammad
- b. it disproves that Jesus existed
- c. it is Allah's final revelation to humanity
- d. it can change over time in different languages

7. What is the ultimate goal of Buddhism?

- a. to reach nirvana
- b. to become a god
- c. to do dharma
- d. to desire suffering

8. What is the holy book of Judaism?

- a. the Bhagavad Gita
- b. the Qu'ran
- c. the Bible
- d. the Tanakh

9. All of the following are among the Five Pillars of Islam, EXCEPT:

- a. the declaration of faith
- b. fasting during Ramadan
- c. karma
- d. the hajj

10. The dynastic cycle is explains what idea?

- a. the reasoning for rulers being chosen from the same family
- b. the giving and taking away of the Mandate of Heaven
- c. why corrupt leaders are able to take power again and again
- d. the tradition of honoring ancestors according to the zodiac cycle

11. Which of these religions is NOT monotheistic?

- a. Islam
- b. Christianity
- c. Judaism
- d. Hinduism

12. The idea of Yin and Yang is best described as

- a. two different ways to reach harmony
- b. two balanced forces in nature
- c. two offerings given to ancestors
- d. two religions that began in India

13. What is the name of the philosophy that states that all people are bad and need strong, cruel rulers to keep them in order?

- a. Legalism
- b. Buddhism
- c. Confucianism
- d. Taoism

14. Why was the Abassid Dynasty considered the Islamic golden age?

- a. all of Europe was conquered by the Moors
- b. high status of women and abolishment of slavery made progress possible
- c. fighting between Islamic states made them stronger
- d. there were many achievements in mathematics, science, and philosophy

List the major beliefs of the major religions. Also mention holy cities, texts, figures if applicable.

Judaism-

Hinduism-

Buddhism-

Christianity-

Identify the major elements of the following East Asia religions/philosophies.

Confucianism-

Daoism-

Legalism-

Shinto-

Mauyran Empire-

Gupta Empire-

- 1. What were the importance of the dynastic cycle and the Mandate of Heaven?**
- 2. What were events and changes that demonstrated China's waning innovation and power in the world?**

1. Who was Charlemagne and why was he important?

2. How did the feudal system develop?

3. Explain the different roles in feudal society and how they interacted with other classes.

- King-
- Lord-
- Knight
- Peasant-

4. What happened during the 1st and 3rd Crusades? What were some long-term effects of the crusades?

5. Explain the importance of these High Middle Ages events:

- Magna Carta-
- Hundred Years War-
- Black Death-
- Reconquista-

6. What were the principles of humanism and why was this philosophy important?

7. For each of the following Renaissance figures and terms, explain why they are important:

- Patron-
- Medici-
- Leonardo de Vinci-
- Machiavelli-
- Castiglione-
- Michelangelo-
- Guttenberg-
- William Shakespeare-
- Thomas Moore-

8. For each of the following Reformation figures and terms, explain why they are important:

- Martin Luther-
- John Calvin-
- Henry VIII-
- Inquisition-
- Indulgences-

UNIT THREE:

1. How do Shi'a Muslims believe the caliph should be chosen?

- a. ability to rule politically only
- b. relation to Muhammad
- c. popular election
- d. being of Egyptian descent

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3. What was a result of the Crusades?

- a. the power of the kings in Europe was greatly diminished
- b. Muslim scientific progress was severely hindered by the wars
- c. Jerusalem became ruled by Christians, which continues to this day
- d. Europeans were exposed to new technologies and goods

4. What is the system of feudalism?

- a. the system that helped protect the rights of the serfs
- b. the way in which kings wielded absolute power
- c. the system of give and take between master and vassal
- d. the constant warfare between the upper and lower classes of society

5. What was the importance of the printing press?

- a. only classical learning was reproduced
- b. stopped the spread of Luther's ideas
- c. the Bible was no longer read
- d. it helped increase learning among all

6. Why did Martin Luther nail his Ninety-five Theses on a church door?

- a. promote religious peace in Europe
- b. speak against corrupt Church practices
- c. start a new religion
- d. help increase the power of the pope

7. Why were most Medieval and early Renaissance art religious in nature?

- a. the idea of humanism had decreased in popularity
- b. wealthy merchants only wanted art depicting Mary and Jesus
- c. the Catholic Church was the primary patron of the arts
- d. all artists were very pious

8. What affect did the Black Death have on medieval society?

- a. warfare transitioned from being dominated by knights to being fought with peasants
- b. the remaining peasants were able to negotiate an end to the manor system
- c. it slowed political and economic development
- d. lords maintained a tighter grasp over their people

9. Which of the following is an idea of humanism?

- a. man's worth is only in their role in society
- b. man cannot get to heaven except by being chosen by God
- c. only current learning is important for man's development
- d. man can achieve great things through hard work and education

10 . Which empire used gunpowder cannons to take the city of Constantinople in 1453?

- a. Mughal Empire
- b. Safavid Empire
- c. Ottoman Empire
- d. Umayyad Dynasty

11. Who were janissaries?

- a. elite Ottoman slave soldiers
- b. North African Muslims
- c. kings of the Safavids
- d. spiritual leaders of Islam

12. Which of the following kingdoms was NOT ruled by Sunni Muslims?

- a. Umayyad Caliphate
- b. Ottoman Empire
- c. Safavid Empire
- d. Mughal Empire

13. Why was the Battle of Tours (732) significant?

- a. the Franks under Charles Martell were able to stop the spread of Islam in Europe
- b. marked the beginning of the Hundred Years War
- c. Saladin defeated the Christian armies in the Holy Land
- d. Charlegmane was able to unite the most of Europe

14. What was the purpose of indulgences?

- a. prevent Christians from being excommunicated
- b. educate people about the problems of the Catholic Church
- c. pay money so that people would spend less time in purgatory
- d. force people to obey the pope

15. Why did the Renaissance start in Italy?

- a. nobles were the only wealthy people
- b. it had a unified, powerful government
- c. it was free of religious influence
- d. it was a center of trade

16. What is classical learning?

- a. learning based on the Greeks and Romans
- b. religious learning
- c. learning based on new ideas
- d. outdated learning

17. The Eastern Roman Empire

- a. became known as the Byzantine Empire.
- b. rejected all forms of Christianity.
- c. was invaded by Germanic tribes.
- d. relocated the capital to Antioch.

18. Who was the Renaissance artist who made beautiful frescos in the Sistine Chapel?

- a. Raphael
- b. Medici
- c. Michelangelo
- d. Erasmus

19. Which European explorer was the first to reach India?

- a. Francis Drake
- b. Christopher Columbus
- c. Henry the Navigator
- d. Vasco de Gama

20. Which is the best possible explanation for the decline of the Mayan Civilization?

- a. they ran out of people to sacrifice to the gods
- b. they lost faith in their leaders because they could not stop famines or plagues
- c. European conquistadors destroyed them
- d. civil war divided their united empire

21. The Inca did not have

- a. a class structure; all people were equal and free to do as they pleased
- b. a system of roads; it was difficult for people to travel
- c. a writing system; they used a system of runners and quippu to communicate
- d. any cities; there is little archeological evidence of this civilization

22. What was the goal of European nations following the philosophy of mercantilism?

- a. increase imports and reduce exports
- b. elect merchants to lead their governments
- c. encourage their colonies manufacture goods to be sold in the mother country
- d. gain more power by accumulating wealth

23. Which of the following was introduced to Europe as part of the Columbian Exchange?

- a. cattle
- b. horses
- c. potatoes
- d. wheat

24. Where did the English settle in the New World?

- a. along the Mississippi River
- b. west coast of South America
- c. eastern half of South America
- d. east coast of North America

25. The goods exchanged in the triangular trade system were:

- a. Indentured servants to the Americas, staple crops to Africa, and raw goods to Europe
- b. Staple crops and goods to Europe, colonists to Africa, and slaves to the Americas
- c. Slaves to Europe, colonists and indentured servants to the Americas, and military assistance to Africa
- d. Goods and guns to Africa, slaves to the Americas, and raw materials and crops to Europe

26. An important long-term affect of the African slave trade was

- a. the Diaspora of African people around the world
- b. the unification of African tribes into strong, lasting governments
- c. French domination of Atlantic trade
- d. the weakening of the American economy

27. How are indentured servants different from slaves?

- a. Indentured servants were traded for sugar in the West Indies
- b. Indentured servants worked to pay a debt and then were released
- c. Indentured servants were a vital part of the triangular trade
- d. Indentured servants were forced to work on plantations in the South

28. What was an objective for the Spanish and Portuguese in starting their American colonies?

- a. play a dominant role in the fur trade
- b. conquering the native civilizations
- c. create permanent settlements with self-sustaining economies
- d. mining precious metals and setting up large plantations to grow cash crops

29. What was an impact of poor farming lands on the people in early Africa?

- a. diffusion of the Bantu language
- b. many pastoralist peoples
- c. the development of clans
- d. all of the above

30. The primary trade system in West Africa from 400-1600 involved

- a. exporting gold and importing salt
- b. spoils of war from conquered neighbors
- c. exporting salt and importing slaves
- d. importing raw materials and exporting manufactured goods

31. What is Genghis Khan most famous for?

- a. creating the largest empire in history
- b. his highly centralized government
- c. defeating Temujin in single combat
- d. meeting with Marco Polo

32. What was the role of samurai in Japanese society?

- a. warrior class that was loyal to a daimyo
- b. fed the people by farming and fishing
- c. leaders of land owning clans who fought each other
- d. kept alive the principles of Buddhist peace and harmony

33. Who was the military leader of Feudal Japan?

- a. Samurai
- b. Shogun
- c. Daimyo
- d. Emperor

34. The Japanese religion of Shinto emphasized

- a) reverence toward nature because everything has a spirit
- b) discipline as a way to reach Nirvana
- c) the forgiveness of sins
- d) the equality of the gods

1. List major attributes, religions, and people (if applicable) of the following civilizations:

Axum-

Ghana-

Zimbabwe-

Mali-

2. What impact did geography have on African peoples?

3. Explain any major attributes and people of the following Islamic civilizations:

- Abbasid-
- Safavids-
- Moghuls-
- Ottomans-

4. Name important aspects and people of the Byzantine Empire.

5. Identify major attributes and people of the following Chinese Dynasties

Qin-

Han-

Tang-

Song-

Yuan-

Ming-

Qing-

6. Americas

1. Mayans:

2. Aztecs:

3. Incas:

4. What are conquistadors, what were their goals, and why were they successful?

7. Explorers and conquistadores:

Henry the Navigator	
Vasco de Gama	
Christopher Columbus	
Hernandez Cortez	

Francisco Pizarro	
Ferdinand Magellan	
Sir Francis Drake	

8. Columbian Exchange:

To Americas from Europe:

To Europe from Americas:

9. Triangular Trade:

10. What is mercantilism?

UNIT 4:

1. All of the following were events that led to the War of Independence EXCEPT:

- a. The Boston Tea Party
- b. The Treaty of Paris
- c. The French and Indian War
- d. The Boston Massacre

2. What was a result of the Glorious Revolution?

- a. England made a bloodless transition to a constitutional monarchy
- b. England became an absolute monarchy
- c. France became more powerful than Spain
- d. France gained British American colonies

3. In Jean-Jacques Rousseau's concept of a social contract,

- a. evil people need to be given capital punishment
- b. women should be granted rights nearly equal to those of men
- c. society agrees to give up some freedom in exchange for security
- d. government should not interfere in economic matters

4. Adam Smith believed in economic laissez-faire, by which he meant that

- a. those who work should help support those who cannot work
- b. the government should not regulate the economy
- c. the state should impose regulations to keep the economy healthy
- d. the assets of the rich should be redistributed to the poor

5. What is the theory that the earth is the center of the universe?

- a. scientific method
- b. theory of gravity
- c. heliocentric theory
- d. geocentric theory

6. A monarch who believed in the divine right of kings, believed that kings

- a. are equal to God and so do not have to obey the Church
- b. can know the mind of God and so can determine the future
- c. receive their power from God and are responsible only to God
- d. follow a cycle in which God could replace them with another king

7. What was the purpose of the scientific method?

- a. to use a procedure of experimentation and observation to prove new ideas
- b. to separate scientific pursuits from the beliefs of religion
- c. to prove the theories of classical thinkers like Aristotle
- d. to allow scientists to build upon what they thought was true to make new theories

8. Who was the leader of the American Continental Army?

- a. George Washington
- b. Benjamin Franklin
- c. John Adams
- d. Thomas Jefferson

9. How is Louis XIV remembered in history?

- a. the king who was beheaded in the French Revolution
- b. the king who lost the Spanish Armada while attacking England
- c. the most powerful monarch in French history
- d. Russia's first tsar

10. What contribution did Isaac Newton make on science?

- a. he invented the telescope
- b. he was the father of physics who came up with the universal law of gravitation
- c. he encouraged scientists to use the scientific method
- d. he made detailed drawings of human anatomy

What were causes that led to the American Revolution and Independence?

Absolutism and Enlightenment

1. Divine Right of Kings-
2. Philip II and the Spanish Armada-
3. English Civil War, Charles I-
4. Glorious Revolution-
5. Louis XIV-
6. Versailles-
7. Ivan the Terrible-
8. Peter the Great-
9. Copernicus-
10. Isaac Newton-
11. Francis Bacon:
12. John Locke
13. Thomas Hobbes-

14. Rousseau-
15. Montesquieu
16. Adam Smith Laissez-faire
17. Voltaire-
18. Enlightened Despot
19. Galileo-

