

PRACTICE EXAM 12: PRAXIS SOCIAL STUDIES 5581 SIMULATION

SECTION I — UNITED STATES HISTORY (Questions 1–40)

1. The Adena and Hopewell cultures of the Ohio River valley are best known for
 - A. their permanent agricultural settlements concentrated in coastal areas
 - B. their development of advanced metallurgy in copper and bronze
 - C. their establishment of a unified political confederation
 - D. their construction of elaborate burial mounds and earthwork complexes

2. The Mayflower Compact (1620) was signed primarily to
 - A. proclaim loyalty to the Anglican Church of England
 - B. establish a permanent trading post for the Plymouth Company
 - C. provide a basis for self-government among the Plymouth colonists
 - D. settle land disputes between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag

3. The Pequot War of 1636–1638 in colonial New England resulted in
 - A. the near-destruction of the Pequot people through warfare and enslavement
 - B. the formal recognition of Pequot territorial sovereignty
 - C. the unification of all New England tribes against English expansion
 - D. the abandonment of English settlements in the Connecticut Valley

4. The system of mercantilism that governed British colonial economic policy held that

- A. colonial governors had complete autonomy over economic regulation
- B. colonies existed primarily to enrich the mother country through controlled trade
- C. colonies should pursue free trade with all foreign nations
- D. colonies should be permitted to develop independent manufacturing

5. The First Continental Congress, convened in September 1774, was assembled to

- A. ratify a permanent constitution for the colonies
- B. negotiate a defensive alliance with France
- C. coordinate colonial responses to the Coercive Acts (Intolerable Acts)
- D. declare American independence from Great Britain

6. The Declaration of Independence drew most directly on the political philosophy of

- A. John Locke regarding natural rights and government by consent
- B. Thomas Hobbes regarding absolute sovereignty
- C. Niccolò Machiavelli regarding the practical exercise of power
- D. Edmund Burke regarding the wisdom of inherited tradition

7. The Articles of Confederation gave the central government the authority to

- A. impose direct taxes on individual citizens
- B. regulate commerce among the several states
- C. enforce its own laws through a federal judiciary
- D. declare war and conduct foreign affairs

8. The Great Compromise at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 resolved the dispute over

- A. the international slave trade and its eventual abolition
- B. representation in Congress between large and small states
- C. executive veto authority over congressional legislation
- D. religious tests for federal officeholders

9. The Federalist Papers, published in 1787 and 1788, were written under the pseudonym

- A. Cato representing classical republican virtue
- B. Cincinnatus representing self-sacrificing leadership
- C. Publius representing public-spirited citizenship
- D. Brutus representing republican opposition to tyranny

10. The election of 1800 is sometimes called the "Revolution of 1800" because it

- A. marked the first peaceful transfer of power between competing political parties
- B. produced the first violent transfer of executive power in the new republic
- C. resulted in the dissolution of the Federalist Party at all levels
- D. marked the formation of the modern Democratic Party in its current form

11. The Marshall Court's decision in *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824) is most significant because it

- A. established the supremacy of state laws over federal laws in internal commerce
- B. struck down state taxation of a federal bank as unconstitutional
- C. recognized Native American tribes as sovereign nations under federal law
- D. established a broad interpretation of federal authority under the Commerce Clause

12. The Indian Removal Act of 1830, signed by President Andrew Jackson, authorized

- A. the granting of full federal citizenship to all Native Americans
- B. the relocation of southeastern tribes to territory west of the Mississippi
- C. financial compensation for tribes whose lands had been previously seized
- D. military protection for Cherokee territorial claims in Georgia

13. The Seneca Falls Convention of 1848 is most closely associated with

- A. the launch of the organized women's rights movement in the United States
- B. the founding of the modern Republican Party in opposition to slavery
- C. the publication of **Uncle Tom's Cabin** by Harriet Beecher Stowe
- D. the passage of the Compromise of 1850 by the U.S. Congress

14. The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 most directly contributed to sectional tensions by

- A. ending the international slave trade in all American territories
- B. requiring Northern states to enforce the federal Fugitive Slave Act
- C. permitting slavery in territories where the Missouri Compromise had previously prohibited it
- D. granting full citizenship to all African Americans regardless of state laws

15. The Supreme Court decision in **Dred Scott v. Sandford** (1857) held that

- A. enslaved people who reached free territory automatically became free
- B. Congress had broad authority to regulate slavery in federal territories
- C. state laws abolishing slavery applied to all visitors regardless of origin
- D. African Americans could not be citizens of the United States

16. The Reconstruction-era Fourteenth Amendment (1868) defined citizenship to include

- A. only persons of European descent born in the United States
- B. all persons born or naturalized in the United States
- C. only formerly enslaved African Americans freed by the Thirteenth Amendment
- D. all residents of the United States regardless of immigration status

17. The transcontinental railroad, completed in 1869, was significant because it

- A. connected the eastern American rail network to the Pacific coast at Promontory Summit
- B. brought immediate prosperity to all Native American peoples of the Great Plains
- C. eliminated the need for shipping through the port of New Orleans
- D. linked the eastern American economy to California through Mexican territory

18. The Homestead Act of 1862 promoted westward settlement primarily by

- A. funding the construction of transcontinental railroads
- B. authorizing the U.S. Army to forcibly remove Native populations
- C. granting statehood to all western territories within five years
- D. offering 160-acre parcels of federal land to settlers

19. The Spanish-American War of 1898 was triggered by events including the

- A. Boxer Rebellion in northern China
- B. Russian advance into Manchuria
- C. explosion of the USS *Maine* in Havana harbor
- D. Japanese annexation of the Korean Peninsula

20. President Theodore Roosevelt's "Square Deal" emphasized

- A. trust-busting, conservation, and consumer protection
- B. permanent neutrality in all European political conflicts
- C. the rapid annexation of new overseas territorial possessions
- D. the abolition of all federal regulation of commerce and trade

21. The Eighteenth Amendment, ratified in 1919, established

- A. women's suffrage in federal elections
- B. national prohibition of alcoholic beverages
- C. direct election of United States senators
- D. the federal income tax structure

22. The Stock Market Crash of October 1929 contributed to the Great Depression by

- A. directly causing immediate hyperinflation in consumer prices
- B. eliminating all foreign investment in the American economy
- C. forcing the federal government to abandon the gold standard
- D. eroding banking confidence and triggering widespread bank failures

23. The Wagner Act of 1935 (National Labor Relations Act) guaranteed workers

- A. a federal minimum wage and maximum-hours protections
- B. universal health insurance through federal payroll taxes
- C. the right to organize unions and bargain collectively
- D. retirement pensions through state-administered programs

24. American entry into World War II was most directly triggered by

- A. the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941
- B. the German invasion of Poland in September 1939
- C. the German declaration of war on the Soviet Union
- D. the British appeal for direct American military intervention in Europe

25. The Marshall Plan (1948) is best understood as

- A. a military alliance against the Soviet Union and its satellite states
- B. an economic aid program for the reconstruction of Western Europe
- C. a treaty restricting nuclear weapons proliferation in Europe
- D. a federal initiative to integrate American public schools

26. The 1957 desegregation crisis at Central High School in which city required federal intervention?

- A. Birmingham, Alabama, in opposition to Governor Wallace
- B. Montgomery, Alabama, following the bus boycott
- C. Selma, Alabama, during voting rights demonstrations
- D. Little Rock, Arkansas, where Governor Faubus blocked integration

27. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibited discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in

- A. employment, public accommodations, and federally funded programs
- B. only voting and electoral participation in federal elections
- C. only federally funded education programs and schools

D. only federal employment and government contractors

28. The Tet Offensive of January 1968 is historically significant primarily because it

A. resulted in the immediate American military victory in Vietnam

B. prompted the resignation of President Johnson on the night of the offensive

C. shattered American public confidence that the war was being won

D. produced the immediate withdrawal of all American forces from Southeast Asia

29. The Camp David Accords (1978) established peace between

A. North Korea and South Korea after years of tension

B. Egypt and Israel under Carter's mediation

C. India and Pakistan over Kashmir disputes

D. Cuba and the United States during the Cold War

30. The Iran-Contra affair during the Reagan administration involved

A. covert military operations in Cuba and the Caribbean

B. illegal campaign contributions from foreign governments

C. unauthorized intelligence sharing with Soviet officials

D. the secret diversion of arms-sale profits to Nicaraguan rebels

31. The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 entitled eligible workers to

A. fully paid maternity and paternity leave for twelve weeks

B. universal childcare subsidies through the federal government

- C. unpaid leave for family or medical reasons without losing their jobs
- D. mandatory employer-provided health insurance for dependents

32. The Affordable Care Act (2010) extended health insurance coverage primarily through

- A. expanded Medicaid eligibility, subsidized private insurance marketplaces, and an individual mandate
- B. the creation of a single-payer national health insurance system
- C. the nationalization of all American hospital systems
- D. the elimination of federal Medicare benefits for seniors

33. The Bay of Pigs invasion of April 1961 was

- A. a successful overthrow of Fidel Castro's government in Cuba
- B. a Soviet military operation in support of the Castro government
- C. a United Nations peacekeeping mission to Cuba
- D. a failed CIA-backed attempt by Cuban exiles to overthrow Castro's government

34. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed in the immediate aftermath of which civil rights demonstration?

- A. The Montgomery Bus Boycott led by Martin Luther King Jr.
- B. The Selma to Montgomery march, including "Bloody Sunday"
- C. The March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom
- D. The Greensboro lunch counter sit-ins

35. The OPEC oil embargo of 1973 was a response to

- A. American military assistance to Israel during the Yom Kippur War
- B. the discovery of major oil reserves in the North Sea
- C. the formation of the European Economic Community
- D. the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

36. The Gilded Age, roughly the 1870s through the 1890s, was characterized by

- A. the federal regulation of nearly every major industry
- B. the dominance of agrarian populist movements in national politics
- C. rapid industrial growth, urban expansion, immigration, and significant inequality
- D. comprehensive federal labor protections for industrial workers

37. The Battle of Antietam (September 1862) is significant because it

- A. resulted in the surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia
- B. produced the capture of the Confederate capital at Richmond
- C. ended Confederate naval power in the Atlantic theater
- D. provided the political opening for the Emancipation Proclamation

38. The Pendleton Civil Service Act of 1883 established

- A. the system of patronage appointments in federal agencies
- B. merit-based competitive examinations for federal hiring
- C. mandatory retirement ages for federal officeholders
- D. a uniform federal pay scale for all government employees

39. The Reagan Doctrine of the 1980s emphasized

- A. supporting anti-communist insurgencies in the developing world
- B. negotiation of comprehensive arms control treaties with Moscow
- C. American withdrawal from active Cold War engagement
- D. recognition of Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe

40. The 2008 financial crisis is most directly associated with which of the following developments?

- A. The bankruptcy of major American automobile manufacturers without aid
- B. The collapse of the European Union banking system entirely
- C. The failure of major financial institutions exposed to subprime mortgages
- D. The abandonment of the U.S. dollar as the global reserve currency

SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)

41. The Sumerian invention of cuneiform writing was originally developed primarily for

- A. religious texts and prayers to local deities
- B. literary works and epic poetry composition
- C. military communications and battle orders
- D. accounting and recording commercial transactions

42. The ancient Hebrew religious tradition contributed to subsequent civilization most significantly by introducing

- A. democratic political institutions

- B. ethical monotheism — worship of a single morally demanding God
- C. alphabetic writing systems
- D. the use of iron for tools and weapons

43. The classical Greek philosopher who taught Alexander the Great and wrote on logic, ethics, and politics was

- A. Aristotle, founder of the Lyceum
- B. Socrates of fifth-century Athens
- C. Plato, founder of the Academy
- D. Pythagoras of the Ionian school

44. The Roman Republic ended and the Roman Empire began with the rise of

- A. Julius Caesar at the start of the Gallic Wars
- B. Cicero in the late Republican period
- C. Augustus, the adopted heir of Julius Caesar
- D. Constantine the Great in the fourth century

45. The Christian religion was officially tolerated within the Roman Empire after

- A. the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem
- B. the Council of Nicaea convened in 325 CE
- C. the persecutions under the emperor Diocletian
- D. the Edict of Milan issued by Constantine in 313 CE

46. The Hindu concept of *dharma* refers most directly to

- A. moral and religious duty appropriate to one's stage of life and social role
- B. the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth across multiple lives
- C. liberation from the cycle of reincarnation through enlightenment
- D. the principle of nonviolence toward all living beings

47. The Five Pillars of Islam include all of the following EXCEPT

- A. the declaration of faith (*shahada*)
- B. the obligation to convert non-Muslims by all available means
- C. ritual prayer five times daily (*salat*)
- D. fasting during the holy month of Ramadan (*sawm*)

48. The Mongol conquests of the thirteenth century resulted in

- A. the permanent unification of all Eurasia under a single political authority
- B. the complete suppression of Silk Road trade for nearly two centuries
- C. the intensification of cross-cultural contact across Eurasia along trade routes
- D. the conversion of all Mongol territories to Buddhism

49. The Treaty of Tordesillas (1494) divided non-Christian overseas claims between

- A. France and England across northern North America
- B. England and the Netherlands across the Caribbean
- C. Spain and the Ottoman Empire across the Mediterranean
- D. Spain and Portugal under papal mediation

50. The Spanish **encomienda** system in the Americas was a labor arrangement that
- A. granted Spanish colonizers the right to extract labor and tribute from indigenous communities
 - B. recognized indigenous communal land ownership as the basis of colonial agriculture
 - C. provided wage employment to free indigenous laborers in colonial enterprises
 - D. abolished forced labor and replaced it with voluntary indentured service

51. The Council of Trent (1545–1563) was most directly a response to the
- A. Mongol invasion of Eastern Europe in earlier centuries
 - B. Protestant Reformation and the resulting division of Western Christendom
 - C. Ottoman conquest of Constantinople in 1453
 - D. discovery of the Americas and the resulting need to evangelize indigenous peoples

52. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 in England resulted in
- A. the establishment of an absolute monarchy under James II
 - B. the dissolution of Parliament for nearly a century
 - C. the formal union of England with France
 - D. the constitutional limitation of royal authority and parliamentary supremacy

53. The Latin American wars of independence (c. 1808–1826) were facilitated most directly by
- A. direct military assistance from the United States and the British navy
 - B. the abolition of slavery throughout the Spanish Empire in 1812
 - C. Napoleon's invasion of the Iberian Peninsula in 1808
 - D. the formation of a continental Latin American congress in 1810

54. The Industrial Revolution's earliest factories used which of the following primary power sources?

- A. Water-powered machinery driven by streams and rivers
- B. Internal combustion engines burning gasoline
- C. Electric motors powered by hydroelectric generation
- D. Animal power through ox and horse teams

55. The Opium Wars (1839–1842 and 1856–1860) resulted in

- A. the British abolition of opium imports into the British Empire
- B. unequal treaties imposing extraterritoriality and treaty ports on China
- C. the establishment of equal trading rights between China and European powers
- D. the Chinese conquest of British trading posts in Southeast Asia

56. The unification of Italy was completed in 1871 with the addition of which city?

- A. Florence, the cultural center of the Renaissance
- B. Venice, the major port of the Adriatic Sea
- C. Rome, ending the Pope's temporal sovereignty over the Papal States
- D. Milan, the industrial heart of northern Italy

57. The Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905) was significant because it

- A. resulted in the partition of Korea between Russia and Japan
- B. produced the first treaty between Japan and the United States
- C. ended Russia's eastward expansion across Siberia
- D. was the first major modern military victory of an Asian power over a European one

58. The assassination that triggered the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 was that of

- A. Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary in Sarajevo
- B. Tsar Nicholas II of Russia in Petrograd
- C. Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany in Berlin
- D. King George V of the United Kingdom in London

59. The Long March (1934–1935) is most closely associated with

- A. the Indian independence movement's nonviolent resistance campaigns
- B. the Chinese Communist Party's strategic retreat under Mao Zedong
- C. the Soviet Union's mass deportations of ethnic minorities
- D. the Japanese military advance across mainland Southeast Asia

60. The Battle of Stalingrad (1942–1943) is generally regarded as

- A. the largest naval battle of the Second World War
- B. the German strategic victory that opened the Caucasus to Axis advance
- C. the first major engagement between American and German forces
- D. the catastrophic German defeat marking the strategic turn of the Eastern Front

61. The Yalta Conference of February 1945 brought together

- A. Hitler, Mussolini, and Hirohito to coordinate Axis strategy
- B. Truman, Attlee, and Stalin at the war's conclusion
- C. Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin to plan postwar settlement
- D. Eisenhower, de Gaulle, and Tito on European recovery

62. The Bretton Woods Conference of 1944 established

- A. the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank
- B. the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly
- C. the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- D. the European Coal and Steel Community

63. The decolonization of Asia and Africa after 1945 was driven by all of the following factors EXCEPT

- A. weakened European powers after the Second World War
- B. organized nationalist movements in colonized territories
- C. new international anti-colonial norms enshrined in the United Nations
- D. American and Soviet support for European colonial empires

64. India achieved independence from Britain in 1947 under the leadership of

- A. Subhas Chandra Bose and Indira Gandhi during wartime
- B. Mohandas Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru of the Indian National Congress
- C. Jinnah and Liaquat Ali Khan from the Muslim League alone
- D. Sardar Patel and B. R. Ambedkar working without Congress support

65. The Korean War (1950–1953) ended with

- A. the unification of Korea under a single democratic government
- B. the absorption of all Korea into communist China
- C. an armistice that left Korea divided along the 38th parallel
- D. the formal independence of Korea under United Nations administration

66. The Suez Crisis of 1956 began when Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser

- A. nationalized the Suez Canal Company
- B. invaded Israel through the Sinai Peninsula
- C. requested American military intervention in Egypt
- D. signed a defense treaty with the Soviet Union

67. The Vietnam War ended in 1975 with the

- A. formal partition of Vietnam between the North and South
- B. American military victory and South Vietnamese stabilization
- C. negotiation of a power-sharing government in Saigon
- D. fall of Saigon to North Vietnamese forces and reunification

68. The Iranian Revolution of 1979 resulted in

- A. the establishment of a secular democratic republic in Iran
- B. the establishment of an Islamic Republic under Ayatollah Khomeini
- C. the restoration of the Pahlavi dynasty under the Shah
- D. the formal alliance of Iran with the United States against Iraq

69. The fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 symbolized

- A. the collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe
- B. the formal beginning of the European Union as a political entity
- C. the consolidation of Soviet power in Central Europe
- D. the end of the Korean War's lingering tensions

70. The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks led most directly to which of the following federal actions?

- A. The withdrawal of American forces from the Middle East
- B. The dissolution of the Department of Defense
- C. The invasion of Afghanistan and the passage of the USA PATRIOT Act
- D. The repeal of major civil liberties protections in the Bill of Rights

71. The Magna Carta (1215) is significant because it

- A. created the modern British parliamentary system in its current form
- B. abolished the feudal manorial system in England
- C. granted political rights to all English subjects regardless of class
- D. established the principle that even the king is subject to law

SECTION III — GEOGRAPHY (Questions 72–90)

72. An equal-area projection preserves which property at the expense of others?

- A. Direction, allowing accurate compass bearings between two points
- B. Area, with shape distorted to maintain accurate sizes of land masses
- C. Distance from a single specified central point on the map
- D. Both shape and distance, as a balanced compromise projection

73. A topographic map differs from a political map in that it primarily shows

- A. terrain features and elevation through contour lines
- B. demographic patterns of population distribution

- C. the locations of major cities and transportation hubs
- D. national and state boundaries with detailed legal descriptions

74. The Coriolis effect describes the apparent deflection of moving air and water

- A. caused by the gravitational pull of the moon on the atmosphere
- B. produced exclusively by warm tropical ocean currents
- C. found only in the upper layers of the troposphere
- D. caused by the Earth's rotation, deflecting movement to the right in the Northern Hemisphere

75. The rain shadow effect occurs when

- A. clouds form rapidly over warm tropical oceans during summer months
- B. polar air masses descend toward the equator in winter
- C. mountains force moist air upward, dropping precipitation on the windward side
- D. ocean currents transport moisture inland across coastal mountains

76. The world's largest tropical rainforest is located in the basin of which river?

- A. The Congo River in Central Africa
- B. The Amazon River in South America
- C. The Mekong River in Southeast Asia
- D. The Ganges River in South Asia

77. Total Fertility Rate represents

- A. the average number of children a woman would have over her lifetime at current rates

- B. the percentage of women employed in the formal labor market
- C. the number of births per thousand population per year
- D. the proportion of the population over the age of sixty-five

78. Which of the following religious traditions is the largest by number of adherents worldwide?

- A. Islam, the second-largest world religion
- B. Hinduism, concentrated primarily in South Asia
- C. Buddhism, distributed across East and Southeast Asia
- D. Christianity, with approximately 2.4 billion adherents

79. A universalizing religion is best characterized as one that

- A. is restricted to a single ethnic or national group
- B. actively seeks converts and aims for a global community of believers
- C. teaches that there is no spiritual reality beyond the natural world
- D. has been formally endorsed by the United Nations

80. The cultural landscape of a region refers to

- A. the political boundaries that divide one region from another
- B. exclusively the physical terrain unaffected by human activity
- C. the visible imprint of human cultures on the physical environment
- D. the climate patterns that shape ecosystems within the region

81. Edge cities are characterized by

- A. concentrations of office, retail, and entertainment outside traditional downtowns
- B. dense apartment housing in the historic urban core
- C. rural communities just beyond a metropolitan area's outer ring
- D. industrial districts converted to residential lofts in city centers

82. The von Thünen model of agricultural land use predicts that

- A. all crops are equally profitable regardless of transportation costs
- B. urban populations will always rely entirely on imported food
- C. all agricultural production will eventually concentrate in a single region
- D. agricultural intensity decreases with distance from a market center

83. A multinational state is best defined as a state

- A. composed exclusively of citizens with shared ancestry and language
- B. containing more than one nation or major ethnic group within its borders
- C. that is a member of multiple supranational organizations
- D. organized around a single religious tradition

84. A relict boundary is best described as a former boundary that

- A. follows a major river or watershed dividing two countries
- B. has been newly redrawn following a recent political settlement
- C. no longer functions but remains visible in the cultural landscape
- D. is currently under active dispute between neighboring states

85. The Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest hydroelectric facility by installed capacity, is located on the

- A. Yangtze River of China
- B. Mekong River of Southeast Asia
- C. Amazon River of South America
- D. Indus River of South Asia

86. Megacities are conventionally defined as urban areas with populations exceeding

- A. 1 million residents in a metropolitan area
- B. 50 million residents across multiple municipalities
- C. 10 million residents in a single urban area
- D. 100 million residents within a single country

87. Urban sprawl is characterized by

- A. high-density vertical development concentrated in city centers
- B. the conversion of suburban land back to agricultural production
- C. the abandonment of metropolitan areas in favor of rural settlement
- D. low-density, automobile-dependent development that consumes large amounts of land

88. The Sahel region of Africa is characterized as a

- A. dense tropical rainforest covering equatorial Africa
- B. transitional semi-arid zone between the Sahara and tropical Africa
- C. high-altitude plateau of East Africa

D. coastal mangrove ecosystem of West Africa

89. The Demographic Transition Model describes a typical sequence in which

- A. countries move from high birth and death rates to low birth and death rates as they industrialize
- B. populations grow continuously without ever stabilizing over time
- C. populations decline steadily from initial high levels
- D. countries experience identical demographic patterns regardless of economic development

90. Devolution refers to

- A. the dissolution of national governments into smaller independent states
- B. the formation of supranational unions of multiple countries
- C. the centralization of authority following constitutional reform
- D. the transfer of powers from a central government to subnational units

SECTION IV — CIVICS (Questions 91–122)

91. The fundamental purpose of government, according to John Locke, is to

- A. provide for the spiritual welfare of citizens through state-sponsored religion
- B. enforce a single moral code derived from tradition
- C. protect the natural rights of individuals to life, liberty, and property
- D. maintain absolute control over economic activity

92. Baron de Montesquieu's most influential contribution to American constitutional design was the principle of

- A. separation of powers among legislative, executive, and judicial branches
- B. direct democracy in large geographic territories
- C. hereditary monarchy with elected advisors
- D. religious uniformity as the basis of political stability

93. The Articles of Confederation required which of the following supermajorities for amendments?

- A. Two-thirds approval of state legislatures
- B. Approval by three-fourths of state ratifying conventions
- C. Approval by a national constitutional convention
- D. Unanimous consent of all thirteen states

94. The U.S. Constitution divides power between the federal government and state governments through the principle of

- A. separation of powers among coequal branches
- B. federalism as a vertical division of authority
- C. checks and balances among the three branches
- D. judicial review of federal legislative actions

95. The Tenth Amendment provides that powers not delegated to the federal government

- A. are reserved to the states or the people
- B. are automatically transferred to the President
- C. become powers of the federal courts

D. require approval by two-thirds of both houses of Congress

96. The First Amendment protects all of the following EXCEPT

- A. freedom of speech and of the press
- B. the free exercise of religion
- C. the right peaceably to assemble and to petition the government
- D. the right to keep and bear arms

97. The Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause has been used by the Supreme Court to

- A. reduce federal authority over interstate commerce
- B. require states to balance their annual budgets
- C. apply most Bill of Rights provisions to state governments through incorporation
- D. expand the role of the Electoral College in presidential elections

98. *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) established that police must inform suspects in custody of

- A. their right to remain silent and their right to an attorney
- B. the maximum sentence they could receive if convicted at trial
- C. the names and addresses of all witnesses against them
- D. their right to a trial by jury within thirty days of arrest

99. A bill that has passed both houses of Congress in identical form is sent to the President, who may

- A. delegate decision-making to the Cabinet for further review
- B. submit the bill to the Supreme Court for constitutional review

- C. revise the bill and resubmit it to Congress for additional consideration
- D. sign the bill into law, veto it and return it with objections, or take no action

100. A presidential veto can be overridden by

- A. a simple majority vote in both houses of Congress
- B. a two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress
- C. a three-fourths vote in the Senate alone
- D. a unanimous Supreme Court ruling against the President

101. The filibuster, used to extend debate in the Senate, can typically be ended through

- A. a simple majority vote of senators present and voting
- B. an executive order issued by the President of the United States
- C. a cloture vote requiring 60 senators
- D. a ruling by the Chief Justice of the United States

102. The President serves as

- A. the Commander in Chief of the armed forces and chief executive
- B. the only authority empowered to pass federal legislation
- C. the chief justice of the federal judicial system
- D. the leader of the legislative branch under the Constitution

103. The Twenty-Second Amendment (1951) limits the President to

- A. four years in office without exception or reelection

- B. ten years in office regardless of election results
- C. lifetime tenure if approved by Congress
- D. two elected terms in office

104. The federal Cabinet consists of the heads of the executive

- A. branch's independent regulatory commissions
- B. departments such as State, Treasury, Defense, and Justice
- C. branch's federal court system
- D. office of the President's senior advisors

105. Mandatory federal spending consists primarily of

- A. Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and other entitlement programs
- B. annual appropriations for federal agencies
- C. discretionary funding for military procurement
- D. emergency disaster relief funding

106. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 most directly addressed

- A. discrimination in employment based on race or sex characteristics
- B. segregation in public accommodations such as restaurants and hotels
- C. literacy tests and other tools used to disenfranchise African American voters
- D. unequal funding of public schools across racial lines

107. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits

- A. all forms of religious instruction in federally funded schools
- B. the use of standardized testing in federal college admissions
- C. discrimination based on race in higher education funding
- D. discrimination based on sex in federally funded education programs

108. Civil liberties differ from civil rights in that civil liberties are primarily

- A. economic guarantees provided by federal welfare programs
- B. protections of individual freedom from government interference
- C. obligations of citizens to participate in jury service
- D. responsibilities of state governments to enforce federal laws

109. Voter turnout in U.S. presidential elections is generally

- A. lower than in most other developed democracies
- B. higher than in most other developed democracies
- C. roughly equal to turnout in midterm congressional elections
- D. consistently above 90 percent of the voting-eligible population

110. Interest groups influence the political process most directly through

- A. controlling the nomination of all federal judges
- B. requiring members of Congress to follow group voting instructions
- C. lobbying, campaign contributions, grassroots mobilization, and litigation
- D. operating their own independent court systems

111. Public opinion is most reliably measured through

- A. counting letters written to elected officials by constituents
- B. analyzing comments posted on social media platforms
- C. interviewing politicians and lobbyists about voter sentiment
- D. statistically representative survey research with carefully designed questions

112. Parliamentary systems differ from presidential systems primarily in that the executive in a parliamentary system is

- A. directly elected by voters in a separate national election
- B. drawn from and accountable to the legislative majority
- C. appointed by the head of state without legislative approval
- D. limited to a single fixed term independent of legislative confidence

113. Single-member plurality electoral systems tend to produce

- A. proportional representation of all political viewpoints
- B. nonpartisan elections in nearly every district
- C. two-party competition because votes for third parties are typically wasted
- D. multi-party legislatures with frequent coalition governments

114. The United Nations Security Council includes how many permanent veto-wielding members?

- A. Five — the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China
- B. Seven, with rotating membership for two of them
- C. Ten, equal to the number of elected members

D. Fifteen, identical to the total Security Council membership

115. NATO is best described as

- A. a global trade organization regulating international tariffs
- B. a humanitarian organization coordinating disaster relief
- C. a research organization studying climate and ocean patterns
- D. a collective defense alliance currently composed of more than thirty member states

116. The Paris Agreement of 2015 commits signatory countries to

- A. immediately eliminate all greenhouse gas emissions worldwide
- B. limit global warming to "well below" 2°C above pre-industrial levels
- C. transfer climate authority to a single supranational governing body
- D. abandon all fossil fuel use within fifteen years of signing

117. The doctrine of incorporation refers to the Supreme Court's progressive application of

- A. most provisions of the Bill of Rights to state governments through the Fourteenth Amendment
- B. corporate rights to political expenditures under the First Amendment
- C. federal regulatory authority to overseas territories of the United States
- D. international treaties to domestic constitutional interpretation

118. *Citizens United v. FEC* (2010) held that

- A. all corporate political spending must be disclosed to federal regulators
- B. corporations and unions may not make any independent political expenditures

- C. corporations and unions have free speech rights to make independent political expenditures
- D. campaign contributions to candidates may be unlimited if disclosed publicly

119. The Speaker of the House of Representatives is selected by

- A. appointment by the President of the United States
- B. seniority based on years of service in Congress
- C. nomination by the Senate Majority Leader
- D. a vote of the entire membership of the House of Representatives

120. Bills relating to federal revenue must constitutionally originate in the

- A. House of Representatives, where they are subject to amendment by the Senate
- B. Senate, where they are subject to amendment by the House
- C. Office of the President for submission to Congress
- D. Joint Committee on Taxation for review by both chambers

121. The Twenty-Fourth Amendment (1964) prohibited

- A. literacy tests in state voter registration
- B. poll taxes in federal elections
- C. employment discrimination based on race
- D. segregation in public accommodations

122. The principle of popular sovereignty in the U.S. Constitution is most directly expressed in

- A. the Three-Fifths Compromise within Article I

- B. the Supremacy Clause of Article VI
- C. the opening words of the Preamble, "We the People of the United States"
- D. the prohibition of religious tests for federal office

SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)

123. The fundamental economic problem that gives rise to the discipline of economics is

- A. scarcity of resources relative to unlimited human wants
- B. inflation in market economies
- C. unequal distribution of income within nations
- D. fluctuations in international exchange rates

124. The Production Possibilities Curve typically appears as a curve bowed outward from the origin because

- A. consumer preferences shift continuously over time
- B. resources are equally well-suited to producing all goods
- C. inflation increases the cost of producing all goods proportionally
- D. resources are not equally productive across different uses

125. A traditional economy is characterized primarily by

- A. central government planning of production and distribution
- B. the role of custom and tradition in determining what is produced
- C. the dominance of free markets and private property
- D. the absence of any economic activity above subsistence

126. A normal good is defined as a good for which

- A. supply is independent of price changes in the market
- B. demand falls as consumer income rises
- C. demand rises as consumer income rises
- D. supply equals demand at every possible price level

127. A price ceiling set below the equilibrium price typically produces

- A. shortages of the affected good
- B. economic surpluses of the affected good
- C. a permanent reduction in producer profits with no other effects
- D. neither surpluses nor shortages because the market adjusts perfectly

128. The four factors of production earn returns paid in the form of

- A. taxes, subsidies, transfers, and grants
- B. dividends, capital gains, royalties, and bonuses
- C. fees, dues, fines, and assessments
- D. rent, wages, interest, and profit

129. Marginal analysis is the central decision-making tool of microeconomics because

- A. economic decisions are made by considering totals rather than incremental changes
- B. firms maximize profit by producing where marginal revenue equals marginal cost
- C. economic decisions never depend on costs or benefits
- D. economic decisions can be made without considering scarcity or opportunity cost

130. A natural monopoly is most commonly found in

- A. industries with extremely high fixed costs and economies of scale
- B. agricultural commodity production in competitive markets
- C. retail clothing and apparel sales in shopping districts
- D. restaurants and personal service businesses in urban areas

131. Antitrust laws in the United States are primarily intended to

- A. eliminate all forms of competition among firms
- B. nationalize private corporations into government ownership
- C. promote competition by prohibiting monopolization and certain anticompetitive practices
- D. regulate the prices charged by all American businesses

132. A negative externality occurs when

- A. a firm fails to maximize profits during a recession
- B. consumer income falls during economic downturns
- C. inflation reduces the purchasing power of nominal wages
- D. a transaction imposes costs on parties not directly involved in the transaction

133. Public goods are characterized by which two features?

- A. High prices and limited availability in markets
- B. Non-rivalry in consumption and non-excludability
- C. Profitable production and easy excludability
- D. Production by government enterprises only

134. Real GDP differs from nominal GDP in that real GDP

- A. counts all transactions including illegal market activity
- B. excludes government spending from total output
- C. is measured in inflation-adjusted dollars, allowing meaningful comparisons across years
- D. measures only manufactured goods and excludes services

135. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is used to

- A. measure inflation through the cost of a representative basket of consumer goods
- B. determine the federal income tax rates for individual taxpayers
- C. set the federal funds rate target for monetary policy decisions
- D. track total federal government spending across fiscal years

136. Frictional unemployment refers to

- A. long-term unemployment caused by mismatches between skills and available jobs
- B. unemployment caused by downturns in the business cycle
- C. unemployment caused by predictable seasonal variations in particular industries
- D. short-term, often voluntary unemployment as workers transition between jobs

137. The Federal Reserve System's "dual mandate" requires it to

- A. regulate state-chartered banks and supervise consumer protection laws
- B. promote maximum employment and stable prices
- C. coordinate monetary policy with the Treasury Department's debt management
- D. provide monetary support for federal fiscal stimulus programs

138. The federal funds rate is the interest rate at which

- A. banks lend reserves to one another overnight
- B. consumers obtain federally insured home mortgage loans
- C. the federal government lends to state and local governments
- D. the Federal Reserve lends directly to the United States Treasury

139. Expansionary fiscal policy designed to combat a recession typically involves

- A. raising interest rates and slowing the growth of the money supply
- B. cutting federal taxes paired with reductions in government spending
- C. increases in government spending, tax cuts, or both
- D. lowering interest rates and expanding the money supply

140. According to the principle of comparative advantage, two countries can both gain from international trade when

- A. one country has absolute advantage in every good and produces all of them
- B. both countries produce identical goods using identical methods
- C. tariff barriers are erected to protect domestic industries from foreign competition
- D. each specializes in producing the goods in which it has lower opportunity costs

PRACTICE EXAM 12 — ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATIONS

SECTION I — UNITED STATES HISTORY (Questions 1–40)

1. D — The Adena (c. 1000 BCE–200 CE) and Hopewell (c. 200 BCE–500 CE) cultures of the Ohio River valley are best known for their construction of elaborate burial mounds and earthwork complexes. These earthworks, including effigy mounds and geometric enclosures, represent some of the most sophisticated indigenous monumental architecture in pre-Columbian North America.
2. C — The Mayflower Compact was signed to provide a basis for self-government among the Plymouth colonists who had landed outside their patent's jurisdiction. The 41 male signatories agreed to combine into a "civil body politic" governed by mutually agreed laws — an early example of governance by consent.
3. A — The Pequot War of 1636–1638 resulted in the near-destruction of the Pequot people through warfare, mass killing at the Mystic Massacre, and the enslavement of survivors. It established a pattern of devastating colonial violence against New England's indigenous peoples.
4. B — Mercantilism held that colonies existed primarily to enrich the mother country through controlled trade — supplying raw materials and serving as captive markets for finished goods. The Navigation Acts (beginning in 1651) enforced these principles by restricting colonial trade to British ships and ports.
5. C — The First Continental Congress was assembled in September 1774 to coordinate colonial responses to the Coercive Acts (Intolerable Acts) that Britain had imposed after the Boston Tea Party. Twelve of the thirteen colonies sent delegates and agreed to a coordinated boycott of British goods.
6. A — The Declaration of Independence drew most directly on John Locke's theories of natural rights and government by consent. Jefferson's prose echoes Locke's *Two Treatises of Government* so directly that scholars have documented numerous parallel passages.
7. D — The Articles of Confederation gave the central government authority to declare war and conduct foreign affairs through Congress. The Articles notably lacked the power to tax individuals, regulate interstate commerce, or enforce its own laws.
8. B — The Great Compromise resolved the dispute over representation in Congress between large states (favoring representation by population) and small states (favoring equal representation per state) by creating a bicameral legislature: the population-based House and the state-based Senate.

9. C — The Federalist Papers were published under the pseudonym "Publius," representing public-spirited citizenship in the Roman tradition. The 85 essays were written by Hamilton, Madison, and Jay specifically to persuade New York voters to ratify the Constitution.
10. A — The 1800 election marked the first peaceful transfer of executive power between competing political parties — from the Federalists to the Democratic-Republicans. This had been by no means guaranteed in the early republic and was widely seen as a profound demonstration of constitutional resilience.
11. D — *Gibbons v. Ogden* established a broad interpretation of federal authority under the Commerce Clause, ruling that federal power over interstate commerce extended to navigation between states. The decision became a foundation for the expansive federal regulatory authority that emerged in the twentieth century.
12. B — The Indian Removal Act of 1830 authorized the relocation of southeastern tribes to territory west of the Mississippi. The most infamous result was the Trail of Tears (1838–1839), the forced removal of the Cherokee Nation from Georgia in which roughly 4,000 Cherokee died.
13. A — Seneca Falls in 1848 launched the organized women's rights movement, where Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott authored the Declaration of Sentiments demanding political and legal equality. The Republican Party was founded later, in 1854; *Uncle Tom's Cabin* appeared in 1852.
14. C — The Kansas-Nebraska Act allowed slavery in territories where the Missouri Compromise (1820) had previously prohibited it, replacing the geographic line with popular sovereignty. The Act provoked massive Northern outrage, sparked "Bleeding Kansas," and led directly to the formation of the Republican Party.
15. D — *Dred Scott* held that African Americans, whether enslaved or free, could not be citizens of the United States. The decision also voided the Missouri Compromise as unconstitutional and accelerated the political crisis leading to the Civil War.
16. B — The Fourteenth Amendment defined citizenship to include all persons born or naturalized in the United States and guaranteed due process and equal protection of the laws against state action. It is the constitutional foundation of modern civil rights law.
17. A — The transcontinental railroad connected the eastern American rail network to the Pacific coast at Promontory Summit, Utah, where the Central Pacific and Union Pacific lines met on May 10, 1869. The completion dramatically reduced cross-country travel time and accelerated western settlement.
18. D — The Homestead Act offered 160-acre parcels of federal land to settlers willing to live on and farm the land for five years. Combined with railroad land grants, it drew millions of settlers westward and was a major engine of demographic transformation.

19. C — The Spanish-American War was triggered by events including the explosion of the USS *Maine* in Havana harbor in February 1898, which killed 266 American sailors. The cause of the explosion remains debated, but yellow journalism blamed Spain and inflamed public opinion.
20. A — Roosevelt's "Square Deal" emphasized trust-busting, conservation, and consumer protection — including the Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act of 1906. The phrase reflected Roosevelt's promise of fair treatment for all economic groups.
21. B — The Eighteenth Amendment, ratified in 1919 and effective in 1920, established national prohibition of the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages. Prohibition produced the rise of organized crime and was repealed by the Twenty-First Amendment in 1933.
22. D — The Crash of 1929 contributed to the Great Depression by eroding banking confidence and triggering widespread bank failures, which destroyed personal savings and dramatically reduced consumer spending and business investment. The contraction continued for years after the initial Crash.
23. C — The Wagner Act of 1935 (National Labor Relations Act) guaranteed workers the right to organize unions and bargain collectively, and established the National Labor Relations Board to enforce these rights. It was foundational to the dramatic growth of organized labor in the late 1930s and 1940s.
24. A — American entry into World War II was triggered by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Germany declared war on the United States four days later, drawing the United States into the European theater as well.
25. B — The Marshall Plan was an enormous American economic aid program for the reconstruction of Western Europe after World War II. It is credited with both rebuilding war-torn economies and binding Western Europe to the American-led Cold War alliance.
26. D — The 1957 desegregation crisis at Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, where Governor Orval Faubus blocked integration, required federal intervention by President Eisenhower. Eisenhower deployed the 101st Airborne Division to enforce the court-ordered admission of nine Black students.
27. A — The Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibited discrimination in employment (Title VII), public accommodations (Title II), and federally funded programs (Title VI), as well as in education and other domains. It was the most comprehensive civil rights legislation since Reconstruction.
28. C — Tet was a tactical defeat for North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces, but it shattered American public confidence that the war was being won. The contrast between official optimism and the visible scale of the offensive eroded public support and accelerated American withdrawal.

29. B — The Camp David Accords (1978) established peace between Egypt and Israel, leading to the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty of 1979. The Accords were brokered by President Jimmy Carter and remain one of the most significant diplomatic achievements in modern Middle Eastern history.
30. D — The Iran-Contra affair involved the secret sale of arms to Iran and the diversion of profits to fund the Nicaraguan Contras, despite a congressional ban on such aid. The scandal damaged the Reagan administration but did not result in presidential impeachment.
31. C — The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 entitled eligible workers to up to twelve weeks of unpaid leave for family or medical reasons without losing their jobs or health benefits. The law applied to employers with fifty or more employees.
32. A — The ACA expanded health insurance coverage primarily through Medicaid expansion (taken up by some but not all states), subsidized private insurance marketplaces, and an individual mandate that was later effectively eliminated. The ACA extended coverage to roughly 20 million previously uninsured Americans.
33. D — The Bay of Pigs invasion was a CIA-backed operation in which roughly 1,400 Cuban exiles attempted to overthrow Castro's government. The invasion was a humiliating failure that strengthened Castro domestically and drove him further toward the Soviet Union.
34. B — The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed in the immediate aftermath of the Selma to Montgomery march, including the brutal "Bloody Sunday" attack on demonstrators at the Edmund Pettus Bridge. The march's televised violence created decisive momentum for federal voting rights legislation.
35. A — The OPEC oil embargo of 1973 was a response to American military assistance to Israel during the Yom Kippur War. The embargo produced the first major oil crisis of the modern era, dramatically raising prices and reshaping American energy policy.
36. C — The Gilded Age was characterized by rapid industrial growth, urban expansion, immigration, and significant inequality. The term, coined by Mark Twain, captured the era's combination of glittering wealth at the top with widespread hardship for industrial workers and farmers.
37. D — Antietam was the bloodiest single day in American history, but more importantly it was a strategic Union victory that halted Lee's invasion of Maryland. The result gave Lincoln the political opening to issue the Emancipation Proclamation, transforming the war's purpose.
38. B — The Pendleton Civil Service Act of 1883 established merit-based competitive examinations for federal hiring, beginning the gradual replacement of the spoils system with a professional civil service. It was passed in the wake of President Garfield's assassination by a disappointed office-seeker.

39. A — The Reagan Doctrine emphasized supporting anti-communist insurgencies in the developing world. The policy supported groups including the Contras in Nicaragua, the mujahideen in Afghanistan, and UNITA in Angola, marking a more confrontational approach than détente.
40. C — The 2008 financial crisis was triggered by the failure of major financial institutions exposed to subprime mortgage securities, most prominently the September 2008 collapse of Lehman Brothers. The crisis required massive federal intervention, including the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)

41. D — Cuneiform was originally developed primarily for accounting and recording commercial transactions in ancient Sumer. Only later did it expand to other uses, including literature like the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, religious texts, and legal codes.
42. B — The Hebrew religious tradition introduced ethical monotheism — the worship of a single God characterized by moral demands on followers — to the ancient Near East. This concept profoundly shaped Christianity and Islam and remains a foundational contribution to global religious thought.
43. A — Aristotle, founder of the Lyceum, taught Alexander the Great as a youth and wrote on logic, ethics, politics, biology, and other subjects. His systematic approach to knowledge influenced Western thought for two millennia.
44. C — The Roman Republic ended and the Empire began with the rise of Augustus (Octavian), the adopted heir of Julius Caesar, who became the first emperor in 27 BCE after defeating Mark Antony and Cleopatra. Augustus preserved republican forms while concentrating real power in himself.
45. D — Christianity was officially tolerated within the Roman Empire after the Edict of Milan, issued by Constantine in 313 CE, ending official persecution. Constantine's own conversion and the later edict of Theodosius (380 CE) made Christianity the state religion.
46. A — *Dharma* in Hindu thought refers to moral and religious duty appropriate to one's stage of life and social role. The concept is central to Hindu ethics and includes both universal moral obligations and duties specific to caste, family role, and life stage.
47. B — Islam includes no Pillar requiring forced conversion of non-Muslims. The Five Pillars are *shahada* (declaration of faith), *salat* (ritual prayer), *zakat* (almsgiving), *sawm* (fasting during Ramadan), and *hajj* (pilgrimage to Mecca). The Qur'an explicitly states that "there is no compulsion in religion."
48. C — The Mongol conquests, despite their initial brutality, produced the *Pax Mongolica* — a period of relative security across Eurasia that intensified Silk Road trade, communication, and cultural exchange. The Black Death itself likely traveled westward along Mongol-controlled trade routes.

49. D — The Treaty of Tordesillas (1494), mediated by Pope Alexander VI, divided non-Christian overseas claims between Spain and Portugal. Spain received lands west of an imagined line in the Atlantic; Portugal received lands east of it. The line ultimately gave Brazil to Portugal and most of the Americas to Spain.
50. A — The *encomienda* system granted Spanish colonizers the right to extract labor and tribute from indigenous communities. Combined with catastrophic disease, the system devastated indigenous populations during the early colonial period and was a foundational institution of Spanish colonial rule.
51. B — The Council of Trent (1545–1563) was the Catholic Counter-Reformation's formal response to the Protestant challenge. It clarified Catholic doctrine, reformed Church practices, and energized Catholic missionary work. It rejected most Protestant theological innovations while addressing some genuine abuses.
52. D — The Glorious Revolution of 1688 deposed James II in favor of William and Mary, established parliamentary supremacy over the monarchy, and produced the English Bill of Rights of 1689. It is considered foundational to modern constitutional government.
53. C — Napoleon's 1808 invasion of the Iberian Peninsula deposed both the Spanish and Portuguese monarchies and created a crisis of legitimacy in their American colonies. Creole elites increasingly came to favor independence, and the wars of independence followed across most of Spanish and Portuguese America.
54. A — The earliest factories of the Industrial Revolution used water-powered machinery driven by streams and rivers, which is why the first industrial mills clustered along swift-flowing rivers in places like northern England and New England. Steam power followed and eventually surpassed water power.
55. B — The Opium Wars resulted in unequal treaties imposing extraterritoriality (immunity of foreign citizens from Chinese law), treaty ports open to foreign trade, and significant territorial concessions including the cession of Hong Kong to Britain. The treaties initiated a "century of humiliation" in Chinese historical memory.
56. C — Italian unification was completed in 1871 with the addition of Rome, ending the Pope's temporal sovereignty over the Papal States. The new kingdom established Rome as its capital, and the Pope retreated into the Vatican as a "prisoner."
57. D — The Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905) was the first major modern military victory of an Asian power over a European one. Japan's victory over Russia signaled Japan's emergence as a great power and challenged European assumptions about racial and military hierarchies.
58. A — Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary was assassinated by Gavrilo Princip in Sarajevo on June 28, 1914. The assassination triggered the chain of ultimatums and mobilizations that produced the First World War within six weeks.

59. B — The Long March (1934–1935) is most closely associated with the Chinese Communist Party's strategic retreat under Mao Zedong, covering roughly 6,000 miles to escape Nationalist encirclement. The march established Mao's leadership and became central to Communist Party mythology.
60. D — Stalingrad was the catastrophic German defeat that marked the strategic turn of the Eastern Front. An entire German army (the Sixth Army) was destroyed, and the Soviet Union began its long advance westward that eventually reached Berlin in 1945.
61. C — The Yalta Conference of February 1945 brought together Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin to plan the postwar settlement, including the occupation zones of Germany, the establishment of the United Nations, and the Soviet entry into the war against Japan.
62. A — The Bretton Woods Conference of 1944 established the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank to promote international monetary cooperation and provide development financing. These institutions remain central to the global economic system.
63. D — American and Soviet support for European colonial empires did NOT drive decolonization. Both superpowers, for very different reasons, opposed European empires after 1945. Decolonization was driven by weakened European powers, organized nationalist movements, and new international anti-colonial norms.
64. B — Indian independence in 1947 was led most prominently by Mohandas Gandhi, whose nonviolent civil disobedience campaigns built mass support for independence, and Jawaharlal Nehru, who became India's first prime minister. Independence was accompanied by the catastrophic Partition.
65. C — The Korean War ended with an armistice in 1953 that left Korea divided along the 38th parallel, where it remains today. No formal peace treaty has ever been signed, and the Korean War technically continues in legal terms.
66. A — The Suez Crisis of 1956 began when Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal Company on July 26, 1956. Britain, France, and Israel responded with a coordinated military operation that ultimately failed under American and Soviet pressure.
67. D — The Vietnam War ended in 1975 with the fall of Saigon to North Vietnamese forces and the reunification of Vietnam under Communist rule. The collapse of South Vietnam followed the withdrawal of American forces under the 1973 Paris Peace Accords.
68. B — The Iranian Revolution of 1979 resulted in the establishment of an Islamic Republic under Ayatollah Khomeini, replacing the pro-Western Shah. The revolution dramatically reshaped Middle Eastern politics and produced the Iran Hostage Crisis at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

69. A — The fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989 symbolized the collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe. Within months, virtually every East European Communist government fell, and within two years the Soviet Union itself dissolved.
70. C — September 11 led most directly to the invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001 (toppling the Taliban government that had sheltered al-Qaeda) and to the passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, which dramatically expanded federal surveillance and law enforcement authority.
71. D — Magna Carta (1215) established the foundational principle that even the king is subject to law. While its immediate provisions were modest, the principle of legal limitation on royal authority became foundational to constitutional government in England and beyond.

SECTION III — GEOGRAPHY (Questions 72–90)

72. B — An equal-area projection preserves area at the expense of shape. Land masses are shown in their true relative sizes, but shapes are distorted, often appearing elongated or compressed. The Peters projection is the best-known equal-area world map.
73. A — A topographic map primarily shows terrain features and elevation through contour lines. Each line connects points of equal elevation, allowing the map to represent three-dimensional landscape on a two-dimensional surface. Topographic maps are essential for hiking, surveying, and military operations.
74. D — The Coriolis effect is the apparent deflection of moving air and water caused by the Earth's rotation, deflecting movement to the right in the Northern Hemisphere and to the left in the Southern Hemisphere. It shapes prevailing wind patterns and ocean currents globally.
75. C — The rain shadow effect occurs when mountains force moist air upward, dropping precipitation on the windward side and leaving the leeward side dry. The Atacama Desert (rain shadow of the Andes) and the Mojave (rain shadow of the Sierra Nevada) are classic examples.
76. B — The world's largest tropical rainforest is in the Amazon Basin in South America, covering approximately 5.5 million square kilometers across nine countries. It is sometimes called "the lungs of the planet" for its role in oxygen production and carbon storage.
77. A — Total Fertility Rate represents the average number of children a woman would have over her lifetime at current age-specific fertility rates. A TFR of approximately 2.1 is the replacement rate; below 2.1, population will eventually decline absent immigration.
78. D — Christianity is the world's largest religion by number of adherents, with approximately 2.4 billion followers globally. Islam is the second-largest at approximately 1.9 billion. Hinduism follows at approximately 1.2 billion, with Buddhism considerably smaller.
79. B — A universalizing religion actively seeks converts and aims for a global community of believers. Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism are the major universalizing religions. Ethnic religions like Hinduism and Judaism are tied closely to particular peoples and places.

80. C — The cultural landscape refers to the visible imprint of human cultures on the physical environment — agricultural patterns, architectural styles, religious structures, language on signage, and the layout of settlements. It is a central concept in cultural geography.
81. A — Edge cities are concentrations of office, retail, and entertainment activity outside traditional downtowns, typically located along beltways and highway interchanges in metropolitan suburbs. They emerged as a distinctive urban form in the late twentieth century.
82. D — The von Thünen model predicts that agricultural intensity decreases with distance from a market center because transportation costs make distant land less profitable for high-value crops. The model demonstrates the influence of transportation costs on land use patterns.
83. B — A multinational state contains more than one nation or major ethnic group within its borders. Russia, India, Canada, and Belgium are major multinational states. The mismatch between national groups and political boundaries is a frequent source of tension.
84. C — A relict boundary is a former boundary that no longer functions but remains visible in the cultural landscape. The former East-West German border, for example, can still be detected in differences in settlement patterns, architecture, and economic indicators.
85. A — The Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest hydroelectric facility by installed capacity, is located on the Yangtze River in central China. It produces approximately 22,500 megawatts of electricity, but has been criticized for environmental and social costs.
86. C — Megacities are conventionally defined as urban areas with populations exceeding 10 million people. There are now more than 35 megacities globally, the great majority in the developing world, including Tokyo, Delhi, Shanghai, São Paulo, and Mexico City.
87. D — Urban sprawl is characterized by low-density, automobile-dependent development that consumes large amounts of land per resident. It is associated with extensive suburban housing, strip commercial development, and highway-oriented infrastructure.
88. B — The Sahel is a transitional semi-arid zone between the Sahara to the north and tropical Africa to the south, stretching across the continent from Senegal to Sudan. It is highly vulnerable to drought, desertification, and food insecurity.
89. A — The Demographic Transition Model describes a typical sequence in which countries move from high birth and death rates, through a period of rapid population growth as death rates fall first, to low birth and death rates as societies industrialize and urbanize.
90. D — Devolution is the transfer of powers from a central government to subnational units in response to regional pressures. Examples include the Scottish and Welsh devolved governments within the United Kingdom and the autonomous regions of Spain.

SECTION IV — CIVICS (Questions 91–122)

91. C — John Locke argued that the fundamental purpose of government is to protect the natural rights of individuals to life, liberty, and property. When government fails this purpose, citizens retain the right of revolution. Locke's framework directly shaped the Declaration of Independence.
92. A — Montesquieu's most influential contribution was the principle of separation of powers among legislative, executive, and judicial branches as a safeguard against tyranny. James Madison explicitly cited Montesquieu in *Federalist No. 47* as the authority on this principle.
93. D — The Articles of Confederation required unanimous consent of all thirteen states for amendments to the Articles themselves. This requirement made meaningful amendment effectively impossible and contributed to the decision to draft an entirely new constitution.
94. B — Federalism is the constitutional principle dividing power between the federal government and state governments. Separation of powers divides authority horizontally among branches at the same level; federalism divides it vertically between national and state levels.
95. A — The Tenth Amendment provides that powers not delegated to the federal government by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states or the people. This is the constitutional articulation of the principle of reserved powers.
96. D — The right to keep and bear arms is protected by the Second Amendment, not the First. The First Amendment protects freedom of religion (Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses), speech, press, assembly, and petition.
97. C — The Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause has been the constitutional vehicle through which the Supreme Court has applied most provisions of the Bill of Rights to state governments through the doctrine of incorporation. Originally, the Bill of Rights restricted only the federal government.
98. A — *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) held that suspects in custody must be informed of their right to remain silent and their right to an attorney before being interrogated. The "Miranda warning" became a foundational protection of Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights.
99. D — A bill that has passed both houses of Congress in identical form is sent to the President, who may sign it into law, veto it and return it to Congress with objections, or take no action. If Congress is in session, an unsigned bill becomes law after 10 days; if Congress adjourns, it is pocket-vetoed.
100. B — A presidential veto can be overridden by a two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress. The supermajority requirement is one of the most important checks on legislative power and reflects the Framers' desire to require broad consensus for legislation passed over presidential objection.
101. C — The filibuster in the Senate can be ended through a cloture vote requiring 60 senators (three-fifths of the chamber). The cloture requirement effectively means that most non-budget legislation requires 60 votes rather than a simple majority of 51 to pass the Senate.

102. A — The President serves as Commander in Chief of the armed forces and as the chief executive of the federal government. The President does not pass legislation (Congress does), is not a judicial officer, and is constitutionally part of the executive branch.
103. D — The Twenty-Second Amendment limits the President to two elected terms in office. It was adopted in 1951 in response to Franklin Roosevelt's four consecutive elections. A vice president who serves more than two years of another's term may be elected only once thereafter.
104. B — The federal Cabinet consists of the heads of the executive departments — State, Treasury, Defense, Justice, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, Energy, Education, Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security.
105. A — Mandatory federal spending consists primarily of Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and other entitlement programs whose spending levels are determined by existing law rather than annual appropriations. Mandatory spending has grown to consume more than 60 percent of the federal budget.
106. C — The Voting Rights Act of 1965 directly addressed literacy tests, poll taxes (in state elections), and other tools used to disenfranchise African American voters in the South. The Act dramatically increased African American voter registration and political participation.
107. D — Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination based on sex in any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. It has had wide-ranging effects on women's athletics, professional schools, and educational opportunities.
108. B — Civil liberties are protections of individual freedom from government interference, primarily negative rights such as those enshrined in the Bill of Rights. Civil rights, by contrast, are protections against discriminatory treatment, primarily positive rights of equal treatment.
109. A — Voter turnout in U.S. presidential elections is generally lower than in most other developed democracies, typically 50 to 65 percent of the voting-eligible population. Many other developed democracies achieve turnout of 75 percent or higher.
110. C — Interest groups influence the political process most directly through lobbying (direct communication with officials), campaign contributions (often through PACs and Super PACs), grassroots mobilization, and litigation in the courts.
111. D — Public opinion is most reliably measured through statistically representative survey research with carefully designed questions. Random sampling, appropriate weighting, and well-constructed questions produce reliable estimates within known margins of error.
112. B — In a parliamentary system, the executive (prime minister and cabinet) is drawn from and accountable to the legislative majority. The PM continues in office only as long as the legislature continues to support the government.

113. C — Single-member plurality systems tend to produce two-party competition because votes for third parties are typically wasted (Duverger's Law). The structure rewards consolidation around two large parties capable of competing for outright pluralities in individual districts.
114. A — The United Nations Security Council includes five permanent veto-wielding members: the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Russia, and China. Ten other members are elected to two-year terms by the General Assembly.
115. D — NATO is a collective defense alliance currently composed of more than thirty member states (currently 32, after Finland and Sweden joined). Article 5 commits members to mutual defense — the foundational principle of the alliance.
116. B — The Paris Agreement of 2015 commits signatory countries to limit global warming to "well below" 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. Each country sets its own nationally determined contributions toward these goals.
117. A — The doctrine of incorporation refers to the Supreme Court's progressive application of most provisions of the Bill of Rights to state governments through the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause. Originally the Bill of Rights restricted only the federal government.
118. C — *Citizens United v. FEC* (2010) held that corporations and unions have free speech rights to make independent political expenditures. The decision led directly to the rise of Super PACs that can raise and spend unlimited amounts on independent political activity.
119. D — The Speaker of the House of Representatives is selected by a vote of the entire membership of the House at the start of each new Congress. The Speaker is typically the leader of the majority party and is second in line for the presidency under the Presidential Succession Act.
120. A — Bills relating to federal revenue must constitutionally originate in the House of Representatives, per Article I, Section 7. The Senate may amend revenue bills, but origination is reserved to the House. The provision reflects the framers' concern that taxation be initiated in the chamber more directly responsive to the people.
121. B — The Twenty-Fourth Amendment (1964) prohibited poll taxes in federal elections. Poll taxes had been used to disenfranchise low-income voters and African Americans in the South. The Supreme Court extended the ban to state elections in *Harper v. Virginia Board of Elections* (1966).
122. C — The principle of popular sovereignty is most directly expressed in the opening words of the Preamble: "We the People of the United States." This phrase signifies that the Constitution emanates from the people themselves, who are the ultimate source of governmental authority.

SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)

123. A — Scarcity — the limited availability of resources relative to unlimited human wants — is the foundational economic problem that gives rise to the discipline of economics. Without scarcity, no choices would be necessary and economics would not exist as a field of study.

124. D — The Production Possibilities Curve is bowed outward from the origin because resources are not equally productive across different uses. As more of one good is produced, increasingly less suitable resources must be diverted from the other good — producing the law of increasing opportunity cost.
125. B — A traditional economy is characterized by the role of custom and tradition in determining what is produced and how it is distributed. Economic decisions follow inherited patterns rather than market signals or central planning.
126. C — A normal good is one for which demand rises as consumer income rises. The demand curve shifts rightward when income increases. An inferior good shows the opposite pattern — demand falls as income rises.
127. A — A price ceiling set below the equilibrium price typically produces shortages because quantity demanded exceeds quantity supplied at the artificially low price. Rent control is the classic example.
128. D — The four factors of production earn returns paid in the form of rent (land), wages (labor), interest (capital), and profit (entrepreneurship). These returns reflect the economic role each factor plays in production.
129. B — Marginal analysis is central to microeconomics because firms maximize profit by producing where marginal revenue equals marginal cost; consumers maximize satisfaction where marginal benefit equals marginal cost. The principle applies broadly across economic decisions.
130. A — A natural monopoly arises in industries with extremely high fixed costs and significant economies of scale, such that a single producer can serve the entire market more efficiently than multiple competitors. Public utilities are classic examples.
131. C — Antitrust laws — most importantly the Sherman Act (1890) and Clayton Act (1914) — are intended to promote competition by prohibiting monopolization, anticompetitive mergers, and certain anticompetitive practices. They preserve competitive markets rather than eliminating competition.
132. D — A negative externality occurs when a transaction imposes costs on parties not directly involved in the transaction. Pollution from a factory is the canonical example: the factory and its customers benefit from the transaction, but neighbors bear costs the parties to the transaction do not pay.
133. B — Public goods are characterized by non-rivalry (one person's consumption does not reduce another's) and non-excludability (it is difficult or impossible to exclude non-payers). National defense, lighthouses, and basic scientific research share these features. Markets typically underprovide public goods.

134. C — Real GDP is measured in inflation-adjusted dollars, allowing meaningful comparisons across years. Nominal GDP measures output in current prices and conflates increases in actual production with increases in the price level.
135. A — The Consumer Price Index measures inflation through the cost of a representative basket of consumer goods and services. It is calculated monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and is the most widely used inflation measure for adjusting wages, benefits, and tax brackets.
136. D — Frictional unemployment refers to short-term, often voluntary unemployment as workers transition between jobs, enter the labor force, or relocate. It is normal and even desirable in a dynamic economy.
137. B — The Federal Reserve's "dual mandate" requires it to promote maximum employment and stable prices. The mandate was formalized in the Federal Reserve Reform Act of 1977 and shapes how the Fed weighs trade-offs between unemployment and inflation.
138. A — The federal funds rate is the interest rate at which banks lend reserves to one another overnight to meet reserve requirements. It is the Federal Reserve's primary policy interest rate, influenced through open market operations.
139. C — Expansionary fiscal policy designed to combat a recession typically involves increases in government spending, tax cuts, or both. These actions stimulate aggregate demand and typically increase the budget deficit during the recession.
140. D — Comparative advantage holds that two countries can both gain from international trade when each specializes in producing the goods in which it has lower opportunity costs. Even if one country has absolute advantage in every good, both countries can benefit by specializing according to comparative advantage.