

PRACTICE EXAM 13: PRAXIS SOCIAL STUDIES 5581 SIMULATION

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

1. The Iroquois Confederacy of pre-Columbian North America is most distinctive because of its
 - A. sophisticated political union of multiple nations under a constitutional framework
 - B. extensive trading networks across the Great Plains region
 - C. development of advanced metallurgy in iron and bronze
 - D. permanent agricultural settlements concentrated in the Pacific Northwest

2. The Spanish colonial city of St. Augustine, founded in 1565 in present-day Florida, is significant because it
 - A. was the first permanent English settlement in North America
 - B. served as the capital of the Spanish Viceroyalty of New Spain
 - C. is the oldest continuously occupied European-established settlement in the present-day United States
 - D. was abandoned within a generation due to indigenous resistance

3. The headright system used in colonial Virginia provided
 - A. cash bounties to soldiers serving in colonial militias
 - B. land grants to settlers who paid for the passage of new immigrants
 - C. tax exemptions for newly arrived European immigrants

D. trading licenses to Native American intermediaries

4. The Salem Witch Trials of 1692 occurred in which colonial setting?

A. The Virginia Colony in the Chesapeake region

B. The Plymouth Colony along the southern Massachusetts coast

C. The Pennsylvania Colony under Quaker leadership

D. The Massachusetts Bay Colony in Puritan New England

5. The Albany Plan of Union, proposed by Benjamin Franklin in 1754, would have

A. created a unified colonial government for defense and Native American relations

B. dissolved colonial legislatures in favor of royal governors

C. established a colonial alliance with the French against Britain

D. transferred legislative authority from Britain to the American colonies

6. The Stamp Act of 1765 imposed a tax on

A. all goods imported from outside the British Empire

B. land sales between colonial residents within each colony

C. printed materials such as legal documents and newspapers

D. tea, sugar, and molasses sold within the American colonies

7. The Battle of Yorktown (October 1781) is significant because it

A. marked the British capture of the American capital at Philadelphia

B. effectively ended major fighting in the American Revolution

- C. produced the first formal treaty between the United States and France
- D. resulted in the immediate signing of the Treaty of Paris

8. Shays' Rebellion of 1786–1787 demonstrated which weakness of the Articles of Confederation?

- A. The federal government's inability to respond to domestic disorder
- B. The excessive power of the federal judiciary in state affairs
- C. The dominance of the executive branch over Congress
- D. The federal government's overreach into local economic policy

9. The Bill of Rights, ratified in 1791, was added to the Constitution primarily because

- A. European nations refused to recognize American independence without it
- B. Native American tribes required formal protections for tribal sovereignty
- C. the Articles of Confederation had explicitly required such amendments
- D. Anti-Federalists demanded explicit protections for individual liberties

10. The Louisiana Purchase of 1803 is constitutionally significant because President Jefferson

- A. negotiated the purchase only after a constitutional amendment specifically authorized it
- B. acquired the territory despite his strict-constructionist concerns about constitutional authority
- C. used military force to seize the territory from France against Napoleon's wishes
- D. obtained the territory through a treaty with Spain rather than France

11. The Monroe Doctrine, articulated in 1823, declared that the United States would

- A. annex all remaining Spanish colonies in the Americas immediately

- B. maintain strict neutrality in all conflicts within the Americas
- C. oppose further European colonization or intervention in the Western Hemisphere
- D. transfer responsibility for hemispheric security to Britain

12. President Andrew Jackson's policy toward the Cherokee Nation in the 1830s is best characterized by

- A. forced removal in defiance of a Supreme Court ruling protecting Cherokee rights
- B. federal protection of Cherokee territorial sovereignty under court orders
- C. negotiated land sales conducted with the consent of tribal councils
- D. the granting of Cherokee citizenship and equal rights under federal law

13. The Wilmot Proviso of 1846 sought to

- A. abolish the international slave trade in all American ports immediately
- B. require the federal government to compensate freed enslaved people
- C. extend American citizenship to Mexican residents of newly acquired territories
- D. prohibit slavery in any territory acquired from Mexico

14. The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 required

- A. immediate emancipation of enslaved people in the District of Columbia
- B. federal officials and citizens to assist in capturing escaped enslaved people
- C. southern states to abolish slavery within twenty years
- D. the federal government to compensate enslavers for lost property

15. The Republican Party emerged in the mid-1850s primarily in opposition to

- A. the protective tariff policies favored by the Whig Party
- B. the gold standard advocated by Democratic candidates
- C. the expansion of slavery into the western territories
- D. American intervention in European political conflicts

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

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

17. The Reconstruction-era Black Codes were enacted in former Confederate states to

- A. extend full citizenship rights to formerly enslaved people
- B. distribute confiscated plantation land to freedmen and women
- C. provide voting rights protections to Republican voters
- D. restrict the freedoms of formerly enslaved African Americans

18. The Compromise of 1877 effectively ended Reconstruction by

- A. repealing the Reconstruction Amendments to the Constitution
- B. dissolving the Republican Party in southern states
- C. withdrawing remaining federal troops from former Confederate states
- D. transferring federal authority to a coalition of Northern Democrats

19. 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

20. The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 was significant because it

- A. was the first federal law restricting immigration based on nationality
- B. abolished restrictions on Chinese immigration to the West Coast
- C. extended American citizenship to Chinese laborers already in the country
- D. permitted Chinese laborers to bring family members from China

21. The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 established

- A. the federal income tax structure under the Sixteenth Amendment
- B. the system of direct election of United States senators
- C. federal regulatory authority over interstate commerce
- D. the central banking system of the United States

22. The Treaty of Versailles (1919) was rejected by the United States Senate primarily because of concerns about

- A. the territorial losses imposed on Germany after the war
- B. American obligations under the League of Nations covenant
- C. the war reparations imposed on the Allied powers

D. the redrawing of borders in the Middle East under the mandate system

23. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), established in 1933, was significant because it

A. provided emergency cash relief to families with dependent children

B. established the federal minimum wage and maximum-hours protections

C. brought electrification, flood control, and economic development to a poor rural region

D. coordinated American war production for the Second World War

24. The Lend-Lease Act of 1941 authorized President Franklin Roosevelt to

A. provide military equipment and supplies to nations whose defense was deemed vital

B. declare war on Germany without further congressional authorization

C. impose comprehensive price controls on consumer goods during wartime

D. require all American men of military age to register for conscription

25. The Truman Doctrine (1947) committed the United States to

A. maintaining strict neutrality in all post-war European conflicts

B. transferring atomic weapons to the United Nations for international control

C. forming a permanent military alliance with the Soviet Union

D. supporting "free peoples" resisting subjugation by armed minorities or outside pressures

26. The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (the G.I. Bill) provided returning veterans with

A. permanent housing in federally constructed neighborhoods

B. funding for higher education and low-interest home loans

- C. lifetime medical care through federally operated facilities
- D. preferential placement in federal civil service positions

27. The Marshall Plan of 1948 provided economic aid for the reconstruction of

- A. Eastern Europe behind the Iron Curtain
- B. Japan and the broader East Asian region
- C. Western European nations recovering from the war
- D. Latin America after wartime economic disruption

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

- A. resulted in the immediate American military victory in Vietnam
- B. produced the immediate withdrawal of all American forces from Southeast Asia
- C. prompted the resignation of President Johnson on the night of the offensive
- D. shattered American public confidence that the war was being won

29. The Watergate scandal led most directly to

- A. the impeachment and removal of President Nixon by the Senate
- B. the abolition of the Electoral College through constitutional amendment
- C. the resignation of President Richard Nixon in August 1974
- D. the passage of constitutional amendments limiting presidential terms

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

- A. Egypt and Israel

- B. North Korea and South Korea
- C. India and Pakistan
- D. Cuba and the United States

31. Reaganomics during the 1980s emphasized

- A. major tax increases combined with comprehensive spending cuts
- B. nationalization of major American industries
- C. the replacement of Social Security with private retirement accounts
- D. major tax cuts, deregulation, and increased defense spending

32. The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 prohibited discrimination based on disability in

- A. only federal government employment and federally funded education
- B. employment, public accommodations, transportation, and telecommunications
- C. only commercial buildings constructed after the law's enactment
- D. only public school admissions and university facilities

33. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), implemented in 1994, was eventually replaced in 2020 by

- A. the Trans-Pacific Partnership treaty
- B. the Central American Free Trade Agreement
- C. the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)
- D. the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

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

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

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

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

36. 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

37. 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 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963
- C. The Selma to Montgomery march, including "Bloody Sunday"

D. The Greensboro lunch counter sit-ins of 1960

38. 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

39. The Election of 1860 brought to the presidency

A. John C. Breckinridge, the Southern Democratic candidate

B. Stephen A. Douglas, the Northern Democratic nominee

C. John Bell, the Constitutional Union candidate

D. Abraham Lincoln, the Republican Party's nominee

40. The Spanish-American War of 1898 most directly resulted in

A. the establishment of a long-term American military alliance with Spain

B. the United States acquiring overseas colonial possessions for the first time

C. the abolition of European colonialism throughout the Western Hemisphere

D. the immediate independence of all former Spanish colonies in the Caribbean

SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)

41. The Code of Hammurabi (c. 1754 BCE) is significant primarily because it

- A. is among the earliest known comprehensive written legal codes
- B. established the first democratic government in human history
- C. abolished slavery throughout the Babylonian Empire
- D. introduced monotheism to the ancient Near East

42. Classical Athenian democracy of the fifth century BCE differed from modern American democracy primarily in that

- A. Athens used elected representatives rather than direct citizen voting
- B. Athens excluded the wealthy from political participation
- C. Athens restricted political participation to adult male citizens, excluding women and the enslaved
- D. Athens lacked any system of voting on public questions

43. The Roman Empire's success in administering vast territories was largely due to

- A. the elimination of all local cultural and religious traditions in conquered regions
- B. the rejection of Greek philosophical and cultural influences
- C. the establishment of a strict hereditary caste system across all provinces
- D. a sophisticated system of governance integrating diverse provinces through law and citizenship

44. The Han dynasty of China (206 BCE–220 CE) is most closely associated with

- A. the replacement of the Confucian civil service system with hereditary aristocracy

- B. the adoption of Confucianism as the official state ideology
- C. the conversion of China to Buddhism as the state religion
- D. the construction of the Great Wall as a single continuous structure

45. The Byzantine Empire's Code of Justinian (sixth century CE) is significant primarily because it

- A. compiled and systematized Roman law in a form that profoundly influenced later European legal systems
- B. introduced Christianity as the official religion of the Byzantine Empire
- C. established democratic governance throughout the Byzantine territories
- D. unified Byzantine and Persian legal traditions under a single code

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

- A. moral duty appropriate to one's stage of life
- B. the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth across multiple lives
- C. the principle that actions in this life affect future lives
- D. liberation from the cycle of reincarnation

47. The Sunni-Shia division within Islam emerged most directly from

- A. theological disputes about the divine nature of the Qur'an
- B. cultural conflicts between Arab and non-Arab Muslims
- C. the introduction of Islam to non-Arab regions of the world
- D. disagreement over legitimate succession to leadership of the Muslim community

48. The Crusades (1095–1291) had which of the following long-term consequences?

- A. The permanent Christian recapture and rule of Jerusalem
- B. Increased European contact with Muslim civilization and new goods
- C. The dissolution of the Roman Catholic Church as an institution
- D. The unification of Eastern and Western Christianity under one church

49. The Black Death of 1347–1351 produced which of the following long-term effects in Western Europe?

- A. A significant decline in serfdom and increased bargaining power for surviving peasants
- B. The strengthening of feudal labor obligations as lords reasserted control
- C. The unification of Europe under a single political authority
- D. The complete disappearance of the Catholic Church as an institution

50. The Renaissance that began in fourteenth-century Italy was characterized primarily by

- A. the rejection of all classical learning in favor of medieval scholasticism
- B. the unification of Western and Eastern Christianity under a single church
- C. the abandonment of Latin as a language of scholarship
- D. a renewed interest in classical Greek and Roman learning, art, and philosophy

51. The Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire was led by

- A. Francisco Pizarro in the early 1530s
- B. Vasco da Gama in the late 1490s
- C. Hernán Cortés in the early 1520s
- D. Vasco Núñez de Balboa in the early 1510s

52. The Council of Trent (1545–1563) was most directly a response to the

- A. Protestant Reformation and the resulting division of Western Christendom
- B. Mongol invasion of Eastern Europe in earlier centuries
- C. Ottoman conquest of Constantinople in 1453
- D. discovery of the Americas and the resulting need to evangelize indigenous peoples

53. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 in England resulted in

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

54. The French Revolution's radical phase (1792–1794) is most closely associated with

- A. the signing of the Treaty of Versailles ending the French monarchy
- B. the coronation of Napoleon Bonaparte as Emperor of France
- C. the restoration of the Bourbon monarchy under Louis XVIII
- D. the Reign of Terror under the Committee of Public Safety

55. The Haitian Revolution (1791–1804) is historically significant primarily as

- A. the first European revolution to abolish hereditary monarchy
- B. the immediate cause of the abolition of slavery throughout the Atlantic world
- C. the only successful slave revolution in modern history, producing the second independent nation in the Americas

D. the longest civil war in modern Latin American history

56. The Industrial Revolution began in which country in the late eighteenth century?

- A. France during the reign of Louis XV
- B. Britain with innovations in textile production and steam power
- C. Germany under Prussian state direction
- D. The United States during the early national period

57. The Berlin Conference of 1884–1885 is significant because it

- A. established rules for European partition of Africa with no African representation
- B. settled the borders between France and Germany after the Franco-Prussian War
- C. ended the international slave trade through binding treaty obligations
- D. created the League of Nations as an international peacekeeping body

58. The Meiji Restoration of 1868 in Japan most directly resulted in

- A. the permanent isolation of Japan from European trade and diplomacy
- B. the conversion of Japan to Western Christianity as the official religion
- C. rapid modernization and the transformation of Japan into an industrial power
- D. the restoration of the feudal Tokugawa shogunate

59. The First World War (1914–1918) ended with the signing of

- A. the Atlantic Charter signed by Roosevelt and Churchill
- B. the Munich Agreement of 1938 between Britain and Germany

- C. the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk between Germany and Russia
- D. the Treaty of Versailles imposing harsh terms on Germany

60. The Russian Revolution of October 1917 brought to power the

- A. Mensheviks under Alexander Kerensky
- B. Bolsheviks under Vladimir Lenin
- C. Constitutional Democrats under Pavel Milyukov
- D. Tsarists supporting the Romanov dynasty

61. The Holocaust during the Second World War was the systematic murder of

- A. approximately six million European Jews along with millions of other targeted groups
- B. approximately one million Russian prisoners of war
- C. approximately two million Soviet civilians by occupying forces
- D. approximately four million civilians of various European nationalities

62. 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. Eisenhower, de Gaulle, and Tito on European recovery
- D. Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin to plan postwar settlement

63. The dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945 led most directly to

- A. the German surrender in Europe ending the war on the continent

- B. the surrender of Japan and the formal end of the Second World War
- C. the formation of the United Nations as a peacekeeping body
- D. the immediate beginning of the Cold War with the Soviet Union

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

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

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

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

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

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

67. The Cuban Revolution of 1959 brought to power the regime of

- A. Juan Perón in close alliance with the United States
- B. Fidel Castro after overthrowing Fulgencio Batista
- C. Salvador Allende through a democratic election
- D. Augusto Pinochet through a military coup

68. 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. fall of Saigon to North Vietnamese forces and reunification
- D. negotiation of a power-sharing government in Saigon

69. The Iranian Revolution of 1979 resulted in

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

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

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

71. The European Union introduced the euro currency in

- A. 1985 with the signing of the Schengen Agreement
- B. 1999, with physical notes and coins entering circulation in 2002
- C. 1957 with the Treaty of Rome
- D. 2009 following the global financial crisis

SECTION III — GEOGRAPHY (Questions 72–90)

72. The Mercator projection is most useful for which of the following purposes?

- A. Showing the true relative areas of countries near the equator and the poles
- B. Comparing population densities across countries on a single visual scale
- C. Marine navigation, because straight lines on the map represent constant compass bearings
- D. Producing visually balanced world reference maps with minimal distortion

73. A region defined by the daily commuting patterns and economic interactions surrounding a major city is best classified as

- A. a functional region organized around a central node
- B. a formal region defined by uniform political boundaries
- C. a vernacular region defined by cultural perception
- D. a physical region defined by climate and terrain

74. The Global Positioning System (GPS) determines a receiver's location through

- A. magnetic detection of the Earth's polar fields

- B. radar reflection from low-Earth-orbit satellites
- C. analysis of cellular tower signal strength
- D. trilateration based on signals from multiple navigation satellites

75. The greenhouse effect is the process by which

- A. ozone molecules in the upper atmosphere absorb ultraviolet radiation
- B. certain atmospheric gases trap heat near the Earth's surface
- C. urban areas develop higher temperatures than surrounding rural areas
- D. ocean currents transport heat from equatorial regions toward the poles

76. The Pacific Ring of Fire is best described as

- A. an ocean current system circulating warm water across the Pacific
- B. a chain of coral reef ecosystems in the South Pacific
- C. a zone of intense seismic and volcanic activity surrounding the Pacific basin
- D. a Pacific atmospheric system producing periodic El Niño events

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

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

78. Which of the following geographic regions is most densely populated?

- A. The Australian Outback
- B. The Sahara Desert
- C. The Siberian boreal forest
- D. The Ganges River valley of South Asia

79. The "brain drain" phenomenon refers to

- A. the loss of population in regions with rapidly aging demographic structures
- B. the emigration of highly educated and skilled professionals from their home countries
- C. the displacement of workers by automation in industrial economies
- D. the inability of educational systems to prepare workers for modern industries

80. 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. Christianity, with approximately 2.4 billion adherents
- D. Buddhism, distributed across East and Southeast Asia

81. A pidgin language differs from a creole language primarily in that

- A. a creole is restricted to coastal trading communities
- B. a pidgin uses non-Roman writing systems while a creole uses Roman script
- C. a pidgin is older than any creole language
- D. a pidgin is a simplified contact language while a creole has become a fully developed first language

82. Which of the following best describes the Concentric Zone Model of urban structure?

- A. A model showing the city as a series of rings around a central business district
- B. A model emphasizing multiple competing centers of activity rather than a single dominant center
- C. A model based on the linear development of cities along major transportation corridors
- D. A model focused exclusively on the suburban periphery of metropolitan areas

83. The four sectors of economic activity, in order from primary to quaternary, are

- A. agriculture, services, manufacturing, and information
- B. manufacturing, services, agriculture, and information
- C. extraction of raw materials, manufacturing, services, and information-based services
- D. services, manufacturing, agriculture, and trade

84. A nation-state is most accurately defined as

- A. any country recognized as a member of the United Nations
- B. a state whose population shares a single national identity
- C. a state organized as a federation of sovereign provinces
- D. a multinational empire ruling diverse populations

85. Geometric political boundaries are characterized by

- A. their reflection of cultural and ethnic divisions among neighboring populations
- B. their alignment with major rivers, mountains, or other physical features
- C. their establishment through the natural settlement of distinct ethnic groups over centuries

D. their drawing as straight lines, often along latitude or longitude, without regard to physical or cultural features

86. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was originally established in 1949 as

A. a collective defense alliance among Western democracies in response to Soviet expansion

B. a global trade organization to reduce international tariffs

C. a humanitarian organization to coordinate disaster response

D. a research organization studying climate change in the Arctic

87. The Sahel region of Africa is characterized as a

A. dense tropical rainforest covering equatorial Africa

B. high-altitude plateau of East Africa

C. transitional semi-arid zone between the Sahara and tropical Africa

D. coastal mangrove ecosystem of West Africa

88. Plate tectonics theory holds that the Earth's lithosphere

A. is divided into plates that move and interact, producing earthquakes and volcanoes

B. consists of layers stratified by density without horizontal movement

C. has remained essentially unchanged since the formation of the planet

D. is a single continuous shell that is gradually thinning

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

A. populations grow continuously without ever stabilizing over time

- B. populations decline steadily from initial high levels
- C. countries experience identical demographic patterns regardless of economic development
- D. countries move from high birth and death rates to low birth and death rates as they industrialize

90. Hurricanes form most commonly under which of the following conditions?

- A. Cold ocean water in polar regions during winter months
- B. Warm ocean water in tropical and subtropical latitudes during summer
- C. Dry desert conditions in continental interiors
- D. High-altitude mountain regions year-round

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. maintain absolute control over economic activity
- C. protect the natural rights of individuals to life, liberty, and property
- D. enforce a single moral code derived from tradition

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 failed primarily because the national government

- A. concentrated too much power in a single chief executive
- B. exercised excessive control over state economic policy
- C. imposed religious requirements that violated colonial traditions
- D. lacked authority to tax, regulate commerce, or enforce its own laws

94. The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 is significant because it

- A. created the executive branch under the Articles of Confederation
- B. established a process for admitting new states and prohibited slavery in the Northwest Territory
- C. authorized the federal government to negotiate treaties with European powers
- D. abolished slavery throughout the United States

95. 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. judicial review of federal legislative actions
- C. federalism as a vertical division of authority
- D. checks and balances among the three branches

96. 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

97. Which of the following is an example of the system of checks and balances?

A. Congress passing a federal income tax law for individuals

B. State governments establishing public school systems

C. Citizens voting in periodic federal elections

D. The Senate's authority to confirm presidential appointments to the federal judiciary

98. The doctrine of judicial review was established in which landmark Supreme Court case?

A. *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819) on the national bank

B. *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) on a federal judicial commission

C. *Gibbons v. Ogden* (1824) on interstate commerce

D. *Dred Scott v. Sandford* (1857) on enslaved people's rights

99. The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution primarily in response to

A. Anti-Federalist concerns that the original Constitution did not adequately protect liberties

B. demands from European nations for stronger protections of foreign nationals

C. concerns raised by the Confederate States during the Civil War period

D. requests from Native American tribes for federal recognition of tribal sovereignty

100. 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 to keep and bear arms
- D. the right peaceably to assemble and to petition the government

101. 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. expand the role of the Electoral College in presidential elections
- D. apply most Bill of Rights provisions to state governments through incorporation

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

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

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

- A. sign the bill into law, veto it and return it with objections, or take no action
- B. delegate decision-making to the Cabinet for further review
- C. submit the bill to the Supreme Court for constitutional review
- D. revise the bill and resubmit it to Congress for additional consideration

104. A presidential veto can be overridden by

- A. a simple majority vote in both houses of Congress

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

105. 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 ruling by the Chief Justice of the United States
- D. a cloture vote requiring 60 senators

106. The President serves as

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

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

- A. two elected terms in office
- B. four years in office without exception or reelection
- C. ten years in office regardless of election results
- D. lifetime tenure if approved by Congress

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

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

109. Mandatory federal spending consists primarily of

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

110. The federal income tax was authorized by which constitutional amendment?

- A. The Fourteenth Amendment establishing equal protection
- B. The Sixteenth Amendment authorizing direct income taxation
- C. The Seventeenth Amendment for direct senator elections
- D. The Fifteenth Amendment prohibiting racial voting discrimination

111. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 most directly addressed

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

112. 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 sex in federally funded education programs
- D. discrimination based on race in higher education funding

113. 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 and military service
- D. responsibilities of state governments to enforce federal laws

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

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

115. Interest groups influence the political process most directly through

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

116. 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. statistically representative survey research with carefully designed questions
- D. interviewing politicians and lobbyists about voter sentiment

117. 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. appointed by the head of state without legislative approval
- C. limited to a single fixed term independent of legislative confidence
- D. drawn from and accountable to the legislative majority

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

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

119. NATO is best described as

- A. a collective defense alliance currently composed of more than thirty member states
- B. a global trade organization regulating international tariffs
- C. a humanitarian organization coordinating disaster relief

D. a research organization studying climate and ocean patterns

120. The Paris Agreement of 2015 commits signatory countries to

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

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

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

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

- A. corporations and unions have free speech rights to make independent political expenditures
- B. all corporate political spending must be disclosed to federal regulators
- C. corporations and unions may not make any independent political expenditures
- D. campaign contributions to candidates may be unlimited if disclosed publicly

SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)

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

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

124. The opportunity cost of attending college full-time is best described as

- A. the total amount of tuition and fees paid to the institution
- B. the wages and benefits forgone by not working full-time during enrollment
- C. the average salary of college graduates in the workforce
- D. the cost of textbooks and required course materials only

125. The Production Possibilities Curve illustrates which of the following concepts?

- A. Scarcity, opportunity cost, and the trade-offs an economy faces
- B. The relationship between inflation and unemployment in macroeconomics
- C. The aggregation of household consumption into national output
- D. The relationship between exchange rates and trade balances

126. The law of demand states that, all else equal, as the price of a good rises,

- A. the quantity demanded rises in proportion to the price
- B. consumer income automatically increases to compensate

- C. the quantity demanded remains constant regardless of price
- D. the quantity demanded falls

127. A shortage in a competitive market occurs when

- A. quantity supplied exceeds quantity demanded at the prevailing price
- B. the government imposes a price floor above the equilibrium price
- C. quantity demanded exceeds quantity supplied at the prevailing price
- D. firms voluntarily reduce production despite stable demand

128. The four factors of production are

- A. land, labor, capital, and entrepreneurship
- B. money, machinery, materials, and management
- C. supply, demand, prices, and profits
- D. consumers, producers, governments, and foreign trade

129. The law of diminishing returns states that as additional units of a variable input are added to fixed inputs, the marginal product of the variable input

- A. continues to rise indefinitely without limit
- B. eventually declines
- C. always remains constant across output levels
- D. equals the average product at all production levels

130. A firm operating in perfect competition is characterized by all of the following EXCEPT

- A. many sellers producing identical products
- B. firms acting as price takers rather than price setters
- C. easy entry and exit of firms in the long run
- D. significant barriers preventing new firms from entering

131. A monopoly market structure is most likely to result in

- A. lower prices and higher output than would prevail under competition
- B. complete elimination of all firm profits over time
- C. higher prices and lower output than would prevail under competition
- D. perfect information for all market participants in equilibrium

132. Government intervention in markets is most commonly justified by economists in cases involving

- A. externalities, public goods, information asymmetries, and significant market power
- B. all transactions between voluntary buyers and sellers in markets
- C. industries with many small firms competing on price and quality
- D. markets where consumer preferences shift across seasonal cycles

133. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measures

- A. the total wealth held by a country's residents at a given moment
- B. the total market value of final goods and services produced within a country in a given period
- C. the average income earned by households in a country
- D. the total volume of international trade conducted by a country

134. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is used primarily to measure

- A. average household savings rates across income groups
- B. the unemployment rate among urban industrial workers
- C. the value of corporate stock prices on major exchanges
- D. inflation through the cost of a representative basket of consumer goods

135. A worker who has lost a job because of a downturn in the business cycle is best classified as experiencing

- A. cyclical unemployment
- B. frictional unemployment
- C. structural unemployment
- D. seasonal unemployment

136. The three core functions of money are to serve as a

- A. tool of fiscal policy, source of inflation, and basis of taxation
- B. measure of GDP, indicator of growth, and predictor of recessions
- C. medium of exchange, store of value, and unit of account
- D. store of value, unit of account, and means of international trade

137. The Federal Reserve System's primary tools for conducting monetary policy include

- A. setting federal income tax rates and Social Security benefit levels
- B. open market operations, the reserve requirement, and the discount rate
- C. determining the federal minimum wage and unemployment rules

D. negotiating international trade agreements and tariff schedules

138. Expansionary fiscal policy designed to combat a recession typically includes

A. increases in interest rates and reductions in money supply

B. cuts in federal spending combined with tax increases

C. restrictions on international trade and capital flows

D. increases in government spending, tax cuts, or both

139. The principle of comparative advantage holds that nations gain from international trade by

A. specializing in the goods in which they have lower opportunity costs

B. eliminating all imports through high tariffs

C. limiting trade to nations with similar resource endowments

D. producing exclusively the goods in which they have absolute advantage

140. The Gini coefficient is used to measure

A. the rate of inflation in consumer prices over time

B. the value of currency in international exchange

C. income or wealth inequality within a country

D. the productivity of agricultural land

PRACTICE EXAM 13 — ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATIONS

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

1. A — The Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) Confederacy united five (later six) nations under the Great Law of Peace, a sophisticated constitutional framework. Some scholars argue this political union influenced later European political thought, including aspects of American federalism.
2. C — St. Augustine, founded in 1565 by Spanish explorer Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, is the oldest continuously occupied European-established settlement in the present-day United States. It predates Jamestown (1607) and Plymouth (1620) by decades and reflects the early Spanish presence in North America.
3. B — The headright system granted 50-acre land parcels to settlers who paid the passage of new immigrants to Virginia. The system was designed to attract labor and population and concentrated land ownership among those wealthy enough to pay multiple passages, accelerating the rise of plantation society.
4. D — The Salem Witch Trials occurred in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in Puritan New England in 1692, resulting in the execution of twenty people. The trials reflect the religious tensions, political instability, and social anxieties of late seventeenth-century Puritan society.
5. A — The Albany Plan of Union proposed by Franklin in 1754 would have created a unified colonial government for defense and Native American relations during the French and Indian War. The plan was rejected by both colonial legislatures and the British government, but it foreshadowed later cooperative efforts.
6. C — The Stamp Act of 1765 imposed a tax on printed materials such as legal documents, newspapers, pamphlets, and playing cards. The tax was widely resented because it was a direct internal tax imposed without colonial representation in Parliament.
7. B — The Battle of Yorktown (October 1781) effectively ended major fighting in the American Revolution when British General Cornwallis surrendered to Washington's combined American and French forces. The Treaty of Paris formally ending the war was signed nearly two years later in 1783.
8. A — Shays' Rebellion was a Massachusetts uprising of indebted farmers that the federal government under the Articles could not effectively address, revealing the federal government's

inability to respond to domestic disorder. The rebellion provided crucial momentum for the Constitutional Convention of 1787.

9. D — The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution primarily in response to Anti-Federalist concerns during the ratification debate that the original document did not adequately protect individual liberties against the new federal government.
10. B — Jefferson, a strict constructionist, had concerns about the absence of explicit constitutional authority to acquire foreign territory. He nonetheless completed the Louisiana Purchase, justifying it through the treaty power and the broader interest of the nation. The episode illustrates how constitutional theory bent to practical opportunity.
11. C — The Monroe Doctrine declared that the United States would oppose further European colonization or intervention in the Western Hemisphere. Initially the doctrine relied on British naval power for enforcement; only in the late nineteenth century did it become a unilateral American foreign policy commitment.
12. A — Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act and supported forced removal of the Cherokee even after the Supreme Court ruled in *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832) that Georgia's laws had no force in Cherokee territory. Jackson reportedly said of Chief Justice Marshall, "He has made his decision; now let him enforce it."
13. D — The Wilmot Proviso, attached to an 1846 appropriations bill, sought to prohibit slavery in any territory acquired from Mexico in the Mexican-American War. Though it failed to pass the Senate, it dramatized the sectional conflict over slavery's expansion.
14. B — The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 required federal officials and citizens to assist in capturing escaped enslaved people, even in free states. The law inflamed Northern opinion against slavery and was widely resisted through state personal liberty laws and direct action by abolitionists.
15. C — The Republican Party emerged in 1854 primarily in opposition to the expansion of slavery into the western territories, especially in the wake of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The party's commitment was not to immediate abolition but to preventing slavery's geographic spread.
16. A — 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.
17. D — Black Codes were enacted in former Confederate states to restrict the freedoms of formerly enslaved African Americans, controlling labor, movement, and civil rights. Their enactment provoked Radical Republicans in Congress to override President Andrew Johnson's lenient Reconstruction policies.
18. C — The Compromise of 1877 ended Reconstruction primarily by withdrawing remaining federal troops from Southern states. The withdrawal removed federal protection for African American

political participation, opening the way for the Jim Crow regime of disenfranchisement and segregation.

19. 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.
20. A — The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 was the first federal law restricting immigration based on nationality, banning Chinese laborers from entry and denying naturalization to Chinese already in the country. It represented a major precedent for later restrictive immigration laws.
21. D — The Federal Reserve Act of 1913 established the central banking system of the United States. The Fed was created in response to recurring financial panics, including the Panic of 1907, and was structured as a hybrid public-private institution with regional reserve banks.
22. B — The Senate's rejection of the Treaty of Versailles, led by Henry Cabot Lodge, focused on concerns about American sovereignty under the League of Nations covenant — particularly Article X, which committed members to mutual defense. As a result, the United States never joined the League.
23. C — The TVA was a New Deal program that brought electrification, flood control, and economic development to the Tennessee River valley — a poor rural region that had been bypassed by previous private investment. It remains one of the most ambitious regional development projects in American history.
24. A — Lend-Lease authorized the President to provide military equipment and supplies to nations whose defense the President deemed vital to American security — most importantly Britain and the Soviet Union. It marked a major step away from neutrality before formal American entry into World War II.
25. D — The Truman Doctrine pledged to support "free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures." Initially applied to Greece and Turkey, the doctrine became foundational to American Cold War containment policy.
26. B — The G.I. Bill provided returning World War II veterans with funding for higher education and low-interest home loans. The legislation transformed American higher education and homeownership patterns and contributed substantially to postwar middle-class expansion.
27. C — The Marshall Plan provided economic aid for the reconstruction of Western European nations recovering from World War II. The program is credited with both rebuilding war-torn economies and binding Western Europe to the American-led Cold War alliance.

28. D — 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. C — Watergate led most directly to Richard Nixon's resignation on August 9, 1974, after the release of incriminating tape recordings made his impeachment and removal certain. The Senate did not in fact remove him because he resigned first.
30. A — 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.
31. D — Reaganomics emphasized major tax cuts (the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 and the Tax Reform Act of 1986), deregulation across multiple industries, and a substantial defense buildup. Federal deficits expanded substantially under these policies.
32. B — The ADA prohibited discrimination based on disability in employment, public accommodations, transportation, and telecommunications. It required accessibility in physical and communication environments and was a landmark civil rights achievement signed by President George H. W. Bush.
33. C — NAFTA was replaced by the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), which entered into force on July 1, 2020. The new agreement updated NAFTA provisions on labor, environment, intellectual property, and digital trade.
34. A — 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.
35. B — 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.
36. 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.
37. C — 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.

38. 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.
39. D — The Election of 1860 brought Abraham Lincoln, the Republican Party's nominee, to the presidency. His victory in a four-way race triggered the secession of South Carolina and ten other Southern states, leading directly to the Civil War.
40. B — The Spanish-American War resulted in the United States acquiring Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines from Spain, establishing the United States as an imperial power for the first time. Cuba was nominally independent under American supervision through the Platt Amendment.

SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)

41. A — The Code of Hammurabi (c. 1754 BCE) is among the earliest known comprehensive written legal codes, featuring graduated penalties based on social class and the principle of *lex talionis* ("an eye for an eye"). It established the principle that laws should be publicly knowable rather than arbitrary.
42. C — Athenian democracy restricted political participation to adult male citizens, excluding women, enslaved people, and foreigners (metics). Within that restricted citizen body, however, Athens practiced direct democracy in which citizens voted personally on legislation and judicial decisions.
43. D — Rome's success at administering vast and diverse territories rested on a sophisticated system of provincial governance, infrastructure (roads and aqueducts), Roman law, and the gradual extension of citizenship to provincial elites. Rome generally tolerated local cultures and religions rather than eliminating them.
44. B — The Han dynasty adopted Confucianism as the official state ideology and consolidated the imperial framework first established by the Qin. The Han also developed the civil service examination system based on mastery of Confucian classics, which would shape Chinese governance for two millennia.
45. A — The Code of Justinian (the *Corpus Juris Civilis*), compiled in the sixth century under Emperor Justinian, systematized centuries of Roman legal development. It became the foundation of legal systems throughout continental Europe and Latin America and influences modern civil law traditions today.
46. C — *Karma* in Hindu thought is the principle that actions in this life affect one's circumstances in future lives. It works in conjunction with *samsara* (the cycle of rebirth) and *moksha* (liberation), forming the core framework of Hindu ethics and metaphysics.
47. D — The Sunni-Shia division emerged from disagreement over legitimate succession after Muhammad's death in 632. Sunnis accepted the legitimacy of the early caliphs and broader

community as the source of authority; Shia held that legitimate leadership belonged to Muhammad's direct descendants through his son-in-law Ali.

48. B — The Crusades increased European contact with Muslim civilization and brought new goods (spices, silk, sugar), ideas (preserved classical learning), and technologies into Western Europe. The immediate religious objectives largely failed, but the cultural and economic consequences were profound.
49. A — The Black Death killed approximately one-third of Europe's population, producing a labor shortage that significantly increased the bargaining power of surviving peasants and accelerated the breakdown of serfdom in Western Europe. It also strained religious institutions and produced anti-Jewish pogroms in many regions.
50. D — The Renaissance was characterized by a renewed interest in classical Greek and Roman learning, art, and philosophy. Renaissance humanism emphasized the dignity and creative potential of human beings and produced extraordinary cultural achievements in painting, sculpture, literature, and political analysis.
51. C — The Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire was led by Hernán Cortés between 1519 and 1521, supported by tens of thousands of indigenous allies who resented Aztec rule. Catastrophic disease and the political fragmentation of central Mexico were major factors in the conquest.
52. A — 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.
53. B — 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.
54. D — The radical phase of the French Revolution is most closely associated with the Reign of Terror under the Committee of Public Safety led by Maximilien Robespierre. Approximately 17,000 people were executed during the Terror before Robespierre himself was guillotined in July 1794.
55. C — The Haitian Revolution (1791–1804) was the only successful slave revolution in modern history, producing in Haiti the second independent nation in the Americas after the United States and the first nation founded on the abolition of slavery. The revolution profoundly frightened slaveholders throughout the Atlantic world.
56. B — The Industrial Revolution began in Britain in the second half of the eighteenth century, drawing on abundant coal, plentiful capital from Atlantic trade, an agricultural surplus that freed labor, stable property rights, and technological innovations in textiles and steam power.

57. A — The Berlin Conference of 1884–1885 established rules among European powers for the partition of Africa, with no African representation. It effectively divided the continent among European powers and shaped colonial boundaries that persist in modified form today.
58. C — The Meiji Restoration of 1868 produced rapid modernization that transformed Japan within a generation from a feudal isolated state into a modern industrial and military power. Japan became the only non-Western state to successfully resist Western imperial domination through its own modernization.
59. D — The First World War ended with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in June 1919. The treaty imposed harsh terms on Germany (the war guilt clause, reparations, territorial losses, military restrictions) and established the League of Nations.
60. B — The October Revolution of 1917 brought to power the Bolsheviks under Vladimir Lenin. The Bolsheviks withdrew Russia from World War I through the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk and established the world's first Communist state, eventually consolidated as the Soviet Union in 1922.
61. A — The Holocaust was the systematic Nazi murder of approximately six million European Jews, alongside millions of other targeted groups including Roma, Soviet POWs, Polish civilians, disabled people, and gay men. Its bureaucratic, industrial character distinguished it from earlier genocides.
62. D — 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.
63. B — The atomic bombings of Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) and Nagasaki (August 9, 1945) led most directly to Japan's surrender on September 2, 1945, ending the Second World War. The bombings remain the only wartime use of nuclear weapons in history.
64. C — 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. A — 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. D — 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. B — The Cuban Revolution of 1959 brought Fidel Castro to power after overthrowing dictator Fulgencio Batista. Castro's regime soon aligned with the Soviet Union and survived more than a half-century of American hostility.
68. C — 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.
69. A — 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.
70. D — 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.
71. B — The European Union introduced the euro in 1999 as electronic currency, with physical notes and coins entering circulation in 2002. The euro is now the official currency of 20 EU member states and represents one of the most significant integrations in European history.

SECTION III — GEOGRAPHY (Questions 72–90)

72. C — The Mercator projection's defining feature is that any straight line on the map represents a constant compass bearing, making it ideal for marine navigation. The trade-off is severe area distortion at high latitudes, where land masses appear vastly larger than they actually are.
73. A — A region defined by daily commuting patterns and economic interactions surrounding a major city is a functional region organized around a central node. Metropolitan areas, trade hinterlands, and broadcast coverage areas are all examples of functional regions defined by connections rather than uniform features.
74. D — GPS receivers determine location through trilateration based on signals from at least four navigation satellites. Each satellite broadcasts its position and the precise time; the receiver calculates its distance from each satellite based on signal travel time and uses these distances to compute its position.
75. B — The greenhouse effect is the process by which certain atmospheric gases — carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, and others — trap heat near the Earth's surface, raising surface temperatures. The natural greenhouse effect makes Earth habitable; anthropogenic increases are driving climate change.
76. C — The Pacific Ring of Fire is a zone of intense seismic and volcanic activity surrounding the Pacific Ocean basin, produced by the convergent boundaries of multiple tectonic plates. The region contains a significant majority of the world's active volcanoes and earthquakes.

77. A — 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.
78. D — The Ganges River valley of South Asia is one of the world's most densely populated regions, supporting hundreds of millions of people through intensive irrigated agriculture on alluvial soil. The Australian Outback, the Sahara Desert, and the Siberian boreal forest are all sparsely populated.
79. B — "Brain drain" refers to the emigration of highly educated and skilled professionals — doctors, engineers, scientists, technicians — from their home countries to wealthier destinations. The phenomenon represents a significant cost to sending countries that have invested in their citizens' education.
80. C — 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.
81. D — A pidgin is a simplified contact language that emerges between groups speaking different first languages, used primarily for trade or work. A creole develops when a pidgin becomes the first language of subsequent generations and acquires fully developed grammar and vocabulary.
82. A — The Concentric Zone Model (Burgess, 1925) describes the city as a series of rings around a central business district. The pattern moves from the CBD outward through inner-city industry and lower-income housing to working-class housing and finally middle- and upper-class suburbs.
83. C — The four sectors are primary (extraction of raw materials), secondary (manufacturing), tertiary (services), and quaternary (information-based services). Pre-industrial economies are dominated by the primary sector; post-industrial economies are dominated by tertiary and quaternary services.
84. B — A nation-state is a state whose population shares a single national identity. True nation-states are relatively rare; most states are multinational, containing multiple national groups, and many nations lack states of their own.
85. D — Geometric political boundaries are drawn as straight lines, often along latitude or longitude, without regard to physical or cultural features. The U.S.–Canada border west of the Great Lakes and many African borders established at the Berlin Conference are examples.
86. A — NATO was established in 1949 as a collective defense alliance among Western democracies in response to the perceived threat of Soviet expansion in Europe. It was the first peacetime military alliance in American history. Article 5 commits members to mutual defense if any member is attacked.

87. C — 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.
88. A — Plate tectonics theory holds that the Earth's lithosphere is divided into plates that move and interact, producing earthquakes, volcanoes, mountain building, and ocean basin formation. The theory unified geology in the 1960s and explains a vast range of geophysical phenomena.
89. D — 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. B — Hurricanes form over warm ocean water in tropical and subtropical latitudes during summer and early fall, when sea surface temperatures are at their highest. They require warm water, atmospheric instability, and sufficient distance from the equator for the Coriolis effect to produce rotation.

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 failed primarily because the national government lacked authority to tax, regulate commerce, or enforce its own laws. The result was an ineffective national government unable to pay debts, enforce treaties, or respond to crises like Shays' Rebellion.
94. B — The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 established a process for organizing territories and admitting new states from the lands north of the Ohio River and prohibited slavery in those territories. It was the most significant achievement of the Confederation Congress.
95. C — 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.
96. 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.
97. D — The Senate's authority to confirm presidential appointments to the federal judiciary is a textbook example of checks and balances: one branch (the executive) makes the appointment, but another branch (the legislature) must approve it.

98. B — Judicial review was established in *Marbury v. Madison* (1803), in which Chief Justice John Marshall declared that "it is emphatically the duty of the Judicial Department to say what the law is." The decision transformed the federal judiciary into a coequal branch of government.
99. A — The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution primarily in response to Anti-Federalist concerns during the ratification debate that the original document did not adequately protect individual liberties against the new federal government.
100. C — 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.
101. D — 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.
102. B — *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.
103. A — 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.
104. C — 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.
105. D — 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.
106. B — 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.
107. A — 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.
108. C — 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.

109. D — 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.
110. B — The Sixteenth Amendment (1913) authorized the federal income tax. Earlier income taxes had been struck down as unconstitutional direct taxes; the Sixteenth Amendment removed this obstacle and laid the foundation for the modern federal tax system.
111. A — 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.
112. C — 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.
113. 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.
114. D — 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.
115. A — 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.
116. C — 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.
117. D — In parliamentary systems, the executive (prime minister and cabinet) is drawn from and accountable to the legislative majority. The PM is the leader of the majority party or coalition and continues in office only as long as the legislature continues to support the government.
118. B — 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.
119. A — 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.

120. C — 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.
121. D — 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.
122. A — *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.

SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)

123. C — 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. B — The opportunity cost of attending college full-time is the value of the next-best alternative given up — primarily the wages and benefits forgone by not working full-time during enrollment. Tuition and fees are explicit costs; the forgone wages are the implicit (opportunity) cost.
125. A — The Production Possibilities Curve illustrates scarcity, opportunity cost, and the trade-offs an economy faces in choosing how to allocate limited resources between competing uses. Movement along the curve illustrates opportunity cost; outward shifts represent economic growth.
126. D — The law of demand states that as the price of a good rises, the quantity demanded falls, all else equal. The relationship is captured graphically as a downward-sloping demand curve. The intuition is that fewer consumers are willing and able to buy at higher prices.
127. C — A shortage occurs when quantity demanded exceeds quantity supplied at the prevailing price. Shortages typically arise when prices are set below equilibrium (by price ceilings or temporarily out-of-equilibrium markets). The price mechanism then pushes prices up toward equilibrium.
128. A — The four factors of production are land (natural resources), labor (human effort), capital (manufactured goods used in production), and entrepreneurship (the organizing function that combines the others and bears risk). Their respective earnings are rent, wages, interest, and profit.
129. B — The law of diminishing returns states that as additional units of a variable input are added to fixed inputs, the marginal product of the variable input eventually declines. The principle explains why, beyond some point, adding more workers to a fixed workspace produces progressively smaller output gains.
130. D — Perfect competition is characterized by easy entry and exit; significant barriers preventing new firms from entering would describe an oligopoly or monopoly. Perfect competition also features many sellers, identical products, and price-taking behavior by individual firms.

131. C — A monopoly market structure is most likely to result in higher prices and lower output than would prevail under competition, because a monopolist restricts production to maximize profit. Monopoly typically generates economic profits but reduces consumer welfare and overall efficiency.
132. A — Government intervention in markets is most commonly justified by economists in cases of market failure — externalities (pollution, public goods underprovision), public goods, information asymmetries, and significant market power. These failures cause unregulated markets to produce inefficient outcomes.
133. B — Gross Domestic Product measures the total market value of final goods and services produced within a country's borders during a given period. GDP is calculated through the expenditure approach as $C + I + G + (X - M)$.
134. D — The Consumer Price Index measures inflation through the cost of a representative basket of consumer goods and services typically purchased by urban consumers. It is calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and used to adjust Social Security payments and many wage and contract terms.
135. A — Cyclical unemployment results from downturns in the business cycle, when aggregate demand falls and firms reduce hiring. Frictional unemployment reflects normal job transitions; structural unemployment reflects skill mismatches; seasonal unemployment reflects predictable seasonal variations.
136. C — The three core functions of money are to serve as a medium of exchange (eliminating the need for barter), a store of value (preserving purchasing power across time), and a unit of account (providing a common measure for comparing values).
137. B — The Federal Reserve's primary tools for conducting monetary policy are open market operations (buying and selling government securities, the most frequently used tool), the reserve requirement (rarely changed), and the discount rate. Tax rates and Social Security are fiscal policy, not monetary policy.
138. D — Expansionary fiscal policy designed to combat a recession typically includes increases in government spending, tax cuts, or both. These actions stimulate aggregate demand and typically increase the budget deficit during the recession.
139. A — The principle of comparative advantage holds that nations gain from international trade by specializing in the goods in which they have lower opportunity costs of production, even if they have absolute advantage (or disadvantage) in every good. Specialization allows both nations to consume more than autarky would permit.
140. C — The Gini coefficient measures income or wealth inequality within a country, ranging from 0 (perfect equality) to 1 (maximum inequality). It is the most widely used summary statistic of inequality and allows comparison across countries and over time.