

# PRACTICE EXAM 14: PRAXIS SOCIAL STUDIES 5581 SIMULATION

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

1. The Mississippian culture, which flourished from approximately 800 to 1600 CE, is best known for

- A. its development of an advanced bronze metallurgy across the Great Plains
- B. its establishment of a unified continental political confederation
- C. its construction of the urban center of Cahokia near present-day St. Louis
- D. its use of horses for hunting and seasonal migration

2. The "Columbian Exchange" following 1492 refers to

- A. the trade in silver between Spanish Mexico and Ming China
- B. the two-way transfer of plants, animals, people, and diseases between the Old and New Worlds
- C. the religious dialogue between European missionaries and Native American spiritual leaders
- D. the diplomatic exchange between European nations and the Aztec Empire

3. The New England Confederation of 1643 was formed primarily to

- A. negotiate trade agreements with French colonies in Canada
- B. organize colonial opposition to British parliamentary authority
- C. establish a uniform religious orthodoxy across all New England colonies
- D. coordinate defense against Native American resistance and Dutch colonial expansion

4. Bacon's Rebellion of 1676 in colonial Virginia is significant because it
- A. revealed tensions over frontier policy and led to greater reliance on enslaved African labor
  - B. produced the first written colonial constitution in North America
  - C. successfully overthrew British colonial rule in the Chesapeake region
  - D. established Virginia's representative government under royal authority
5. The Glorious Revolution of 1688 in England affected the American colonies primarily through
- A. the immediate granting of representation in the British Parliament to colonial assemblies
  - B. the overthrow of the Dominion of New England and restoration of separate colonial charters
  - C. the imposition of new taxes designed to fund the British military presence
  - D. the establishment of religious uniformity throughout the colonies
6. The Great Awakening of the 1730s and 1740s in the American colonies was primarily a
- A. political movement demanding independence from British rule
  - B. scientific movement promoting Enlightenment rationalism
  - C. labor movement organizing colonial workers against royal governors
  - D. religious revival movement emphasizing personal conversion and emotional preaching
7. The French and Indian War (1754–1763) ended with the Treaty of Paris, which
- A. recognized French sovereignty over the Mississippi River valley
  - B. established the boundary between Canada and the American colonies at the Great Lakes
  - C. transferred most French territory in North America to Britain
  - D. created an independent Native American buffer state in the Ohio Valley

8. Read the excerpt below from Thomas Paine's *\*Common Sense\** (1776) and answer the question that follows.

"There is something exceedingly ridiculous in the composition of monarchy; it first excludes a man from the means of information, yet empowers him to act in cases where the highest judgment is required."

This passage most directly served the purpose of

- A. persuading colonists to support American independence from Britain
- B. defending the legitimacy of the British crown over the American colonies
- C. arguing for the establishment of a colonial monarchy in North America
- D. opposing the convening of the Second Continental Congress

9. The Olive Branch Petition (1775) is best described as

- A. a colonial declaration of war against the British Empire
- B. a final colonial appeal to King George III seeking reconciliation
- C. a treaty negotiated between the Continental Congress and France
- D. a proposed boundary settlement with Native American nations

10. The Three-Fifths Compromise at the Constitutional Convention of 1787 determined how enslaved people would be counted for purposes of

- A. eligibility to vote in federal elections
- B. military conscription during national emergencies
- C. representation in Congress and direct taxation
- D. citizenship rights under the new Constitution

11. The Whiskey Rebellion of 1794 demonstrated that the new federal government

- A. could enforce its laws against domestic resistance under the new Constitution
- B. was vulnerable to the same internal disorder that had plagued the Confederation
- C. would tolerate armed resistance to federal taxation if grievances were legitimate
- D. had abandoned its constitutional authority to enforce federal law

12. The Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 are most often criticized for

- A. authorizing federal regulation of interstate commerce in unprecedented ways
- B. permitting the immediate emancipation of enslaved people without compensation
- C. requiring states to provide voting rights to all adult male residents
- D. restricting freedom of speech and the press in ways inconsistent with the First Amendment

13. The Hartford Convention of 1814–1815 is most closely associated with

- A. the planning and execution of the American Revolution
- B. New England Federalist opposition to the War of 1812 and Republican policies
- C. the drafting and ratification of the United States Constitution
- D. the negotiation of the Treaty of Ghent ending the War of 1812

14. The Erie Canal, completed in 1825, was most significant because it

- A. connected the Great Lakes to the Hudson River and dramatically reduced shipping costs
- B. linked the Atlantic Ocean directly to the Pacific Ocean through New York
- C. provided the first navigable water route from New Orleans to Chicago
- D. opened the Mississippi River to large-scale commercial shipping for the first time

15. The Nullification Crisis of 1832–1833 centered on which state's resistance to federal authority?

- A. Virginia, where opposition focused on federal banking policy
- B. Pennsylvania, where opposition focused on internal improvements
- C. South Carolina, where opposition focused on the federal tariff of 1828
- D. Massachusetts, where opposition focused on slavery in the territories

16. The American Anti-Slavery Society, founded in 1833, was led by figures including

- A. John C. Calhoun and Robert Hayne
- B. William Lloyd Garrison and Frederick Douglass
- C. Henry Clay and Daniel Webster
- D. Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren

17. The Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 centered most directly on which issue?

- A. The proper response to British interference with American shipping
- B. The annexation of Cuba as a new slave state
- C. The federal regulation of railroad construction
- D. The expansion of slavery into the western territories

18. The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Lincoln in January 1863, applied to

- A. only enslaved people in areas still in rebellion against the Union
- B. all enslaved people throughout the United States
- C. only enslaved people in the loyal border states
- D. only enslaved people who had enlisted in the Union Army

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

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

20. The Knights of Labor and the American Federation of Labor were

- A. agricultural cooperatives organized to combat falling crop prices
- B. major late-nineteenth-century labor organizations with differing strategies
- C. corporate trusts that consolidated industrial production
- D. Progressive Era political parties promoting antitrust regulation

21. The Pullman Strike of 1894 ended primarily because

- A. the railroad companies agreed to all of the strikers' wage demands
- B. the American Federation of Labor formally withdrew its support from the strikers
- C. Congress passed legislation outlawing strikes in transportation industries
- D. federal troops dispatched by President Cleveland broke the strike

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

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

23. The Scopes Trial of 1925 in Tennessee centered on which of the following issues?

- A. The constitutionality of state-mandated school segregation
- B. The constitutionality of Prohibition as enforced by federal agents
- C. The teaching of evolution in public schools
- D. The legal status of labor union organizing in southern states

24. The Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930 is most often criticized by economic historians for

- A. lowering tariffs and contributing to American trade deficits
- B. raising tariffs and worsening the global Depression by reducing trade
- C. eliminating federal authority to negotiate trade agreements
- D. transferring tariff authority entirely to state governments

25. The Manhattan Project produced the

- A. first commercial nuclear power plant in the United States
- B. interstate highway system connecting major American cities
- C. radar systems deployed along the Atlantic coast during the war
- D. atomic bombs used at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945

26. The Highway Act of 1956 is most directly associated with

- A. the construction of the Interstate Highway System
- B. federal regulation of commercial trucking rates
- C. the transfer of state highways to federal ownership
- D. the elimination of federal funding for rural roads

27. The 1957 desegregation crisis at Central High School in which city required federal intervention by President Eisenhower?

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

28. The Twenty-Sixth Amendment (1971) is most closely associated with which of the following developments?

- A. The civil rights movement and federal voting protections
- B. The Vietnam War and arguments about the rights of those subject to the draft
- C. The women's liberation movement and equal protection for women
- D. The environmental movement and federal regulatory authority

29. The Iran Hostage Crisis (1979–1981) began when

- A. American forces invaded Iran during the Iran-Iraq War
- B. Iranian fighter aircraft attacked an American naval vessel
- C. American oil installations in the Persian Gulf were seized
- D. Iranian revolutionaries seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran

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

D. unauthorized intelligence sharing with Soviet officials

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

A. unpaid leave for family or medical reasons without losing their jobs

B. fully paid maternity and paternity leave for twelve weeks

C. universal childcare subsidies through the federal government

D. mandatory employer-provided health insurance for dependents

32. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (2010) included an individual mandate that

A. required all employers to provide health insurance to full-time workers

B. required all hospitals to accept Medicare and Medicaid patients

C. required most Americans to maintain health insurance coverage or pay a penalty

D. required all states to expand Medicaid to additional low-income residents

33. The election of Barack Obama in November 2008 occurred in the immediate context of

A. American withdrawal from Iraq following years of occupation

B. the global financial crisis and the deepest recession in seventy years

C. a major terrorist attack on American soil

D. the dissolution of the European Union as a political entity

34. The Battle of Saratoga (1777) is considered a turning point in the American Revolution primarily because it

A. ended major British military operations in the southern colonies

- B. resulted in the capture of Boston by Continental forces
- C. forced the British to withdraw all troops from North America
- D. helped persuade France to enter the war as an American ally

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

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

36. The Marshall Court's decision in *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819) most directly affirmed the

- A. right of states to nullify federal laws they considered unconstitutional
- B. limitation of federal authority to powers explicitly enumerated in the Constitution
- C. doctrine of implied federal powers under the Necessary and Proper Clause
- D. supremacy of state law over federal law in matters of internal taxation

37. The Compromise of 1850 included all of the following provisions EXCEPT

- A. the admission of California as a free state
- B. the immediate emancipation of all enslaved people in the District of Columbia
- C. popular sovereignty in New Mexico and Utah territories
- D. a stringent new federal Fugitive Slave Act

38. The Dawes Severalty Act of 1887 was intended to

- A. expand tribal sovereignty over traditional Native American lands
- B. provide reparations to tribes whose lands had been seized
- C. restrict immigration from Asia to the western United States
- D. assimilate Native Americans by breaking up tribal lands into individual allotments

39. The Populist movement of the 1890s drew its primary support from

- A. farmers facing falling crop prices and rising debt
- B. urban industrial workers in the Northeast
- C. wealthy industrialists seeking new markets
- D. recent immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe

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

- A. North Korea and South Korea
- B. India and Pakistan over Kashmir disputes
- C. Egypt and Israel under Carter's mediation
- D. Cuba and the United States during the Cold War

**SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)**

41. The earliest known human civilizations developed in which type of geographic setting?

- A. High-altitude mountain plateaus with cool climates
- B. River valleys with fertile alluvial soil and reliable water supply

- C. Subarctic boreal forests with abundant timber
- D. Tropical rainforest interiors with year-round warmth

42. The Phoenicians of the ancient Mediterranean are best known for

- A. establishing the first centralized empire in the Mediterranean region
- B. founding the first monotheistic world religion in the ancient Near East
- C. inventing iron metallurgy and spreading it throughout the ancient world
- D. developing an alphabet that became the basis for Greek, Latin, and modern European scripts

43. The Persian Empire under Cyrus the Great and Darius I is significant because it

- A. pioneered administrative practices including provincial governors, road systems, and religious tolerance
- B. established the first democratic government in human history
- C. unified the Mediterranean basin under a single political authority
- D. abolished slavery throughout its vast territories

44. The Mauryan Empire under Ashoka (r. c. 268–232 BCE) is significant primarily because

- A. it conquered Persia and integrated it into a unified Indo-Iranian polity
- B. its rulers maintained traditional Hindu state religion as the foundation of governance
- C. Ashoka converted to Buddhism and promoted Buddhist principles across his empire
- D. it established the largest contiguous land empire in human history

45. The rise and rapid spread of Islam in the seventh and eighth centuries was facilitated by

- A. the unanimous support of all Christian and Jewish populations in conquered regions
- B. the political weakness of the Byzantine and Sasanian empires after long wars
- C. the absence of organized military resistance anywhere in the Mediterranean
- D. the conversion of the Roman Emperor in Constantinople

46. 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 conversion of all Mongol territories to Buddhism
- D. the intensification of cross-cultural contact across Eurasia along trade routes

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

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

48. The Spanish *encomienda* system in the Americas was a labor arrangement that

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

49. The transatlantic slave trade forcibly transported approximately

- A. one to two million Africans across the Atlantic
- B. twelve to thirteen million Africans across the Atlantic
- C. five to six million Africans across the Atlantic
- D. fifty to sixty million Africans across the Atlantic

50. The Scientific Revolution of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries is most closely associated with the work of

- A. Copernicus, Galileo, and Newton across early modern Europe
- B. Confucius, Buddha, and Laozi in the ancient East
- C. Plato, Aristotle, and Socrates in classical Greece
- D. Augustine, Aquinas, and Anselm in medieval theology

51. The Enlightenment political philosopher most directly cited by the American Founders was

- A. Thomas Hobbes, whose absolutist conclusions were embraced by the framers
- B. Jean-Jacques Rousseau, whose direct democracy model was adopted by the United States
- C. Voltaire, whose religious skepticism was embedded in the First Amendment
- D. John Locke, whose theories of natural rights shaped the Declaration of Independence

52. 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. Napoleon's invasion of the Iberian Peninsula in 1808, creating a crisis of legitimacy in Spanish colonies
- C. the abolition of slavery throughout the Spanish Empire in 1812

D. the formation of a continental Latin American congress in 1810

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

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

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

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

55. The Sepoy Rebellion of 1857 led the British government to

- A. grant immediate independence to the entire Indian subcontinent
- B. partition India along religious lines between Hindus and Muslims
- C. abandon all British territorial claims in South Asia
- D. assume direct rule over India, ending the East India Company's governance role

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

- A. resulted in the partition of Korea between Russia and Japan
- B. was the first major modern military victory of an Asian power over a European one

- C. produced the first treaty between Japan and the United States
- D. ended Russia's eastward expansion across Siberia

57. The Treaty of Versailles is most often criticized for imposing terms harsh enough to

- A. fuel German resentment that later contributed to the rise of Nazism
- B. produce the immediate collapse of the German economy in the 1920s
- C. cause the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia
- D. trigger the Spanish Civil War of the late 1930s

58. The Bolshevik Revolution was led most prominently by

- A. Joseph Stalin, who consolidated power in the 1920s
- B. Leon Trotsky, the principal military organizer of the Revolution
- C. Vladimir Lenin, who returned from Swiss exile in April 1917
- D. Aleksandr Kerensky, head of the Provisional Government

59. The strength and stability of liberal democratic institutions did NOT facilitate the rise of totalitarian movements; the actual factors that drove their rise included all of the following EXCEPT

- A. economic collapse during the Great Depression
- B. the strength of liberal democratic institutions in interwar Europe
- C. resentment over the terms of the Treaty of Versailles
- D. the use of mass propaganda and modern political organization

60. The Holocaust was the systematic Nazi murder of

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

61. The Yalta Conference of February 1945 brought together

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

62. 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. American and Soviet support for European colonial empires
- D. new international anti-colonial norms enshrined in the United Nations

63. The Korean War ended with an armistice in 1953 that left Korea

- A. unified under a single democratic government
- B. absorbed entirely into communist China
- C. independent under United Nations administration
- D. divided along the 38th parallel where it remains today

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

- A. invaded Israel through the Sinai Peninsula
- B. nationalized the Suez Canal Company on July 26, 1956
- C. requested American military intervention in Egypt
- D. signed a defense treaty with the Soviet Union

65. The Vietnam War ended in 1975 with the

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

66. The Cultural Revolution in China (1966–1976) was launched by

- A. Deng Xiaoping in response to economic stagnation
- B. Zhou Enlai during a moment of succession crisis
- C. Hua Guofeng to consolidate power after Mao's death
- D. Mao Zedong to renew revolutionary fervor and remove rivals

67. The fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 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 collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe
- D. the end of the Korean War's lingering tensions

68. The collapse of the Soviet Union and the formal end of the Cold War occurred in

- A. 1989, with the fall of the Berlin Wall
- B. 1991, with the formal dissolution of the Soviet Union
- C. 1995, several years after political transitions
- D. 2001, following the September 11 terrorist attacks

69. The Hagia Sophia in Constantinople was constructed under

- A. the Roman emperor Augustus
- B. the medieval Pope Innocent III
- C. the Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II
- D. the Byzantine emperor Justinian during the sixth century

70. The Islamic Golden Age saw major advances in

- A. mathematics, medicine, philosophy, and astronomy
- B. agricultural production exclusively in tropical regions
- C. seafaring exclusively across the Atlantic Ocean
- D. metallurgy primarily in iron and bronze production

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

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

**SECTION III — GEOGRAPHY (Questions 72–90)**

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

- A. Area, with shape distorted to maintain accurate sizes of land masses
- B. Direction, allowing accurate compass bearings between two points
- 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. demographic patterns of population distribution
- B. the locations of major cities and transportation hubs
- C. national and state boundaries with detailed legal descriptions
- D. terrain features and elevation through contour lines

74. A choropleth map showing presidential election results by state would best be described as a type of

- A. reference map showing locational information
- B. thematic map showing the distribution of a phenomenon
- C. flow map showing movement patterns across regions
- D. cartogram distorting size to represent quantities

75. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) integrate

- A. only satellite imagery from low-Earth-orbit platforms
- B. only census data from national statistical agencies

- C. multiple layers of spatial data for analysis and decision-making
- D. only weather data from meteorological observatories

76. The greenhouse effect is caused by

- A. atmospheric gases trapping infrared radiation near the Earth's surface
- B. ozone depletion in the stratosphere over polar regions
- C. urban heat island effects from dense built environments
- D. solar radiation reflected from polar ice caps

77. 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 Pacific atmospheric system producing periodic El Niño events
- D. a zone of intense seismic and volcanic activity surrounding the Pacific basin

78. The world's largest desert by area is the

- A. Gobi Desert of Mongolia and northern China
- B. Antarctic Polar Desert covering most of the continent
- C. Sahara Desert in northern Africa
- D. Arabian Desert of the Middle East

79. 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

80. The world's most populous country today is

- A. China based on long-standing population predominance
- B. the United States with its third-largest population
- C. India following recent demographic milestones surpassing China
- D. Indonesia with its rapidly growing archipelago population

81. The "graying" of populations in many developed countries refers to

- A. the dispersal of population from cities to suburban areas
- B. environmental degradation caused by industrial pollution
- C. the migration of younger workers from rural to urban areas
- D. the rising proportion of older adults relative to working-age adults

82. The diffusion of a cultural trait through direct interpersonal contact between members of different societies is called

- A. stimulus diffusion driven by underlying cultural ideas
- B. relocation diffusion through the movement of people
- C. hierarchical diffusion through influential urban centers
- D. contagious diffusion through population-wide spread

83. Globalization has produced both economic integration and significant

- A. backlash against immigration, trade, and cultural homogenization
- B. uniform convergence of all national wage levels
- C. permanent increases in inequality across all sectors
- D. elimination of national governments as significant actors

84. Urbanization is generally most rapid in

- A. developed countries already mostly urbanized
- B. countries with declining populations and shrinking cities
- C. developing countries where rural-to-urban migration is highest
- D. countries with strict migration restrictions

85. A primate city is one that

- A. serves as the political capital but lacks economic significance
- B. is disproportionately larger and more important than the next-largest city
- C. is the largest port in a coastal nation
- D. has been recently established as a planned national capital

86. The Sahel region of Africa is characterized as a

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

87. 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

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

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

89. Edge cities are characterized by

- A. concentrations of office, retail, and entertainment outside 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

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. According to Aristotle's classification of governments, the corrupt form of rule by the few is

- A. tyranny when a single ruler rules selfishly
- B. oligarchy when wealthy minorities rule selfishly
- C. democracy when the many rule
- D. polity when the middle class governs broadly

92. The English political philosopher who argued in *\*Leviathan\** that life in the state of nature would be "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short" was

- A. John Locke
- B. Jean-Jacques Rousseau
- C. Thomas Hobbes
- D. Edmund Burke

93. The ratification of the United States Constitution required approval by

- A. nine of the thirteen states under the original Article VII
- B. all thirteen states acting unanimously
- C. two-thirds of state legislatures within ten years
- D. a national constitutional convention representing all states

94. The Bill of Rights was ratified in which year?

- A. 1789, the same year the Constitution took effect
- B. 1798, alongside the Alien and Sedition Acts
- C. 1803, the same year as \*Marbury v. Madison\*
- D. 1791, two years after the federal government began operations

95. The First Amendment's religion clauses include

- A. a Free Press Clause and a Conscience Clause
- B. an Establishment Clause and a Free Exercise Clause
- C. a Naturalization Clause and a Tolerance Clause
- D. a Public Welfare Clause and a Public Morals Clause

96. The Eighth Amendment prohibits

- A. unreasonable searches and seizures by federal officers
- B. trials in civil cases without a jury of peers
- C. excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel and unusual punishment
- D. the establishment of a national religion by Congress

97. \*United States v. Nixon\* (1974) established the principle that

- A. the President is not above the law in the context of criminal evidence
- B. the President's removal authority over executive officials is unlimited
- C. only Congress may interpret the meaning of constitutional provisions
- D. state courts must apply federal law in all civil cases

98. \*Obergefell v. Hodges\* (2015) held that

- A. corporations have free speech rights under the First Amendment
- B. states may impose voter identification requirements without federal review
- C. the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate is constitutional
- D. the right to marry is a fundamental right that includes same-sex couples

99. A House of Representatives congressional district has approximately how many residents?

- A. Exactly 100,000 residents in every district nationwide
- B. Roughly 760,000 residents based on the 2020 reapportionment
- C. Approximately 1.5 million residents per district nationwide
- D. A variable number depending on how each state defines districts

100. A congressional committee that combines members of both the House and Senate to negotiate differences between the two chambers' versions of a bill is called a

- A. conference committee
- B. select committee
- C. joint committee
- D. standing committee

101. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is part of

- A. the legislative branch under congressional oversight
- B. an independent regulatory commission of Congress
- C. the Executive Office of the President

D. the Department of the Treasury under fiscal authority

102. Independent regulatory commissions like the FCC and SEC are characterized by

- A. direct daily supervision by the Office of the President
- B. members serving at the pleasure of the President with no fixed terms
- C. exclusive judicial functions, with no rule-making authority
- D. members serving fixed staggered terms with limited removal authority

103. Federal discretionary spending is best described as spending that

- A. is required by existing law for entitlement programs
- B. is set annually through the appropriations process
- C. cannot be changed without constitutional amendment
- D. is funded entirely by state and local governments

104. The federal debt represents

- A. the accumulated total of past deficits, minus surpluses
- B. the annual difference between government spending and revenue
- C. the total amount of currency in circulation in the economy
- D. the federal government's annual interest payments

105. The Twenty-Fifth Amendment addresses

- A. women's suffrage in federal and state elections
- B. the prohibition of poll taxes in federal elections

- C. presidential succession and disability
- D. the lowering of the voting age to eighteen

106. The "wall of separation between church and state" is a phrase associated with

- A. James Madison's draft of the Bill of Rights
- B. John Adams's annotations to the Constitution
- C. George Washington's Farewell Address
- D. Thomas Jefferson's interpretation of the First Amendment

107. The right to a court-appointed attorney for indigent criminal defendants was established in

- A. *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963)
- B. *Mapp v. Ohio* (1961)
- C. *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966)
- D. *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969)

108. The Electoral College currently consists of how many electors?

- A. 100, equal to the number of senators
- B. 538, equal to senators plus representatives plus three for D.C.
- C. 270, the number required to win the presidency
- D. 435, equal to the number of representatives

109. A direct democracy mechanism by which voters can remove an elected official before the end of their term is called a

- A. referendum on a specific policy question
- B. initiative on a proposed new law
- C. recall election against an incumbent officeholder
- D. judicial review of legislative action

110. A semi-presidential system is best described as one in which

- A. an elected president coexists with a prime minister accountable to the legislature
- B. only the executive is directly elected, with no separate legislature
- C. a hereditary monarch shares power with an elected parliament
- D. a presidium of party officials selects all major government officeholders

111. The veto power exercised by permanent members of the United Nations Security Council allows them to

- A. propose amendments to the United Nations Charter
- B. expel member states from the General Assembly
- C. impose binding economic sanctions without further approval
- D. block any substantive Security Council resolution they oppose

112. The European Union's Schengen Area allows for

- A. free movement of capital across all global financial markets
- B. passport-free travel across most participating European states
- C. unrestricted commercial trade between EU member states only

D. coordinated military deployments by EU member states

113. NATO's Article 5 commits member states to

- A. economic sanctions against any non-democratic state
- B. shared command of all member-state nuclear arsenals
- C. mandatory contributions of three percent of GDP to defense
- D. mutual defense, treating an attack on one as an attack on all

114. The Paris Agreement of 2015 commits signatory countries to

- A. limit global warming to "well below" 2°C above pre-industrial levels
- B. eliminate all greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
- C. abandon fossil fuel use entirely within fifteen years
- D. transfer climate-related sovereignty to a single international body

115. The doctrine of incorporation refers to the Supreme Court's gradual application of

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

116. The First Amendment protects all of the following EXCEPT

- A. freedom of religion through the Establishment and Free Exercise Clauses
- B. the right to keep and bear arms in defense of self and community

- C. freedom of speech and of the press from government censorship
- D. the right peaceably to assemble and to petition the government

117. The Fourth Amendment protects against

- A. cruel and unusual punishment after conviction
- B. compelled self-incrimination during criminal proceedings
- C. excessive bail set during pretrial release proceedings
- D. unreasonable searches and seizures by government officials

118. The Constitution provides that bills for raising revenue must 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

119. The Senate's exclusive constitutional powers include

- A. originating revenue bills under Article I, Section 7
- B. impeaching federal officials and presenting charges
- C. trying impeachments and confirming presidential appointments
- D. appointing federal judges and ambassadors

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

- A. the opening words of the Preamble, "We the People of the United States"

- B. the Three-Fifths Compromise within Article I
- C. the Supremacy Clause of Article VI
- D. the prohibition of religious tests for federal office

121. Voter registration requirements in the United States are primarily established by

- A. the federal Department of Justice through national regulations
- B. state governments, subject to federal constitutional and statutory protections
- C. local county election boards operating independently of state government
- D. the Federal Election Commission through binding national rules

122. Political action committees (PACs) and Super PACs differ from one another in that Super PACs

- A. operate exclusively at the state level rather than the federal level
- B. are subject to stricter contribution limits than traditional PACs
- C. can raise and spend unlimited amounts on independent political activity but cannot directly coordinate with candidates
- D. can directly contribute unlimited amounts to candidate campaigns

#### **SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)**

123. A point inside the production possibilities curve represents

- A. an inefficient use of resources that could produce more without trade-offs
- B. a level of output that requires economic growth to reach
- C. an unattainable combination of outputs given current resources
- D. the optimal balance between consumer and capital goods

124. A command economy is one in which

- A. consumer preferences fully determine production decisions
- B. economic activity follows traditional customs and patterns
- C. economic decisions are coordinated through markets and prices
- D. central planners decide what is produced, how, and for whom

125. A complementary good for coffee would most likely be

- A. tea, which is a substitute beverage for coffee
- B. cream and sugar, which are typically consumed with coffee
- C. orange juice, which is consumed at different times
- D. bottled water, which is consumed independently

126. A leftward shift of the supply curve in a market is most likely caused by

- A. a technological improvement reducing production costs
- B. an increase in the number of producers entering the market
- C. an increase in the cost of inputs used in production
- D. a government subsidy paid to producers in the industry

127. Price elasticity of demand is highest for which type of goods?

- A. Luxury goods with many available substitutes
- B. Goods purchased habitually with little price awareness
- C. Goods regulated by government price ceilings
- D. Necessities with few available substitutes

128. The marginal cost of producing one more unit is best understood as

- A. the average cost across all units already produced
- B. the largest single cost incurred during production
- C. the total fixed cost divided by total output
- D. the additional cost incurred to produce one more unit

129. In monopolistic competition, firms

- A. produce identical products with no influence over price
- B. produce differentiated products with some price-setting power
- C. operate as a single dominant firm in the market
- D. coordinate prices through formal cartel agreements

130. An oligopoly is most accurately described as a market structure with

- A. one firm controlling the entire industry
- B. a large number of small firms producing identical goods
- C. a small number of large firms whose actions affect each other
- D. completely free entry of new firms with no strategic interaction

131. A natural monopoly is characterized by

- A. economies of scale so large that one firm can supply the market most efficiently
- B. perfect information available to all market participants
- C. exclusive control of a unique mineral resource
- D. complete absence of fixed costs in production

132. A positive externality occurs when

- A. a firm earns profits exceeding its variable costs
- B. consumers experience satisfaction from purchasing a normal good
- C. inflation increases the nominal value of fixed-rate contracts
- D. a transaction generates benefits that fall on parties not directly involved

133. The expenditure approach to calculating GDP includes which of the following components?

- A. Wages, rent, interest, and corporate profits
- B. Consumption, investment, government spending, and net exports
- C. Imports, exports, savings, and investments
- D. Federal, state, and local tax revenue

134. Inflation that results from rising production costs is best classified as

- A. demand-pull inflation caused by excess aggregate demand
- B. built-in inflation caused by self-reinforcing expectations
- C. cost-push inflation caused by rising input costs
- D. hyperinflation caused by collapsing currency value

135. Cyclical unemployment results from

- A. downturns in the business cycle that reduce aggregate demand
- B. workers transitioning between jobs during normal labor market activity
- C. mismatches between workers' skills and the jobs available
- D. predictable seasonal variations in particular industries

136. M1, the most liquid measure of the money supply, includes

- A. corporate stocks and bonds
- B. real estate held as investment property
- C. precious metals stored in bank vaults
- D. currency in circulation and demand deposits

137. Fractional reserve banking refers to the practice by which

- A. depositors receive only a fraction of their deposits when withdrawing funds
- B. banks hold only a portion of deposits as reserves and lend the remainder
- C. interest rates on deposits are determined by a fraction of the federal funds rate
- D. central banks hold all customer deposits as physical reserves

138. Open market operations conducted by the Federal Reserve involve

- A. setting the federal minimum wage and unemployment insurance benefits
- B. directly extending consumer loans to American households
- C. buying and selling government securities to influence the money supply
- D. coordinating fiscal policy with the United States Treasury

139. Comparative advantage exists when a country can produce a good

- A. at lower opportunity cost than another country can
- B. using fewer total resources than any other country
- C. without importing any inputs from foreign sources
- D. exclusively for domestic consumption rather than export

140. A trade deficit occurs when a country's

- A. budget deficit exceeds its trade surplus
- B. domestic production exceeds domestic consumption
- C. currency rises in value against major trading partners
- D. imports exceed its exports during a given period

# PRACTICE EXAM 14 — ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATIONS

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

1. C — The Mississippian culture is best known for its construction of the urban center of Cahokia near present-day St. Louis, the largest pre-Columbian city north of Mexico with a peak population of perhaps 20,000. The civilization was characterized by elaborate earthen mound construction and extensive trade networks.
2. B — The Columbian Exchange refers to the two-way transfer of plants, animals, people, and diseases between the Old and New Worlds following 1492. Old World diseases catastrophically depopulated the Americas; New World crops like maize and potatoes transformed Old World diets and supported population growth.
3. D — The New England Confederation of 1643 was formed primarily to coordinate defense against Native American resistance and Dutch colonial expansion. Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth, Connecticut, and New Haven joined the alliance, which functioned for several decades and prefigured later colonial cooperation.
4. A — Bacon's Rebellion revealed tensions between landed planters and frontier settlers over Native American policy and land access. The aftermath accelerated Virginia's transition from indentured servitude toward a labor system based on enslaved Africans, who could not similarly threaten the planter elite.
5. B — The Glorious Revolution affected the colonies primarily through the overthrow of the Dominion of New England (which had consolidated multiple colonies under royal governor Edmund Andros) and the restoration of separate colonial charters. The change reaffirmed colonial self-government for several decades.
6. D — The Great Awakening was a religious revival movement emphasizing personal conversion experiences and emotional preaching by figures like Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield. It crossed colonial boundaries, weakened established churches, and contributed to the emerging American identity that would shape the Revolution.
7. C — The Treaty of Paris (1763) transferred most French territory in North America to Britain, including Canada and territory east of the Mississippi. The British victory eliminated the French threat but created new fiscal burdens that led to colonial taxation and ultimately the American Revolution.

8. A — Paine's *Common Sense* served the purpose of persuading colonists to support American independence from Britain. Published in January 1776, it sold an extraordinary 120,000 copies in three months and made the case for independence in plain, accessible prose.
9. B — The Olive Branch Petition was a final colonial appeal to King George III in July 1775 seeking reconciliation and avoidance of full-scale war. King George rejected the petition and proclaimed the colonies in rebellion, hardening the path toward independence.
10. C — The Three-Fifths Compromise determined that three-fifths of the enslaved population would be counted for purposes of representation in Congress and direct taxation. The compromise increased Southern political power while extracting fiscal concessions, embedding slavery into the constitutional structure.
11. A — The Whiskey Rebellion of 1794 demonstrated that the new federal government under the Constitution could enforce its laws against domestic resistance. Washington personally led federalized militia to suppress it, providing a sharp contrast to the federal impotence of the Articles era during Shays' Rebellion.
12. D — The Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 are most often criticized for restricting freedom of speech and the press in ways inconsistent with the First Amendment. The Sedition Act criminalized critical statements about the federal government and was used to prosecute Republican newspaper editors.
13. B — The Hartford Convention of 1814–1815 was a meeting of New England Federalists who opposed the War of 1812 and Republican policies. The convention discussed possible constitutional amendments and even secession; it discredited the Federalist Party, which collapsed after the war's successful conclusion.
14. A — The Erie Canal connected the Great Lakes to the Hudson River, dramatically reducing shipping costs from the Midwest to New York and the Atlantic. It transformed New York City into the nation's premier commercial center; shipping costs dropped by roughly 90 percent.
15. C — The Nullification Crisis of 1832–1833 centered on South Carolina's resistance to federal authority, specifically the federal tariff of 1828 (the "Tariff of Abominations"). South Carolina passed an Ordinance of Nullification declaring the tariff void; Andrew Jackson responded with the threat of military force.
16. B — The American Anti-Slavery Society was led by figures including William Lloyd Garrison, publisher of *The Liberator*, and Frederick Douglass, formerly enslaved orator and writer. The Society pursued immediate, uncompensated emancipation and broke with gradualist colonization approaches.
17. D — The Lincoln-Douglas debates centered on the expansion of slavery into the western territories, particularly in light of the Kansas-Nebraska Act and the *Dred Scott* decision. Douglas

defended popular sovereignty while Lincoln argued that slavery's expansion was morally and politically intolerable.

18. A — The Emancipation Proclamation declared free only those enslaved people in areas still in rebellion against the Union. It did not apply to loyal border states or Confederate areas already under Union control. Universal abolition required the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865.
19. C — 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.
20. B — The Knights of Labor (founded 1869) and the American Federation of Labor (founded 1886) were major late-nineteenth-century labor organizations with differing strategies. The Knights pursued broad reform and inclusive membership; the AFL under Samuel Gompers focused on skilled craft unions and "bread and butter" issues.
21. D — Federal troops dispatched by President Cleveland broke the Pullman Strike over the strenuous objections of Illinois Governor John Altgeld. The intervention crushed the strike and the American Railway Union, illustrating how federal power was deployed against labor in the late nineteenth century.
22. 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.
23. C — The Scopes Trial was prosecuted under Tennessee's Butler Act, which prohibited the teaching of evolution in public schools. The trial dramatized the cultural conflict between religious traditionalism and scientific modernism in 1920s America.
24. B — The Smoot-Hawley Tariff of 1930 raised tariffs to historically high levels, provoking retaliatory tariffs from trading partners and worsening the global Depression by sharply reducing international trade. It is widely regarded as a major policy error of the early Depression era.
25. D — The Manhattan Project was the secret American program that produced the atomic bombs used at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. It involved tens of thousands of scientists and workers across multiple sites and remains the only wartime use of nuclear weapons in history.
26. A — The Highway Act of 1956 authorized the construction of the Interstate Highway System, the largest public works project in American history at the time. It was justified partly as a Cold War defense measure and dramatically reshaped American transportation, settlement, and commerce.
27. C — 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.

28. B — The Twenty-Sixth Amendment lowered the voting age from 21 to 18, partly in response to the argument that 18-year-olds drafted to fight in Vietnam should also be entitled to vote. The Vietnam War provided the political momentum for the amendment's rapid ratification.
29. D — The Iran Hostage Crisis began on November 4, 1979, when Iranian revolutionaries seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and held 52 American hostages for 444 days. The crisis dominated the final year of the Carter presidency and contributed to his defeat in 1980.
30. C — 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. A — 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. C — The Affordable Care Act's individual mandate required most Americans to maintain health insurance coverage or pay a penalty. The mandate was upheld by the Supreme Court in *NFIB v. Sebelius* (2012) under the taxing power, and the penalty was effectively eliminated by Congress in 2017.
33. B — Obama was elected in November 2008 in the immediate context of the global financial crisis, the deepest recession since the Great Depression. The crisis dominated the early agenda of his administration and led to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and major financial regulatory reform.
34. D — Saratoga's strategic significance lay in convincing France to enter the war as an American ally in 1778. French money, supplies, and naval power were ultimately decisive in securing American independence.
35. A — 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.
36. C — *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819) affirmed the doctrine of implied federal powers under the Necessary and Proper Clause, upholding Congress's authority to charter a national bank. Marshall also famously held that "the power to tax involves the power to destroy," forbidding state taxation of federal institutions.
37. B — The Compromise of 1850 abolished the slave trade in Washington, D.C., but did NOT emancipate enslaved people there. Slavery itself continued in the District until 1862. The other listed provisions — California's admission as a free state, popular sovereignty in New Mexico/Utah, and the Fugitive Slave Act — were all included.

38. D — The Dawes Act sought to assimilate Native Americans by breaking up communal tribal lands into individual allotments and selling the "surplus" to white settlers. The result was the loss of nearly two-thirds of remaining Native American lands.
39. A — The Populist movement drew its primary support from farmers facing falling crop prices, rising debt, and the high freight rates charged by railroad monopolies. The People's Party platform of 1892 demanded free coinage of silver, a graduated income tax, and railroad regulation.
40. C — 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.

## SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)

41. B — The earliest known civilizations emerged in river valleys with fertile alluvial soil and reliable water supply: Mesopotamia (Tigris-Euphrates), Egypt (Nile), the Indus Valley, and northern China (Yellow River). Annual flooding deposited fertile silt and supported intensive agriculture for dense populations.
42. D — The Phoenicians developed an alphabet of approximately 22 consonant signs that the Greeks adapted by adding vowels. The Phoenician alphabet became the basis for Greek, Latin, and most modern European scripts. The Phoenicians were also major maritime traders but did not establish a centralized empire.
43. A — The Persian Empire pioneered administrative practices including provincial governors (satraps), an extensive royal road system, and notable religious tolerance toward conquered populations. These innovations enabled effective rule over a vast territory stretching from the Indus to the Mediterranean.
44. C — Ashoka converted to Buddhism after a particularly bloody military campaign in Kalinga, renounced further wars of conquest, and promoted Buddhist principles through edicts inscribed on pillars across his empire. He is often regarded as one of the great moral rulers of antiquity.
45. B — Islam's rapid seventh-century expansion was facilitated by the political and military weakness of the Byzantine and Sasanian empires, which had exhausted themselves in long wars against one another. Many subject populations welcomed or accepted Muslim rule as preferable to their previous overlords.
46. D — 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.
47. A — 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.

48. C — 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.
49. B — The transatlantic slave trade forcibly transported approximately 12 to 13 million Africans across the Atlantic between roughly 1500 and 1866, with perhaps 1.8 million dying during the Middle Passage. The trade was central to the economic development of the Atlantic world.
50. A — The Scientific Revolution is most closely associated with figures like Copernicus (heliocentrism), Galileo (telescopic observation), and Newton (laws of motion and universal gravitation). Their work fundamentally transformed European understanding of the natural world and established the foundations of modern science.
51. D — John Locke's theories of natural rights, government by consent, and the right of revolution shaped the Declaration of Independence so directly that Jefferson's prose echoes Locke's own language. The American Founders explicitly cited Locke's *Two Treatises of Government* as authoritative.
52. B — 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.
53. C — 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.
54. A — 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.
55. D — The Sepoy Rebellion of 1857 led the British government to assume direct rule over India, ending the East India Company's governance role. Queen Victoria was eventually proclaimed Empress of India in 1877, beginning the formal era of the British Raj.
56. B — 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.

57. A — The Treaty of Versailles is most often criticized for imposing terms harsh enough — particularly the war guilt clause, reparations, and territorial losses — to fuel German resentment that later contributed to the rise of Nazism. The treaty is widely regarded as a contributor to the conditions that produced the Second World War.
58. C — The Bolshevik Revolution was led most prominently by Vladimir Lenin, who returned from Swiss exile in April 1917 and led the October seizure of power. Stalin and Trotsky played significant roles, but Lenin was the ideological architect and political leader.
59. B — The strength and stability of liberal democratic institutions did NOT facilitate the rise of totalitarian movements; the weakness of those institutions did. Economic collapse, resentment over Versailles, and the use of mass propaganda all contributed to the rise of fascism, Nazism, and Stalinism.
60. D — 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.
61. A — 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. C — 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.
63. D — 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 conflict technically continues in legal terms.
64. B — The Suez Crisis began when Egyptian President 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.
65. A — 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.
66. D — The Cultural Revolution (1966–1976) was launched by Mao Zedong to renew revolutionary fervor and remove rivals within the Communist Party. The campaign resulted in massive social upheaval, persecution of intellectuals, and significant economic disruption before ending with Mao's death.

67. C — 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.
68. B — The Soviet Union officially dissolved on December 26, 1991. The events of 1989 — the fall of the Berlin Wall, the collapse of Communist regimes across Eastern Europe — preceded the Soviet collapse. By 1991, the dissolution of the USSR ended the Cold War in formal terms.
69. D — The Hagia Sophia in Constantinople was constructed under the Byzantine emperor Justinian during the sixth century (532–537 CE). It served as a Christian cathedral for nearly a thousand years before being converted to a mosque after the Ottoman conquest of 1453.
70. A — The Islamic Golden Age saw major advances in mathematics (algebra, the decimal system from India), medicine (al-Razi, Ibn Sina), philosophy (al-Farabi, Ibn Rushd), and astronomy. Centers of learning at Baghdad, Córdoba, and elsewhere preserved and extended Greek and Indian knowledge.
71. C — 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.

### **SECTION III — GEOGRAPHY (Questions 72–90)**

72. A — 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. D — 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. B — A choropleth map is a type of thematic map that uses shading to show the distribution of a phenomenon across predefined areas. Election results by state, population density by county, and per capita income by country are common choropleth applications.
75. C — GIS integrates multiple layers of spatial data — terrain, demographics, infrastructure, environment — for analysis and decision-making. It is particularly powerful for problems requiring synthesis across multiple types of spatial information.
76. A — The greenhouse effect is caused by atmospheric gases — carbon dioxide, methane, water vapor, and others — trapping infrared radiation near the Earth's surface. The natural greenhouse effect makes Earth habitable; anthropogenic increases are driving contemporary climate change.

77. D — 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.
78. B — The Antarctic Polar Desert is the world's largest desert by area, covering most of the continent. Despite its ice cover, Antarctica receives very little precipitation and meets the technical definition of a desert. The Sahara is the largest hot desert.
79. 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.
80. C — India is now the world's most populous country, having surpassed China around 2023. Both countries have populations of roughly 1.4 billion, but India's continuing growth and China's declining birth rate produced the recent crossover.
81. D — The "graying" of populations refers to the rising proportion of older adults relative to the working-age population. It results from the combination of falling birth rates and rising life expectancy, and creates significant fiscal pressures on pensions and healthcare systems.
82. B — Relocation diffusion is the spread of a cultural trait through the movement of people from one place to another. It contrasts with expansion diffusion (which spreads from a hearth without people necessarily moving) including hierarchical, contagious, and stimulus diffusion.
83. A — Globalization has produced significant backlash against immigration, trade, and cultural homogenization. Recent populist movements in many countries, Brexit, and trade-related political tensions reflect this widespread reaction to the costs and disruptions of globalization.
84. C — Urbanization is generally most rapid in developing countries where rural-to-urban migration is highest. Most population growth in coming decades is projected to occur in developing-world cities, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.
85. B — A primate city is one disproportionately larger and more important than the next-largest city in its country, often dominating economic, political, and cultural life. Examples include Paris, Mexico City, and Bangkok.
86. D — 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.
87. 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.

88. C — 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.
89. 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.
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. B — In Aristotle's classification, the corrupt form of rule by the few is oligarchy. Aristotle's six-part classification distinguishes between rule by one (monarchy/tyranny), few (aristocracy/oligarchy), and many (polity/democracy in his usage), with the second term in each pair representing the corrupt form.
92. C — Thomas Hobbes argued in *Leviathan* (1651) that life in the state of nature would be "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short" without a sovereign authority. His solution was the social contract: rational individuals surrender natural liberty to a sovereign in exchange for security.
93. A — The original Article VII of the Constitution required ratification by nine of the thirteen states. New Hampshire became the ninth ratifying state in June 1788, allowing the Constitution to take effect, though the remaining states ratified within a few years.
94. D — The Bill of Rights was ratified in 1791, two years after the new federal government began operations under the Constitution. The amendments addressed Anti-Federalist concerns about individual liberties and remain the most cited part of the Constitution today.
95. B — The First Amendment's religion clauses are the Establishment Clause ("Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion") and the Free Exercise Clause ("or prohibiting the free exercise thereof"). Together they establish the principle of religious liberty under American constitutional law.
96. C — The Eighth Amendment prohibits excessive bail, excessive fines, and cruel and unusual punishment. It applies to both pretrial and post-conviction stages of criminal procedure and shapes contemporary debates over capital punishment and prison conditions.
97. A — *United States v. Nixon* (1974) established that the President is not above the law in the context of criminal evidence, requiring Nixon to surrender Watergate-related tape recordings. The decision led directly to Nixon's resignation seventeen days later.

98. D — *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015) held that the right to marry is a fundamental right that includes same-sex couples, requiring all states to recognize same-sex marriages. The decision was based on the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.
99. B — A House congressional district has approximately 760,000 residents based on the 2020 reapportionment. The Constitution requires congressional districts to be apportioned by population, with each district within a state containing roughly equal numbers of residents.
100. A — A conference committee combines members of both the House and Senate to negotiate differences between the two chambers' versions of a bill. The compromise version produced by the conference committee must then be approved by both chambers in identical form before going to the President.
101. C — The Office of Management and Budget is part of the Executive Office of the President. OMB prepares the President's annual budget proposal and oversees the management and performance of executive branch agencies.
102. D — Independent regulatory commissions are characterized by members serving fixed staggered terms with limited presidential removal authority, insulating them from direct political control. The structure was deliberately designed to allow specialized regulatory expertise and continuity across administrations.
103. B — Federal discretionary spending is set annually through the appropriations process, in contrast to mandatory spending like Social Security and Medicare that flows automatically from existing law. Discretionary spending now constitutes roughly one-third of the federal budget.
104. A — The federal debt represents the accumulated total of past deficits, minus surpluses, owed by the federal government. It has grown substantially due to a combination of structural factors (demographic aging) and specific events (wars, tax cuts, financial crisis, COVID-19 pandemic).
105. C — The Twenty-Fifth Amendment (1967) addresses presidential succession and disability. It clarifies the line of succession to the presidency and establishes procedures for handling presidential disability, including temporary transfer of authority to the Vice President.
106. D — The "wall of separation between church and state" is associated with Thomas Jefferson, who used the phrase in an 1802 letter to the Danbury Baptists. The phrase has become foundational to American interpretation of the First Amendment's Establishment Clause.
107. A — *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963) established the right to a court-appointed attorney for indigent criminal defendants. The decision applied the Sixth Amendment right to counsel to state criminal proceedings and transformed American criminal procedure.
108. B — The Electoral College consists of 538 electors, equal to senators (100) plus representatives (435) plus three for the District of Columbia under the Twenty-Third Amendment. A candidate must receive a majority of these votes — 270 — to win the presidency.

109. C — A recall election is a direct democracy mechanism by which voters can remove an elected official before the end of their term. Recall procedures vary by state and apply primarily to state and local officials; the federal Constitution provides no recall mechanism.
110. A — A semi-presidential system features both a directly elected president and a prime minister accountable to the legislature. France, Russia, and Portugal are examples. The system combines features of presidential and parliamentary systems.
111. D — The veto power exercised by permanent members of the UN Security Council allows them to block any substantive Security Council resolution they oppose. The five permanent members — the United States, Britain, France, Russia, and China — each hold this veto.
112. B — The European Union's Schengen Area allows for passport-free travel across most participating European states. It includes most EU member states plus a few non-EU countries, and is considered one of the most visible achievements of European integration.
113. D — NATO's Article 5 commits member states to mutual defense, treating an attack on one member as an attack on all. Article 5 has been formally invoked only once, by the United States after the September 11, 2001 attacks.
114. A — 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.
115. C — 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.
116. B — 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.
117. D — The Fourth Amendment protects against unreasonable searches and seizures by government officials, generally requiring probable cause and a warrant. Cruel and unusual punishment is prohibited by the Eighth Amendment; self-incrimination by the Fifth.
118. A — Bills for raising revenue must 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.
119. C — The Senate's exclusive constitutional powers include trying impeachments and confirming presidential appointments. The House initiates impeachment by majority vote; the Senate then conducts the trial and convicts (or acquits) by two-thirds vote.

120. A — 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.
121. B — Voter registration requirements in the United States are primarily established by state governments, subject to federal constitutional and statutory protections such as the Voting Rights Act, the National Voter Registration Act, and the Fourteenth Amendment. This produces significant variation in registration procedures across states.
122. C — Super PACs, established after the Supreme Court's *Citizens United v. FEC* (2010) decision, can raise and spend unlimited amounts on independent political activity but cannot directly coordinate with candidates or contribute directly to campaigns. Traditional PACs are subject to contribution limits.

### SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)

123. A — A point inside the Production Possibilities Curve represents an inefficient use of resources that could produce more without trade-offs. Inefficiency may result from unemployment, underutilization of capital, or other failures to use available resources effectively.
124. D — A command economy is one in which central planners decide what is produced, how it is produced, and for whom. The Soviet Union and Maoist China are historical examples. Most modern economies are mixed, combining market mechanisms with significant government roles.
125. B — A complementary good for coffee would most likely be cream and sugar, which are typically consumed with coffee. Complementary goods are those whose consumption rises and falls together — the price of one affects demand for the other in the same direction.
126. C — A leftward shift of the supply curve is most likely caused by an increase in the cost of inputs used in production. Higher input costs reduce the quantity producers are willing to supply at any given price. New producers, technology, and subsidies all shift supply rightward, not leftward.
127. A — Price elasticity of demand is highest for luxury goods with many available substitutes. When the price of a luxury rises, consumers can easily switch to substitutes, producing large changes in quantity demanded. Necessities and habitual goods are typically inelastic.
128. D — Marginal cost is the additional cost incurred to produce one more unit of output. Marginal analysis is central to firm decision-making: profit-maximizing firms produce up to the point where marginal cost equals marginal revenue.
129. B — In monopolistic competition, firms produce differentiated products with some price-setting power based on branding, quality, location, or features. Restaurants, hair salons, and clothing retailers are typical examples. Many firms compete, but each has some market power through differentiation.

130. C — An oligopoly is characterized by a small number of large firms whose actions significantly affect each other. Strategic interaction among firms is the defining feature. Auto manufacturing, commercial aviation, and soft drink production are typical oligopolistic markets.
131. A — A natural monopoly arises from economies of scale so large that one firm can supply the market most efficiently. Public utilities — historically water, electricity, and natural gas distribution — share this characteristic and have typically been regulated rather than allowed to operate freely.
132. D — A positive externality occurs when a transaction generates benefits that fall on parties not directly involved. Vaccinations, education, and basic scientific research all produce positive externalities. Markets typically underprovide goods with positive externalities, justifying public subsidies.
133. B — The expenditure approach to GDP includes consumption, investment, government spending, and net exports (exports minus imports). The formula is  $GDP = C + I + G + (X - M)$ . It is the standard approach to calculating national output.
134. C — Cost-push inflation results from rising production costs — typically higher input prices for energy, raw materials, or labor. The 1970s oil shocks produced cost-push inflation; demand-pull inflation, in contrast, results from excess aggregate demand pulling prices up.
135. A — Cyclical unemployment results from downturns in the business cycle that reduce aggregate demand and thus firm hiring. It contrasts with frictional (job transitions), structural (skills mismatches), and seasonal unemployment.
136. D — M1 includes currency in circulation and demand deposits — the most liquid forms of money used for daily transactions. M2 adds less liquid forms like savings deposits and money market accounts. Stocks, real estate, and precious metals are not part of standard money supply measures.
137. B — Fractional reserve banking is the practice by which banks hold only a portion of deposits as reserves and lend the remainder. The system creates money through the multiplier effect and is foundational to modern banking, though it requires deposit insurance and central bank backing to maintain stability.
138. C — Open market operations involve the Federal Reserve buying and selling government securities to influence the money supply. Buying securities injects money into the economy; selling securities removes money. It is the Fed's most frequently used monetary policy tool.
139. A — Comparative advantage exists when a country can produce a good at lower opportunity cost than another country can. Even a country with absolute advantage in every good can still benefit from specializing according to comparative advantage. The principle was articulated by David Ricardo in 1817.

140. D — A trade deficit occurs when a country's imports exceed its exports during a given period. Trade deficits are offset by capital inflows in the balance of payments. Persistent trade deficits can produce political tensions but are not inherently signs of economic weakness.