

PRACTICE EXAM 4: PRAXIS SOCIAL STUDIES 5581 SIMULATION

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

1. The Pueblo Revolt of 1680 in present-day New Mexico is significant because it
 - A. permanently ended Spanish rule over the entire American Southwest
 - B. resulted in the first formal treaty between Spanish and Native authorities
 - C. successfully expelled Spanish colonizers for over a decade before their return
 - D. established a unified Pueblo political system across the region
2. The Mayflower Compact (1620) was signed primarily to
 - A. establish a permanent trading post for the Plymouth Company
 - B. provide a basis for self-government among the Plymouth colonists
 - C. settle land disputes between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag
 - D. proclaim loyalty to the Anglican Church of England
3. The colonial economy of the Middle Colonies, including Pennsylvania and New York, was characterized primarily by
 - A. diverse commercial farming, ironworks, and ethnic and religious pluralism
 - B. plantation agriculture worked predominantly by enslaved labor
 - C. subsistence farming with little export trade

D. fishing and shipbuilding as the dominant economic activities

4. The French and Indian War (1754–1763) is significant because it

A. resulted in the immediate independence of the American colonies

B. ended British colonial presence on the North American continent

C. produced an alliance between Great Britain and the colonies of New France

D. transferred vast French territories in North America to Britain

5. The Boston Tea Party of December 1773 was a colonial response to the

A. Quartering Act requiring colonists to house British troops

B. Tea Act granting the East India Company a monopoly on colonial tea sales

C. Stamp Act imposing direct taxes on printed materials

D. Townshend Acts taxing glass, paper, and paint

6. The Battles of Lexington and Concord (April 1775) marked the

A. opening military engagements of the American Revolution

B. final Continental victory leading to British surrender

C. signing of the Declaration of Independence by the colonies

D. ratification of the Articles of Confederation by all thirteen states

7. The Treaty of Paris (1783) is significant for the United States because it

A. created the Northwest Territory under federal administration

B. transferred Florida from Spain to the United States

- C. formally ended the Revolutionary War and recognized American independence
- D. established the new federal government under the Constitution

8. Shays' Rebellion (1786–1787) revealed which weakness of the government under the Articles of Confederation?

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

9. *Federalist No. 10*, written by James Madison, addressed the dangers of

- A. excessive judicial power in a republican government
- B. factions and how a large republic could control their effects
- C. foreign entanglements in early American foreign policy
- D. legislative supremacy over executive authority

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

- A. address Anti-Federalist concerns about protections for individual liberties
- B. authorize federal regulation of commerce among the states
- C. expand the powers of the federal judiciary in state matters
- D. extend voting rights beyond white male property owners

11. The XYZ Affair during the Adams administration involved

- A. American expansion into the Mississippi territory
- B. a covert alliance between France and the United States
- C. British impressment of American sailors at sea
- D. French agents demanding bribes from American diplomats

12. The Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804–1806) was authorized by President

- A. George Washington to survey the original thirteen colonies
- B. John Adams to negotiate with British forces in Canada
- C. Thomas Jefferson to explore the Louisiana Purchase territory
- D. James Madison to map the Pacific Northwest after the War of 1812

13. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 attempted to balance sectional tensions by

- A. admitting Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state
- B. abolishing the international slave trade in all American ports
- C. requiring all territories to hold popular sovereignty referenda
- D. extending federal protection to escaped enslaved people in free states

14. The cotton gin, patented by Eli Whitney in 1793, most directly contributed to

- A. the decline of slavery in the American South
- B. the dramatic expansion of cotton agriculture and slavery
- C. the development of the Northeast textile industry alone
- D. the migration of African Americans to northern cities

15. The Second Great Awakening of the early nineteenth century influenced

- A. the establishment of state-supported churches across the South
- B. the immediate end of slavery throughout the American South
- C. the consolidation of Protestant denominations into a single church
- D. the growth of reform movements including abolition and temperance

16. *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) is significant because it

- A. established the principle of judicial review of federal laws
- B. expanded the President's authority to remove federal officials
- C. transferred federal authority over commerce to the states
- D. extended congressional regulation to interstate transportation

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

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

18. 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

19. *Dred Scott v. Sandford* (1857) ruled that

- A. African Americans could not be citizens of the United States
- B. the Missouri Compromise was constitutionally valid
- C. enslaved people who reached free territory automatically became free
- D. Congress had broad authority to regulate slavery in the territories

20. The Battle of Fort Sumter in April 1861 marked the

- A. final Union victory of the American Civil War
- B. surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia
- C. signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln
- D. opening engagement of the American Civil War

21. 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. restrict the freedoms of formerly enslaved African Americans
- D. provide voting rights protections to Republican voters

22. The Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890 was passed in response to the

- A. growing concentration of corporate power in industrial trusts
- B. labor unrest in the railroad industry of the late nineteenth century
- C. financial panic and depression of the early 1890s
- D. agricultural decline in the American South after the Civil War

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

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

24. The Progressive Era (roughly 1890s–1920s) produced reforms including

- A. the abolition of the federal income tax structure
- B. the elimination of direct election of senators
- C. women's suffrage, antitrust regulation, and direct election of senators
- D. the consolidation of all banks into a single national bank

25. Read the excerpt below from President Wilson's "Fourteen Points" speech (1918) and answer the question that follows.

"A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike."

This passage proposes which international institution?

- A. The League of Nations
- B. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- C. The United Nations Security Council
- D. The European Union

26. The Eighteenth Amendment, ratified in 1919, prohibited

- A. the federal income tax in peacetime
- B. literacy tests in voter registration
- C. women's participation in federal elections
- D. the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages

27. The Great Migration of African Americans during the early twentieth century involved movement

- A. from the urban North back to the rural South
- B. from the rural South to industrial cities of the North and West
- C. from American cities to overseas Caribbean territories
- D. from western states to the Atlantic seaboard

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

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

29. The New Deal program that established federal old-age pensions was the

- A. Wagner Act establishing collective bargaining rights
- B. National Industrial Recovery Act setting industry codes
- C. Tennessee Valley Authority promoting regional development
- D. Social Security Act of 1935

30. American entry into World War II began with the Japanese attack on

- A. Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941
- B. Manila in the Philippines in May 1942
- C. Wake Island in the central Pacific
- D. Midway Atoll in the spring of 1942

31. The Manhattan Project produced the

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

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

- A. economic integration of Western Europe through trade liberalization
- B. supporting "free peoples" resisting subjugation by armed minorities or outside pressures
- C. neutrality in all conflicts between European communist and democratic states
- D. transferring atomic weapons to United Nations control

33. *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) is significant because it

- A. overturned the "separate but equal" doctrine of *Plessy v. Ferguson*
- B. established affirmative action requirements in federal hiring
- C. integrated public restaurants and lunch counters across the South
- D. established the right to interracial marriage under federal law

34. The Cuban Missile Crisis of October 1962 ended when

- A. the United States invaded Cuba and removed the Castro regime
- B. Cuba severed diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union
- C. the United Nations took direct administrative control of Cuban territory
- D. the Soviet Union agreed to remove its missiles in exchange for American concessions

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

- A. Title I addressing voting rights
- B. Title II addressing public accommodations
- C. Title VII addressing employment practices
- D. Title IX addressing federally funded education

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

- A. resulted in immediate North Vietnamese military victory
- B. shattered American public confidence that the war was being won
- C. produced President Johnson's reelection in November 1968
- D. ended American military involvement in Southeast Asia

37. President Richard Nixon resigned from office in August 1974 primarily because of

- A. the Watergate scandal and pending impeachment proceedings
- B. the OPEC oil embargo and resulting energy crisis
- C. the Iran hostage crisis at the United States Embassy in Tehran

D. the Saturday Night Massacre during the Vietnam War

38. 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

39. The Reagan Doctrine of the 1980s emphasized

A. negotiation of comprehensive arms control treaties with Moscow

B. American withdrawal from active Cold War engagement

C. supporting anti-communist insurgencies in the developing world

D. recognition of Soviet sphere of influence in Eastern Europe

40. The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), implemented in 1994, established free trade among

A. the United States, Canada, and Mexico

B. the United States, Britain, and Canada

C. the United States, Mexico, and Cuba

D. the United States and the European Union

SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)

41. Mesopotamian civilization developed in the river valley of the

- A. Nile River in northeastern Africa
- B. Indus River on the South Asian subcontinent
- C. Tigris and Euphrates rivers in the Fertile Crescent
- D. Yellow River in northern China

42. The ancient Egyptian civilization is most closely associated with which of the following monumental structures?

- A. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon
- B. The pyramids at Giza built as pharaonic tombs
- C. The temple complex at Karnak alone
- D. The ziggurats of Mesopotamia

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

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

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

- A. Augustus, the adopted heir of Julius Caesar

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

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

- A. the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem in 70 CE
- B. the persecutions under the emperor Diocletian in 303 CE
- C. the Edict of Milan issued by Constantine in 313 CE
- D. the Council of Nicaea convened in 325 CE

46. The Hagia Sophia in Constantinople was constructed under the Byzantine emperor

- A. Constantine the Great during the fourth century
- B. Justinian the Great during the sixth century
- C. Basil II during the eleventh century
- D. Heraclius during the seventh century

47. The Islamic Golden Age (roughly 8th–13th centuries) is associated with major advances in

- A. European agriculture during the medieval period
- B. Chinese imperial bureaucracy during the Tang dynasty
- C. Indigenous Mesoamerican astronomical knowledge
- D. mathematics, medicine, philosophy, and astronomy across the Muslim world

48. The European feudal system organized society around

- A. land tenure exchanged for military service and personal loyalty
- B. universal political participation through elected councils
- C. wage labor in early industrial workshops
- D. centralized monarchical control over all economic activity

49. 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 the introduction of new goods and ideas
- D. The unification of Eastern and Western Christianity under one church

50. The Renaissance, which began in fourteenth-century Italy, was characterized by

- A. the rejection of all Greek and Roman cultural traditions
- B. a revived interest in classical learning and humanism
- C. the consolidation of feudal social hierarchies across Europe
- D. the suppression of vernacular languages in favor of Latin

51. Martin Luther's Ninety-Five Theses (1517) challenged

- A. the political authority of the Holy Roman Emperor
- B. Catholic teachings on the Eucharist and the Trinity
- C. the legitimacy of the German princes against Rome
- D. the Catholic Church's sale of indulgences and other practices

52. The Spanish conquest of the Inca Empire was led by

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

53. The transatlantic slave trade (c. 1500–1866) forcibly transported approximately

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

54. The English Civil War (1642–1651) resulted in the temporary

- A. abolition of the monarchy and establishment of a Commonwealth
- B. unification of England, Scotland, and Wales under a single crown
- C. expansion of royal authority over Parliament
- D. independence of the American colonies from English rule

55. The Enlightenment philosopher who argued that government rests on a social contract and the consent of the governed was

- A. Niccolò Machiavelli of Florence
- B. Thomas Aquinas of medieval Italy
- C. Jean Bodin of sixteenth-century France

D. John Locke of seventeenth-century England

56. The French Revolution began in 1789 with events including the

- A. assassination of King Louis XVI by revolutionary forces
- B. storming of the Bastille and the meeting of the Estates-General
- C. coronation of Napoleon Bonaparte as Emperor
- D. invasion of France by Austrian and Prussian armies

57. The Industrial Revolution began in 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

58. The Congress of Vienna (1814–1815) was organized by

- A. Austrian foreign minister Klemens von Metternich
- B. French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte
- C. British Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger
- D. Russian Tsar Alexander I alone

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

- A. ended the international slave trade through binding treaty obligations
- B. created the League of Nations as a peacekeeping body

- C. settled the borders between France and Germany after a war
- D. established rules for European partition of Africa with no African representation

60. The Bolshevik Revolution of October 1917 brought to power

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

61. The Treaty of Versailles (1919) imposed which of the following on Germany?

- A. War guilt, reparations, territorial losses, and military restrictions
- B. Permanent occupation by Allied military forces
- C. The dissolution of the German nation-state
- D. Mandatory adoption of a republican constitution by 1925

62. The Long March (1934–1935) was a strategic retreat by the

- A. Soviet Red Army during the Russian Civil War
- B. Chinese Communist Party under Mao Zedong
- C. Indian National Congress during independence struggles
- D. Vietnamese resistance forces against French colonial rule

63. The Holocaust during World War II was the systematic murder of approximately

- A. one million Russian prisoners of war by Nazi authorities

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

64. The Yalta Conference of February 1945 brought together

- A. Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin to plan 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

65. The partition of British India in 1947 created the independent states of

- A. India and Bangladesh exclusively
- B. India, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan
- C. India and Pakistan, with Bangladesh later separating from Pakistan in 1971
- D. India and Burma as separate Commonwealth realms

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

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

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

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

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

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

69. 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

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

- A. the collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe
- B. the formal beginning of the European Union
- C. the end of the Korean War's lingering tensions
- D. the consolidation of Soviet power in Central 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. Cartograms differ from conventional maps in that they

- A. show topographic relief through detailed contour lines
- B. preserve the true area and shape of land masses
- C. distort geographic size to represent statistical data
- D. depict ocean currents and prevailing wind patterns

73. The five themes of geography traditionally include all of the following EXCEPT

- A. location, both absolute and relative
- B. demographic structure of a population
- C. human-environment interaction
- D. movement of people, goods, and ideas

74. Absolute location refers to a place's

- A. precise coordinates in a global reference system such as latitude and longitude
- B. position relative to nearby cultural landmarks

- C. distance from the equator measured in nautical miles
- D. cultural significance to surrounding communities

75. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) integrate

- A. only satellite imagery from low-Earth-orbit platforms
- B. only census data from national statistical agencies
- C. only weather data from meteorological observatories
- D. multiple layers of spatial data for analysis and decision-making

76. The greenhouse effect is caused by

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

77. A Mediterranean climate is characterized by

- A. mild wet winters and hot dry summers
- B. cold dry winters and hot humid summers
- C. uniform precipitation distributed evenly throughout the year
- D. extreme temperature ranges with continental seasonality

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

- A. Sahara Desert in northern Africa

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

79. The Demographic Transition Model describes

- A. the migration patterns of populations across continents
- B. the relationship between natural disasters and population displacement
- C. the spread of religions across geographic regions
- D. the typical sequence of falling birth and death rates as countries industrialize

80. The world's most populous country today is

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

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

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

82. Push factors driving migration include all of the following EXCEPT

- A. armed conflict and political persecution
- B. environmental degradation and natural disasters
- C. abundant economic opportunities at the destination
- D. religious or ethnic discrimination in the homeland

83. The largest religion in the world by number of adherents is

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

84. 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

85. 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

86. 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

87. A primate city is one that

A. serves as the political capital but lacks economic significance

B. is the largest port in a coastal nation

C. has been recently established as a planned national capital

D. is disproportionately larger and more important than the next-largest city

88. The Sahel region of Africa is characterized as a

A. dense tropical rainforest covering equatorial Africa

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

C. high-altitude plateau of East Africa

D. coastal mangrove ecosystem of West Africa

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

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

B. is a single continuous shell that is gradually thinning

- C. consists of layers stratified by density without horizontal movement
- D. has remained essentially unchanged since the formation of the planet

90. 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

SECTION IV — CIVICS (Questions 91–122)

91. Aristotle classified governments based on the number of rulers and whether they ruled in the common interest. The corrupt form of rule by one is

- A. aristocracy when virtuous citizens lead
- B. polity when the middle class governs broadly
- C. democracy when the many rule
- D. tyranny when a single ruler rules selfishly

92. The English political philosopher who argued in **Two Treatises of Government** that legitimate government rests on the consent of the governed and protects natural rights to life, liberty, and property was

- A. Thomas Hobbes of seventeenth-century England
- B. John Locke of seventeenth-century England
- C. Edmund Burke of eighteenth-century Britain

D. Jean-Jacques Rousseau of eighteenth-century Geneva

93. The Constitutional Convention of 1787 was originally convened to

- A. revise the Articles of Confederation rather than draft a new constitution
- B. ratify the Bill of Rights for the new federal government
- C. negotiate a peace treaty with Britain after the Revolution
- D. establish the boundaries of the Northwest Territory

94. The Three-Fifths Compromise at the Constitutional Convention determined that enslaved people would be

- A. fully counted for purposes of representation in Congress
- B. excluded entirely from population counts in slave states
- C. counted as three-fifths of a person for representation and direct taxation
- D. given the right to vote in federal elections after a transition period

95. Federalism in the U.S. constitutional system refers to

- A. separation of powers among three branches of the federal government
- B. the division of power between the federal government and the states
- C. the supremacy of federal courts over all state courts in every matter
- D. the requirement that all states adopt identical legal codes

96. The principle of checks and balances is best illustrated by which of the following?

- A. The President's authority to issue executive orders without congressional involvement

- B. The Supreme Court's authority to schedule its own term and caseload
- C. State governors' authority over their state National Guard units
- D. The Senate's authority to confirm or reject presidential nominations

97. The Supremacy Clause of the Constitution establishes that

- A. federal law and treaties prevail over conflicting state laws
- B. state constitutions take precedence over the federal constitution within state boundaries
- C. the Supreme Court has unlimited authority over all matters of state law
- D. the President holds supreme authority during national emergencies

98. The First Amendment protects all of the following freedoms EXCEPT

- A. the free exercise of religion without governmental interference
- B. freedom of speech and of the press from government censorship
- C. the right to keep and bear arms in defense of self and community
- D. the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government

99. The Fourth Amendment protects against

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

100. *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) established that suspects in police custody must be informed of their

- A. right to a public trial within ninety days of arrest
- B. right to refuse to consent to lawful searches of their property
- C. right to be released on personal recognizance during pretrial proceedings
- D. right to remain silent and right to an attorney before interrogation

101. The Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause has been the constitutional basis for

- A. major civil rights victories including *Brown v. Board of Education*
- B. the federal government's authority to regulate interstate commerce
- C. the establishment of the Federal Reserve System in 1913
- D. the prohibition of poll taxes in federal elections

102. The Constitution provides that bills for raising revenue must originate in the

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

103. The Senate's exclusive constitutional powers include

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

104. The presidential veto power can be overridden by

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

105. The President's role as Commander in Chief is established in

- A. Article II of the Constitution defining executive powers
- B. Article I of the Constitution enumerating congressional powers
- C. the War Powers Resolution of 1973
- D. an executive order issued during the Civil War

106. The presidential Cabinet includes the heads of executive departments such as

- A. the Federal Reserve and the Securities and Exchange Commission
- B. the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission
- C. the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior under the legislative branch
- D. State, Treasury, Defense, Justice, and Homeland Security among others

107. Federal judges are selected through

- A. nationwide elections held every six years for each judicial circuit
- B. appointment by state governors with senatorial approval
- C. presidential nomination and Senate confirmation
- D. selection by the Chief Justice of the United States from a national pool

108. *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) established the principle that

- A. federal courts may declare laws and executive actions unconstitutional
- B. state courts must apply federal law in all civil cases
- C. the President's removal authority over executive officials is unlimited
- D. only Congress may interpret the meaning of constitutional provisions

109. The Tenth Amendment reserves to the states or the people

- A. all enumerated powers granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8
- B. powers not delegated to the federal government nor prohibited to the states
- C. exclusive authority to regulate interstate commerce among the states
- D. the power to coin money and fix standards of weights and measures

110. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 most directly addressed

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

111. The Twenty-Sixth Amendment, ratified in 1971,

- A. established direct election of United States senators
- B. abolished the poll tax in federal elections
- C. lowered the voting age from twenty-one to eighteen
- D. extended the presidential term limit to two terms

112. Voter turnout in U.S. presidential elections typically falls within which range?

- A. Approximately 50 to 65 percent of the voting-eligible population
- B. Approximately 70 to 80 percent in nearly every cycle
- C. Approximately 25 to 35 percent in most elections
- D. Approximately 90 to 95 percent in highly contested races

113. Political action committees (PACs) influence federal elections primarily by

- A. controlling the nomination of all federal judges
- B. operating independent court systems for campaign disputes
- C. raising funds and contributing to political candidates and causes
- D. setting policy agendas for both major political parties

114. The principal agents of political socialization include

- A. the family, schools, religious institutions, peer groups, and the media
- B. the Federal Reserve, the Treasury Department, and tax authorities
- C. supranational organizations like the United Nations
- D. private corporations and their advertising activities

115. A presidential system differs from a parliamentary system primarily in that

- A. presidential systems lack regular elections
- B. parliamentary systems do not have political parties
- C. presidential systems use proportional representation electoral rules
- D. the executive in a parliamentary system is drawn from and accountable to the legislature

116. Single-member plurality electoral systems tend to produce

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

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

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

118. NATO is best described as

- A. an economic union promoting free trade among Western democracies
- B. a humanitarian organization coordinating disaster relief
- C. a collective defense alliance currently composed of more than thirty members
- D. a global trade organization regulating tariffs

119. The Paris Agreement of 2015 committed signatory countries to

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

120. A major function of supranational organizations like the European Union is to

- A. preserve unlimited national sovereignty across all member states
- B. coordinate economic, political, and legal cooperation while pooling some sovereignty
- C. impose identical national constitutions on all member states
- D. dissolve member-state governments in favor of a single federal authority

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

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

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

- A. campaign contributions to candidates may be unlimited if disclosed publicly
- B. all corporate political spending must be reported to federal regulators
- C. corporations and unions have free speech rights to make independent political expenditures
- D. independent political expenditures are subject to strict federal limits

SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)

123. The fundamental economic problem addressed by the discipline of economics is

- A. inflation arising in market economies
- B. unequal distribution of income within nations

- C. fluctuations in international exchange rates
- D. scarcity of resources relative to unlimited human wants

124. The Production Possibilities Curve (PPC) illustrates which of the following concepts?

- A. The relationship between inflation and unemployment in the macroeconomy
- B. Scarcity, opportunity cost, and trade-offs in resource allocation
- C. The gradual aggregation of household consumption into national output
- D. The relationship between exchange rates and the trade balance

125. A market economy coordinates economic activity primarily through

- A. prices and the voluntary exchanges of buyers and sellers
- B. central government planning of all production and distribution
- C. inherited customs and traditional rules of resource use
- D. religious authorities setting just prices for essential goods

126. The law of demand states that, holding other factors constant, as the price of a good rises,

- A. the quantity supplied automatically rises in proportion
- B. consumer income immediately increases to compensate
- C. the quantity demanded falls
- D. the price elasticity of demand approaches zero

127. A surplus in a competitive market occurs when

- A. consumer demand exceeds the available supply of a good

- B. the quantity supplied exceeds the quantity demanded at the prevailing price
- C. the government imposes a price ceiling below the equilibrium 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. Marginal cost is best defined 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 units produced
- D. the additional cost of producing one more unit of output

130. Perfect competition is characterized by

- A. a single firm controlling the entire market
- B. a small number of large firms strategically reacting to one another
- C. many sellers offering identical products with free entry and exit
- D. firms producing differentiated products with significant brand power

131. A natural monopoly is most commonly associated with

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

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

- A. transactions between voluntary buyers and sellers in normal markets
- B. externalities, public goods, information asymmetries, and significant market power
- 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 the total

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

134. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures inflation through

- A. the cost of a representative basket of consumer goods and services
- B. the average wages of urban industrial workers
- C. the value of corporate stock prices on major exchanges
- D. household savings rates across different income groups

135. Frictional unemployment refers to

- A. unemployment caused by mismatches between worker skills and job requirements
- B. unemployment driven by downturns in the macroeconomic business cycle
- C. unemployment produced by predictable seasonal variations in work
- D. short-term unemployment as workers transition between jobs

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

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

137. The Federal Reserve's most frequently used monetary policy tool is

- A. setting the reserve requirement for member banks
- B. changing the discount rate charged to commercial banks
- C. open market operations involving government securities
- D. directly extending consumer loans to American households

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

- A. increases in government spending, tax cuts, or both
- B. reductions in government spending paired with tax increases
- C. increases in interest rates and reductions in money supply
- D. restrictions on international trade and capital flows

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

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

140. The Gini coefficient is used to measure

- A. the rate of inflation in consumer prices over time
- B. the productivity of agricultural land in different regions
- C. the value of a country's currency in international exchange
- D. income or wealth inequality within a country

PRACTICE EXAM 4 — ANSWER KEY AND EXPLANATIONS

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

1. C — The Pueblo Revolt of 1680, led by Popé, successfully expelled Spanish colonizers from New Mexico for over a decade before their return in 1692. It was the most successful indigenous uprising against European colonization in North American history and produced lasting concessions in the Spanish colonial relationship with Pueblo peoples.
2. B — The Mayflower Compact was signed to provide a basis for self-government among the Plymouth colonists who had landed outside their patent's jurisdiction. The 41 male signatories agreed to combine into a "civil body politic" governed by mutually agreed laws — an early example of governance by consent.
3. A — The Middle Colonies were characterized by diverse commercial farming, ironworks, and notable ethnic and religious pluralism, with significant German, Dutch, Swedish, and Scots-Irish populations alongside English settlers. Pennsylvania's Quaker-founded religious tolerance attracted particularly diverse communities.
4. D — The French and Indian War transferred vast French territories in North America to Britain through the Treaty of Paris (1763). Britain gained Canada and all French claims east of the Mississippi, fundamentally reshaping the colonial map and setting up subsequent conflicts over taxation and frontier policy.
5. B — The Boston Tea Party was a response to the Tea Act of 1773, which granted the East India Company a monopoly on colonial tea sales and threatened both colonial merchants and the principle of "no taxation without representation." Colonists destroyed approximately 340 chests of tea in Boston Harbor.
6. A — The Battles of Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775 were the opening military engagements of the American Revolution. The "shot heard 'round the world" at Lexington Green and the running battle back to Boston transformed colonial protest into armed conflict.
7. C — The Treaty of Paris (1783) formally ended the Revolutionary War and recognized American independence, establishing the new nation's borders to the Mississippi River in the west. Britain also ceded fishing rights and access to navigation on the Mississippi.
8. D — 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. B — *Federalist No. 10* addressed the dangers of factions and argued that a large republic would better control their effects than a small one. Madison contended that an extended republic with diverse interests would prevent any single faction from dominating, a central justification for the proposed Constitution.
10. A — The Bill of Rights was added primarily to address Anti-Federalist concerns that the original Constitution did not adequately protect individual liberties. Madison drafted the amendments to fulfill the Federalists' promise of post-ratification protections.
11. D — The XYZ Affair (1797–1798) involved French agents (designated X, Y, and Z by President Adams) demanding bribes from American diplomats before negotiations could begin. The incident produced widespread American outrage and led to the Quasi-War with France.
12. C — The Lewis and Clark Expedition was authorized by President Thomas Jefferson to explore the Louisiana Purchase territory, find a water route to the Pacific, and document plant, animal, and indigenous life. The expedition lasted from May 1804 to September 1806.
13. A — The Missouri Compromise admitted Missouri as a slave state and Maine as a free state, maintaining the sectional balance in the Senate. It also prohibited slavery in remaining Louisiana Purchase territory north of latitude 36°30'.
14. B — The cotton gin dramatically reduced the labor needed to remove seeds from cotton fiber, which made short-staple cotton enormously profitable. The result was a massive expansion of cotton agriculture and slavery across the Deep South, the opposite of what some at the time hoped the invention might produce.
15. D — The Second Great Awakening influenced the growth of reform movements including abolition, temperance, women's rights, and educational reform. Its emphasis on personal moral responsibility and the perfectibility of society drove much of antebellum reform energy.
16. A — *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) established the principle of judicial review of federal laws by the Supreme Court. Chief Justice John Marshall declared that "it is emphatically the duty of the Judicial Department to say what the law is," transforming the Court into a coequal branch.
17. C — 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.
18. 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.

19. A — *Dred Scott* held that African Americans, whether enslaved or free, could not be citizens of the United States. The decision also voided the Missouri Compromise as unconstitutional and accelerated the political crisis leading to the Civil War.
20. D — The Battle of Fort Sumter on April 12–13, 1861 was the opening engagement of the American Civil War, when Confederate forces fired on the federal garrison in Charleston Harbor. Lincoln's call for volunteers in response prompted four additional Southern states to secede.
21. C — 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.
22. A — The Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890 was passed in response to the growing concentration of corporate power in industrial trusts during the Gilded Age. Early enforcement was weak, but the Act laid the foundation for later antitrust action.
23. B — The Spanish-American War was triggered by events including the explosion of the USS *Maine* in Havana harbor in February 1898, which killed 266 American sailors. The cause of the explosion remains debated, but yellow journalism blamed Spain and inflamed public opinion.
24. C — Progressive Era reforms included women's suffrage (Nineteenth Amendment, 1920), antitrust regulation (Clayton Act, 1914), and direct election of senators (Seventeenth Amendment, 1913). Progressive reforms also included the federal income tax, the Federal Reserve, and consumer protections.
25. A — Wilson's Fourteenth Point proposed "a general association of nations" — the League of Nations, intended to provide collective security through mutual guarantees of independence and territorial integrity. The League was created at Versailles in 1919, but the United States never joined.
26. D — The Eighteenth Amendment, ratified in 1919 and effective in 1920, prohibited the manufacture, sale, and transportation of alcoholic beverages. Prohibition produced the rise of organized crime and significant social conflict, and was repealed by the Twenty-First Amendment in 1933.
27. B — The Great Migration involved the movement of African Americans from the rural South to industrial cities of the North and West, particularly during World War I and the 1920s. Approximately six million African Americans moved between 1916 and 1970, transforming American demographics and culture.
28. C — The Crash of 1929 contributed to the Great Depression by eroding banking confidence and triggering widespread bank failures, which destroyed personal savings and dramatically reduced consumer spending and business investment. The contraction continued for years after the initial Crash.

29. D — The Social Security Act of 1935 established federal old-age pensions, unemployment insurance, and aid to dependent children. It is the foundation of the modern American welfare state and remains the largest single federal program by expenditure.
30. A — American entry into World War II began with the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. The attack killed approximately 2,400 Americans and led to a declaration of war the following day.
31. C — 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.
32. B — 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.
33. A — *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954) overturned the "separate but equal" doctrine of *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896), declaring segregated educational facilities inherently unequal. The unanimous decision became the constitutional foundation of the modern civil rights movement.
34. D — The Cuban Missile Crisis ended when Soviet leader Khrushchev agreed to remove missiles from Cuba in exchange for an American pledge not to invade Cuba and the quiet removal of American missiles from Turkey. The resolution averted the closest moment to nuclear war during the Cold War.
35. C — Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibited discrimination in employment based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. It established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to enforce these protections and remains the foundation of modern federal employment discrimination law.
36. B — The Tet Offensive shattered American public confidence that the war was being won, despite being a tactical defeat for North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces. The contrast between official optimism and the visible scale of the offensive eroded public support for the war.
37. A — Nixon resigned in August 1974 because of the Watergate scandal and pending impeachment proceedings. The release of the "smoking gun" tape proved his role in the cover-up, and conviction in a Senate impeachment trial became virtually certain.
38. 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.
39. C — The Reagan Doctrine emphasized supporting anti-communist insurgencies in the developing world. The policy supported groups including the Contras in Nicaragua, the mujahideen in Afghanistan, and UNITA in Angola, marking a more confrontational approach than détente.

40. A — NAFTA, implemented in 1994, established free trade among the United States, Canada, and Mexico. It deepened economic integration across North America and was eventually replaced by the USMCA in 2020.

SECTION II — WORLD HISTORY (Questions 41–71)

41. C — Mesopotamian civilization developed in the river valley of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in the Fertile Crescent, in what is now Iraq. The fertile alluvial soil and reliable irrigation supported the world's earliest cities, writing systems, and complex political institutions.
42. B — The pyramids at Giza were built as pharaonic tombs, most prominently those of Khufu, Khafre, and Menkaure during the Fourth Dynasty (c. 2575–2465 BCE). They are among the few surviving wonders of the ancient world and reflect the centralized political and religious authority of Old Kingdom Egypt.
43. D — Aristotle, founder of the Lyceum, taught Alexander the Great as a youth and wrote on logic, ethics, politics, biology, and other subjects. His systematic approach to knowledge influenced Western thought for two millennia and shaped both Christian and Islamic intellectual traditions.
44. A — The Roman Republic ended and the Empire began with the rise of Augustus (Octavian), the adopted heir of Julius Caesar, who became the first emperor in 27 BCE after defeating Mark Antony and Cleopatra. Augustus preserved republican forms while concentrating real power in himself.
45. C — Christianity was officially tolerated within the Roman Empire after the Edict of Milan, issued by Constantine in 313 CE, ending official persecution. Constantine's own conversion and the later edict of Theodosius (380 CE) made Christianity the state religion.
46. B — 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.
47. D — 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 across the Muslim world. Centers of learning at Baghdad, Córdoba, and elsewhere preserved and extended Greek and Indian knowledge.
48. A — The European feudal system organized society around land tenure exchanged for military service and personal loyalty between lords and vassals. The arrangement reflected the political fragmentation that followed Carolingian collapse and persisted in modified forms for centuries.
49. 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. While the immediate religious objectives largely failed, the cultural and economic consequences were profound.

50. B — The Renaissance was characterized by a revived interest in classical learning and humanism, emphasizing the dignity and creative potential of human beings. Renaissance artists, writers, and thinkers drew inspiration from Greek and Roman models while producing new cultural achievements.
51. D — Luther's Ninety-Five Theses challenged the Catholic Church's sale of indulgences (payments offering remission of sin's temporal punishment) and other practices. Posted on October 31, 1517, the document sparked the Protestant Reformation that divided Western Christendom.
52. A — The Spanish conquest of the Inca Empire was led by Francisco Pizarro, beginning in 1532 with the capture of the emperor Atahualpa. Disease, internal Inca civil conflict, and Spanish technological advantages enabled a small expedition to topple a vast empire.
53. C — 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.
54. A — The English Civil War resulted in the temporary abolition of the monarchy and establishment of a Commonwealth (1649–1660) under Oliver Cromwell. The execution of Charles I in 1649 was unprecedented in European history; the monarchy was restored under Charles II in 1660.
55. D — John Locke argued in *Two Treatises of Government* (1689) that legitimate government rests on the consent of the governed and exists to protect natural rights to life, liberty, and property. Locke's framework profoundly shaped the American Founders, particularly the Declaration of Independence.
56. B — The French Revolution began in 1789 with the storming of the Bastille on July 14 and the meeting of the Estates-General in May, which became the National Assembly. King Louis XVI was executed in 1793; Napoleon's coronation came much later in 1804.
57. B — The Industrial Revolution began in eighteenth-century Britain with innovations in textile production (the spinning jenny, the water frame) and the development of the steam engine. Britain's coal reserves, capital, agricultural surplus, and stable property rights all contributed.
58. A — The Congress of Vienna was organized primarily by Austrian foreign minister Klemens von Metternich. The Congress sought to restore the pre-revolutionary balance of power, establish monarchical legitimacy, and prevent future revolutions, producing decades of relative European peace.
59. D — The Berlin Conference of 1884–1885 established rules for European 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.

60. C — The Bolshevik Revolution of October 1917 brought the Bolsheviks under Vladimir Lenin to power in Russia. The Bolsheviks withdrew Russia from World War I through the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk and established the world's first Communist state.
61. A — The Treaty of Versailles imposed war guilt, reparations, territorial losses, and military restrictions on Germany. The harsh terms — particularly the war guilt clause and reparations — fueled German resentment that contributed to the rise of Nazism.
62. B — The Long March (1934–1935) was a strategic retreat by the Chinese Communist Party under Mao Zedong, covering roughly 6,000 miles to escape Nationalist encirclement. The march established Mao's leadership and became central to Communist Party mythology.
63. D — The Holocaust was the systematic Nazi murder of approximately six million European Jews along with 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.
64. 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. Its decisions shaped the early Cold War.
65. C — The partition of British India in 1947 created India and Pakistan, with Bangladesh later separating from Pakistan in 1971 after a brutal civil war. Partition produced massive communal violence, with estimates of one to two million dead and 15 million displaced.
66. B — 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.
67. A — 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.
68. D — 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, becoming a defining issue in Cold War Latin America.
69. 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.
70. A — The fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989 symbolized the collapse of communist regimes across Eastern Europe. Within months, virtually every East European Communist government fell, and within two years the Soviet Union itself dissolved.

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 — Cartograms distort geographic size to represent statistical data, with countries or regions appearing larger or smaller in proportion to the variable being mapped. They are useful for visualizing data like population, GDP, or election results, though they sacrifice geographic accuracy.
73. B — Demographic structure of a population is not one of the five themes of geography. The five traditional themes are location, place, region, movement, and human-environment interaction.
74. A — Absolute location refers to a place's precise coordinates in a global reference system such as latitude and longitude or a street address. It contrasts with relative location, which describes position in relation to other places or features.
75. D — 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. C — 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. A — A Mediterranean climate is characterized by mild wet winters and hot dry summers. It occurs in regions including the Mediterranean Basin, central California, central Chile, the Western Cape of South Africa, and parts of southwestern and southern Australia.
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. D — The Demographic Transition Model describes the typical sequence of falling birth and death rates as countries industrialize, moving through four (sometimes five) stages. The model is descriptive rather than universally predictive.
80. A — 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. A — 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. C — Abundant economic opportunities at the destination is a pull factor (drawing migrants to a destination), not a push factor (driving people away from origin). Push factors include conflict, persecution, environmental degradation, and economic hardship.
83. D — Christianity is the world's largest religion with approximately 2.4 billion adherents. Islam is second at roughly 1.9 billion, Hinduism at about 1.2 billion (concentrated in South Asia), and Buddhism considerably smaller.
84. 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.
85. 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.
86. 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.
87. D — 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.
88. B — The Sahel is a transitional semi-arid zone between the Sahara to the north and tropical Africa to the south, stretching across the continent from Senegal to Sudan. It is highly vulnerable to drought, desertification, and food insecurity.
89. A — 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.
90. 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 including the displacement of over a million people.

SECTION IV — CIVICS (Questions 91–122)

91. D — In Aristotle's classification, the corrupt form of rule by one is tyranny — a ruler governing for personal benefit rather than the common good. Aristotle distinguished 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. B — John Locke argued in *Two Treatises of Government* (1689) that legitimate government rests on the consent of the governed and protects natural rights to life, liberty, and property. Locke's

framework directly shaped the Declaration of Independence and remains foundational to American constitutional thought.

93. A — The Constitutional Convention of 1787 was originally convened to revise the Articles of Confederation rather than draft a new constitution. The delegates exceeded their mandate by drafting an entirely new framework, which was then submitted to state ratifying conventions.
94. C — The Three-Fifths Compromise determined that enslaved people would be counted as three-fifths of a person for purposes of representation in Congress and direct taxation. The compromise increased Southern political power while extracting fiscal concessions, embedding slavery directly into the constitutional structure.
95. B — Federalism in the U.S. constitutional system refers to the division of power between the federal government and the states. Separation of powers (among branches) and federalism (between national and state levels) are distinct constitutional principles working together.
96. D — The Senate's authority to confirm or reject presidential nominations is a textbook example of checks and balances: one branch (executive) makes the appointment, but another branch (legislative) must approve it. Each branch's specific powers limit the others' freedom of action.
97. A — The Supremacy Clause (Article VI) establishes that the Constitution, federal laws made pursuant to it, and treaties prevail over conflicting state laws. It is the structural foundation of federal authority over conflicting state legislation.
98. 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), speech, press, assembly, and petition.
99. B — 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.
100. D — *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) established that suspects in police custody must be informed of their right to remain silent and their right to an attorney before interrogation. The "Miranda warning" became a foundational protection of Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights.
101. A — The Equal Protection Clause has been the constitutional basis for major civil rights victories including *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), *Loving v. Virginia* (1967), *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015), and many others. It is the principal vehicle through which constitutional equality is enforced against state action.
102. C — 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.

103. D — 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.
104. B — A presidential veto can be overridden by a two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress. The supermajority requirement is one of the most important checks on legislative power and reflects the Framers' desire to require broad consensus for legislation passed over presidential objection.
105. A — The President's role as Commander in Chief is established in Article II of the Constitution defining executive powers. The role gives the President broad authority over the conduct of military operations, though Congress retains the power to declare war and to fund the military.
106. D — The presidential Cabinet includes the heads of executive departments such as State, Treasury, Defense, Justice, and Homeland Security, along with several others. There are currently 15 Cabinet departments, with their heads serving as the President's principal advisors.
107. C — Federal judges are selected through presidential nomination and Senate confirmation, then serve "during good behavior" — effectively life tenure, removable only by impeachment. The process is one of the most consequential checks the executive and legislative branches have on the long-term direction of the judiciary.
108. A — *Marbury v. Madison* (1803) established the principle that federal courts may declare laws and executive actions unconstitutional. The decision transformed the federal judiciary into a coequal branch of government and is foundational to American constitutional law.
109. B — The Tenth Amendment reserves to the states or the people powers not delegated to the federal government nor prohibited to the states. It is the constitutional articulation of the principle of reserved powers and a touchstone for arguments about federalism.
110. D — The Voting Rights Act of 1965 most directly addressed literacy tests and other tools used to disenfranchise African American voters in the South. The Act dramatically increased African American voter registration and political participation.
111. C — The Twenty-Sixth Amendment, ratified in 1971, lowered the voting age from twenty-one to eighteen, partly in response to the argument that 18-year-olds drafted to fight in Vietnam should also be entitled to vote. It was ratified faster than any other amendment.
112. A — Voter turnout in U.S. presidential elections typically falls within approximately 50 to 65 percent of the voting-eligible population. The 2020 election produced the highest turnout in over a century at approximately 66 percent, but lower turnout is more typical historically.
113. C — Political action committees influence federal elections primarily by raising funds and contributing to political candidates and causes within the limits of federal campaign finance law. Super PACs, established after *Citizens United* (2010), can spend unlimited amounts on independent activity.

114. A — The principal agents of political socialization include the family, schools, religious institutions, peer groups, and the media. The family is generally the most influential, particularly for partisan identification and basic political values.
115. D — In a parliamentary system, the executive (prime minister and cabinet) is drawn from and accountable to the legislative majority. The PM continues in office only as long as the legislature continues to support the government, distinguishing parliamentary systems fundamentally from presidential ones.
116. B — Single-member plurality electoral systems tend to produce two-party competition because votes for third parties are typically wasted (Duverger's Law). The structure rewards consolidation around two large parties capable of competing for outright pluralities in individual districts.
117. A — The UN 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.
118. C — 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.
119. D — 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.
120. B — Supranational organizations like the European Union coordinate economic, political, and legal cooperation while pooling some sovereignty — transferring authority from member states to common institutions in defined areas. This distinguishes them from looser forms of international cooperation.
121. A — The doctrine of incorporation refers to the Supreme Court's progressive application of most provisions of the Bill of Rights to state governments through the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause. Originally the Bill of Rights restricted only the federal government.
122. C — *Citizens United v. FEC* (2010) held that corporations and unions have free speech rights to make independent political expenditures. The decision led directly to the rise of Super PACs that can raise and spend unlimited amounts on independent political activity.

SECTION V — ECONOMICS (Questions 123–140)

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

124. B — The Production Possibilities Curve illustrates scarcity, opportunity cost, and trade-offs in resource allocation. Movement along the curve illustrates opportunity cost; outward shifts represent economic growth.
125. A — A market economy coordinates economic activity primarily through prices and the voluntary exchanges of buyers and sellers. Prices serve as signals that aggregate dispersed information about preferences, costs, and availability.
126. C — The law of demand states that as price rises, quantity demanded falls, holding other factors constant. The relationship is captured graphically as a downward-sloping demand curve.
127. B — A surplus occurs when the quantity supplied exceeds the quantity demanded at the prevailing price. Surpluses typically arise when prices are above equilibrium (e.g., when price floors are set above the equilibrium price). The price mechanism then pushes prices down 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).
129. D — Marginal cost is the additional cost of producing 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.
130. C — Perfect competition is characterized by many sellers offering identical products with free entry and exit, and individual firms acting as price takers. It produces both allocative and productive efficiency in equilibrium and serves as the theoretical benchmark for market analysis.
131. A — A natural monopoly is most commonly associated with industries having large fixed costs and significant economies of scale, such that one firm can supply the market more efficiently than multiple competitors. Public utilities (water, electricity, natural gas distribution) are classic examples.
132. B — Government intervention in markets is most commonly justified by economists in cases of market failure — externalities, public goods, information asymmetries, and significant market power. Even economists most skeptical of government intervention generally accept the case for action in these specific situations.
133. C — Gross Domestic Product measures the total market value of final goods and services produced within a country in a given period. GDP is calculated through the expenditure approach as $C + I + G + (X - M)$.
134. A — 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. D — Frictional unemployment refers to short-term, often voluntary unemployment as workers transition between jobs, enter the labor force, or relocate. It is normal and even desirable in a dynamic economy and contrasts with structural, cyclical, and seasonal unemployment.
136. B — The Federal Reserve's "dual mandate" requires it to promote maximum employment and stable prices. The mandate was formalized in the Federal Reserve Reform Act of 1977 and shapes how the Fed weighs trade-offs between unemployment and inflation in setting monetary policy.
137. C — The Federal Reserve's most frequently used monetary policy tool is open market operations involving government securities. Buying securities injects money into the economy; selling securities removes money. The reserve requirement and discount rate are used less frequently.
138. A — Expansionary fiscal policy designed to combat a recession typically involves increases in government spending, tax cuts, or both. These actions stimulate aggregate demand and typically increase the budget deficit during the recession.
139. B — Comparative advantage holds that two countries can both gain from trade when each specializes in producing the goods in which it has lower opportunity costs. Even a country with absolute advantage in every good can benefit from specializing according to comparative advantage.
140. D — 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.