

REGENTS EXAMINATION IN GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II — PRACTICE SIMULATION 6

1. The writings of John Locke, Voltaire, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau most directly influenced which of the following 18th-century events?

- A. The unification of Italy under Camillo di Cavour
- B. The American Revolution and the French Revolution
- C. The Meiji Restoration of imperial Japan
- D. The Berlin Conference partitioning of Africa

2. Which factor most directly contributed to Great Britain becoming the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution in the late 18th century?

- A. Vast tropical rainforest resources that produced rubber and coffee
- B. A strong feudal system that organized peasants into productive collectives
- C. Geographic isolation that prevented foreign trade and economic competition
- D. Abundant coal and iron deposits combined with available capital and labor

3. The Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789) most clearly reflected the ideals of which intellectual movement?

- A. The Enlightenment with its emphasis on natural rights and equality
- B. The Counter-Reformation and its defense of Catholic religious authority
- C. Romanticism and its celebration of emotion over rational thought

D. Social Darwinism and its application of evolution to human society

4. Simón Bolívar and José de San Martín are best known for their leadership in

A. Latin American independence movements against Spanish colonial rule

B. The abolition of the transatlantic slave trade across the Caribbean

C. The unification of Italy under a single constitutional monarchy

D. The establishment of communist governments throughout Central America

5. One major social consequence of the Industrial Revolution in 19th-century Europe was the

A. Decline of cities as workers returned to rural agricultural communities

B. Elimination of child labor due to strict government safety standards

C. Growth of an urban working class facing harsh factory conditions

D. End of class divisions as wealth was distributed equally among workers

6. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels argued in *The Communist Manifesto* (1848) that history is driven by

A. The gradual moral improvement of humanity through religious teaching

B. Class struggle between those who own production and those who labor

C. The natural superiority of certain races over others in global affairs

D. The actions of great men whose decisions shape the course of nations

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

A. Granted independence to the colonies established earlier in Africa

B. Created the League of Nations to prevent future European warfare

C. Established the principles of free trade between Africa and Europe

D. Divided Africa among European powers with little regard for ethnic groups

8. The Sepoy Mutiny (Indian Rebellion) of 1857 resulted in

- A. The withdrawal of all British forces and businesses from the Indian subcontinent
- B. Independence for India under the leadership of Mohandas Gandhi's movement
- C. The transfer of governing control from the East India Company to the British Crown
- D. The establishment of a Hindu nationalist government in the Bengal region

9. The Meiji Restoration (1868) in Japan is best characterized by

- A. Rapid modernization and industrialization through borrowing Western technology and methods
- B. A return to feudal samurai rule and the rejection of all Western influences
- C. The adoption of communist economic principles modeled on Russian reforms
- D. The peaceful unification of competing Japanese clans under European guidance

10. Which of the following is most accurately identified as a long-term cause of World War I?

- A. The economic devastation produced by the Great Depression in Europe
- B. The system of secret alliances among major European powers before 1914
- C. The Soviet Union's expansion into Eastern Europe after the war ended
- D. The collapse of the League of Nations following its inability to act

11. The Bolshevik Revolution of October 1917 brought to power a government led by

- A. Czar Nicholas II and his ministers committed to constitutional reform
- B. Vladimir Lenin and the Communist Party committed to Marxist revolution
- C. Alexander Kerensky and a moderate provisional government coalition

D. Joseph Stalin and a group of military generals from the Russian army

12. The Treaty of Versailles (1919) contributed to the rise of Nazism in Germany primarily because it

- A. Required Germany to abandon all of its territory east of the Rhine River
- B. Forced Germany to convert immediately to a communist economic system
- C. Established a permanent French military government in Berlin and Munich
- D. Imposed heavy reparations and a "war guilt" clause that humiliated Germany

13. The worldwide Great Depression of the 1930s contributed to political instability by

- A. Reducing global trade barriers and increasing cooperation among democracies
- B. Strengthening the gold standard and providing currency stability worldwide
- C. Creating mass unemployment that pushed voters toward authoritarian leaders
- D. Encouraging immigration and the free movement of workers between nations

14. Joseph Stalin's Five-Year Plans in the Soviet Union were primarily designed to

- A. Rapidly industrialize the Soviet economy through centralized state planning
- B. Encourage private ownership of farms among the peasants in rural areas
- C. Increase consumer goods production for the Soviet middle and working class
- D. Establish democratic institutions and protect freedoms of speech and press

15. The Holocaust is best defined as the

- A. Soviet policy of forcibly relocating ethnic minorities to Siberian labor camps
- B. Allied bombing campaign that destroyed German cities during World War II
- C. Japanese internment of civilians in occupied Asian territories during the war

D. Nazi systematic genocide of six million European Jews and other targeted groups

16. President Truman's decision to use atomic bombs against Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 was justified by U.S. officials primarily on the grounds that it would

- A. Demonstrate American military superiority directly to Soviet political leadership
- B. Punish the Japanese civilian population for supporting their wartime government
- C. End the war quickly and avoid massive casualties from invading Japan
- D. Test the effectiveness of nuclear weapons under combat field conditions

17. Winston Churchill's 1946 "Iron Curtain" speech referred to the

- A. Naval blockade established by the United States against Soviet shipping
- B. Division between communist Eastern Europe and the democratic nations of Western Europe
- C. Wall constructed in Berlin to separate East and West Germany after the war
- D. Tariff barriers used by European nations to protect their domestic industries

18. The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan were both Cold War policies designed to

- A. Contain the spread of communism by providing economic and military support
- B. Promote the spread of communism throughout the developing world by force
- C. Establish democratic governments in defeated Axis powers after World War II
- D. Build a permanent United Nations military force capable of global intervention

19. The Chinese Communist Revolution of 1949 led to

- A. The immediate restoration of the Qing dynasty and traditional Confucian rule
- B. A free-market democracy modeled on the constitution of the United States
- C. The establishment of two equal republics governing northern and southern China

D. The establishment of a communist government under the leadership of Mao Zedong

20. India gained independence from Great Britain in 1947 largely as a result of

- A. A violent military uprising led by the Indian National Army against British forces
- B. The decision of the United Nations to dissolve the British Empire by treaty
- C. A nonviolent resistance movement led by Mohandas Gandhi and the Congress Party
- D. A successful invasion of British India by Japanese troops during World War II

21. Many African nations gained independence in the 1950s and 1960s, but newly independent states often struggled with

- A. Arbitrary borders inherited from colonial rule that ignored ethnic and linguistic divisions
- B. The lack of any natural resources to support economic development plans
- C. Powerful military alliances that forced them into the Soviet Union's bloc
- D. The complete absence of educated professionals trained under colonial rule

22. The system of apartheid in South Africa was officially dismantled in the early 1990s following

- A. A military intervention by United Nations peacekeeping forces from Europe
- B. Decades of internal protest and international sanctions against the government
- C. The discovery of major oil reserves that ended the country's economic isolation
- D. A constitutional convention organized and supervised by the British Commonwealth

23. The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 is best remembered as a moment when

- A. The Soviet Union and Cuba launched a direct nuclear attack on the United States
- B. The United States invaded Cuba with overwhelming conventional military force and air power
- C. The world came closest to nuclear war between the United States and Soviet Union

D. The United Nations imposed a permanent peacekeeping force on the island of Cuba

24. The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 symbolized the

A. Beginning of a new wave of communist revolutions throughout Western Europe

B. Reunification of Korea after decades of division along the 38th parallel zone

C. Collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the end of the Cold War

D. Permanent partition of Germany into separate eastern and western communist republics

25. One major characteristic of globalization in the late 20th and early 21st centuries is the

A. Increased interconnection of national economies through trade, communication, and technology

B. Reduction of international migration as nations close their borders to outsiders

C. Decline of multinational corporations operating across multiple world regions

D. Disappearance of cultural differences as all nations adopt identical traditions

26. The Vietnam War (1955–1975) is best understood as a Cold War conflict because

A. The two superpowers engaged in direct conventional combat on Vietnamese soil

B. The fighting expanded into a global war involving every major nation

C. It led to the immediate collapse of the Soviet government and economy

D. The United States supported South Vietnam while communist powers backed the North

27. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), adopted by the United Nations, was a direct response to

A. The growing nuclear arms race developing between the two competing superpowers

B. The atrocities of the Holocaust and other abuses of World War II

C. The decolonization movements rapidly spreading throughout Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean

D. The economic collapse of European nations following the Great Depression

28. The Iranian Revolution of 1979 resulted in the overthrow of the Shah and the establishment of

- A. An Islamic republic led by Ayatollah Khomeini and Shi'a religious authorities
- B. A secular democratic government modeled on the Western European parliamentary system
- C. A communist regime closely aligned with the Soviet Union and its eastern bloc
- D. A constitutional monarchy in which power was shared between the king and parliament

29. The Rwandan Genocide of 1994 involved the mass killing of

- A. Muslim civilians by Christian militias in central regions of the country
- B. Political dissidents by the ruling Communist Party of the Rwandan state
- C. European missionaries by indigenous tribes resisting outside religious and political influence
- D. Members of the Tutsi minority by Hutu extremists over roughly one hundred days

30. The 1989 Tiananmen Square protests in China are most significant for demonstrating the

- A. Chinese government's willingness to grant immediate democratic reforms to citizens
- B. Successful overthrow of the Chinese Communist Party by a student-led uprising
- C. Chinese government's use of military force to suppress pro-democracy demonstrators
- D. End of the one-child policy that had been imposed on Chinese families

31. The creation of the European Union (1993) was primarily intended to

- A. Reestablish the political and military dominance of Western Europe over Africa
- B. Promote economic integration and political cooperation among independent European member nations
- C. Provide military protection against potential invasions from North African powers
- D. Establish a single European empire that would replace all member nation-states

32. Mohandas Gandhi's strategy of satyagraha is best described as

- A. The use of guerrilla warfare to attack British military outposts in India
- B. Nonviolent civil disobedience used to resist unjust laws and British rule
- C. Diplomatic negotiations conducted secretly with the British colonial government
- D. The economic boycott of all goods produced anywhere outside of India

33. The Khmer Rouge regime under Pol Pot in Cambodia (1975–1979) is most associated with

- A. The mass killing of intellectuals and minorities during an attempt at radical agrarian reform
- B. The successful introduction of Western-style democracy and constitutional limited government
- C. The military defense of Cambodia from a Vietnamese-led communist invasion of the region
- D. The economic modernization of Cambodia through close diplomatic ties to the United States

34. Otto von Bismarck's policy of "blood and iron" was designed to

- A. Eliminate the German Catholic Church and replace it with Protestant institutions
- B. Promote international peace through a series of diplomatic conferences across Europe
- C. Establish democratic socialism throughout the territory of the German states
- D. Unify the German states under Prussian leadership through warfare and diplomacy

35. Which of the following is a major challenge associated with globalization in the 21st century?

- A. The complete elimination of international trade between major industrial nations
- B. The collapse of digital communication networks that connect the world economy
- C. Environmental degradation and the unequal distribution of economic benefits worldwide
- D. The disappearance of all multinational corporations from global commerce

PRACTICE EXAM 6: ANSWERS AND EXPLANATION

- 1. B** — The American and French Revolutions. Locke's natural rights theory, Voltaire's defense of civil liberties, and Rousseau's social contract directly shaped both the Declaration of Independence and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man. Enlightenment ideas about consent of the governed and limits on monarchical power provided the intellectual justification for both revolutions.
- 2. D** — Abundant coal and iron deposits combined with available capital and labor. Britain possessed the essential raw materials for steam power and iron production, along with profits from overseas trade that could fund factories and a growing population displaced from farms by enclosure. These geographic, economic, and demographic conditions converged in Britain before any other nation, making it the launching point for industrialization.
- 3. A** — The Enlightenment with its emphasis on natural rights and equality. The Declaration's language about liberty, equality, and the sovereignty of the nation drew directly from Rousseau, Locke, and Montesquieu. It codified Enlightenment principles into revolutionary law, making natural rights the foundation of legitimate government.
- 4. A** — Latin American independence movements against Spanish colonial rule. Bolívar liberated much of northern South America (Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia), while San Martín led independence campaigns in Argentina, Chile, and Peru. Their military leadership in the 1810s and 1820s ended three centuries of Spanish colonial control across most of South America.
- 5. C** — Growth of an urban working class facing harsh factory conditions. Industrialization pulled millions of people from rural villages into cities to work in factories, where they faced long hours, low wages, dangerous machinery, and overcrowded housing. This new proletariat became a defining social class of the 19th century and the basis for labor movements and socialist political theory.
- 6. B** — Class struggle between those who own production and those who labor. Marx and Engels argued that the central engine of historical change is the conflict between owners of capital (the bourgeoisie) and wage laborers (the proletariat). This dialectical materialist view became the foundation of Marxist political thought and inspired communist movements worldwide.
- 7. D** — Divided Africa among European powers with little regard for ethnic groups. At Berlin, European nations negotiated rules for claiming African territory without consulting any African leaders, drawing borders that cut across tribal, linguistic, and religious boundaries. By 1914 nearly all of Africa was colonized, and these arbitrary borders continue to fuel conflicts today.
- 8. C** — The transfer of governing control from the East India Company to the British Crown. After the rebellion was suppressed, Parliament passed the Government of India Act 1858, dissolving Company rule and placing India directly under the British monarch through a Viceroy. This began the formal "British Raj" period that lasted until 1947.
- 9. A** — Rapid modernization and industrialization through borrowing Western technology and methods. The Meiji oligarchs deliberately studied Western governments, militaries, and industries, adopting practices that would make Japan strong enough to resist colonization. Within a few decades Japan had

built railroads, factories, a constitution, and a modern military while keeping the emperor as the symbolic center of national identity.

10. B — The system of secret alliances among major European powers before 1914. The Triple Alliance and Triple Entente divided Europe into rival blocs that committed nations to defend each other militarily. When the Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated, these alliances drew nation after nation into what should have been a regional Balkan dispute.

11. B — Vladimir Lenin and the Communist Party committed to Marxist revolution. The Bolsheviks, led by Lenin, overthrew the Provisional Government in October 1917 and established the world's first communist state. Their seizure of power launched a civil war and ultimately produced the Soviet Union under Marxist-Leninist ideology.

12. D — Imposed heavy reparations and a "war guilt" clause that humiliated Germany. Article 231 forced Germany to accept full responsibility for the war, and crushing reparations devastated the German economy through the 1920s. Hitler exploited national resentment over Versailles to gain popular support, making the treaty a key cause of World War II.

13. C — Creating mass unemployment that pushed voters toward authoritarian leaders. Collapsing economies in Germany, Italy, Japan, and elsewhere produced millions of desperate, unemployed citizens who lost faith in democratic governments. Demagogues like Hitler and military rulers in Japan promised national renewal and offered scapegoats, riding the economic crisis into power.

14. A — Rapidly industrialize the Soviet economy through centralized state planning. Beginning in 1928, Stalin's Five-Year Plans set production quotas for heavy industry, steel, coal, and electricity, transforming the USSR from an agricultural to an industrial power within a decade. The cost was enormous human suffering, including the forced collectivization of agriculture and millions of deaths in famine and the Gulag.

15. D — Nazi systematic genocide of six million European Jews and other targeted groups. The Holocaust was Hitler's "Final Solution," the state-sponsored extermination of European Jews along with Roma, disabled people, Slavs, homosexuals, and political opponents in concentration and death camps. It stands as the defining example of genocide in modern history and shaped postwar human rights law.

16. C — End the war quickly and avoid massive casualties from invading Japan. U.S. military planners estimated that an invasion of the Japanese home islands could cost hundreds of thousands of American lives and millions of Japanese casualties. Truman and his advisors publicly justified the bombings as the fastest way to force Japan's surrender, which came within days of the Nagasaki attack.

17. B — Division between communist Eastern Europe and democratic Western Europe. Churchill warned that "an iron curtain has descended across the continent," referring to the Soviet domination of Eastern European nations from the Baltic to the Adriatic. The phrase became the defining metaphor of the Cold War's ideological and geographic split.

18. A — Contain the spread of communism by providing economic and military support. The Truman Doctrine pledged U.S. aid to Greece, Turkey, and any nation resisting communism, while the Marshall

Plan rebuilt Western European economies to make them less susceptible to communist movements. Both reflected the U.S. strategy of containment that defined Cold War foreign policy.

19. D — The establishment of a communist government under the leadership of Mao Zedong. After defeating Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists in a long civil war, Mao proclaimed the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949. China became the world's most populous communist nation and a major Cold War power.

20. C — A nonviolent resistance movement led by Mohandas Gandhi and the Congress Party. Decades of civil disobedience, boycotts, and mass protests — including the Salt March and Quit India movement — made British rule politically and economically unsustainable. Britain, weakened by World War II, granted independence in 1947, though partition into India and Pakistan brought enormous violence.

21. A — Arbitrary borders inherited from colonial rule that ignored ethnic and linguistic divisions. The colonial borders drawn at Berlin and elsewhere combined rival ethnic groups within single nations and split unified groups across multiple states. This legacy has contributed to civil wars, ethnic conflict, and political instability throughout post-colonial Africa.

22. B — Decades of internal protest and international sanctions against the government. The African National Congress, Nelson Mandela's imprisonment, and movements like the Soweto uprising kept domestic pressure on the regime, while international divestment, sports bans, and trade sanctions isolated South Africa economically. Together these forces brought F.W. de Klerk to negotiate apartheid's end and led to Mandela's release and the 1994 elections.

23. C — The world came closest to nuclear war between the United States and Soviet Union. The discovery of Soviet missiles in Cuba triggered a 13-day standoff in which Kennedy imposed a naval quarantine and demanded their removal. The crisis ended when Khrushchev withdrew the missiles in exchange for a U.S. pledge not to invade Cuba and the quiet removal of American missiles from Turkey.

24. C — Collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the end of the Cold War. The wall's fall in November 1989 was the most visible moment of the rapid collapse of Soviet-bloc governments across Eastern Europe that year. Within two years Germany was reunified and the Soviet Union itself dissolved, ending more than four decades of Cold War division.

25. A — Increased interconnection of national economies through trade, communication, and technology. Globalization is defined by the expansion of international trade agreements, multinational corporations, digital communication, and global supply chains that link national economies. It has produced both unprecedented wealth and significant economic, cultural, and political tensions.

26. D — The United States supported South Vietnam while communist powers backed the North. The conflict was a Cold War proxy war: the U.S. fought to prevent a communist takeover of South Vietnam under the "domino theory," while the Soviet Union and China supplied weapons and aid to Ho Chi Minh's North Vietnam. The North's eventual victory in 1975 marked one of the most significant U.S. Cold War setbacks.

27. B — The atrocities of the Holocaust and other abuses of World War II. The UDHR, drafted under Eleanor Roosevelt's leadership and adopted in December 1948, established a baseline of universal rights — life, liberty, equality before the law, freedom from torture — in direct response to Nazi crimes. It became the foundation of modern international human rights law.

28. A — An Islamic republic led by Ayatollah Khomeini and Shi'a religious authorities. The revolution replaced Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's pro-Western monarchy with a theocratic government in which the Supreme Leader, a Shi'a cleric, holds ultimate political and religious authority. The new regime opposed both U.S. and Soviet influence and reshaped Middle East geopolitics for decades.

29. D — Members of the Tutsi minority by Hutu extremists over roughly one hundred days. Approximately 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were murdered between April and July 1994, primarily by machete-wielding militias incited by Hutu Power radio broadcasts. The genocide became a defining failure of international intervention and reshaped UN peacekeeping policy.

30. C — Chinese government's use of military force to suppress pro-democracy demonstrators. On June 4, 1989, the People's Liberation Army cleared Tiananmen Square with tanks and troops, killing hundreds or thousands of protesters who had been calling for political reform. The crackdown demonstrated the Communist Party's commitment to economic reform without political liberalization, a pattern that continues today.

31. B — Promote economic integration and political cooperation among independent European member nations. The Maastricht Treaty of 1993 created the EU to extend earlier economic communities into a broader union with a common market, shared institutions, and (later) a common currency, the euro. It was designed to bind European nations so tightly together that war among them would become unthinkable.

32. B — Nonviolent civil disobedience used to resist unjust laws and British rule. Satyagraha, meaning "truth-force" or "soul-force," combined deliberate lawbreaking with refusal to retaliate against violence, as in the 1930 Salt March. Gandhi's methods inspired later civil rights movements worldwide, including those led by Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela.

33. A — The mass killing of intellectuals and minorities during an attempt at radical agrarian reform. The Khmer Rouge emptied cities and forced the population into rural labor camps to create a purely agrarian communist society, killing roughly 1.7 million people — about a quarter of Cambodia's population — through execution, starvation, and disease. Targets included teachers, doctors, Buddhist monks, ethnic minorities, and anyone associated with the previous government.

34. D — Unify the German states under Prussian leadership through warfare and diplomacy. Bismarck's "blood and iron" approach rejected liberal parliamentary methods and instead used three carefully managed wars (against Denmark, Austria, and France) to unite the German states under Prussian dominance. The German Empire was proclaimed at Versailles in 1871 with Wilhelm I as Kaiser.

35. C — Environmental degradation and the unequal distribution of economic benefits worldwide. Global trade and industrial growth have accelerated climate change, deforestation, and pollution, while wealth from globalization has concentrated in certain nations and regions, leaving others marginalized. These

challenges drive contemporary debates over trade policy, climate agreements, and international economic justice.