

PRACTICE EXAM 30 — NEW YORK REGENTS GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II

1. Edmund Burke's 1790 work *Reflections on the Revolution in France* is considered a foundational text of

- A. Modern conservative political thought
- B. Liberal democratic reform movements
- C. Socialist economic theory and class analysis
- D. Romantic literary movement aesthetics

2. The 1789 autobiography *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano* is significant because it

- A. Documented the Enlightenment philosophy of John Locke for general readers
- B. Recorded the first comprehensive history of all African royal kingdoms
- C. Provided a firsthand account of the Atlantic slave trade by a former slave
- D. Established Methodist Christianity as a major religious movement throughout Africa

3. The British politician William Wilberforce is best known for his long parliamentary campaign that led to

- A. The expansion of the British Empire into central African territories
- B. The 1807 abolition of the British transatlantic slave trade
- C. The Catholic Emancipation Act allowing Catholics to hold public office
- D. The Reform Act expanding the British parliamentary electorate

4. The July Revolution of 1830 in France resulted in

- A. The execution of King Charles X by guillotine in Paris
- B. The establishment of the Second French Republic with universal suffrage
- C. The Napoleonic restoration of his nephew Louis-Napoleon to imperial power
- D. The replacement of Charles X with the "Citizen King" Louis-Philippe

5. Belgium gained independence in 1830 by separating from

- A. The German Confederation under Prussian political and military dominance
- B. The Kingdom of the Netherlands under the Dutch monarchy
- C. The Austrian Empire under Habsburg imperial central administration
- D. The French Empire under King Louis-Philippe's restored reign

6. The Frankfurt Parliament that met in 1848–1849 attempted to

- A. Create a unified German nation-state with a liberal constitution
- B. Establish a federation of Italian states under republican government

- C. Coordinate communist revolutionary movements across all European cities
- D. Reorganize the Austrian Empire as a multinational federation state

7. The Tanzimat reforms in the Ottoman Empire from 1839 to 1876 attempted to

- A. Restore the strict Islamic legal code as the basis of Ottoman law
- B. Expand the empire's territorial control into Central Asia and Persia
- C. Modernize the empire along Western European political and administrative lines
- D. Eliminate all religious minorities from positions of Ottoman administrative power

8. Muhammad Ali, who ruled Egypt from 1805 to 1848, is best known for

- A. Restoring the Mamluk military caste to political power in Egypt
- B. Conducting a holy war to retake Constantinople from the Ottoman Empire
- C. Founding the modern Wahhabi religious movement in the Arabian Peninsula
- D. Modernizing Egypt's military and economy along Western European lines

9. Emmeline Pankhurst, who founded the Women's Social and Political Union in 1903, led the militant campaign for

- A. British women's right to vote in national parliamentary elections
- B. American working women's right to receive equal industrial pay
- C. Equal property ownership rights for married women in France
- D. Indian women's right to attend university and pursue education

10. Robert Owen, founder of the model industrial community at New Lanark in Scotland, is associated with which nineteenth-century movement?

- A. Anarchism as a complete rejection of all government authority
- B. Utopian socialism advocating cooperative communities and improved workers' welfare
- C. Conservative paternalism opposing all parliamentary political reform measures
- D. Free-market liberalism under the influence of Adam Smith's theories

11. The Decembrist Revolt of December 1825 in Russia was an unsuccessful uprising by

- A. Polish nationalists seeking independence from Russian imperial central control
- B. Russian Orthodox clergy opposing the modernization of the church
- C. Peasants demanding immediate emancipation from serfdom across rural Russia
- D. Russian military officers seeking constitutional reform after Alexander I's death

12. The Chartist movement in Britain during the 1830s and 1840s demanded

- A. The immediate abolition of the British monarchy and aristocracy
- B. The reunification of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland
- C. Universal male suffrage and other democratic political reforms
- D. The expansion of the British Empire into the African continent

13. The British Slavery Abolition Act of 1833

- A. Abolished slavery throughout the majority of the British Empire
- B. Established the Atlantic slave trade as a regulated industry
- C. Permitted continued slavery in Indian and African British colonies
- D. Required formerly enslaved peoples to pay reparations to slave owners

14. Marie Antoinette, the Queen of France, was executed by guillotine in

- A. 1789 during the storming of the Bastille fortress
- B. 1793 during the Reign of Terror under the Jacobins
- C. 1799 during Napoleon's coup against the Directory
- D. 1815 after Napoleon's defeat at the Battle of Waterloo

15. The French levée en masse of August 1793 was

- A. A massive program to redistribute church lands to peasant farmers
- B. The first French paper currency issued by the revolutionary government
- C. A peace treaty signed between France and the European coalition
- D. A mass conscription of all able-bodied French men into the army

16. Brazil became the last country in the Western Hemisphere to abolish slavery in

- A. 1865, immediately after the end of the American Civil War
- B. 1822, with Brazilian independence from continued Portuguese colonial rule

- C. 1888, when Princess Isabel signed the Golden Law (Lei Áurea)
- D. 1900, following the establishment of the Brazilian Republic in 1889

17. The United States formally annexed the Hawaiian Islands in 1898 following

- A. A direct U.S. military invasion of the islands after Pearl Harbor
- B. The overthrow of Queen Lili‘uokalani by American-backed planters in 1893
- C. A negotiated purchase from the British Empire for \$10 million payment
- D. A unanimous vote by the native Hawaiian council requesting U.S. citizenship

18. The 1905 Treaty of Portsmouth ending the Russo-Japanese War was mediated by

- A. U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role
- B. British Prime Minister Arthur Balfour acting on behalf of King Edward VII
- C. German Kaiser Wilhelm II at the request of his Russian cousin Tsar Nicholas II
- D. French President Émile Loubet during diplomatic visits to both countries' capitals

19. The Gallipoli Campaign of 1915–1916 during World War I was a disastrous Allied attempt to

- A. Open a supply route to the Russian Empire through the Baltic Sea
- B. Capture German colonial territories scattered across southwestern Africa region
- C. Establish a permanent British naval base across the eastern Mediterranean
- D. Force open the Dardanelles strait and capture the Ottoman capital

20. The 1923 Treaty of Lausanne replaced the harsher Treaty of Sèvres and

- A. Permanently dissolved the Ottoman Empire into separate ethnic homelands
- B. Granted Greek control over the western coast of Anatolia and Istanbul
- C. Established the modern borders of the Republic of Turkey under Atatürk
- D. Created an Armenian republic in eastern Anatolia under League protection

21. The Stresa Front of April 1935 was a brief diplomatic agreement between

- A. Britain, France, and the Soviet Union to oppose Japanese expansion
- B. Britain, France, and Italy opposing any further German rearmament efforts
- C. Germany, Italy, and Japan against communist Soviet international expansionism
- D. The United States, France, and Belgium guaranteeing Polish borders

22. In April 1939, Italy invaded and annexed

- A. Albania, extending Mussolini's fascist regime into the Balkans
- B. Crete, establishing an Italian naval base in the Aegean Sea
- C. Tunisia, expelling the French colonial administrative government
- D. Malta, occupying the strategic British Mediterranean fortress island

23. The September 1940 Tripartite Pact formally created the Axis alliance between

- A. Germany, Italy, and Spain under Generalissimo Francisco Franco
- B. Germany, Italy, and the Soviet Union after the non-aggression pact
- C. Germany, Italy, and Japan with mutual defense military provisions
- D. Germany, Hungary, and Romania along the eastern European front

24. The Second Battle of El Alamein in October–November 1942 was a critical British victory over

- A. Vichy French colonial forces controlling the territory of French Algeria
- B. Italian forces invading from Libya under the command of General Graziani
- C. Combined Spanish-Portuguese forces operating in the western Mediterranean
- D. The German Afrika Korps led by Field Marshal Erwin Rommel

25. The 1943 Battle of Kursk on the Eastern Front of World War II is historically remembered as

- A. The first Soviet use of nuclear weapons against German positions
- B. The largest tank battle in history, won decisively by Soviet forces
- C. The German victory that briefly threatened to recapture Moscow
- D. The German liberation of Stalingrad from the Soviet encirclement forces

26. The Tehran Conference of November–December 1943 brought together for the first time

- A. The "Big Three" Allied leaders Roosevelt, Churchill, and Soviet Stalin
- B. The Axis leaders Hitler, Mussolini, and Hirohito to coordinate war strategy

- C. Leaders of all neutral nations to discuss humanitarian aid policies
- D. Representatives of the new United Nations to draft a peace charter

27. The Battle of the Bulge from December 1944 to January 1945 was

- A. The final Soviet offensive across Poland that captured Warsaw
- B. The Allied amphibious landing in southern France along the Mediterranean
- C. The last major German offensive on the Western Front in the Ardennes
- D. The American landings on the island of Iwo Jima in the Pacific theater

28. The Inchon Landing of September 1950 during the Korean War was a daring

- A. North Korean invasion of South Korea across the 38th parallel
- B. Chinese intervention forcing American forces back from the Yalu River
- C. Soviet airlift of supplies to communist forces during the Korean conflict
- D. Amphibious operation by United Nations forces under General Douglas MacArthur

29. Following the death of Joseph Stalin in March 1953, leadership of the Soviet Union eventually passed to

- A. Nikita Khrushchev, who emerged from collective Soviet leadership by 1956
- B. Lavrentiy Beria, who consolidated power as the head of the secret police
- C. Vyacheslav Molotov, who had served as foreign minister under Stalin
- D. Leon Trotsky, who returned from exile to take the party leadership

30. In October 1956, Polish communist leader Władysław Gomułka came to power amid

- A. A Soviet military invasion that overthrew the previous Polish government
- B. Worker protests and a confrontation with Soviet leaders that produced limited reforms
- C. A Catholic religious revival that demanded the restoration of papal authority
- D. A formal Polish withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact military alliance

31. The year 1968 saw major protest movements and political upheaval in

- A. Only the United States over civil rights and the Vietnam War
- B. Only Latin America over various military dictatorships in the region
- C. Only Eastern Europe seeking liberal reform from Soviet political control
- D. Many countries worldwide including the U.S., France, Mexico, and Czechoslovakia

32. The election of Karol Wojtyła as Pope John Paul II in 1978 was significant because he was

- A. The first non-Italian pope elected since the Avignon papacy of the 1300s
- B. The youngest pope elected in over five hundred years of Church history
- C. The first Polish pope and the first non-Italian pope in over four centuries
- D. The first pope elected from the African continent in modern Catholic history

33. The Lebanese Civil War from 1975 to 1990 involved

- A. A border war between Lebanon and neighboring Israel over the Litani River
- B. Multiple factional conflicts among Christian, Muslim, and Druze sectarian militias
- C. A communist insurgency against the secular Lebanese democratic central government
- D. The Iranian-Iraqi proxy war fought entirely on Lebanese national territory

34. Former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein was executed by hanging in December 2006 after

- A. Being captured alive by U.S. Marines during the Battle of Fallujah
- B. Surrendering voluntarily to coalition military forces in exchange for amnesty
- C. Being convicted by an Iraqi tribunal of crimes against humanity
- D. Negotiating his own death sentence with the new Iraqi government

35. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was founded as a unified state in 1932 by

- A. Ibn Saud, who united most of the Arabian Peninsula under his rule
- B. King Faisal during the Arab Revolt against the Ottoman Empire
- C. King Hussein of the Hashemite dynasty after losing Mecca and Medina
- D. King Abdullah following the post-World War I British mandate division

ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS (Questions 1–35)

- 1. A** — Modern conservative political thought. Burke's critique of the French Revolution defended tradition, gradual reform, organic social institutions, and skepticism of abstract rationalism in politics. His ideas became foundational for the modern conservative tradition and continue to influence center-right political thought today.
- 2. C** — Provided a firsthand account of the Atlantic slave trade by a former slave. Equiano was kidnapped from his West African homeland as a child, survived the Middle Passage, and eventually purchased his freedom in 1766. His widely read memoir became a powerful weapon in the British abolitionist campaign that ultimately ended the slave trade in 1807.
- 3. B** — The 1807 abolition of the British transatlantic slave trade. Wilberforce led a 20-year parliamentary campaign that culminated in the Slave Trade Act of 1807, which banned British participation in the Atlantic slave trade. He lived to see the 1833 Slavery Abolition Act pass just days before his death, ending slavery itself across most of the British Empire.
- 4. D** — The replacement of Charles X with the "Citizen King" Louis-Philippe. After three days of street fighting in Paris known as the *Trois Glorieuses*, the unpopular ultraroyalist Charles X abdicated and fled to England. Louis-Philippe of the Orléans branch was installed as a constitutional monarch under the tricolor flag of the Revolution.
- 5. B** — The Kingdom of the Netherlands under the Dutch monarchy. Linguistic, religious, and economic tensions between predominantly Catholic Belgians and Protestant Dutch led to revolt in August 1830, with European powers eventually recognizing Belgian independence at the 1831 London Conference. Leopold I of Saxe-Coburg became the first King of the Belgians.
- 6. A** — Create a unified German nation-state with a liberal constitution. Drawing delegates from across the German states, the parliament drafted a constitution and offered the crown of a unified Germany to Prussian King Frederick William IV. His rejection of the "crown from the gutter" doomed the project and demonstrated the limits of liberal nationalism in 1848.
- 7. C** — Modernize the empire along Western European political and administrative lines. The reform edicts of 1839 and 1856 reorganized administration, codified law, opened the army to non-Muslims, and guaranteed equal rights for religious minorities. The reforms could not save the empire from continued territorial losses but laid foundations for the later Turkish Republic.
- 8. D** — Modernizing Egypt's military and economy along Western European lines. An Albanian-born Ottoman officer who seized power after the French withdrawal, Muhammad Ali built a conscript army on European lines, promoted cotton cultivation for export, and established state factories. His dynasty ruled Egypt nominally under Ottoman authority until 1952.
- 9. A** — British women's right to vote in parliamentary elections. Pankhurst's WSPU pursued increasingly militant tactics including hunger strikes, window-breaking, and arson to publicize the cause, suspending activity during World War I. The 1918 Representation of the People Act granted the vote to women over 30 with property qualifications, with full equal suffrage following in 1928.

- 10. B** — Utopian socialism advocating cooperative communities and improved workers' welfare. Owen's textile mill at New Lanark provided shorter working hours, free education for child workers, and decent housing, demonstrating that humane treatment was compatible with profitability. His failed New Harmony community in Indiana reflected his broader vision of cooperative socialist living.
- 11. D** — Russian military officers seeking constitutional reform after Alexander I's death. The mostly aristocratic conspirators exploited the brief succession crisis between Alexander's brothers to demand a constitution and the end of serfdom. Their failure led to executions and Siberian exile under the new Tsar Nicholas I, but they became heroes of later revolutionary movements.
- 12. C** — Universal male suffrage and other democratic political reforms. The People's Charter of 1838 demanded six points including manhood suffrage, secret ballot, equal electoral districts, and payment of members of parliament. Although Parliament rejected all six demands at the time, five of the six eventually became British law during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
- 13. A** — Abolished slavery throughout the majority of the British Empire. The Act emancipated roughly 800,000 enslaved people in the British Caribbean, Mauritius, and the Cape Colony, while exempting territories controlled by the East India Company. The government paid £20 million in compensation to slaveholders, with the formerly enslaved receiving nothing.
- 14. B** — 1793 during the Reign of Terror under the Jacobins. Marie Antoinette was tried and executed by guillotine on October 16, 1793, nine months after her husband Louis XVI, on charges including treason and conspiracy with foreign powers. Her perceived foreign loyalty and spending excesses had made her one of the most reviled figures of the prerevolutionary monarchy.
- 15. D** — A mass conscription of all able-bodied French men into the army. Facing invasion by a coalition of European monarchies, the Committee of Public Safety conscripted an entire generation of French manhood into an army that swelled to over 800,000. The unprecedented mobilization established the precedent for modern total warfare and citizen armies.
- 16. C** — 1888, when Princess Isabel signed the Golden Law (*Lei Áurea*). The *Lei Áurea* freed approximately 700,000 remaining enslaved Brazilians without compensation to slaveholders or assistance to the freed. The unpopular abolition contributed to the army's overthrow of Emperor Pedro II in the following year and the establishment of the Brazilian Republic.
- 17. B** — The overthrow of Queen Lili'uokalani by American-backed planters in 1893. American sugar planters and U.S. Marines forced the queen's abdication in January 1893, establishing a provisional government and then a short-lived Republic of Hawaii. Congress formally annexed Hawaii by joint resolution in July 1898, partly motivated by Spanish-American War strategic concerns.
- 18. A** — U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role. Roosevelt brokered talks at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in New Hampshire, helping Russia and Japan agree to terms that recognized Japanese paramount interests in Korea and Manchuria. Roosevelt became the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize, awarded in 1906.

19. D — Force open the Dardanelles strait and capture the Ottoman capital. Championed by First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill, the operation aimed to knock the Ottomans out of the war and open a supply route to Russia through the Bosphorus. The eight-month campaign cost about 250,000 Allied casualties — particularly Australian and New Zealand troops — without achieving its objectives.

20. C — Established the modern borders of the Republic of Turkey under Atatürk. After Mustafa Kemal's nationalist forces defeated Greek and Armenian armies and rejected the Treaty of Sèvres, the Allies renegotiated at Lausanne in 1923. The treaty recognized Turkish sovereignty over Anatolia and Eastern Thrace and provided for the controversial population exchange between Greece and Turkey.

21. B — Britain, France, and Italy opposing any further German rearmament efforts. Meeting at Stresa on Lake Maggiore after Hitler's open repudiation of Versailles arms limits, the three powers condemned unilateral German violations of the treaty. The front collapsed within months when Mussolini invaded Ethiopia and Britain signed a naval agreement with Germany.

22. A — Albania, extending Mussolini's fascist regime into the Balkans. Italian forces overwhelmed the small Albanian army within days, deposing King Zog and uniting the crown with that of Italy under Victor Emmanuel III. The conquest provided a staging ground for Mussolini's disastrous invasion of Greece in October 1940.

23. C — Germany, Italy, and Japan with mutual defense military provisions. Signed in Berlin on September 27, 1940, the pact pledged the three powers to assist one another if any was attacked by a nation not already involved in the European or Sino-Japanese wars — meaning effectively the United States. Hungary, Romania, and other satellites later joined the agreement.

24. D — The German Afrika Korps led by Field Marshal Erwin Rommel. British Eighth Army commander Bernard Montgomery's victory over Rommel's combined German-Italian forces in the Egyptian desert turned the tide in North Africa. Churchill famously declared that before El Alamein "we never had a victory," and after it "we never had a defeat."

25. B — The largest tank battle in history, won decisively by Soviet forces. The German offensive at Kursk involved roughly 800,000 troops and 2,700 tanks against Soviet defenses prepared in unprecedented depth. The Soviet victory shifted the strategic initiative permanently to the Red Army, which advanced steadily westward until reaching Berlin in 1945.

26. A — The "Big Three" Allied leaders Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin. Meeting in the Iranian capital from November 28 to December 1, 1943, the three leaders coordinated the timing of D-Day with a Soviet offensive in the east and discussed the postwar division of Europe. Stalin committed to enter the war against Japan after Germany's defeat.

27. C — The last major German offensive on the Western Front in the Ardennes. Hitler's surprise attack through the dense Ardennes forest aimed to split Allied forces and recapture Antwerp, creating a "bulge" in American lines. The two-month battle cost roughly 89,000 American casualties but exhausted Germany's remaining strategic reserves.

28. D — Amphibious operation by United Nations forces under General Douglas MacArthur. MacArthur's risky landing at the port of Inchon, far behind North Korean lines, succeeded against difficult tidal conditions and surprised the enemy. The operation cut off North Korean forces in the south, recaptured Seoul, and allowed U.N. troops to drive nearly to the Yalu River before Chinese intervention.

29. A — Nikita Khrushchev, who emerged from collective leadership by 1956. After a brief period of "collective leadership" in which Beria was executed and Malenkov sidelined, Khrushchev consolidated power as First Secretary of the Communist Party. His 1956 "Secret Speech" denouncing Stalin's crimes marked his decisive break with Stalinism.

30. B — Worker protests and a confrontation with Soviet leaders that produced limited reforms. Following the bloody suppression of worker protests in Poznań in June and rising unrest, the Polish party turned to Gomułka, recently freed from prison, who refused to accept Soviet pressure to back down. Khrushchev's surprise visit to Warsaw ended with Soviet acceptance of a more independent Polish path within the bloc.

31. D — Many countries worldwide including the U.S., France, Mexico, and Czechoslovakia. The year saw American civil rights and antiwar protests, the May 1968 student-worker uprising in Paris, the Tlatelolco massacre of Mexican student protesters, the Prague Spring and its Soviet suppression, and other major upheavals from Berlin to Tokyo. Historians often treat 1968 as a year of interconnected global protest.

32. C — The first Polish pope and the first non-Italian pope in over four centuries. Karol Wojtyła's election ended 455 years of Italian dominance of the papacy and gave a Pole the highest office in the Catholic Church just as Solidarity was beginning to challenge Polish communism. His papal visits to Poland in 1979 helped inspire the broader resistance to Soviet-bloc communism.

33. B — Multiple factional conflicts among Christian, Muslim, and Druze militias. The conflict involved Maronite Christian, Sunni and Shia Muslim, Druze, Palestinian, Syrian, and Israeli forces in shifting alliances over 15 years of civil war. The 1989 Taif Agreement ended major fighting and rebalanced power among confessional groups, though the underlying tensions remain.

34. C — Being convicted by an Iraqi tribunal of crimes against humanity. Captured in a "spider hole" near Tikrit in December 2003, Saddam was tried by the Iraqi High Tribunal for the 1982 massacre of Shia villagers in Dujail. He was sentenced to death and executed by hanging on December 30, 2006, the first day of Eid al-Adha.

35. A — Ibn Saud, who united most of the Arabian Peninsula under his rule. Beginning with the capture of Riyadh in 1902, Abdulaziz ibn Saud spent three decades unifying central Arabia, the Hejaz including Mecca and Medina, and other regions through warfare and tribal alliances. He proclaimed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on September 23, 1932, which remains a national holiday.