

# REGENTS EXAMINATION IN GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II — PRACTICE SIMULATION 47

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**Recommended Time: 3 hours**

**This examination has three parts. You are to answer all questions in all parts.**

**PART 1 — Stimulus-Based Multiple-Choice Questions (28 questions)**

*Answer all 28 questions in this part. For each question, select the best of the four choices.*

**Base your answers to questions 1 and 2 on the document below.**

The Aztec Empire, which dominated central Mexico from the early fifteenth century until 1521, was a tributary empire centered on the capital Tenochtitlan — a city of perhaps 200,000 people built on islands in Lake Texcoco. The Aztec state extracted tribute from conquered peoples through a network of regional administrators, maintained an elaborate religious system requiring large-scale human sacrifice, and operated an agriculture-based economy supported by sophisticated chinampa (floating garden) farming. Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés, exploiting alliances with peoples resentful of Aztec tribute demands and aided by the smallpox epidemic that decimated the Aztec population, conquered Tenochtitlan in 1521.

— Adapted from a historical account of pre-Columbian Mexico

1. The Aztec Empire was politically organized as
  - A. a tributary empire extracting resources through regional administrators
  - B. a constitutional democracy based on individual rights and rule of law

C. a Western-style capitalist economy based on commercial banking

D. a stateless cooperative system without any central political authority

2. The Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire was made possible primarily by

A. peaceful negotiations between Cortés and the Aztec emperor Montezuma

B. overwhelming Spanish military numbers compared with Aztec forces

C. alliances with resentful subject peoples combined with devastating smallpox epidemics

D. the voluntary surrender of all Aztec political leaders to Spanish rule

**Base your answers to questions 3, 4, and 5 on the document below.**

If the basis of popular government in peacetime is virtue, the basis of popular government during a revolution is both virtue and terror — virtue, without which terror is destructive; terror, without which virtue is impotent. Terror is nothing but prompt, severe, inflexible justice; it is therefore an emanation of virtue. It is less a special principle than a consequence of the general principle of democracy applied to our country's most pressing needs.

— Maximilien Robespierre, *On the Principles of Political Morality* (1794)

3. Robespierre's central argument is that

A. virtue and terror are fundamentally incompatible and must never be combined

B. revolutionary governments must combine virtue with terror against their enemies

C. democratic governments should never employ coercion against their citizens

D. religious authority should govern all decisions about political morality

4. Robespierre's justification of revolutionary terror is now understood as
- A. inspiration for Bolívar's South American liberation campaigns
  - B. the philosophical foundation for the United Nations charter
  - C. the moral foundation for modern liberal democratic constitutions
  - D. an early version of logic later used by twentieth-century totalitarian regimes
5. The Reign of Terror that Robespierre justified was characterized by
- A. the peaceful integration of the French aristocracy into the new revolutionary government
  - B. the voluntary cooperation of all political factions in building republican institutions
  - C. the unanimous endorsement of revolutionary policies by the French Catholic Church
  - D. mass executions by guillotine of suspected counter-revolutionaries and political opponents

**Base your answers to questions 6 and 7 on the document below.**

A democratic state of society, similar to that of the Americans, might offer singular facilities for the establishment of despotism; for nothing tends to support free institutions more than the diversity of social conditions and the maintenance of independent local authorities. When all conditions are equal, the citizens form a uniform body whose members have neither the rank, the family connection, nor the corporate authority necessary to resist the central power.

— Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America* (1835)

6. Tocqueville's central concern is that
- A. democratic equality could enable despotism by weakening intermediate institutions

B. constitutional government always prevents democratic tyranny from emerging

C. aristocratic societies are more dangerous than democratic ones

D. capitalism necessarily produces stable democratic political institutions

7. Tocqueville identified as a safeguard against democratic despotism

A. the establishment of a single all-powerful central government to coordinate policy

B. the maintenance of diverse independent local authorities and civic associations

C. the complete elimination of religious institutions from American public life

D. the formal abolition of constitutional limits on majority political decisions

**Base your answers to questions 8, 9, and 10 on the document below.**

The Trans-Siberian Railroad, constructed between 1891 and 1916, was the largest single infrastructure project of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries — a 9,289-kilometer rail line linking Moscow to Vladivostok on the Pacific. Under Finance Minister Sergei Witte, Russian industrialization was driven by state policy: foreign capital from France and Britain financed industrial development, protective tariffs sheltered domestic industry, and the railroad opened Siberian resources to extraction and Asian markets to Russian goods. Russian industrial output tripled between 1890 and 1914, though the human cost of forced peasant labor and brutal factory conditions contributed to the revolutionary unrest that culminated in 1917.

— Adapted from a historical account of Russian industrialization

8. The Trans-Siberian Railroad and Russian industrialization were primarily driven by

A. spontaneous private enterprise without government involvement

B. voluntary investment of Russian peasants in industrial development

C. state policy under Witte using foreign capital and protective tariffs

D. unanimous support of the Russian Orthodox Church for modernization

9. Russian industrial output between 1890 and 1914

A. declined steadily across the period

B. remained unchanged from 1890 levels

C. shifted entirely to handicraft cottage production

D. tripled, driven by railroads and state industry

10. The human cost of Russian industrialization contributed to

A. the revolutionary unrest that culminated in the Russian Revolution of 1917

B. the peaceful integration of Russian workers into liberal democratic politics

C. the voluntary withdrawal of foreign capital from Russian industrial enterprises

D. the complete elimination of class conflict from Russian political life

**Base your answers to questions 11 and 12 on the document below.**

The South African War (1899–1902), commonly called the Boer War, pitted the British Empire against the Boer republics of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State — descendants of Dutch settlers whose territories sat atop the world's richest gold and diamond deposits. The war killed approximately 22,000 British soldiers, 25,000 Boers, and at least 14,000 Black Africans whose lives were treated as politically irrelevant by both sides. British forces interned 116,000 Boer civilians in concentration camps where roughly 28,000 — most of them women and children — died of disease. The war was the most expensive in British history before 1914 and marked the high point of African resistance to European imperial expansion.

— Adapted from a historical account of the South African War

11. The British conducted the South African War primarily to

A. spread liberal democratic institutions to southern Africa

B. gain control over Boer gold and diamond deposits

C. liberate Black Africans from oppressive Boer rule

D. fulfill humanitarian obligations under international treaties

12. The British use of concentration camps to intern Boer civilians demonstrated

A. that imperial warfare in this period often targeted civilian populations directly

B. the complete commitment of British forces to humanitarian principles of warfare

C. the voluntary cooperation of Boer civilians with British occupation policies

D. the unanimous European condemnation of British colonial military practices

**Base your answers to questions 13, 14, and 15 on the document below.**

On August 23, 1939, German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov signed a non-aggression pact between Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union. The pact included secret protocols dividing Eastern Europe into German and Soviet spheres of influence, with Poland to be partitioned between them, the Baltic states ceded to Soviet control, and Finland assigned to the Soviet sphere. On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland from the west; on September 17, the Soviet Union invaded from the east. The pact stunned Communist parties worldwide and shattered the assumption that fascist and communist ideologies could never cooperate, but it gave both powers a free hand for expansion. Hitler broke the pact in June 1941 with Operation Barbarossa.

— Adapted from a historical account of the Nazi-Soviet Pact

13. The Nazi-Soviet Pact demonstrated

- A. that ideological commitments always determine state foreign policy decisions
- B. that the League of Nations could effectively prevent secret agreements among states
- C. that strategic interests could override ideological enmity between fascism and communism
- D. that the United States and Britain were prepared to defend Eastern Europe by force

14. The secret protocols of the Nazi-Soviet Pact provided for

- A. the peaceful integration of Poland into the Western European democratic community
- B. the voluntary withdrawal of German troops from all of Central Europe
- C. the partition of Poland and the assignment of Baltic states to Soviet control
- D. the unanimous Soviet condemnation of Nazi ideology and military expansion

15. The German and Soviet invasions of Poland in September 1939

- A. were prevented by League of Nations military intervention
- B. triggered World War II as Britain and France declared war on Germany
- C. were peacefully negotiated to avoid any civilian casualties
- D. produced the immediate establishment of a Polish democratic government

**Base your answers to questions 16 and 17 on the document below.**

Our policy is directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation, and chaos. Its purpose should be the revival of a working economy in the world so as to permit the emergence

of political and social conditions in which free institutions can exist. Any government that is willing to assist in the task of recovery will find full cooperation, I am sure, on the part of the United States Government. Any government which maneuvers to block the recovery of other countries cannot expect help from us.

— U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall, Harvard University speech (June 1947)

16. Marshall's stated purpose for the recovery program was to

- A. punish Germany and Japan economically for their wartime aggression
- B. impose American political institutions on all participating European nations
- C. transfer American manufacturing jobs to recovering European economies
- D. revive working economies and create conditions for free institutions

17. The Marshall Plan delivered approximately \$13 billion in American aid to

- A. Western European nations rebuilding after World War II
- B. former colonies seeking independence from European empires
- C. Soviet bloc nations under direct Communist Party control
- D. Latin American nations developing industrial economies

**Base your answers to questions 18, 19, and 20 on the document below.**

I am not going to be satisfied with anything short of complete freedom. We shall do or die. We shall either free India or die in the attempt. The mantra is: "Do or Die." We shall either free India or die in the attempt; we shall not live to see the perpetuation of our slavery. Every true Indian must consider himself a free man or woman and act as such.

— Mohandas K. Gandhi, Quit India speech (August 8, 1942)

18. Gandhi's Quit India movement of August 1942 demanded

- A. voluntary continuation of British rule until after the war
- B. Indian armed military assistance to British forces fighting Germany
- C. immediate withdrawal of British colonial authority from India
- D. Indian integration into the British Commonwealth on equal terms

19. Gandhi's strategy of nonviolent civil disobedience drew on

- A. methods of armed insurrection from the Mexican Revolution
- B. Marxist class warfare doctrines from nineteenth-century Europe
- C. diplomatic strategies of European great-power politics
- D. Hindu and Jain principles of ahimsa and satyagraha

20. The Quit India movement and Gandhi's broader campaign contributed to

- A. the permanent integration of India into the British Empire
- B. Indian independence achieved in August 1947 after British withdrawal
- C. the voluntary continuation of indirect British rule over the subcontinent
- D. the unanimous British public support for maintaining Indian colonial rule

**Base your answers to questions 21 and 22 on the document below.**

The Taliban, an Islamist movement that emerged from refugee madrassas (religious schools) along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border during the early 1990s, took control of Afghanistan in 1996 after years of civil war following the Soviet withdrawal. The Taliban regime imposed an extreme interpretation of Islamic law: women were forbidden to work, attend school, or appear in public unaccompanied; music, television, and most forms of recreation were banned; and the regime destroyed Afghanistan's ancient Bamiyan Buddhas in 2001 as forbidden idols. The Taliban sheltered Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda, leading directly to the American-led invasion in October 2001 after the September 11 attacks.

— Adapted from a historical account of Taliban rule

21. The Taliban regime in Afghanistan was characterized by

- A. liberal democratic political institutions modeled on Western governments
- B. a peaceful secular state with full equality between men and women
- C. an extreme interpretation of Islamic law restricting women's rights and recreation
- D. the voluntary integration of Afghanistan into the international human rights system

22. The American-led invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001 was triggered by

- A. The Taliban's sheltering of al-Qaeda and bin Laden after September 11
- B. The peaceful democratic transformation of Afghan political institutions
- C. The voluntary withdrawal of foreign powers from Central Asian affairs
- D. The unanimous Taliban request for direct American military protection

**Base your answers to questions 23, 24, and 25 on the document below.**

The World Trade Organization (WTO), founded in 1995 as the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, established binding international rules for trade among its 164 member states. The

WTO's most consequential single decision was the admission of China in December 2001 — a move that integrated the world's most populous nation and largest industrial workforce into the global trading system. Between 2001 and 2018, China's share of global manufacturing exports rose from 4 percent to 18 percent, and approximately 800 million Chinese were lifted out of poverty. The same process accelerated the decline of manufacturing employment in the United States, Western Europe, and Japan, contributing to the political populism that has reshaped Western democracies since 2016.

— Adapted from a 2020 analysis of the WTO and global trade

23. The admission of China to the WTO in 2001

- A. integrated the world's largest industrial workforce into the global trading system
- B. produced the immediate political democratization of the Chinese government
- C. caused the complete elimination of manufacturing employment worldwide
- D. was unanimously opposed by all major economies in Asia and Europe

24. Chinese economic integration after 2001 contributed to

- A. the complete elimination of global poverty in all developing countries
- B. the peaceful resolution of all geopolitical tensions in East Asia
- C. the voluntary withdrawal of China from all international institutions
- D. lifting approximately 800 million Chinese out of poverty within two decades

25. A political consequence of Chinese trade integration was

- A. universal acceptance of free trade by all Western political parties
- B. the rise of populist movements in Western democracies after 2016

- C. complete elimination of trade disputes between the United States and China
- D. voluntary American return to nineteenth-century protectionist tariff policy

**Base your answers to questions 26, 27, and 28 on the document below.**

In March 1971, the Pakistani military launched "Operation Searchlight" against the population of East Pakistan, which had voted for autonomy. Over the following nine months, Pakistani forces killed an estimated three hundred thousand to three million Bengali civilians, raped an estimated 200,000 to 400,000 Bengali women, and drove approximately ten million refugees into neighboring India. Indian military intervention in December 1971 ended the killing and produced the independent nation of Bangladesh. The 1971 atrocities were among the most extensive cases of mass violence in post-WWII Asia, yet they have received far less international attention than the Holocaust, Rwanda, or Cambodia.

— Adapted from a historical account of the 1971 Bangladesh war

26. The 1971 Bangladesh atrocities are an example of
- A. the peaceful negotiation of political differences within Pakistan
  - B. the unanimous international condemnation of mass violence
  - C. systematic state-directed mass violence against a civilian ethnic population
  - D. the voluntary cooperation of Pakistani forces with Bengali political demands
27. The 1971 conflict ended with
- A. the complete victory of the Pakistani military government
  - B. the peaceful integration of East Pakistan into Indian territory
  - C. the unanimous United Nations military intervention against Pakistan

- D. Indian military intervention producing the independent nation of Bangladesh
28. The relative international silence about the 1971 Bangladesh atrocities suggests
- A. that all twentieth-century cases of mass violence received equal international attention
  - B. that geopolitical interests have shaped which atrocities receive international response
  - C. that the United Nations consistently intervenes against all forms of mass violence
  - D. that smaller-scale violence is always prioritized over large-scale civilian killings

**PART 2 — Short-Answer Constructed-Response Questions (6 questions)**

*Analyze the documents and answer the questions that follow each set. Use complete sentences and refer specifically to the documents and your knowledge of social studies.*

**CRQ Set 1**

Document 1

The First World War (1914–1918) had multiple structural causes that historians have summarized as MAIN: Militarism — the arms race and glorification of military power among European great powers; Alliances — the rigid blocs of the Triple Entente (Britain, France, Russia) and Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy) that turned a regional Balkan crisis into a continental war; Imperialism — the competitive scramble for colonies and economic rivalry, especially between Britain and Germany; and Nationalism — the explosive ethnic claims in the multinational empires of Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire, and the assertive nationalism of newly unified Germany. The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo on June 28, 1914 ignited all these tensions.

— Adapted from a historical analysis of the origins of World War I

Document 2

The First World War destroyed four of the great multinational empires that had dominated European politics for centuries. The Russian Empire collapsed in the revolutions of February and October 1917, replaced by the Soviet Union. The Austro-Hungarian Empire dissolved in October–November 1918 into successor states including Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia. The Ottoman Empire was dismembered by the Treaty of Sèvres (1920) and finally dissolved after Atatürk's nationalist victory, replaced by the Republic of Turkey in 1923. The German Empire fell in November 1918 with Kaiser Wilhelm II's abdication, replaced by the Weimar Republic. The age of the European multinational empire was over.

— Adapted from a historical account of the post-WWI political order

1a. According to Document 1, identify ONE specific cause of the First World War. [1]

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1b. According to Document 2, identify ONE multinational empire that collapsed as a result of the First World War. [1]

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2a. Based on these documents and your knowledge of social studies, explain ONE cause-and-effect relationship between the First World War and the collapse of the European multinational empires. [1]

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## CRQ Set 2

### Document 3

By the late 1970s, Iran under Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi was experiencing severe political tension. The Shah's "White Revolution" had modernized Iran through land reform, women's suffrage, secular education, and oil-financed industrial development — but the rapid Westernization alienated the Shi'a clerical establishment, the traditional bazaar merchant class, and the urban poor displaced by economic change. The Shah's repressive SAVAK secret police suppressed political dissent. By January 1979, millions of Iranians were demonstrating in Tehran, led by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini broadcasting from exile in France. The Shah fled the country on January 16, 1979; Khomeini returned on February 1; on April 1, Iran was proclaimed the Islamic Republic.

— Adapted from a historical account of the Iranian Revolution

### Document 4

The Iranian Revolution of 1979 transformed the political map of the Middle East and the wider Muslim world. Iran became the world's first modern theocratic state — a republic in which religious authority vested in a Supreme Leader stood above elected institutions. The November 1979 American hostage crisis ruptured U.S.-Iran relations for decades. The revolution inspired Islamic political movements across the Muslim world, including Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, and influences that shaped the Taliban and al-Qaeda. The Iran-Iraq War (1980–88) followed directly from regional fear of revolutionary export. The post-1979 Middle East has been shaped fundamentally by the legacies of the Iranian Revolution.

— Adapted from a historical analysis of the Iranian Revolution's consequences

3a. Based on Documents 3 and 4, identify ONE turning point associated with the historical developments discussed. [1]

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3b. Based on Documents 3 and 4, explain why the historical developments discussed are considered a turning point. [1]

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4a. Based on these documents and your knowledge of social studies, explain how the Iranian Revolution of 1979 reshaped the political dynamics of the Middle East and the wider Muslim world. [1]

**PART 3 — Enduring Issues Essay**

**Directions: Read and analyze the five documents that follow. Use the documents and your knowledge of social studies to write a well-organized essay in which you:**

Identify and define an enduring issue raised by the documents

Argue why the issue you selected is significant and how it has endured across time

Use evidence from at least three documents to support your argument

Include relevant outside information from your knowledge of social studies

## Theme: The Impact of Trade and Economic Exchange Across Time

### Document 1

The Atlantic triangular trade that developed between 1500 and 1800 linked Europe, Africa, and the Americas through three commercial routes. European manufactures (textiles, firearms, alcohol) were shipped to Africa; African slaves were shipped to the Americas in the brutal Middle Passage; and American commodities (sugar, tobacco, cotton, silver) were shipped to Europe. Approximately twelve million Africans were transported across the Atlantic, of whom an estimated two million died in transit. The trade enriched European port cities (Liverpool, Nantes, Lisbon, Amsterdam), built the plantation economies of the Caribbean and the American South, and devastated West African societies through depopulation and political violence.

— Adapted from a historical account of the Atlantic triangular trade

### Document 2

Mid-nineteenth century Britain led a global trade revolution. The repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846 ended agricultural protectionism and committed Britain to free trade; the Cobden-Chevalier Treaty of 1860 with France triggered a wave of bilateral trade agreements across Europe. The classical gold standard, adopted progressively after 1870, created a stable monetary framework for international commerce. New technologies — steamships, railroads, and the telegraph — collapsed the costs and speed of long-distance trade. By 1913, world trade had grown to a share of global GDP not equaled again until the 1970s. This first great age of globalization was abruptly ended by the First World War.

— Adapted from a historical analysis of nineteenth-century globalization

### Document 3

The collapse of the international economy in the 1930s — culminating in the Great Depression, the Smoot-Hawley tariff of 1930, the breakdown of the gold standard, and competitive currency devaluations — taught the postwar generation that disorderly economic nationalism produced political catastrophe. The Bretton Woods conference of July 1944 established institutional foundations for a new international economic order: the International Monetary Fund to manage exchange rates, the World Bank to fund reconstruction and development, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) of 1947 to coordinate progressive trade liberalization. The system rebuilt war-shattered economies and supported what economists call the "long postwar boom" of 1945–1973.

— Adapted from a historical account of the Bretton Woods system

#### Document 4

The post-1980 era saw the further intensification of globalization through trade liberalization, capital mobility, and the integration of formerly closed economies. The North American Free Trade Agreement (1994), the founding of the World Trade Organization (1995), the integration of the European Union, and the entry of China into the WTO (2001) all signaled the broadening of the global trading system. Container shipping reduced transport costs to a small fraction of their mid-twentieth-century levels. Approximately one billion people were lifted out of extreme poverty between 1990 and 2020, while global trade flows reached unprecedented levels — though they also produced disruptive effects on manufacturing employment in older industrial economies.

— Adapted from a 2020 analysis of contemporary globalization

#### Document 5

The Brexit vote of 2016, the Trump administration's tariffs on Chinese imports beginning in 2018, the COVID-19 pandemic's disruption of global supply chains in 2020, and Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine all challenged the late-twentieth-century consensus that economic integration would inevitably continue. Western democracies have begun to "decouple" or "de-risk" their economies from China, particularly in strategic sectors including semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, and critical minerals. The question of whether globalization will resume its earlier trajectory or whether the world is entering an era of fragmentation into competing economic blocs is the great open question of contemporary international political economy.





3. B — Robespierre argued that revolutionary governments faced unique conditions requiring the combination of virtue (commitment to republican principles) and terror (forceful action against the Revolution's enemies). His famous formulation was that virtue without terror is impotent and terror without virtue is destructive — that both must operate together in revolutionary circumstances.
4. D — Robespierre's justification of revolutionary terror as the "prompt, severe, inflexible justice" required by ideological commitment is now understood as an early articulation of the logic later employed by twentieth-century totalitarian regimes — Lenin's Cheka, Stalin's purges, Mao's Cultural Revolution, and the Khmer Rouge — all of which justified mass political violence as necessary to protect revolutionary virtue.
5. D — The Reign of Terror under the Committee of Public Safety from September 1793 to July 1794 executed approximately 17,000 people by guillotine on charges of being counter-revolutionaries, along with tens of thousands more in mass killings outside Paris. The Terror ended only when Robespierre himself was executed on July 28, 1794, after the Thermidorian Reaction.
6. A — Tocqueville warned that the equalization of social conditions in democratic society could paradoxically enable despotism by eliminating the intermediate institutions — aristocratic ranks, family connections, corporate bodies, regional authorities — that traditionally resisted centralized power. Without these mediating institutions, individual citizens stand alone and powerless against a uniform state.
7. B — Tocqueville identified diverse independent local authorities, civic associations, religious congregations, and intermediate bodies as the essential safeguards against democratic despotism. He praised the American tradition of voluntary association — what he called "the art of associating together" — as the most important defense against the tyranny of the majority and the centralization of power.
8. C — Russian industrialization in the late nineteenth century was driven by state policy under Finance Minister Sergei Witte (1892–1903), who used foreign capital from French and Belgian investors, imposed protective tariffs on manufactured imports, and put the state at the center of railroad and heavy industry development. The Witte model demonstrated that industrialization could be state-led rather than market-driven.
9. D — Russian industrial output tripled between 1890 and 1914, with particularly rapid growth in coal, iron, steel, and oil — the foundation industries of modern industrial economies. By 1914, Russia had the world's fifth-largest industrial economy, though its per-capita industrial capacity remained far below Britain, Germany, or the United States.
10. A — The human cost of Russian industrialization — forced peasant labor, brutal factory conditions, twelve-to-fourteen-hour workdays, and the absence of legal trade unions — created the social conditions for revolutionary politics. Industrial workers concentrated in St. Petersburg, Moscow, and the Donbass became the social base of the 1905 Revolution and the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917.
11. B — The British conducted the South African War primarily to gain political control over the world's richest gold and diamond deposits, which lay within the Boer republics of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. The discovery of gold on the Witwatersrand in 1886 had made the Transvaal economically essential to the British Empire, and the war was the means of securing that economic asset.
12. A — The British use of concentration camps to intern 116,000 Boer civilians — of whom approximately 28,000 died, most of them women and children — demonstrated that imperial warfare in this period frequently targeted civilian populations directly as a means of breaking

guerrilla resistance. The Boer War camps were among the first uses of the term "concentration camp" in modern history.

13. C — The Nazi-Soviet Pact demonstrated that strategic state interests could override even the most fundamental ideological enmity, as two regimes that had defined themselves in opposition to each other since 1933 found temporary common cause in dividing Eastern Europe. The pact stunned communist parties worldwide, who had spent years arguing that fascism and communism were irreconcilable opposites.
14. C — The secret protocols of the Nazi-Soviet Pact provided for the partition of Poland between Germany and the Soviet Union along the Vistula and Bug rivers, the assignment of Estonia, Latvia, and Finland to the Soviet sphere of influence, and the assignment of Lithuania to the German sphere (later traded). Within two years, the Soviet Union had annexed all three Baltic states under the pact's provisions.
15. B — The German invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939 triggered World War II in Europe: Britain and France honored their guarantees to Poland and declared war on Germany on September 3, 1939. Although neither Britain nor France was able to assist Poland militarily, the declarations of war began the six-year conflict that would kill an estimated 70 to 85 million people worldwide.
16. D — Marshall framed the American European recovery program as directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation, and chaos — with the purpose of reviving working economies in which free institutions could exist. The framing was deliberately inclusive and economic rather than ideological, though in practice the Soviet Union and its satellites refused to participate.
17. A — The Marshall Plan delivered approximately \$13 billion in American aid between 1948 and 1952 to sixteen Western European nations, including Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Norway. The program rebuilt war-shattered European economies, prevented economic collapse from producing political radicalization, and laid the foundation for European postwar prosperity.
18. C — Gandhi's Quit India movement of August 1942 demanded the immediate, unconditional withdrawal of British colonial authority from India — not gradual reform or postwar negotiation but complete independence now. The British arrested Gandhi and the entire Congress leadership within hours of his speech, but the movement signaled that Indian patience with colonial rule had ended.
19. D — Gandhi's strategy of nonviolent civil disobedience drew on Hindu and Jain principles of *ahimsa* (nonviolence as a moral and spiritual commitment) and *satyagraha* ("truth-force" or soul-force as a method of political action). Gandhi adapted these religious traditions into a political technique that would inspire later movements including the American civil rights movement under King and the South African anti-apartheid movement.
20. B — The Quit India movement and Gandhi's broader campaign of nonviolent resistance contributed to Indian independence achieved in August 1947 after British withdrawal. Combined with the financial and political exhaustion of postwar Britain and the rise of the Indian National Congress and Muslim League, Gandhi's movement made the maintenance of British rule politically and economically impossible.
21. C — The Taliban regime imposed an extreme interpretation of Islamic law on Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001: women were forbidden to work, attend school, or appear in public unaccompanied; music, television, and most forms of recreation were banned; men were required to grow beards and pray five times daily in mosques. The regime's destruction of the ancient Bamiyan Buddhas in March 2001 demonstrated its rejection of all non-Islamic cultural heritage.

22. A — The American-led invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001 was triggered by the Taliban's refusal to surrender Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaeda leadership after the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The Taliban had sheltered al-Qaeda since the late 1990s, and President George W. Bush's ultimatum demanded the immediate handover of bin Laden and the closing of al-Qaeda training camps.
23. A — China's accession to the WTO in December 2001 integrated the world's most populous nation and largest industrial workforce into the global trading system. Between 2001 and 2018, China's share of global manufacturing exports rose from 4 percent to 18 percent, transforming the country from a peripheral economy into the manufacturing center of the world.
24. D — Chinese economic integration after 2001 produced one of history's most dramatic poverty reductions: approximately 800 million Chinese were lifted out of poverty between 1990 and 2020, the largest reduction in human suffering ever recorded in a comparable period. The Chinese growth model — combining state direction with market integration — became the world's most consequential alternative to Western liberal capitalism.
25. B — The political consequence of Chinese trade integration in Western democracies has been the rise of populist movements challenging the postwar free-trade consensus. Declining manufacturing employment in the American Midwest, the British North, and the German *Mittelstand* contributed directly to Brexit in 2016, Trump's election in 2016, and the strength of populist parties across the European continent.
26. C — The 1971 Bangladesh atrocities represent systematic state-directed mass violence against a civilian ethnic population: Pakistani forces deliberately targeted Bengali civilians, especially Hindu Bengalis and university students, in operations that killed between 300,000 and 3 million people over nine months. The violence meets the standard definition of genocide established by the 1948 Genocide Convention.
27. D — Indian military intervention in December 1971 — under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi — ended the killing in less than two weeks and produced the independent nation of Bangladesh on December 16, 1971. The Indian intervention is one of the few documented cases in which military force successfully halted an ongoing genocide before international institutions could organize a response.
28. B — The relative international silence about the 1971 Bangladesh atrocities reflects how geopolitical interests rather than humanitarian principles have shaped which mass atrocities receive international response. The Nixon administration actively supported Pakistan despite the killings because of Cold War alignments, while China backed Pakistan against Indian intervention, leaving the Bengali victims politically isolated until India acted unilaterally.

## PART 2 — CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE MODEL ANSWERS

### CRQ Set 1 — Causes of WWI and the Collapse of European Empires

#### 1a. Cause of the First World War from Document 1 (1 point):

One specific cause of the First World War was nationalism — particularly the explosive ethnic nationalist claims within the multinational empires of Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire, combined with the assertive nationalism of newly unified Germany. According to Document 1, nationalism is one of the four MAIN structural causes (along with militarism, alliances, and imperialism) that historians use to explain the origins of the war.

**1b. Multinational empire that collapsed from Document 2 (1 point):**

One multinational empire that collapsed as a result of the First World War was the Austro-Hungarian Empire. According to Document 2, the empire dissolved in October–November 1918 into successor states including Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia, ending nearly four centuries of Habsburg rule over central Europe.

**2a. Cause-and-effect relationship (1 point):**

The First World War caused the collapse of the European multinational empires by destroying the economic, military, and political capacity of these states to maintain control over diverse populations, while simultaneously empowering the nationalist movements that had long sought independence from imperial rule. The war exposed the inability of the Russian, Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman, and German imperial governments to deliver victory or to manage the economic strain of total war — discrediting the multinational imperial model in the eyes of their populations. Wilsonian principles of national self-determination, embodied in the Fourteen Points (January 1918) and partially incorporated into the Versailles settlement, gave international legitimacy to the nationalist successor states. Within four years of the war's end, four of the great multinational European empires had ceased to exist and the European political map had been redrawn around ethnic-national lines — a transformation that produced both the modern nation-states of central Europe and the unresolved ethnic conflicts that would feed the next great catastrophe.

**CRQ Set 2 — Iranian Revolution of 1979 as Turning Point**

**3a. Turning point identified (1 point):**

The historical turning point associated with the documents is the Iranian Revolution of 1979 — the popular uprising that overthrew the Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi in January 1979 and established the Islamic Republic of Iran under Ayatollah Khomeini in April 1979. As described in Documents 3 and 4, the revolution replaced one of the strongest American allies in the Middle East with the world's first modern theocratic state.

**3b. Why a turning point (1 point):**

The Iranian Revolution is considered a turning point because it reversed two centuries of secularizing reform across the Muslim world, produced the first modern theocratic state in which religious authority stood above elected institutions, ruptured U.S.-Iran relations for decades following the November 1979 hostage crisis, and inspired Islamic political movements across the Muslim world — including Hezbollah, the Muslim Brotherhood, and influences shaping the Taliban and al-Qaeda. As described in Document 4, the post-1979 Middle East has been shaped fundamentally by the revolution's legacies, including the Iran-Iraq War (1980–88) that followed directly from regional fear of revolutionary export.

**4a. How the Iranian Revolution reshaped the region (1 point):**

The Iranian Revolution of 1979 reshaped the political dynamics of the Middle East and the wider Muslim world across multiple dimensions in the decades that followed. It established the precedent that an Islamic

political movement could overthrow a Western-aligned secular regime and replace it with a theocratic state, inspiring movements from Algeria to Indonesia. It produced the first modern Sunni-Shia geopolitical contest in the Iran-Iraq War (1980–88), as Saudi Arabia and other Sunni Arab states funded Saddam Hussein's invasion of revolutionary Iran. It created the foundation for the post-1979 Iranian network of allied movements — Hezbollah in Lebanon (founded 1982), Hamas's adoption of Iranian-style Islamic political organization, the Houthis in Yemen, and Shia militias across Iraq. It rendered the post-1948 American security architecture in the Persian Gulf permanently more fragile, contributing to the 1990–91 Gulf War, the 2003 Iraq War, the post-2011 Syrian civil war, and the ongoing tensions over Iranian nuclear ambitions. The revolution also demonstrated globally that secular modernization was not the inevitable destination of Muslim-majority societies — a challenge to the dominant twentieth-century assumption that modernization would produce convergence on Western political models. More than four decades after Khomeini's return to Tehran, the Iranian Revolution remains the single most consequential political event in the modern Middle East.

## PART 3 – ENDURING ISSUES ESSAY

### Scoring Rubric (0–5 Point Scale)

Score	Criteria
5 — Excellent	Defines a clear, defensible enduring issue. Argues persuasively that the issue is genuinely enduring across time. Uses 4–5 documents substantively. Incorporates substantial relevant outside evidence (four or more specific facts, dates, or events). Demonstrates synthesis across multiple distinct eras. Well-organized and clearly written.
4 — Good	Defines an enduring issue clearly. Argues for its endurance with adequate support. Uses 3–4 documents substantively. Includes 2–3 pieces of outside evidence. Reasonably well-organized.
3 — Satisfactory (Passing)	Identifies an enduring issue. Provides some argument for its endurance. Uses at least 3 documents. Includes at least 1 piece of outside evidence. Generally organized but may have weaknesses.
2 — Limited	Identifies an issue but defines it weakly. Limited argument for endurance. Uses fewer than 3 documents substantively, OR over-relies on documents without outside evidence. Significant organizational problems.
1 — Minimal	Identifies an issue but provides little argument or supporting evidence. Minimal document engagement. Disorganized.
0 — No credit	Fails to address the prompt. Off-topic.

### Sample High-Scoring Response (Score: 5)

#### Introduction

An enduring issue in world history is the impact of trade and economic exchange on human societies — the persistent ways in which commercial integration between distant peoples has transformed political power, social structure, technological development, and cultural life across centuries. Trade has produced both vast wealth and devastating exploitation, has lifted hundreds of millions out of poverty and uprooted

long-established patterns of work and community, has connected formerly isolated regions and produced new forms of conflict over the terms of that connection. The documents in this packet trace this pattern from the Atlantic triangular trade of the early modern era through nineteenth-century globalization, the postwar Bretton Woods system, the late-twentieth-century era of intensified globalization, and the contemporary challenges to the global trading order.

### **Body Paragraph 1 — The Atlantic Triangular Trade and Early Modern Commercial Empire**

The Atlantic triangular trade between 1500 and 1800 demonstrates how commercial integration can simultaneously produce wealth on one continent and catastrophic violence on another. Document 1 describes the three-route system that linked European manufactures, African slaves, and American commodities into a single integrated commercial circuit. Approximately twelve million Africans were transported across the Atlantic in the Middle Passage, of whom an estimated two million died in transit — making the Atlantic slave trade one of the largest forced migrations in human history. The trade enriched European port cities — Liverpool, Bristol, Nantes, Lisbon, Amsterdam — and produced fortunes that financed the early stages of British and Dutch industrial development. It built the plantation economies of the Caribbean and the American South, where slave-grown sugar, tobacco, and cotton became among the most valuable commodities in early modern world trade. And it devastated West African societies through depopulation, political violence, and the conversion of internal trade networks into slave-supply mechanisms. Even after British abolition of the slave trade in 1807 and slavery itself in 1833 (followed by the French in 1848 and the United States in 1865), the racial hierarchies, plantation labor systems, and underdevelopment patterns produced by Atlantic commerce continued to shape three continents into the twentieth century and beyond. The Atlantic system established the template — repeated in different form in subsequent eras — by which commercial integration can produce both spectacular wealth and spectacular human cost.

### **Body Paragraph 2 — Nineteenth-Century Globalization and the First Great Integration**

The nineteenth century produced the first great integration of the global economy. Document 2 describes how Britain led a trade revolution through the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846 (ending agricultural protectionism), the Cobden-Chevalier Treaty of 1860 with France (triggering bilateral trade agreements across Europe), and the progressive adoption of the classical gold standard after 1870 (creating a stable monetary framework for international commerce). New technologies — steamships, transcontinental railroads, the telegraph, and after 1869 the Suez Canal — collapsed the costs and speed of long-distance trade. By 1913, world trade reached a share of global GDP not equaled again until the 1970s. The British Empire functioned as a vast free-trade zone, with London serving as the world's banking center and the pound sterling as the international reserve currency. The same period saw the integration of the United States, Germany, Russia, and Japan into the industrial world economy, producing the first true world market in commodities like wheat, cotton, and steel. Yet this first age of globalization had limits that would become catastrophic: the British peace held together only as long as British naval and financial dominance remained unchallenged, the gold standard required deflationary adjustments that produced political backlash, and the very economic interdependence that integrated Europe could not prevent the catastrophic war of 1914–18, which abruptly ended what historians now call the first wave of globalization.

### **Body Paragraph 3 — Bretton Woods, Late-Twentieth-Century Globalization, and the Contemporary Challenge**

The mid-twentieth century learned the costs of disorderly economic nationalism. Document 3 describes how the collapse of the international economy in the 1930s — the Great Depression, the Smoot-Hawley tariff of 1930, the breakdown of the gold standard, competitive currency devaluations, and the political radicalization that produced fascism — taught the postwar generation that another such collapse must be prevented. The Bretton Woods conference of July 1944 established the institutional foundations for the postwar economic order: the International Monetary Fund to manage exchange rates, the World Bank to fund reconstruction and development, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) of 1947 to coordinate progressive trade liberalization. The system rebuilt war-shattered economies, integrated Western Europe and Japan into the American-led international order, and produced the "long postwar boom" of 1945–1973 — the most rapid sustained growth in world economic history. Document 4 describes the further intensification of globalization after 1980 through NAFTA (1994), the founding of the WTO (1995), and the entry of China into the WTO (2001) — producing approximately one billion people lifted out of extreme poverty between 1990 and 2020 while also accelerating the decline of manufacturing employment in older industrial economies. Document 5 describes the contemporary challenge: the Brexit vote of 2016, Trump's tariffs on Chinese imports beginning in 2018, the COVID-19 supply chain disruptions of 2020, and Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine all signal that the late-twentieth-century consensus on continuous economic integration is breaking down. Western democracies have begun to "decouple" or "de-risk" their economies from China, particularly in strategic sectors including semiconductors, pharmaceuticals, and critical minerals. The early twenty-first century may be witnessing the beginning of an era of fragmentation into competing economic blocs analogous to the protectionist 1930s — though without (yet) the political catastrophe that followed in that earlier era.

### **Conclusion**

The impact of trade and economic exchange on human societies has been one of the most persistent enduring issues in world history. The Atlantic triangular trade of the early modern era, the British-led globalization of the nineteenth century, the Bretton Woods order of the postwar era, the late-twentieth-century era of intensified globalization, and the contemporary challenges to the global trading order together demonstrate that commercial integration repeatedly transforms human societies — sometimes producing immense prosperity, sometimes producing devastating human cost, often producing both simultaneously. The Atlantic system enriched Europe through African suffering. Nineteenth-century globalization spread industry and prosperity while also producing the great-power rivalries that culminated in 1914. Bretton Woods rebuilt a shattered world. Late-twentieth-century globalization lifted hundreds of millions out of poverty while disrupting Western manufacturing communities. The contemporary fragmentation of the global trading order — driven by Chinese strategic competition, populist political backlash, pandemic shocks, and geopolitical conflict — represents the latest chapter in a story that began centuries ago and has no obvious end. As long as human societies value the prosperity that trade produces and worry about the costs that trade imposes, the question of how to organize economic exchange across borders will remain a central political question — and the answers chosen by each generation will continue to shape the world we inherit.

**Why this essay scores at the mastery level:**

- Defines the enduring issue clearly with a defensible framing.
- Argues for endurance across five distinct eras (Atlantic system → 19th-century globalization → Bretton Woods → late-20th-century globalization → contemporary fragmentation).
- Uses all five documents substantively.
- Brings in extensive outside evidence: British abolition (1807, 1833), French abolition (1848), American abolition (1865), the Suez Canal (1869), the role of London as banking center, pound sterling as reserve currency, the long postwar boom (1945–73), Smoot-Hawley specifics, the Cobden-Chevalier Treaty mechanism, semiconductor decoupling, COVID supply chains, Ukraine war specifics.
- Synthesizes across five distinct eras and multiple regions (Africa, Caribbean, Americas, Europe, East Asia).
- Concludes by connecting the issue to ongoing contemporary contests.