

PRACTICE EXAM 55 — NEW YORK REGENTS GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II

1. The 18th-century German philosopher Immanuel Kant's "categorical imperative" required individuals to
 - A. act on whatever maxim would most effectively serve their own long-term personal happiness
 - B. act only on principles that one could rationally will to become universal laws for all people
 - C. obey the explicit commands of the sovereign monarch regardless of any personal moral judgment
 - D. submit all moral choices to majority democratic vote in the public political assemblies

2. The 19th-century German philosopher G. W. F. Hegel is best known for his idea that history advances through
 - A. random chance and the unintended consequences of largely individual political decisions in society
 - B. fixed cycles of imperial rise and decline that endlessly repeat without any overall direction
 - C. a dialectical process in which contradictions between ideas produce higher syntheses over time
 - D. the gradual technological perfection of human production tools and industrial labor methods

3. The 20th-century French philosopher Michel Foucault is best known for arguing that
 - A. modern institutions such as prisons, schools, and hospitals exert power through surveillance and discipline
 - B. all political power is ultimately rooted in the economic ownership of industrial means of production
 - C. universal moral principles can be derived from pure reason without reference to social context

D. all human knowledge is the direct product of innate biological brain structures alone

4. In *A Theory of Justice* (1971), the American philosopher John Rawls argued that

A. inequality is always just so long as it results from voluntary individual market exchanges

B. only a Marxist socialist system can satisfy the requirements of genuine social justice

C. justice requires the abolition of private property and full state ownership of all assets

D. just principles are those rational people would choose behind a "veil of ignorance" about their own position

5. In *The Road to Serfdom* (1944), the Austrian-British economist Friedrich Hayek argued that

A. only a strong centrally planned economy can avoid the cyclical crises of modern industrial capitalism

B. central economic planning, even when democratically intended, tends to lead toward authoritarian totalitarianism

C. all economic decisions must be made by an elected committee of professional academic economists

D. inflation can be permanently eliminated by allowing each nation's central bank unlimited spending power

6. The Battle of Trafalgar in October 1805

A. ended in a sweeping French naval victory that allowed Napoleon to invade and occupy Britain

B. forced Russia to abandon its alliance with Britain and join the French Continental System trade blockade

C. was a decisive British naval victory under Admiral Nelson that secured British control of the seas

D. transferred the Spanish overseas empire from Madrid to direct French imperial colonial administration

7. Napoleon's Russian campaign of June–December 1812

A. began with the invasion of Russia by the Grand Army and ended in catastrophic French retreat

- B. produced a decisive French military victory and the lasting French occupation of the city of Moscow
- C. forced Tsar Alexander I to sign a treaty making Russia an obedient ally of the French empire
- D. ended with the immediate Russian invasion of France and the capture of Paris before December

8. The Suez Canal, opened in November 1869, was significant because it

- A. provided the only freshwater navigable river link between Europe and the African continent
- B. produced a permanent end to French and British strategic interest in the Mediterranean Sea
- C. immediately removed all foreign control over the political affairs of the new nineteenth-century Egypt
- D. shortened the sea route between Europe and Asia by roughly 7,000 km and transformed global trade

9. The Italian invasion of Ottoman Libya in 1911–1912

- A. ended in a sweeping Ottoman victory and the lasting Italian withdrawal from all of North Africa
- B. produced Italian control of Libya and is regarded as a contributing event to the Balkan Wars
- C. led to the immediate dissolution of the Italian monarchy and the founding of an Italian republic
- D. transferred Libya to direct British administration as a new colonial protectorate of the British Empire

10. The Balkan Wars of 1912–1913

- A. permanently ended all national tensions across the entire Balkan Peninsula by establishing stable borders
- B. transferred most of southeastern Europe directly to Russian imperial rule for the next several decades
- C. drove the Ottoman Empire almost entirely out of Europe and left bitter inter-Balkan disputes intact
- D. produced a stable confederation of Balkan states under a single Habsburg imperial Catholic monarchy

11. The First Battle of the Marne in September 1914

- A. halted the German advance toward Paris and ensured the war would not end quickly in the west

- B. produced a decisive German victory that ended the war within the first six weeks of fighting
- C. forced Russia to withdraw from the First World War and sign a separate treaty with Germany
- D. began the long Allied invasion of Germany from the east through Polish and Russian territory

12. The Battle of Tannenberg in August–September 1914 was

- A. a decisive Russian victory that captured the East Prussian capital of Königsberg from Germany
- B. a peaceful diplomatic conference held to settle the conflict between Germany and the Russian Empire
- C. an unsuccessful Allied amphibious operation aimed at opening a sea route to Russia through Turkey
- D. a major German victory over the invading Russian Second Army in East Prussia early in the war

13. The Russian Provisional Government that took power after the February 1917 Revolution

- A. immediately negotiated a separate peace with Germany and withdrew Russia from the First World War
- B. abolished all private property and established the world's first communist economic and political system
- C. continued the war against Germany and was overthrown by the Bolsheviks in the October Revolution
- D. peacefully transferred power to a constitutional monarchy under a new branch of the Romanov dynasty

14. The power struggle within the Soviet leadership during the 1920s ended with

- A. the appointment of Leon Trotsky as General Secretary and ruler of the Soviet Union
- B. Stalin's victory, the expulsion of Trotsky from the party, and his eventual murder in Mexico
- C. the restoration of the Romanov dynasty and the end of the Soviet system altogether
- D. a peaceful coalition government uniting Stalin and Trotsky as joint leaders of the country

15. Italy's invasion and annexation of Albania in April 1939

- A. quickly placed Albania under Italian rule as part of Mussolini's drive to build a new Mediterranean empire

- B. produced a peaceful federation of Italy and Albania as equal partners in a constitutional Catholic monarchy
- C. ended in a sweeping Albanian victory and the long-term Albanian occupation of all southern Italy
- D. provoked an immediate British and French military intervention that drove Italian forces out of Albania

16. The Battle of Moscow in late 1941

- A. ended in a swift German capture of the Soviet capital and the dissolution of the Soviet government
- B. forced Stalin to flee the country and sign an immediate armistice ending the Nazi-Soviet war
- C. was a relatively minor engagement between small German and Soviet army units in central Russia
- D. halted the German advance just outside the city and inflicted the first major defeat of Operation Barbarossa

17. The German siege of Leningrad from 1941 to 1944

- A. ended within several weeks when Soviet defenders surrendered the city to advancing German army forces
- B. was a peaceful diplomatic standoff in which neither side ever fired a shot at the city's edge
- C. lasted roughly 900 days and killed an estimated one million Soviet civilians, mostly from starvation
- D. ended in the rapid German liberation of the city from local Russian guerrilla resistance fighters

18. The Bataan Death March of April 1942 in the Philippines

- A. was a peaceful evacuation of American troops to Australia under formal Japanese protection during the war
- B. forced tens of thousands of American and Filipino prisoners on a brutal forced march by Japanese troops
- C. transferred Filipino prisoners from Japanese to American custody under the supervision of the Red Cross
- D. produced the first major U.S. naval victory over Japanese forces in the western Pacific Ocean campaign

19. At the Casablanca Conference in January 1943, Roosevelt and Churchill

- A. declared the policy of demanding "unconditional surrender" of the Axis powers and planned the invasion of Sicily
- B. drafted the United Nations Charter that would be formally adopted in San Francisco in mid-1945
- C. agreed to immediately open a "Second Front" through a cross-Channel invasion of France that summer
- D. negotiated a separate peace with the Italian government to end Italian participation in the war

20. The Battle of Kursk in July–August 1943

- A. ended in a decisive German victory that recaptured the city of Stalingrad from advancing Soviet armies
- B. was a peaceful local truce arranged by the Vatican to allow Soviet civilians to evacuate the war zone
- C. produced the immediate German evacuation of all occupied Soviet territory east of the Vistula River
- D. was the largest tank battle of the Second World War and ended German offensive capacity in the east

21. The Czechoslovak coup of February 1948

- A. brought the U.S.-backed Edvard Beneš to power as the country's first multiparty democratic president
- B. led to the immediate withdrawal of all Soviet troops from Czechoslovakian territory by mid-1949
- C. installed a Communist government in Prague and helped accelerate Western Cold War alarm in Europe
- D. unified Czechoslovakia with neighboring Austria as a single neutral federal Catholic Central European state

22. The East German Uprising of June 1953 was

- A. a peaceful student demonstration that produced immediate democratic reforms across the new East Germany
- B. a workers' revolt against the Communist regime that was crushed by East German police and Soviet tanks
- C. a religious procession marking the Lutheran Reformation that was permitted by the regime to proceed

D. a successful overthrow of the East German government that briefly reunified Germany during the Cold War

23. The Berlin Crisis of 1961 ended with

- A. an immediate American military invasion of East Berlin to overthrow the East German government
- B. the formal withdrawal of all Soviet forces from East Germany under United Nations supervision
- C. a peaceful demilitarized agreement that opened the border between East and West Berlin permanently
- D. the construction of the Berlin Wall, which sealed off East Berlin from the Western occupation zones

24. The Eisenhower Doctrine of 1957

- A. pledged U.S. economic and military aid to Middle Eastern states resisting communist aggression or influence
- B. abolished American foreign aid programs and ended all U.S. economic involvement in the Middle East
- C. transferred U.S. responsibility for global Cold War strategy entirely to the new United Nations General Assembly
- D. opened immediate diplomatic relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China

25. The Saur Revolution of April 1978 in Afghanistan

- A. peacefully transferred power from the Afghan royal king to a moderate democratic civilian government
- B. installed a U.S.-backed Islamist regime in Kabul opposed to the Soviet Union and its allies
- C. brought a communist government to power and helped trigger the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
- D. ended decades of internal civil war and produced a stable secular Afghan constitutional monarchy

26. Eritrea's independence from Ethiopia in 1993 followed

- A. a peaceful UN-supervised referendum granted by the Ethiopian emperor Haile Selassie in the early 1970s

- B. a 30-year armed struggle by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front and the fall of the Derg regime
- C. an immediate Italian recolonization of the Eritrean coast that produced a new Italian colonial protectorate
- D. an Ethiopian invasion of Eritrea that united the two countries under a single Ethiopian federal state

27. The Egyptian Revolution of January–February 2011 produced

- A. the immediate election of an Islamist president followed by a long-lasting peaceful democratic Egyptian transition
- B. the rapid restoration of the monarchy under King Farouk's descendants after several decades of republican rule
- C. an immediate Israeli military intervention that overthrew the Egyptian government within a few weeks
- D. the resignation of President Hosni Mubarak after mass protests in Cairo's Tahrir Square forced him from power

28. The Libyan Civil War of 2011 ended with

- A. NATO-backed rebel forces capturing and killing longtime dictator Muammar Gaddafi in his hometown of Sirte
- B. a peaceful negotiated settlement that left Gaddafi in power and ended international sanctions on Libya
- C. the immediate establishment of a stable democratic government across all regions of post-conflict Libya
- D. an Egyptian military invasion of Libya that absorbed the country into a larger Arab federation

29. The killing of Osama bin Laden in May 2011

- A. immediately ended the global U.S. War on Terror and led to a complete withdrawal from Afghanistan
- B. was carried out by Pakistani security forces who acted entirely independently of any U.S. involvement
- C. was carried out by U.S. Navy SEALs at his compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, near a military academy
- D. occurred during the chaotic American evacuation from Saigon during the closing days of the Vietnam War

30. The Hong Kong Umbrella Movement of late 2014 involved

- A. a coordinated armed insurrection by Hong Kong separatists against direct mainland Chinese army control
- B. peaceful mass occupations of streets to demand fully open elections for Hong Kong's chief executive
- C. the immediate full incorporation of Hong Kong into the mainland Chinese provincial administrative system
- D. a successful negotiation that granted Hong Kong complete independence from the People's Republic of China

31. The discovery of penicillin in 1928 by the Scottish scientist Alexander Fleming

- A. opened the modern era of antibiotic medicine and dramatically reduced deaths from bacterial infections
- B. provided the first effective treatment against viral diseases such as influenza and the common cold
- C. led to the immediate worldwide eradication of major bacterial infectious diseases by the mid-1930s
- D. was a Soviet medical breakthrough later marketed under license to American international pharmaceutical companies

32. The early 20th-century German physicist Albert Einstein is best known for

- A. discovering the chemical element radium and pioneering the early medical use of radiation therapy
- B. inventing the first practical electric light bulb and founding the modern American electrical industry
- C. proposing the geocentric model of the solar system that placed Earth at the center of the universe
- D. developing the special and general theories of relativity and the equation $E = mc^2$

33. The North Sea, a major arm of the Atlantic Ocean, lies between

- A. the Iberian Peninsula and northwestern Africa along the western edge of the modern Sahara
- B. eastern Britain and the European mainland coasts of Norway, Denmark, Germany, and the Netherlands
- C. the African continent and the island of Madagascar in the southwestern Indian Ocean region

D. the western coast of South America and the southern islands of the Indonesian archipelago

34. Mount Kilimanjaro, located in northeastern Tanzania, is geographically remarkable because it is

- A. a small extinct volcanic cone barely rising above the surrounding plains of the central Sahara desert
- B. the source of the entire Nile River system, beginning a long northward flow toward the Mediterranean Sea
- C. Africa's highest mountain, with snow-covered summits despite lying very close to the global equator
- D. a long mountain range stretching across the West African coast from Senegal to the Gulf of Guinea

35. The Strait of Bab el-Mandeb has been strategically important because it

- A. connects the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean and lies between Yemen and Djibouti
- B. is the only freshwater navigable passage between northern Europe and the North African coast
- C. separates the southern tip of Spain from the Moroccan coast at the western end of the Mediterranean
- D. divides the Korean Peninsula from the eastern Chinese coast along the Yellow Sea shipping route

ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS (Questions 1-35)

1. B — Kant's *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals* (1785) held that moral actions follow rules a rational agent could universally legislate without contradiction; he illustrated this with examples such as the impossibility of universalizing lying promises. Along with his second formulation — treat humanity always as an end, never merely as a means — the categorical imperative became one of the foundations of modern deontological ethics.

2. C — In *The Phenomenology of Spirit* (1807) and *Philosophy of History*, Hegel argued that historical change is driven by the clash between an existing condition (thesis) and its negation (antithesis), with each conflict resolved at a higher level (synthesis) as "Spirit" (*Geist*) gradually realizes freedom. Marx later inverted this idealist framework into the materialist dialectic that became the philosophical core of Communist thought.

3. A — In *Discipline and Punish* (1975) and the *History of Sexuality*, Foucault traced how Western societies shifted from spectacular public punishment to subtle techniques of normalization through

Bentham's "panopticon," statistical record-keeping, and routinized schedules. His concept of "biopower" reshaped late-20th-century thinking about medicine, sexuality, criminal justice, and the modern state.

4. D — In Rawls's "original position" thought experiment, free and rational individuals choose principles of justice without knowing whether they will be born rich or poor, gifted or unable; he argued they would settle on equal basic liberties and the "difference principle" allowing inequalities only when they benefit the least-advantaged. The book reshaped Anglophone political philosophy and underpinned liberal arguments for the modern welfare state.

5. B — Drawing on Britain's wartime planning experience and on the rise of Nazi Germany and Stalin's USSR, Hayek argued that once the state begins to allocate goods, jobs, and prices, it must increasingly suppress dissent to enforce its decisions. The book became a foundational text for postwar liberal-conservative thinkers such as Milton Friedman and helped shape Thatcher and Reagan-era market reforms.

6. C — Off Cape Trafalgar near Cádiz, Vice-Admiral Horatio Nelson's Royal Navy fleet broke the larger combined Franco-Spanish fleet, capturing or destroying 19 enemy ships of the line without losing any of his own. Nelson was killed in the engagement, but the victory ended any prospect of a French invasion of Britain and gave the Royal Navy a maritime supremacy that lasted into the 20th century.

7. A — Napoleon led a multinational *Grande Armée* of about 600,000 men across the Niemen in June 1812, fought a costly draw at Borodino in September, and entered an empty, burning Moscow, but Tsar Alexander I refused to surrender. The bitter winter retreat, harassed by Cossack raids and starvation, reduced the army to fewer than 100,000 effective troops and shattered the myth of Napoleonic invincibility, triggering the wider coalition that defeated him.

8. D — Built largely by French engineer Ferdinand de Lesseps over a decade, the 163-kilometer canal allowed ships sailing between London and Bombay to bypass the long voyage around the Cape of Good Hope, cutting travel distance by roughly 7,000 kilometers. The canal vastly increased the strategic value of Egypt, drew the British into occupying the country in 1882, and remains one of the busiest maritime trade arteries in the world.

9. B — Italy declared war on the Ottoman Empire in September 1911, deploying troops and the world's first aerial bombing raids to seize the coastal cities of Tripoli, Benghazi, and Tobruk; the 1912 Treaty of Ouchy ceded Libya to Rome. The visible weakness of the Ottomans encouraged the Balkan League — Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro — to attack Constantinople just weeks after the treaty, helping spark the First Balkan War.

10. C — In the First Balkan War of 1912, the Balkan League drove the Ottomans almost entirely out of Europe within weeks; the Second Balkan War of 1913 then erupted when Bulgaria attacked its former allies over the division of Macedonia. The settlements left Serbia ambitious and Austria-Hungary alarmed at growing South Slav power, setting the immediate stage for the Sarajevo assassination of 1914.

11. A — As Helmuth von Moltke the Younger's modified Schlieffen Plan drove French and British forces back to the Marne River east of Paris, French commander Joseph Joffre counterattacked between September 5 and 12, 1914, with troops famously reinforced by Parisian taxis. The German army withdrew

north to the Aisne River, ending hopes of a quick western victory and inaugurating four years of trench warfare on the Western Front.

12. D — Field Marshal Paul von Hindenburg and General Erich Ludendorff used Russian command errors and intercepted radio messages to encircle and destroy Russian General Alexander Samsonov's Second Army between August 26 and 30, 1914, taking some 90,000 prisoners. The victory made the Hindenburg-Ludendorff partnership the most powerful military duo in Germany and exposed the deep weaknesses of Tsarist mobilization that would help bring down the regime in 1917.

13. C — Headed first by Prince Lvov and then by Alexander Kerensky, the Provisional Government continued the costly war effort against Germany and Austria-Hungary while postponing decisions on land reform and a constituent assembly. The disastrous June 1917 Kerensky Offensive, combined with the Bolsheviks' simple slogan of "peace, land, bread," paved the way for Lenin's October seizure of power from the Winter Palace.

14. B — After Lenin's death in 1924, General Secretary Joseph Stalin out-maneuvered Trotsky and other rivals through control of the party apparatus, the doctrine of "socialism in one country," and tactical alliances against the Left and Right Opposition. Trotsky was expelled from the Communist Party in 1927, deported in 1929, and finally murdered by a Stalinist agent with an ice axe in Coyoacán, Mexico, in 1940.

15. A — On Good Friday 1939, Italian forces invaded Albania, drove out King Zog within days, and merged the Albanian crown into the Italian monarchy under Victor Emmanuel III. The occupation provided a launching ground for Mussolini's disastrous 1940 invasion of Greece and was part of Italy's broader bid for what he called a *spazio vitale* across the Mediterranean.

16. D — German Army Group Centre, depleted by months of advance, was halted within sight of Moscow in November–December 1941 by mud, snow, and a surprise Soviet counter-offensive of fresh Siberian divisions under General Georgy Zhukov. The Wehrmacht was driven back 100–250 km from the capital, suffering massive casualties and abandoning forever the original Barbarossa plan for a quick Soviet collapse.

17. C — German forces encircled Leningrad (St. Petersburg) in September 1941 and sealed off the city for 872 days, during which civilians endured artillery bombardment, the bitter winter of 1941–42, and starvation rations of as little as 125 g of adulterated bread per day. Roughly one million civilians died before the siege was finally broken in January 1944, making it one of the deadliest sieges in modern history.

18. B — After the surrender of about 76,000 American and Filipino troops on the Bataan Peninsula on April 9, 1942, Japanese forces marched the prisoners roughly 100 km in tropical heat to railheads bound for prisoner-of-war camps, with thousands killed or dying of starvation, disease, or beatings on the way. The atrocity, widely publicized after the war, was a central charge in the postwar trial and execution of Japanese commander Masaharu Homma.

19. A — Meeting in French Morocco in January 1943, Roosevelt and Churchill (Stalin declined to attend) announced that the Allies would accept only the "unconditional surrender" of Germany, Italy, and Japan, removing any prospect of negotiated peace. They also agreed to follow the North African campaign with

an invasion of Sicily that summer, postponing — to Stalin's irritation — the long-promised cross-Channel attack until 1944.

20. D — Hitler's "Operation Citadel" pitted nearly a million German troops and roughly 2,700 tanks against an even larger Soviet force entrenched in deep defensive belts around the Kursk salient; the climactic armored clash near Prokhorovka on July 12 involved hundreds of tanks. After about six weeks of fighting, the Wehrmacht was forced onto the strategic defensive on the Eastern Front for the rest of the war.

21. C — Communists led by Klement Gottwald, who already controlled the police and key ministries in the postwar coalition, used street demonstrations and threats of armed worker militias in February 1948 to force President Beneš to accept a Communist-dominated cabinet and the resignation of non-Communist ministers. The bloodless takeover, followed shortly by the death of Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk in suspicious circumstances, helped speed Western moves toward NATO and the Marshall Plan.

22. B — When the SED government raised work norms without raising pay, building workers on East Berlin's Stalinallee struck on June 16, 1953, and the protest spread to roughly 700 cities and towns the next day with demands for free elections and German reunification. Soviet T-34 tanks crushed the uprising on June 17, killing dozens, and the date later became a national holiday in West Germany commemorating the events.

23. D — After Khrushchev's renewed ultimatum demanding Western withdrawal from West Berlin produced a tense summit with President Kennedy in Vienna, East Germany began on August 13, 1961, to seal its border with barbed wire, soon replaced by a concrete wall around West Berlin. The Wall became the defining physical symbol of the Cold War and stood until November 9, 1989, when the East German regime allowed crossings.

24. A — Articulated in a January 1957 message to Congress amid Soviet inroads after the Suez Crisis, the Eisenhower Doctrine offered economic aid and, if requested, U.S. forces to any Middle Eastern nation threatened by communist aggression. The doctrine was invoked to support Jordan's King Hussein in 1957 and to deploy U.S. Marines to Lebanon during the 1958 crisis, marking expanded American engagement in the region.

25. C — Officers of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) seized power on April 27, 1978, killing President Daoud and launching radical land-reform, secularization, and women's-rights decrees that provoked widespread Islamist and tribal rebellion. The PDPA's factional infighting and inability to control the countryside prompted the Soviet Politburo to intervene militarily in December 1979, beginning a decade-long Soviet-Afghan War.

26. B — Beginning with the founding of the Eritrean Liberation Front in 1961 and the more disciplined EPLF in 1970, Eritrean fighters resisted first the Ethiopian monarchy and then the Marxist Derg regime for three decades, capturing Asmara in May 1991 as the Derg collapsed. A 1993 UN-supervised referendum produced near-unanimous support for independence, making Eritrea Africa's newest internationally recognized state at the time.

27. D — Beginning on January 25, 2011, in the wake of Tunisia's revolution, hundreds of thousands of Egyptians occupied Tahrir Square demanding the end of the 30-year Mubarak regime; after 18 days of protests and the army's refusal to fire on demonstrators, Mubarak announced his resignation on February 11. The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces took over, but the country's subsequent democratic transition collapsed under President Mohamed Morsi and was reversed by Abdel Fattah el-Sisi's 2013 coup.

28. A — After Gaddafi's forces threatened to crush the rebellion centered in Benghazi, the UN Security Council authorized a no-fly zone in March 2011 and NATO aircraft attacked regime forces and command centers throughout the country. Rebel militias captured Tripoli in August, and Gaddafi was caught hiding in a drainage pipe near his hometown of Sirte on October 20, 2011, and killed soon after.

29. C — In the early hours of May 2, 2011, U.S. Navy SEAL Team Six helicoptered from Afghanistan into a walled compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, a city housing the country's military academy, killed al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, and returned with his body for burial at sea. The raid was carried out without informing the Pakistani government and severely strained U.S.-Pakistani relations.

30. B — Triggered by Beijing's August 2014 ruling that Hong Kong's chief executive could be chosen only from candidates pre-screened by a pro-Beijing committee, students and other activists occupied major roads in Admiralty, Causeway Bay, and Mong Kok for 79 days, using umbrellas to shield themselves from police pepper spray. The protests ended without forcing concessions but became an iconic example of nonviolent resistance and inspired the larger 2019 movement.

31. A — Working at St Mary's Hospital in London, Fleming observed that a stray *Penicillium* mould on a discarded culture plate had killed surrounding *Staphylococcus* bacteria, leading him to identify the antibacterial substance he called penicillin. Mass production led by Howard Florey and Ernst Chain during the Second World War saved enormous numbers of military and civilian lives and inaugurated a half-century in which once-fatal infections became routinely curable.

32. D — Working as a Swiss patent clerk in 1905, Einstein published four papers in his "miracle year" that introduced special relativity, the mass-energy equivalence $E = mc^2$, the photon theory of light, and the explanation of Brownian motion; his 1915 general theory of relativity reinterpreted gravity as the curvature of spacetime. The 1919 confirmation of the bending of starlight during a solar eclipse made him a global celebrity and reshaped 20th-century physics.

33. B — Roughly 970,000 square kilometers in area, the relatively shallow North Sea is bordered by the United Kingdom on the west, Norway and Denmark on the east, and Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and France along its southern shore. Its rich fisheries shaped medieval Hanseatic and Dutch trade, and the discovery of major offshore oil and gas fields beginning in the 1960s transformed the economies of Britain and Norway.

34. C — A dormant stratovolcano rising about 5,895 m above sea level on the equatorial Tanzania-Kenya border, Kilimanjaro carries an ice cap and small glaciers at its summit despite being only 3° south of the equator. Its glaciers have shrunk by more than 80% since 1912 because of warming temperatures and reduced snowfall, making the mountain a widely cited symbol of climate change in Africa.

35. A — Roughly 30 km wide at its narrowest, the strait is the only sea passage between the Red Sea, leading to the Suez Canal and Mediterranean, and the Gulf of Aden, leading to the Indian Ocean — a route through which roughly 10% of world oil shipments and a large share of European-Asian container traffic pass. Houthi missile and drone attacks from Yemen on commercial shipping since late 2023 have repeatedly disrupted this trade, illustrating the strait's continuing strategic importance.