

REGENTS EXAMINATION IN GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II — PRACTICE SIMULATION 9

1. Which Enlightenment thinker is most directly associated with the concept of separation of powers among legislative, executive, and judicial branches?
 - A. John Locke, whose Two Treatises of Government justified limited monarchy
 - B. Jean-Jacques Rousseau, author of The Social Contract and the general will
 - C. Baron de Montesquieu, who described this structure in The Spirit of the Laws
 - D. Thomas Hobbes, whose Leviathan defended the absolute power of the sovereign

2. The Haitian Revolution (1791–1804) is historically significant primarily because it
 - A. Produced the first successful slave revolt and independent Black republic in the world
 - B. Restored French colonial rule and reinstated the plantation system across the Caribbean
 - C. Created the largest sugar-exporting empire of the early nineteenth century in the Americas
 - D. Established a constitutional monarchy modeled on the political system of Great Britain

3. Father Miguel Hidalgo's 1810 "Grito de Dolores" is best remembered as the
 - A. Opening call for Mexican independence from Spanish colonial rule and authority
 - B. Declaration ending the institution of slavery throughout Latin America
 - C. Treaty by which Spain officially recognized Mexican national sovereignty
 - D. Constitutional document creating the first Mexican parliamentary government

4. The Opium Wars (1839–1842, 1856–1860) resulted in
- A. China defeating Great Britain and expelling all foreign merchants from its territory
 - B. Japan opening its ports to Chinese trade for the first time in two centuries
 - C. The formal end of the opium trade between South Asia and the Chinese mainland
 - D. China being forced to grant trading concessions, extraterritoriality, and Hong Kong to Britain
5. The Indian National Congress, founded in 1885, originally sought to
- A. Establish a Hindu religious state separate from Muslim regions of British India
 - B. Gain greater Indian participation in the British colonial government and civil service
 - C. Launch an immediate armed uprising to expel British forces from the subcontinent
 - D. Convert the Indian population to Christianity through cooperation with missionaries
6. The Armenian Genocide of 1915–1923 was carried out by the
- A. Russian Empire during its campaign to expand into the Caucasus mountain region
 - B. Persian Empire as part of its territorial dispute over the eastern Anatolian highlands
 - C. Ottoman Empire against its Armenian Christian minority population during World War I
 - D. Soviet Union during the consolidation of communist control over Central Asia
7. The March 1917 (February by the Russian calendar) Russian Revolution led directly to
- A. The seizure of power by the Bolsheviks under the leadership of Vladimir Lenin
 - B. The abdication of Czar Nicholas II and the creation of a Provisional Government
 - C. The signing of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk and Russia's withdrawal from the war
 - D. The execution of the entire Romanov family and the establishment of a republic

8. Benito Mussolini's fascist regime in Italy (1922–1943) was characterized by
- A. A constitutional democracy with multiple competing political parties and free elections
 - B. The voluntary surrender of state power to elected workers' councils across the country
 - C. Strict religious rule by the Catholic Church over all civil and political institutions
 - D. One-party rule, extreme nationalism, suppression of opposition, and state corporatism
9. The 1938 Munich Agreement is most often cited as an example of
- A. Successful collective security organized through the League of Nations covenant system
 - B. The first major Allied military victory over the expanding Nazi German regime
 - C. Western appeasement of Adolf Hitler that allowed German expansion to continue
 - D. American isolationism that kept the United States out of European political affairs
10. The Nuremberg Trials (1945–1946) established the legal principle that
- A. Individual leaders can be held personally accountable for ordering crimes against humanity
 - B. Sovereign nations cannot be prosecuted for actions taken during a declared war
 - C. Military commanders bear no responsibility for orders carried out by their subordinates
 - D. International tribunals must always defer to the national courts of the defendant
11. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), formed in 1949, was a
- A. Marshall Plan agency designed to distribute economic aid to Western Europe
 - B. United Nations specialized body created to coordinate peacekeeping operations worldwide
 - C. Trade alliance modeled on the European Coal and Steel Community of the period
 - D. Collective military alliance of Western nations directed against Soviet expansion in Europe

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

- A. The peaceful unification of the entire peninsula under a democratic South Korean government
- B. An armistice that left Korea divided near the 38th parallel as it had been before
- C. The complete withdrawal of all American military forces from the Korean peninsula
- D. The formal annexation of North Korea by the neighboring People's Republic of China

13. The Non-Aligned Movement, formally launched at the 1955 Bandung Conference, was created to

- A. Form a third communist alliance independent of both Moscow and Beijing leadership
- B. Allow newly independent nations to remain neutral between the United States and Soviet Union
- C. Coordinate military responses to anti-colonial uprisings across the African and Asian continents
- D. Establish a single trading bloc among the developing nations of Asia, Africa, and Latin America

14. Mao Zedong's Great Leap Forward (1958–1962) resulted in

- A. Catastrophic famine that killed tens of millions of Chinese peasants and rural workers
- B. Rapid economic growth that made China the world's leading industrial power
- C. The successful transition of Chinese agriculture to small private farming
- D. The peaceful reunification of mainland China with the island of Taiwan

15. The 1956 Suez Crisis demonstrated the

- A. Continuing dominance of Britain and France in setting Middle Eastern foreign policy
- B. Success of the United Nations in enforcing peace through military intervention
- C. Decline of European colonial power and the rising influence of the superpowers
- D. Cooperation between Egypt and Israel over the management of the Suez Canal zone

16. The Prague Spring of 1968 ended when

- A. Czechoslovakia successfully negotiated complete independence from the Soviet sphere of political influence
- B. The Czechoslovak government voluntarily adopted a multiparty democratic constitution and free elections
- C. The United States intervened militarily to support reform leader Alexander Dubček and his cabinet
- D. Warsaw Pact forces led by the Soviet Union invaded and crushed the reform movement

17. The 1973 OPEC oil embargo was triggered by

- A. Arab opposition to Western support for Israel during the Yom Kippur War
- B. A Soviet attempt to disrupt the economies of the Western capitalist nations
- C. The discovery of new oil reserves that flooded the global energy market
- D. The collapse of the gold standard and the resulting weakness of the dollar

18. The Solidarity movement that arose in Poland during the 1980s was

- A. A communist youth organization that defended the policies of the ruling party
- B. A military council formed to suppress dissent within the Polish armed forces
- C. A Catholic monastic order that distributed humanitarian aid to Polish workers
- D. An independent trade union that challenged communist authority and inspired reform

19. Mikhail Gorbachev's policies of glasnost and perestroika in the 1980s were intended to

- A. Restore Stalin-era central planning and end the consumer market in the Soviet Union
- B. Expand Soviet military intervention into Eastern Europe and the Middle East
- C. Reform the Soviet political system through openness and economic restructuring of the state
- D. Reverse the Cuban Missile Crisis agreement and redeploy missiles to the Americas

20. The breakup of Yugoslavia in the 1990s produced

- A. A peaceful federation of equal republics modeled on the Swiss confederation
- B. A series of ethnic conflicts including genocide against Bosnian Muslims at Srebrenica
- C. The reunification of the Balkan peninsula under a single democratic government
- D. The annexation of all former Yugoslav republics by neighboring Hungary and Romania

21. The Cultural Revolution in China (1966–1976) was characterized by

- A. Mao's mobilization of Red Guards to purge intellectuals and traditional culture
- B. The opening of Chinese universities to Western faculty and academic exchange
- C. The restoration of Confucian principles to Chinese government and society
- D. A peaceful transfer of political power from Mao Zedong to Deng Xiaoping

22. Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms in China beginning in 1978 introduced

- A. Strict collectivization of agriculture modeled on Stalin's Soviet Five-Year Plans
- B. Multiparty democratic elections that ended the rule of the Chinese Communist Party
- C. Market-oriented economic reforms and foreign investment while maintaining communist political control
- D. A complete return to imperial dynastic government with Deng as the first new emperor

23. The Iran-Iraq War (1980–1988) was

- A. A brief border skirmish that ended in a clear victory for the Iraqi armed forces
- B. A successful war of liberation in which Iraq freed Iran from Western interference
- C. An unprovoked Iranian invasion that conquered most of the Iraqi oil-producing regions
- D. A prolonged conflict marked by trench warfare and the use of chemical weapons by Iraq

24. The Persian Gulf War of 1991 was launched in response to

- A. The Iranian seizure of American diplomatic personnel at the Tehran embassy
- B. Iraq's invasion and annexation of neighboring Kuwait under Saddam Hussein's leadership
- C. A Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan that threatened oil supplies
- D. The collapse of the Lebanese government and the resulting regional instability

25. The September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks against the United States were carried out by

- A. Al-Qaeda operatives directed by Osama bin Laden from sanctuary in Afghanistan
- B. Iraqi agents acting under the direct orders of dictator Saddam Hussein
- C. Iranian Revolutionary Guards seeking revenge for the Persian Gulf War defeat
- D. The Taliban government of Afghanistan acting as an official state actor

26. The Arab Spring uprisings that began in 2010–2011 resulted in

- A. The establishment of stable democratic governments across the entire Arab-speaking Middle East region
- B. The restoration of monarchical rule in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, and Syria simultaneously
- C. Mixed outcomes including the fall of dictators in some nations and civil war in others
- D. The peaceful unification of the entire Arab-speaking world under a single elected president

27. The 2015 Paris Climate Agreement committed signatory nations to

- A. Immediately ending all use of coal, oil, and natural gas across the global economy
- B. A binding international tax on carbon emissions enforced by United Nations courts
- C. Voluntary national targets to limit greenhouse gas emissions and global temperature rise
- D. The construction of nuclear power plants in every developed nation by the year 2030

28. The 1947 Partition of British India is most associated with

- A. The peaceful and orderly separation of India and Pakistan into two equal democracies
- B. Massive population transfers and widespread communal violence between Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs
- C. The creation of a single multi-religious state across the entire South Asian subcontinent
- D. The continued British administration of both India and the newly created state of Pakistan

29. The 1937 Nanjing Massacre (Rape of Nanking) was carried out by

- A. Communist Chinese forces during the civil war against the Nationalist Party
- B. Soviet forces occupying the Chinese capital after the defeat of Imperial Japan
- C. American bombers during the strategic air campaign against the Japanese home islands
- D. Imperial Japanese troops during their invasion and occupation of Nationalist China

30. The Second Industrial Revolution of the late 19th century was distinguished from the first by its emphasis on

- A. Steel, electricity, chemicals, and the internal combustion engine over textiles and steam
- B. Hand-crafted artisan production replacing earlier factory and assembly-line manufacturing
- C. The decline of fossil fuels in favor of renewable wind and water power across Europe
- D. Returning industrial production to small rural workshops scattered throughout the countryside

31. The Boer War (1899–1902) was fought in southern Africa between

- A. Two rival groups of indigenous African peoples competing for diamond fields
- B. The British Empire and Dutch-descended Afrikaner settlers known as the Boers
- C. The Portuguese Empire and the Belgian Congo over rubber-producing colonial territory
- D. The German colonial administration and the British Royal Navy off the African coast

32. The Boxer Rebellion (1899–1901) in China was
- A. A peasant uprising led by communist organizers against the imperial government
 - B. A military coup by reformist generals seeking to modernize the Qing Dynasty
 - C. A successful war that expelled all foreign powers from Chinese soil for decades
 - D. An anti-foreign and anti-Christian movement that was suppressed by foreign powers
33. Women's suffrage movements in the early 20th century achieved voting rights through
- A. Decades of organized protest, civil disobedience, and lobbying by activists worldwide
 - B. A single international treaty signed at the League of Nations in the year 1920
 - C. United Nations resolutions passed shortly after the conclusion of World War II
 - D. Court rulings issued by an international tribunal on women's political rights
34. Fidel Castro's 1959 Cuban Revolution overthrew the regime of
- A. Manuel Noriega and turned Cuba into a close ally of the Spanish monarchy
 - B. Juan Perón and aligned the Cuban government closely with neighboring Argentina
 - C. Fulgencio Batista and aligned Cuba politically with the Soviet Union during the Cold War
 - D. Salvador Allende and created a democratic socialist government in the Caribbean
35. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 led directly to
- A. A negotiated peace treaty between Japan and the United States within a few weeks
 - B. The United States declaring war on Japan and formally entering World War II
 - C. The immediate withdrawal of Japanese forces from China and Southeast Asia
 - D. A Soviet declaration of war against Japan in support of the American position

PRACTICE EXAM 9: ANSWERS AND EXPLANATION

- 1. C** — Baron de Montesquieu, who described this structure in *The Spirit of the Laws*. Published in 1748, Montesquieu's work argued that liberty is best protected by dividing government into separate branches that check one another. This concept became the foundation of the U.S. Constitution's three-branch system and most modern democratic constitutions.
- 2. A** — Produced the first successful slave revolt and independent Black republic in the world. Led initially by Toussaint L'Ouverture and completed under Jean-Jacques Dessalines, enslaved Africans defeated French, Spanish, and British forces to declare independence in 1804. Haiti's success terrified slaveholding societies throughout the Americas and inspired abolitionist movements worldwide.
- 3. A** — Opening call for Mexican independence from Spanish colonial rule and authority. On September 16, 1810, Father Hidalgo rang the church bell in Dolores and delivered a speech that mobilized peasants and Indigenous people to revolt against Spanish rule. Although Hidalgo was captured and executed in 1811, his Grito launched the eleven-year struggle that ended with Mexican independence in 1821.
- 4. D** — China being forced to grant trading concessions, extraterritoriality, and Hong Kong to Britain. The Treaty of Nanjing (1842) and the Treaty of Tianjin (1858) opened Chinese ports to British trade, gave Westerners immunity from Chinese law, and ceded Hong Kong. These "unequal treaties" began China's "century of humiliation" and weakened the Qing Dynasty.
- 5. B** — Gain greater Indian participation in the British colonial government and civil service. Founded by middle-class, English-educated Indians, the Congress initially petitioned Britain for political reforms within the empire rather than independence. Only after decades of frustration — and under Gandhi's leadership after World War I — did Congress shift toward demanding full independence.
- 6. C** — Ottoman Empire against its Armenian Christian minority population during World War I. Beginning in April 1915, Ottoman authorities arrested Armenian leaders and forcibly deported the Armenian population, killing an estimated 1.5 million through massacres, starvation, and death marches into the Syrian desert. The Armenian Genocide is widely considered the first modern genocide and shaped Raphael Lemkin's later development of the term.
- 7. B** — The abdication of Czar Nicholas II and the creation of a Provisional Government. Strikes, bread riots, and military mutinies in Petrograd forced Nicholas II to step down, ending three centuries of Romanov rule. The moderate Provisional Government took power but continued World War I, setting the stage for the Bolshevik takeover later that year.
- 8. D** — One-party rule, extreme nationalism, suppression of opposition, and state corporatism. After the March on Rome in 1922, Mussolini consolidated power by banning opposition parties, censoring the press, and organizing the economy into state-controlled "corporations" of employers and workers. Fascism's emphasis on nationalism, militarism, and a strong leader served as the model for Hitler's Nazi Party and other interwar dictatorships.
- 9. C** — Western appeasement of Adolf Hitler that allowed German expansion to continue. British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and French Premier Daladier agreed to let Germany annex the Sudetenland

region of Czechoslovakia in exchange for Hitler's promise of "peace for our time." Hitler broke the agreement within months by seizing the rest of Czechoslovakia, demonstrating that appeasement only emboldened further aggression.

10. A — Individual leaders can be held personally accountable for ordering crimes against humanity. The Allied tribunal rejected the defense that defendants were "just following orders" and convicted high-ranking Nazi officials for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and crimes against peace. Nuremberg established the precedent for later international tribunals, including those for Yugoslavia, Rwanda, and the permanent International Criminal Court.

11. D — Collective military alliance of Western nations directed against Soviet expansion in Europe. Founded by the United States, Canada, and ten Western European nations, NATO's Article 5 declared that an attack on any member would be considered an attack on all. The alliance was created to deter Soviet aggression and remained the cornerstone of Western Cold War strategy.

12. B — An armistice that left Korea divided near the 38th parallel as it had been before. After three years of fighting and massive casualties, the 1953 armistice established the Korean Demilitarized Zone roughly along the prewar border. No formal peace treaty was ever signed, and Korea remains divided today between communist North Korea and democratic South Korea.

13. B — Allow newly independent nations to remain neutral between the United States and Soviet Union. Led by Indonesia's Sukarno, India's Nehru, Egypt's Nasser, and Yugoslavia's Tito, the movement gave developing nations a third path during the Cold War. Non-aligned states sought economic development and political sovereignty without committing to either superpower bloc.

14. A — Catastrophic famine that killed tens of millions of Chinese peasants and rural workers. Mao's attempt to leap into communism through forced collectivization, backyard steel furnaces, and unrealistic grain quotas destroyed Chinese agriculture between 1959 and 1961. The resulting famine killed an estimated 30 to 45 million people in one of the deadliest disasters of the twentieth century.

15. C — Decline of European colonial power and the rising influence of the superpowers. When Egypt's Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal, Britain, France, and Israel invaded — only to be forced to withdraw under pressure from both the United States and the Soviet Union. The crisis marked the end of Britain and France as great imperial powers and confirmed that the U.S. and USSR now dominated world affairs.

16. D — Warsaw Pact forces led by the Soviet Union invaded and crushed the reform movement. In August 1968, Soviet, Polish, East German, Hungarian, and Bulgarian troops invaded Czechoslovakia and ended Alexander Dubček's attempt to create "socialism with a human face." The invasion was justified under the Brezhnev Doctrine, which asserted the Soviet right to intervene in any communist state moving away from Moscow.

17. A — Arab opposition to Western support for Israel during the Yom Kippur War. After Egypt and Syria attacked Israel in October 1973 and the United States resupplied Israeli forces, Arab OPEC members cut oil production and embargoed shipments to the U.S. and other Western nations. The embargo quadrupled oil prices, triggered global recession, and demonstrated the economic power of resource-producing nations.

18. D — An independent trade union that challenged communist authority and inspired reform. Founded in 1980 at the Gdańsk shipyard under electrician Lech Wałęsa, Solidarity grew to nearly 10 million members and forced the government to recognize an independent union for the first time in any Warsaw Pact country. Despite martial law and repression in 1981, Solidarity survived and won Poland's first partly free elections in 1989, helping trigger the collapse of communism across Eastern Europe.

19. C — Reform the Soviet political system through openness and economic restructuring of the state. Glasnost ("openness") allowed unprecedented public criticism of the government and exposure of past abuses, while perestroika ("restructuring") attempted to introduce limited market mechanisms into the planned economy. Gorbachev intended to save Soviet socialism, but the reforms instead unleashed forces that brought down the USSR in 1991.

20. B — A series of ethnic conflicts including genocide against Bosnian Muslims at Srebrenica. As Yugoslavia disintegrated, wars erupted in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and later Kosovo, marked by ethnic cleansing and atrocities. The July 1995 massacre of more than 8,000 Bosniak men and boys at Srebrenica by Bosnian Serb forces was ruled a genocide by international tribunals.

21. A — Mao's mobilization of Red Guards to purge intellectuals and traditional culture. Seeking to reassert his power and eliminate "bourgeois" influences, Mao called on young radicals to attack teachers, party officials, religious sites, and historic artifacts. The decade of upheaval shut down universities, killed hundreds of thousands, and left China deeply scarred until Mao's death in 1976.

22. C — Market-oriented economic reforms and foreign investment while maintaining communist political control. Deng's "socialism with Chinese characteristics" decollectivized farms, created Special Economic Zones along the coast, and welcomed foreign capital and technology, transforming China into a major economic power. Political control remained tightly held by the Communist Party, a pattern reinforced by the 1989 Tiananmen crackdown.

23. D — A prolonged conflict marked by trench warfare and the use of chemical weapons by Iraq. Saddam Hussein's 1980 invasion bogged down into eight years of inconclusive combat resembling World War I, with both sides suffering enormous casualties. Iraq's use of mustard gas and nerve agents against Iranian troops and Kurdish civilians remains one of the most extensive uses of chemical weapons since 1918.

24. B — Iraq's invasion and annexation of neighboring Kuwait under Saddam Hussein's leadership. After Iraq overran Kuwait in August 1990, the United States assembled a 35-nation coalition authorized by the United Nations to liberate the country. Operation Desert Storm expelled Iraqi forces within six weeks and restored Kuwaiti sovereignty, though Saddam Hussein remained in power.

25. A — Al-Qaeda operatives directed by Osama bin Laden from sanctuary in Afghanistan. Nineteen hijackers crashed four planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a Pennsylvania field, killing nearly 3,000 people. The Taliban's refusal to hand over bin Laden led to the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan and launched the broader "War on Terror."

26. C — Mixed outcomes including the fall of dictators in some nations and civil war in others. Tunisia's revolution produced a transition toward democracy, Egypt overthrew Mubarak but returned to military rule, Libya descended into prolonged civil conflict after Gaddafi's fall, and Syria became a catastrophic

civil war that has displaced millions. The Arab Spring demonstrated both the power of popular uprisings and the difficulty of building stable democratic governments.

27. C — Voluntary national targets to limit greenhouse gas emissions and global temperature rise. Each signatory submitted its own "nationally determined contribution" with the collective goal of holding warming well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels. The agreement marked the first time nearly all nations — developed and developing — committed to emissions reductions, though enforcement depends on national political will.

28. B — Massive population transfers and widespread communal violence between Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs. The hasty British withdrawal and the drawing of borders by Sir Cyril Radcliffe triggered the migration of roughly 15 million people across the new India-Pakistan boundary. Communal massacres killed an estimated one to two million people and created lasting hostility between the two nations, including disputes over Kashmir that continue today.

29. D — Imperial Japanese troops during their invasion and occupation of Nationalist China. After capturing the Nationalist capital in December 1937, Japanese soldiers carried out six weeks of mass murder, rape, and looting that killed an estimated 200,000 to 300,000 Chinese civilians and prisoners of war. The atrocity remains a central source of Sino-Japanese tension and was prosecuted at the Tokyo War Crimes Trials after World War II.

30. A — Steel, electricity, chemicals, and the internal combustion engine over textiles and steam. The first Industrial Revolution was built on cotton textiles, coal, and steam engines; the second introduced Bessemer steel, electrical generation, synthetic chemicals, petroleum, and the automobile. This wave of innovation transformed Germany and the United States into industrial leaders rivaling Britain by 1900.

31. B — The British Empire and Dutch-descended Afrikaner settlers known as the Boers. Britain sought to control the gold and diamond wealth of the Transvaal and Orange Free State, leading to war with the Boer republics. Britain eventually won but at enormous cost, including the use of concentration camps where tens of thousands of Boer women and children died of disease and malnutrition.

32. D — An anti-foreign and anti-Christian movement that was suppressed by foreign powers. The Society of Righteous and Harmonious Fists ("Boxers") attacked Chinese Christians, foreign missionaries, and diplomats, besieging foreign legations in Beijing. An eight-nation alliance of European, American, and Japanese troops crushed the rebellion and imposed the Boxer Protocol, further weakening Qing authority and accelerating revolutionary sentiment.

33. A — Decades of organized protest, civil disobedience, and lobbying by activists worldwide. Suffragists including Emmeline Pankhurst in Britain and Susan B. Anthony in the U.S. organized petitions, marches, and hunger strikes from the mid-1800s onward. Most Western nations granted women the vote between 1893 (New Zealand) and 1944 (France), with progress driven by national activist movements rather than any single international event.

34. C — Fulgencio Batista and aligned Cuba politically with the Soviet Union during the Cold War. Castro's guerrilla movement toppled the U.S.-backed Batista dictatorship on January 1, 1959, and within

two years Castro had nationalized American businesses and declared Cuba a socialist state. The alliance with Moscow led directly to the Bay of Pigs invasion (1961) and the Cuban Missile Crisis (1962).

35. B — The United States declaring war on Japan and formally entering World War II. The surprise attack killed over 2,400 Americans and destroyed much of the Pacific Fleet, ending U.S. isolationism. Congress declared war on Japan the next day, and Germany and Italy declared war on the U.S. days later, drawing America fully into the global conflict.