

International Academic Competitions

Ancient History Examination Asian Championships 2023

Name _____

School _____

Age _____

Instructions – Mark your answers on the scantron provided. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points. Write the answer to your tiebreaker question on the back of your scantron.

1. Qin Shi Huang, the legendary first emperor of China, is considered the founder of what dynasty?

- A. Han Dynasty
- B. Qin Dynasty
- C. Tang Dynasty
- D. Ming Dynasty

2. Who was the Hellenistic queen of Egypt known for her political alliances and relationships with Julius Caesar and Mark Antony?

- A. Cleopatra
- B. Athena
- C. Hera
- D. Artemis

3. What peasant revolt against the Eastern Han Dynasty was named for the colorful headwear of its participants?

- A. Greek Cloak
- B. Red Hat
- C. Yellow Turban
- D. White Pants

4. The Dionysia festivals in ancient Greece were competitions that featured what type of literary performances?

- A. wrestling
- B. singing
- C. marathons
- D. plays

5. Which of these was a sports stadium in ancient Rome and is a famous landmark in the city today?

- A. the Colosseum
- B. the Pantheon
- C. the Roman Forum
- D. Roman aqueducts

6. The ancient civilization in the Indus River Valley flourished in the Bronze Age in what modern-day nation?

- A. Russia
- B. Pakistan
- C. China
- D. Egypt

7. The 50,000 year old Indigenous Australian rock art of the Kimberly region depicts the throwing of what tool in hunting animals?

- A. boomerang
- B. lance
- C. scythe
- D. crossbow

8. What modern day Iraqi capital became a center of scientific and cultural innovation during the Abbasids' Golden Age of Islam?

- A. Kuwait City
- B. Amman
- C. Manama
- D. Baghdad

9. What legendary king of ancient Mesopotamia is known for his code of laws that influenced subsequent legal systems?

- A. Gilgamesh
- B. Nebuchadnezzar II
- C. Hammurabi
- D. Ashurbanipal

10. The Delhi Sultanate, which ruled India during the Medieval period, subscribed to what religious tradition?

- A. Jainism
- B. Islam
- C. Hinduism
- D. Christianity

11. What ancient Chinese philosopher and namesake of a philosophical school emphasized moral values and filial piety?

- A. Laozi
- B. Sun Tzu
- C. Confucius
- D. Mencius

12. Between 499 and 449 BCE, the Greek city-states fought a war against what neighboring empire?

- A. Persia
- B. Rome
- C. Egypt
- D. Gaul

13. Minamoto no Yoritomo established which of these in 1192 after his victory in the Genpei War?

- A. the Meiji Restoration
- B. the Kamakura Shogunate
- C. the Heian Period
- D. the Showa Period

14. What Greek philosopher and author of Poetics was the tutor of Alexander the Great?
- Zeno
 - Nicomachus
 - Aristotle
 - Philip
15. Most of the gladiators were of what Roman social class?
- citizens
 - patricians
 - slaves
 - priests
16. Who was the founder of Buddhism, born in the sixth century BCE in present-day Nepal?
- Chandragupta
 - Cyrus
 - Siddhartha Gautama
 - Herod
17. Which of the following was built as a Hindu temple by Khmer King Suryavarman II in the 12th century CE?
- Hagia Sophia
 - Angkor Wat
 - Tewahedo Church
 - Blue Mosque
18. Which ancient Egyptian pharaoh is known for the transition to monotheism, focusing on the worship of Aten?
- Akhenaten
 - Thutmose III
 - Amenhotep III
 - Seti I
19. Howard Carter discovered the tomb of what Egyptian pharaoh in the 1920s?
- Ptolemy
 - Tutankhamun
 - Djoser
 - Narmer
20. The Epic of Sundiata tells the story of Sundiata Keita who founded what West African empire?
- Seleucid Empire
 - Kushan Empire
 - Ptolemaic Dynasty
 - Mali Empire
21. The Baekje kingdom introduced what religion to Korea in the 4th century CE?
- Hinduism
 - Buddhism
 - Judaism
 - Christianity
22. Which of these is often considered the end of the Western Roman Empire?
- the assassination of Julius Caesar
 - the eruption of Mount Vesuvius
 - the sack of Constantinople by the Ottomans in 1453
 - the sack of Rome by the Visigoths in 410
23. Which of these began the establishment of the Mongol Empire in the late 12th century CE?
- Batu Khan
 - Kublai Khan
 - Genghis Khan
 - Ogedei Khan
24. Alexander the Great defeated Porus at the Battle of the Hydaspes in the Punjab region of what modern-day country?
- Nepal
 - Pakistan
 - Bangladesh
 - Sri Lanka
25. Herodotus is considered the 'father' of what academic subject, partly due to his account of the Greco-Persian Wars?
- geometry
 - algebra
 - history
 - philosophy
26. The Indian board game called chaturanga, invented during the 6th century CE, is most likely the precursor of what modern game?
- poker
 - checkers
 - chess
 - Monopoly
27. The famous ancient library of Alexandria, known as a center of scholarship and knowledge, was located in which modern-day country?
- Turkey
 - Greece
 - Egypt
 - Russia
28. What pharaoh of ancient Egypt was known for his military campaigns, including the Battle of Kadesh against the Hittites?
- Tutankhamun
 - Ramses the Great
 - Cleopatra
 - Hatshepsut
29. Which of these is the ancient Egyptian deity associated with the sun, creation, and pharaohs?
- Osiris
 - Ra
 - Horus
 - Anubis

30. The gold and salt trade that connected the ancient empires of West Africa to the Middle East was named for which of the following?
- Sahara Desert
 - Lake Victoria
 - Kalambo Falls
 - Kalahari Desert
31. Who was the first emperor of Japan, considered a legendary figure in Japanese history?
- Emperor Meiji
 - Emperor Shōwa
 - Emperor Taizong
 - Emperor Jimmu
32. Linear A was the script used for which of these languages of ancient Greece?
- Latin
 - Hebrew
 - Minoan
 - Etruscan
33. The Battle of Red Cliffs in the early 3rd century CE took place on what major Chinese river?
- Mekong
 - Irrawaddy
 - Indus
 - Yangtze
34. Who was the first emperor of Rome?
- Augustus
 - Caligula
 - Nero
 - Tiberius
35. Which city-state was known for its military prowess and for its agoge education system for male citizens?
- Thebes
 - Sparta
 - Argos
 - Mycenae
36. Which ancient South Asian kingdom, located in present-day Tamil Nadu, was known for its maritime trade and naval power?
- the Mughal Empire
 - the Chola Empire
 - the Achaemenid Empire
 - the Nabatean Kingdom
37. The ancient city of Susa that served as the capital of Elam and the Achaemenid Empire is in what modern day nation?
- China
 - Morocco
 - Iran
 - Georgia
38. The Almoravids and Almohads that conquered al-Andalus were empires founded by what North African ethnic groups?
- Tatars
 - Berbers
 - Afghans
 - Timurids
39. What Iranian religion that dates back to the 6th century BCE is widely regarded as the world's first monotheistic faith?
- Daoism
 - Shintoism
 - Hinduism
 - Zoroastrianism
40. The city-states of Kilwa, Malindi, and Zanzibar were collectively named for what Bantu language that includes Arabic words?
- Lycian
 - Cantonese
 - Swahili
 - French
41. Which ancient Chinese dynasty is credited with inventing paper, gunpowder, and the compass?
- Han Dynasty
 - Song Dynasty
 - Zhou Dynasty
 - Yuan Dynasty
42. The 'Dorian Invasion' may have caused the fall of what ancient Greek civilization?
- the Roman Republic
 - the Mycenaeans
 - the Persian empire
 - the Macedonians
43. The Inca Empire settled along what western mountain range of South America?
- Alps
 - Himalayas
 - Andes Mountains
 - Rocky Mountains
44. Which Carthaginian general famously fought against Rome in the Second Punic War?
- Hannibal
 - Scipio Africanus
 - Clodius Metellus
 - Marcus Agrippa
45. Who was the ancient Greek mathematician and philosopher known for his theorem on right-angled triangles?
- Pythagoras
 - Euclid
 - Archimedes
 - Hippocrates

46. What kingdom, located in present-day Sri Lanka, was a major center of Buddhist culture and played a significant role in the spread of Buddhism to Southeast Asia?
- Pandya Kingdom
 - Delhi Sultanate
 - Umayyad Caliphate
 - Abbasid Caliphate
47. Mesopotamian civilizations settled in the northern part of the Fertile Crescent between what two rivers?
- Tigris and Euphrates
 - Thames and Ob
 - Nile and Indus
 - Zambezi and Guarani
48. The tomb of Khufu is contained within what iconic Egyptian landmark?
- the Sphinx
 - the Valley of the Kings
 - the Great Pyramid of Giza
 - the Temple of Karnak
49. The civilization of ancient Egypt emerged along the banks of which river?
- Nile River
 - Tigris River
 - Euphrates River
 - Jordan River
50. The Muslim conquest of North Africa in the 7th century CE standardized trade in the area with the introduction of what animal?
- guinea pig
 - camel
 - llama
 - sheep
51. Which influential Chinese military strategist is credited with writing "The Art of War"?
- Sun Tzu
 - Liu Bang
 - Du Fu
 - Li Bai
52. Which of these men is considered the 'father of Athenian democracy'?
- Archimedes
 - Cleisthenes
 - Pythagoras
 - Xerxes
53. The Maya civilization used astronomy to develop which of the following to measure time?
- a calendar
 - a compass
 - an aqueduct
 - a battery
54. What was the Pax Romana?
- a period of peace and stability in the early Roman Empire
 - a slave revolt in the early Republic
 - the period of the rise of Christianity
 - the fall of the Western Roman Empire
55. The Hellenistic period refers to the time after the death of which Macedonian ruler?
- Alexander the Great
 - Pericles
 - Julius Caesar
 - Ptolemy
56. Which ancient Indian epic, attributed to the sage Vyasa, tells the story of the prince Arjuna and his divine charioteer Krishna?
- Ramayana
 - Iliad
 - Odyssey
 - Mahabharata
57. What second caliphate established after the death of the prophet Muhammad was toppled by the Abbasids in 750 CE?
- Mughals
 - Majapahit
 - Xhosa
 - Umayyads
58. Which ancient civilization developed cuneiform writing and built the city of Babylon?
- Sumerians
 - Egyptians
 - Persians
 - Greeks
59. The ancient city of Machu Picchu, known for its impressive stone architecture and scenic location, was built by which civilization?
- Aztecs
 - Incas
 - Polynesians
 - Cherokee
60. The latte stones founded throughout the Mariana Islands are attributed to what indigenous peoples?
- Chamorros
 - Mycenaeans
 - Sumerians
 - Toltecs
61. Which ancient Japanese capital, modeled after the Tang Dynasty's capital of Chang'an, was known for its grid-like street layout?
- Tokyo
 - Nara
 - Kamakura
 - Heian-kyo (Kyoto)

62. The 'Crisis of the Third Century' in the Roman Empire ended with which of these men as emperor?
- A. Julius Caesar
 - B. Mark Antony
 - C. Cicero
 - D. Diocletian
63. What Mesoamerican civilization sculpted colossal stone heads from basalt boulders?
- A. Inuit
 - B. Olmec
 - C. Minoan
 - D. Nubia
64. What was the official language of the Roman Empire?
- A. Greek
 - B. Latin
 - C. Aramaic
 - D. Sanskrit
65. What site in ancient Greece was known for its famous Pythian oracle and was believed by many Greeks to be the center of the world?
- A. Rhodes
 - B. Olympia
 - C. Crete
 - D. Delphi
66. Noblewoman Murasaki Shikibu wrote the world's first novel, the Tale of Genji, in 1010 during what Japanese classical period?
- A. Muromachi
 - B. Heian
 - C. Meiji
 - D. Edo
67. Which of these did Attalus III of Pergamon do with the city when he died without an heir in 133 BCE?
- A. burned it and forced its inhabitants to flee
 - B. left it as a gift to the Roman Republic
 - C. invited the Ptolemaic dynasty to take over, despite his hatred for the family
 - D. made it a democracy ruled by its citizens
68. The end of the Genpei War brought about the Kamakura period in which Japanese military dictators adopted which of the following titles?
- A. shogun
 - B. emperor
 - C. khan
 - D. sultan
69. Based on historical accounts and archaeological evidence, which of these is the most likely period for the migration of the Angles, Saxons and other Germanic groups to England?
- A. 150 to 250 CE
 - B. 250 to 350 CE
 - C. 350 to 400 CE
 - D. after 400 CE
70. The Neolithic earthwork structures at Göbekli Tepe predate the more famous monument of the same type located at which of these places?
- A. Skara Brae
 - B. Jericho
 - C. Gesher
 - D. Stonehenge
71. The formation and development of the Great Seljuk Empire in the 11th century CE helped further which of these processes in Anatolia and the surrounding area?
- A. Christianization
 - B. Islamification
 - C. Turkification
 - D. economic decline and collapse
72. In the 3rd century BCE the Roman Republic fought a major conflict with Pyrrhus, a leader of what kingdom?
- A. Carthage
 - B. Syracuse
 - C. Epirus
 - D. Macedonia
73. Inca leader Topa Inca Yupanqui was notable for which of these achievements in the 15th century?
- A. invention of the 'ballgame'
 - B. ending the practice of human sacrifice
 - C. founding the city of Cusco
 - D. conquest of Inca rivals like Chimor and the Mapuche people
74. In the 7th century BCE, King Esarhaddon of the Neo-Assyrian Empire defeated a coalition of groups including the Cimmerians and what other nomadic Iranian group that originated on the Eurasian Steppe?
- A. Scythians
 - B. Goths
 - C. Slavs
 - D. Ossetians

75. Which of these was NOT main contributing factor to the decline of the Gupta Empire in the 6th century CE?

- A. a major flood in the middle of the 6th century
- B. an invasion by the Alchon Huns
- C. the persecution of Buddhists and destruction of monasteries
- D. incursions by Muslims through the Khyber Pass

Tiebreaker

This question will only be scored if there is a tie for placement on the exam. There is no penalty for a wrong answer to this question. Write your answer legibly on the back of your scantron.

According to research from Stanford University on the geographical extent of the Roman Empire in the year 100 CE, how many days would the fastest journey departing Londinium in January take to reach Constantinople?