



Recent History Examination IAC Asian Championships 2026 Varsity / Junior Varsity Division

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 in the box at the top of your scantron.

1. What global solidarity campaign, which went viral in October 2017, encouraged survivors to share experiences of sexual harassment?

- A. #MeToo movement
- B. Women's March
- C. #BlackLivesMatter
- D. Time's Up movement

2. Which longtime Zimbabwean president, who had ruled since 1980, was ousted in a coup in November 2017?

- A. Idi Amin
- B. Robert Mugabe
- C. Muammar Gaddafi
- D. Jacob Zuma

3. What 2017 hurricane caused catastrophic damage across Puerto Rico, leaving much of the island without power for months?

- A. Hurricane Dorian
- B. Hurricane Harvey
- C. Hurricane Irma
- D. Hurricane Maria

4. Which former Brazilian president was convicted of corruption in 2017 but returned to power in 2023?

- A. Dilma Rousseff
- B. Claudia Sheinbaum
- C. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva
- D. Michel Temer

5. Which Central American country saw thousands of migrants form large northward 'caravans' toward the U.S. border starting in 2018, fleeing gang violence and poverty?

- A. Colombia
- B. Cuba
- C. Panama
- D. Honduras

6. Which of these, which began as a photo sharing app, launched in 2010 and was acquired by Facebook for approximately \$1 billion in 2012?

- A. Instagram
- B. Pinterest
- C. Tumblr
- D. Snapchat

7. Which Barbadian singer of 'Diamonds' and 'Umbrella' headlined the Super Bowl LVII halftime show in February 2023, her first major live performance in seven years?

- A. Rihanna
- B. Cardi B
- C. Nicki Minaj
- D. Beyoncé

8. What prestige HBO drama that premiered in 2019 depicted the power struggles of a fictional right-wing media dynasty?

- A. Yellowstone
- B. Succession
- C. Veep
- D. Billions

9. A 2011 famine which claimed over 250,000 deaths was centered on the southern part of what East African nation?

- A. Somalia
- B. Namibia
- C. Morocco
- D. Tanzania

10. Which New Zealand prime minister became only the second elected world leader to give birth while in office in June 2018?

- A. Helen Clark
- B. Jenny Shipley
- C. Jacinda Ardern
- D. Judith Collins

11. Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 disappeared on a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing in 2014 over what body of water?

- A. Mediterranean Sea
- B. Aegean Sea
- C. Atlantic Ocean
- D. Indian Ocean

12. Which Israeli prime minister was indicted on corruption charges in 2019, triggering a series of inconclusive elections in the country?

- A. Ehud Olmert
- B. Benjamin Netanyahu
- C. Ariel Sharon
- D. Ehud Barak

13. Which messaging and video-calling platform saw its user numbers increase dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic?

- A. Skype
- B. Discord
- C. Zoom
- D. Google Meet

14. Which 2014 film directed by Richard Linklater, shot over 12 years with the same cast, won the Academy Award for Best Director?

- A. The Iron Giant
- B. Boyhood
- C. Moonlight
- D. Avengers: Endgame

15. Which of these events was held in South America for the first time in Brazil in 2016?

- A. the Eurovision Song Contest
- B. the Summer Olympics
- C. the Super Bowl
- D. the World Cup

16. Which British singer's 2015 album '25' produced the hit song 'Hello' and became one of the best-selling albums of the decade?

- A. Adele
- B. Beyoncé
- C. Amy Winehouse
- D. Rihanna

17. A 2019 fire devastated what medieval cathedral in Paris, prompting an outpouring of grief and pledges to fund its reconstruction?

- A. Sacré-Cœur
- B. Basilique Saint-Denis
- C. Notre-Dame de Paris
- D. Chartres Cathedral

18. Which global environmental campaign, founded in 1970 and held annually on April 22, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2020?

- A. World Planet Day
- B. Earth Day
- C. Climate Action Day
- D. Recycling Hour

19. In the mid-2010s, Europe experienced a migrant crisis when hundreds of thousands of refugees fled the civil war in what Middle Eastern nation?

- A. Egypt
- B. Syria
- C. Israel
- D. Saudi Arabia

20. Which Swedish climate activist founded the Fridays for Future school strike movement in 2018?

- A. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
- B. Vanessa Nakate
- C. Autumn Peltier
- D. Greta Thunberg

21. Which generative AI chatbot, released by OpenAI in November 2022, became the fastest application in history to reach 100 million users?

- A. ChatGPT
- B. Claude
- C. Google Bard
- D. Bing Chat

22. Curiosity and Opportunity are NASA rovers that have explored the surface of which of the following?

- A. Mars
- B. the Moon
- C. Venus
- D. Pluto

23. Which 2017 Disney-Pixar film about a boy who enters the 'Land of the Dead' became the highest-grossing film in Mexican box office history?

- A. Brave
- B. Moana
- C. Beauty and the Beast
- D. Coco

24. The 2009 flu pandemic caused by the H1N1 variant is commonly named for which of these common animals?

- A. bald eagles
- B. swine or pigs
- C. hippopotamus
- D. zebra

25. Which liberal Vermont senator ran a 2016 presidential primary campaign, winning 23 states and popularizing the phrase 'political revolution'?

- A. Joe Biden
- B. Martin O'Malley
- C. Elizabeth Warren
- D. Bernie Sanders

26. Abiy Ahmed won a 2019 Nobel Peace Prize for helping to end a conflict between what two African nations?

- A. Egypt and South Africa
- B. Tanzania and Morocco
- C. Ethiopia and Eritrea
- D. Zimbabwe and Tunisia

27. Which South African leader and anti-apartheid activist, who died in 2013, became the president in 1994?

- A. Desmond Tutu
- B. Nelson Mandela
- C. Cyril Ramaphosa
- D. Thabo Mbeki

28. Which Pakistani-born politician made history in 2016 by becoming the first Muslim elected mayor of London?

- A. Boris Johnson
- B. David Cameron
- C. Benazir Bhutto
- D. Sadiq Khan

29. The 2022 Inflation Reduction Act directed hundreds of billions of dollars of government funding to which of these areas?

- A. green technology and renewable energy
- B. oil exploration in the Arctic
- C. building a new canal in Panama owned by the US
- D. new nuclear weapons and a space-based missile system

30. Which cryptocurrency, created in 2009 by 'Satoshi Nakamoto', has become the world's most valuable digital currency?

- A. Ethereum
- B. Dogecoin
- C. Bitcoin
- D. Litecoin

31. Activist Narges Mohammadi, a recipient of the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize, was imprisoned by what nation for protesting compulsory hijab laws?

- A. France
- B. Spain
- C. Iran
- D. India

32. On September 14, 2001, Congress authorized the Bush administration to invade what nation in response to the 9/11 attacks?

- A. Saudi Arabia
- B. Afghanistan
- C. Iran
- D. Pakistan

33. Which boy band became the first K-pop act to reach number one on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 chart in 2020?

- A. BLACKPINK
- B. BTS
- C. TWICE
- D. EXO

34. In 2015 the Law and Justice party came to power in what European nation and controversially restructured the country's courts, triggering clashes with the EU?

- A. Poland
- B. the UK
- C. Russia
- D. Switzerland

35. Which of these people has NOT been a leader of Germany since 2000?

- A. Gerhard Schröder
- B. Friedrich Merz
- C. Liz Truss
- D. Angela Merkel

36. What network, whose shows include the news program 60 Minutes, was sued by President Trump in 2024?

- A. Fox News
- B. the BBC
- C. Newsmax
- D. CBS

37. Which Google-owned video platform, launched in 2005, became the world's dominant online video site?

- A. Vimeo
- B. Dailymotion
- C. Twitch
- D. YouTube

38. Which of these American gymnasts withdrew from several events at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics citing a mental block called 'the twisties'?

- A. Simone Biles
- B. Aly Raisman
- C. Gabby Douglas
- D. Nastia Liukin

39. Which ride-sharing startup, founded in San Francisco in 2009, was a pioneer of the smartphone-based 'gig economy'?

- A. Airbnb
- B. Expedia
- C. Uber
- D. DoorDash

40. Which federal government office was created in 2004 to oversee operations of all of the US intelligence agencies?
- A. Director of National Intelligence
 - B. FISA Court Judge
 - C. National Security Advisor
 - D. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs
41. Which of these following was defeated by George W. Bush in the presidential election of 2000?
- A. Ann Richards
 - B. Dick Cheney
 - C. Al Gore
 - D. Barack Obama
42. Which Apple product, unveiled in January 2007, transformed the smartphone industry by popularizing the touchscreen interface?
- A. iPad
 - B. iPod Touch
 - C. iPhone
 - D. MacBook Air
43. The Rana Plaza disaster, which killed over 1,100 workers at a clothing factory, took place outside of Dhaka in what Asian nation?
- A. India
 - B. Cambodia
 - C. China
 - D. Bangladesh
44. Which UN agency dedicated to global health declared the end of the West African Ebola epidemic in 2016?
- A. UNICEF
 - B. World Health Organization
 - C. Doctors Without Borders
 - D. CDC
45. The Camp Fire in November 2018 nearly destroyed the town of Paradise and became the deadliest ever fire in what US state?
- A. California
 - B. Mississippi
 - C. Louisiana
 - D. Tennessee
46. Which longtime Bolivian president was forced to resign and flee the country in November 2019 amid election fraud allegations?
- A. Nicolás Maduro
 - B. Evo Morales
 - C. Claudia Sheinbaum
 - D. Vicente Fox
47. Which North Korean dictator died in 2011 and was succeeded by his youngest son, Kim Jong-un, as leader of the country?
- A. Kim Jong-il
 - B. Syngman Rhee
 - C. Deng Xiopeng
 - D. Hu Jintao
48. Which Puerto Rican singer's 2017 track 'Despacito' helped usher in a global mainstream Latin music boom?
- A. Ozuna
 - B. Gloria Estefan
 - C. Luis Fonsi
 - D. J Balvin
49. Which Venezuelan president, who died of cancer in 2013, used oil wealth to fund social programs while moving the country away from democracy?
- A. Hugo Chávez
 - B. Che Guevara
 - C. Raul Castro
 - D. Fidel Castro
50. Which 2018 Marvel film starring Chadwick Boseman became the first superhero film nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture?
- A. Captain America: Civil War
 - B. Thor: Ragnarok
 - C. Doctor Strange
 - D. Black Panther
51. Which Pakistani activist was shot in the head by the Taliban in 2012 for championing girls' education?
- A. Benazir Bhutto
 - B. Kailash Satyarthi
 - C. Malala Yousafzai
 - D. Shirin Ebadi
52. In 2009 President Omar al-Bashir of Sudan was charged with genocide and crimes against humanity related to atrocities in which region?
- A. the Niger Delta
 - B. Darfur
 - C. the Congo Basin
 - D. the Suez Canal
53. Which Ukrainian peninsula was annexed by Russia in 2014?
- A. Nagorno-Karabakh
 - B. Transnistria
 - C. Abkhazia
 - D. Crimea

54. Which 'Eras' artist had her MTV VMAs acceptance speech famously interrupted mid-speech by Kanye West in 2009?

- A. Rihanna
- B. Katy Perry
- C. Taylor Swift
- D. Lady Gaga

55. Which US president was impeached by the House for a second time in 2021 following the January 6 incident?

- A. Donald Trump
- B. Bill Clinton
- C. Barack Obama
- D. George W. Bush

56. Which 2010 legislation, signed by President Obama, required US companies to publicly disclose CEO pay?

- A. Social Security Act of 2010
- B. Build Back Better Act
- C. Dodd-Frank Act
- D. the 'Big Beautiful Bill'

57. In 2013 the Syrian government used which of these on civilians which prompted international calls for military action against the regime?

- A. bean bag rounds
- B. rubber bullets
- C. chemical weapons
- D. nuclear weapons

58. What type of natural disaster, one of the deadliest of its kind in US history, struck Joplin, Missouri in 2011?

- A. earthquake
- B. hurricane
- C. tornado
- D. snowstorm

59. Which Spanish tennis player won his first French Open title in 2005 at age 19 and went on to win a total of 14 over his long career?

- A. Roger Federer
- B. Novak Djokovic
- C. Andy Murray
- D. Rafael Nadal

60. Terrorists attacked the national stadium at Saint-Denis and the Bataclan theater in 2015 in what European capital?

- A. Madrid
- B. London
- C. Paris
- D. Berlin

61. Which singer's 2019 album 'Thank U, Next' made her the first artist to occupy the top five spots of the Billboard Hot 100 simultaneously?

- A. Ariana Grande
- B. Olivia Rodrigo
- C. Dua Lipa
- D. Billie Eilish

62. In 2011, residents of what constituent country voted overwhelmingly to remain part of the United Kingdom?

- A. Scotland
- B. England
- C. Wales
- D. Northern Ireland

63. Which South Korean president was impeached in 2016 and removed from office in 2017 following a corruption scandal?

- A. Moon Jae-in
- B. Park Geun-hye
- C. Lee Myung-bak
- D. Roh Moo-hyun

64. Which American swimmer won eight gold medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympics?

- A. Ryan Lochte
- B. Michael Phelps
- C. Mark Spitz
- D. Ian Thorpe

65. What Arizona senator and opponent of Barack Obama in 2008, championed a 2002 campaign finance law?

- A. Barry Goldwater
- B. Tommy Tuberville
- C. Joseph McCarthy
- D. John McCain

66. Which Canadian rapper, who began his career as a child actor on Degrassi, became one of the best-selling artists of the 2010s and 2020s?

- A. Drake
- B. The Weeknd
- C. Tory Lanez
- D. Nav

67. Who led the Catholic Church as pope from 1978 to 2005 and was canonized as a saint by Pope Francis in April 2014?

- A. Pope John XXIII
- B. Pope Benedict XVI
- C. Pope John Paul II
- D. Pope Pius IX

68. Which British Prime Minister replaced David Cameron in 2016, becoming the second woman ever to lead the UK?

- A. Liz Truss
- B. Theresa May
- C. Nicola Sturgeon
- D. Jacinda Ardern

69. Pope Francis, the first leader of the Catholic church from the Americas, was from what South American nation?

- A. Colombia
- B. Argentina
- C. Brazil
- D. Guyana

70. Which Saudi journalist and Washington Post columnist was murdered inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in October 2018?

- A. Abdulaziz al-Ghuraibi
- B. Raif Badawi
- C. Mohammed al-Ghamdi
- D. Jamal Khashoggi

Tiebreaker

This question will only be scored if there is a tie for placement on the exam. **This is a required question, but there is no penalty for a wrong answer to this question.**

Write your answer legibly in the space provided on your scantron.

According to March 2026 industry estimates, how many visitors does YouTube.com get on average each day?