



BRAINIACS OLYMPIAD

HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER



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HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (GRADES 7–8)

1. Which of the following best describes the Neolithic Revolution?

- A) The development of metal tools
- B) The transition from hunting and gathering to farming
- C) The rise of the first empires
- D) The invention of writing

Answer: B) The transition from hunting and gathering to farming

2. The earliest known writing system, cuneiform, was developed by the:

- A) Egyptians
- B) Sumerians in Mesopotamia
- C) Indus Valley civilization
- D) Ancient Chinese

Answer: B) Sumerians in Mesopotamia

3. The river that supported the development of ancient Egyptian civilization was the:

- A) Tigris
- B) Nile
- C) Indus
- D) Yellow (Huang He)

Answer: B) Nile

4. The Harappan civilization was located in which river valley?

- A) Nile
- B) Tigris-Euphrates
- C) Indus
- D) Yangtze

Answer: C) Indus

5. The Great Wall of China was primarily built during which dynasty?

- A) Shang
- B) Zhou
- C) Qin
- D) Han

Answer: C) Qin

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HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (GRADES 7–8)

6. Which empire is famous for building Machu Picchu?

- A) Maya
- B) Aztec
- C) Inca
- D) Olmec

Answer: C) Inca

7. The political system where lords granted land to vassals in exchange for loyalty and military service is called:

- A) Democracy
- B) Feudalism
- C) Republic
- D) Theocracy

Answer: B) Feudalism

8. Which ancient Greek city-state is known for its military discipline?

- A) Athens
- B) Sparta
- C) Corinth
- D) Delphi

Answer: B) Sparta

9. The Roman Republic was characterized by:

- A) Rule by a king
- B) Rule by a senate and elected officials
- C) Rule by emperors
- D) Rule by military generals

Answer: B) Rule by a senate and elected officials

10. The Persian Empire was known for:

- A) Religious intolerance
- B) Cultural tolerance and respect for conquered peoples
- C) Isolationism
- D) Destroying all local cultures

Answer: B) Cultural tolerance and respect for conquered peoples

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HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (GRADES 7–8)

11. The Maurya Empire was founded by:

- A) Ashoka
- B) Chandragupta Maurya
- C) Akbar
- D) Harsha

Answer: B) Chandragupta Maurya

12. Confucianism primarily focuses on:

- A) Meditation and enlightenment
- B) Harmony in social relationships and respect for elders
- C) Strict religious rituals
- D) Rebellion against authority

Answer: B) Harmony in social relationships and respect for elders

13. The Five Pillars of Islam include all EXCEPT:

- A) Prayer
- B) Fasting
- C) Pilgrimage to Mecca
- D) Worship of ancestors

Answer: D) Worship of ancestors

14. The Byzantine Empire was the continuation of the:

- A) Roman Empire in the East
- B) Persian Empire
- C) Ottoman Empire
- D) Holy Roman Empire

Answer: A) Roman Empire in the East

15. The Crusades were:

- A) Trade missions to Africa
- B) Military campaigns by Europeans to reclaim the Holy Land
- C) Explorations of the New World
- D) Wars between Japan and China

Answer: B) Military campaigns by Europeans to reclaim the Holy Land

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HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (GRADES 7–8)

16. The Kingdom of Mali was famous for:

- A) Controlling the Silk Road
- B) Wealth from gold and salt trade
- C) Building the Great Wall of Africa
- D) Being a Greek colony

Answer: B) Wealth from gold and salt trade

17. The Renaissance was a period characterized by:

- A) Feudal warfare
- B) Revival of art, literature, and learning based on classical ideas
- C) Religious wars only
- D) Industrial development

Answer: B) Revival of art, literature, and learning based on classical ideas

18. The Reformation was started by:

- A) Martin Luther
- B) Galileo Galilei
- C) Leonardo da Vinci
- D) Henry VIII

Answer: A) Martin Luther

19. The Age of Exploration began primarily because of:

- A) The search for new trade routes to Asia
- B) The invention of the printing press
- C) The Renaissance in Italy
- D) The Crusades

Answer: A) The search for new trade routes to Asia

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HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (GRADES 7–8)

20. The Samanid State was located in:

- A) West Africa
- B) Central Asia
- C) Eastern Europe
- D) South America

Answer: B) Central Asia

21. The Holy Roman Empire was mainly located in:

- A) Italy
- B) Central Europe (modern Germany and surrounding areas)
- C) Spain
- D) Scandinavia

Answer: B) Central Europe (modern Germany and surrounding areas)

22. Which ancient Mesoamerican civilization is credited with developing a writing system and calendar?

- A) Aztec
- B) Maya
- C) Inca
- D) Olmec

Answer: B) Maya

23. Which East Asian philosophy emphasizes living in harmony with the Dao (Way)?

- A) Confucianism
- B) Daoism (Taoism)
- C) Buddhism
- D) Legalism

Answer: B) Daoism (Taoism)

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HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (GRADES 7–8)

24. The Delhi Sultanate was established in which region?

- A) Southeast Asia
- B) Northern India
- C) Persia
- D) Central Asia

Answer: B) Northern India

25. The Kushan Empire played an important role in:

- A) Spreading Buddhism along the Silk Road
- B) Developing agriculture in Africa
- C) Founding Rome
- D) Conquering Greece

Answer: A) Spreading Buddhism along the Silk Road

26. The Swahili City-States were located along the:

- A) West African coast
- B) East African coast
- C) Mediterranean Sea
- D) Indian Ocean islands

Answer: B) East African coast

27. The Timbuktu city in Mali was famous for:

- A) Its gold mines
- B) Its libraries and centers of Islamic learning
- C) Being the capital of the Byzantine Empire
- D) Its shipbuilding industry

Answer: B) Its libraries and centers of Islamic learning

28. The Delhi Sultanate was eventually replaced by which empire?

- A) Mughal Empire
- B) Maurya Empire
- C) Gupta Empire
- D) Ottoman Empire

Answer: A) Mughal Empire

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29. The primary reason for the success of the Mongol Empire was:

- A) Advanced technology and naval power
- B) Highly skilled cavalry and military tactics
- C) Large standing army of infantry
- D) Use of gunpowder weapons

Answer: B) Highly skilled cavalry and military tactics

30. The Papal States were territories in:

- A) France
- B) Italy controlled by the Pope
- C) Spain
- D) Germany

Answer: B) Italy controlled by the Pope

31. The rule of which Chinese dynasties overlap with the time period 1450-1750?

- I. Yuan
- II. Ming
- III. Qing
- IV. Song

- A) III and IV
- B) II and III
- C) I and IV
- D) II and IV
- E) I and III

Answer: B) II and III

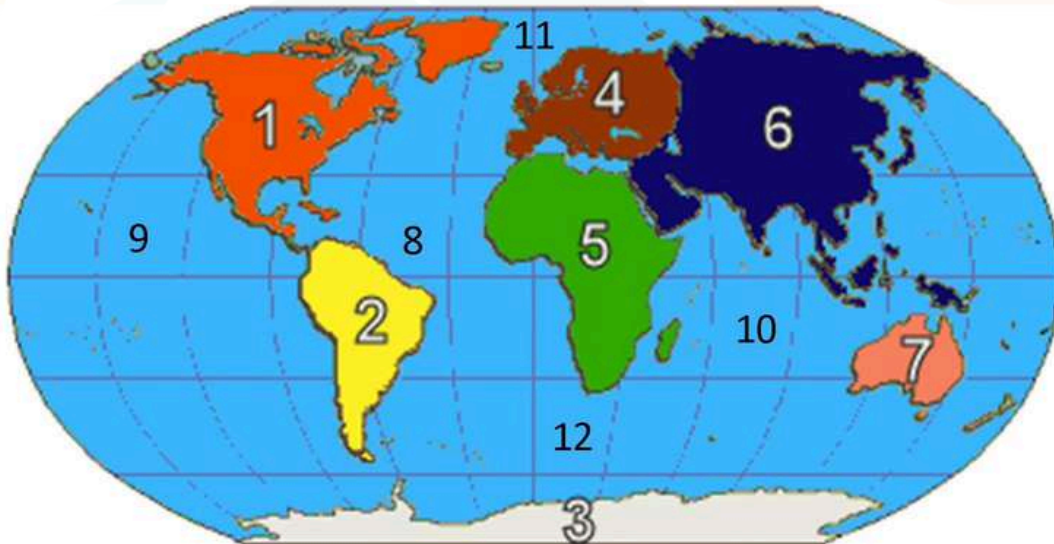
32. A developed civilization includes

- A) stable food supply
- B) a government
- C) arts
- D) education
- E) religion

Answer: A, B, C, D, E

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33. What is the name of the object by number 10?



- A) Atlantic Ocean
 - B) Indian Ocean
 - C) Pacific Ocean
 - D) Arctic Ocean
- Answer: B) Indian Ocean

34. What is the name of the object shown in the picture?

- A) Stone tools
 - B) Bronze statue
 - C) Iron sword
 - D) Terracotta figurine
- Answer: A) Stone tools



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HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (GRADES 7–8)

35. What activity is depicted in this image?

- A) Hunting
- B) Farming
- C) Trading
- D) Weaving

Answer: B) Farming



36. What civilization built the structure in the picture?

- A) Egypt
- B) Mesopotamia
- C) Indus Valley
- D) China

Answer: B) Mesopotamia



37. The monument in the picture belongs to which civilization?

- A) Ancient Greece
- B) Ancient Egypt
- C) Persia
- D) Rome

Answer: B) Ancient Egypt



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38. What ancient city is shown in the ruins below?

- A) Harappa
- B) Babylon
- C) Athens
- D) Rome

Answer: A) Harappa



39. The head sculpture in the picture represents which civilization?

- A) Maya
- B) Aztec
- C) Olmec
- D) Inca

Answer: C) Olmec



40. The obelisk shown in the picture is from which African kingdom?

- A) Kush
- B) Mali
- C) Aksum
- D) Ghana

Answer: C) Aksum



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41. What famous building is shown in the picture?

- A) Parthenon
- B) Colosseum
- C) Hagia Sophia
- D) Great Wall

Answer: A) Parthenon



42. The structure shown in the picture is located in ____?

- A) India
- B) China
- C) Rome
- D) Persia

Answer: C) Rome



43. What symbol or figure represents Buddhism in this image?

- A) Cross
- B) Crescent moon
- C) Wheel of Dharma
- D) Star of David

Answer:

C) Wheel of Dharma



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44. The church shown in the image is a famous example of Byzantine architecture. What is its name?

- A) Hagia Sophia
 - B) St. Peter's Basilica
 - C) Notre Dame
 - D) St. Basil's Cathedral
- Answer: A) Hagia Sophia



45. The map shows routes of which historical event?

- A) Silk Road
 - B) Crusades
 - C) Roman expansion
 - D) Mongol conquests
- Answer: B) Crusades



46. The architectural complex in the image is located in___?

- A) Samarkand
 - B) Bukhara
 - C) Baghdad
 - D) Isfahan
- Answer: A) Samarkand



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47. The image of the golden caravan represents which empire?

- A) Ghana
- B) Mali
- C) Songhai
- D) Great Zimbabwe

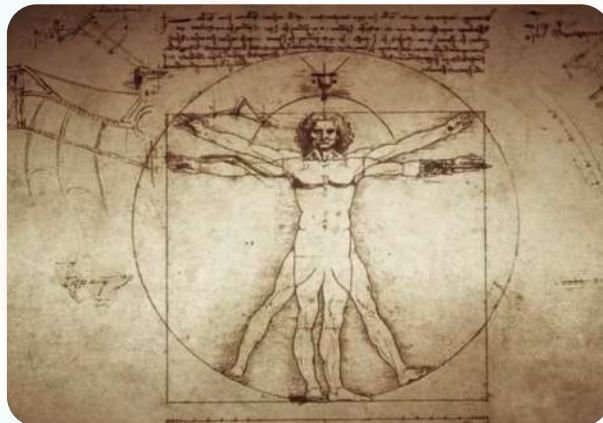
Answer: B) Mali



48. The artwork shown is typical of which European cultural period?

- A) Medieval
- B) Renaissance
- C) Baroque
- D) Modern

Answer: B) Renaissance



49. The map shows the sea route of which explorer?

- A) Christopher Columbus
- B) Vasco da Gama
- C) Ferdinand Magellan
- D) Zheng He

Answer: B) Vasco da Gama



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50. The monument in the picture represents the power of which ancient empire?

- A) Persian Empire
 - B) Greek Empire
 - C) Roman Empire
 - D) Ottoman Empire
- Answer: A) Persian Empire



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