



BRAINIACS OLYMPIAD

GRADES 11-12

HISTORY SAMPLE PAPER (MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS)



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EASY QUESTIONS (15)

1. World War II began in:

- A) 1914
- B) 1939
- C) 1945
- D) 1929

Answer: B

2. The treaty that ended World War I and contributed to World War II was the:

- A) Treaty of Paris
- B) Treaty of Versailles
- C) Yalta Agreement
- D) Potsdam Agreement

Answer: B

3. Fascism is best described as:

- A) A liberal democratic ideology
- B) A system with strong nationalism and authoritarian rule
- C) A religious movement
- D) A socialist policy

Answer: B

4. The United Nations was established in:

- A) 1919
- B) 1945
- C) 1939
- D) 1950

Answer: B

5. The atomic bombs were dropped on which two Japanese cities?

- A) Tokyo and Kyoto
- B) Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- C) Osaka and Nagoya
- D) Sapporo and Fukuoka

Answer: B

6. The Holocaust targeted primarily:

- A) Japanese citizens
- B) European Jews
- C) American soldiers
- D) African leaders

Answer: B

7. The Marshall Plan was designed to:

- A) Promote Soviet expansion
- B) Rebuild European economies after WWII

C) End the Cold War immediately

D) Create NATO

Answer: B

8. NATO stands for:

A) North Atlantic Treaty Organization

B) National African Trade Organization

C) Northern Alliance Treaty Order

D) None of the above

Answer: A

9. The Iron Curtain symbolized:

A) Physical border in Germany

B) Division between Western and Eastern Europe

C) Berlin Wall

D) Demilitarized zone in Korea

Answer: B

10. The Cuban Missile Crisis occurred in:

A) 1945

B) 1950

C) 1962

D) 1979

Answer: C

NORMAL QUESTIONS (15)

11. One cause of World War II was:

- A) League of Nations success
- B) Appeasement of Hitler
- C) Democracy in Europe
- D) Expansion of the UN

Answer: B

12. The Nuremberg Trials were significant because they:

- A) Punished Japanese generals only
- B) Redefined international justice for war crimes
- C) Ended the Cold War
- D) Promoted fascism

Answer: B

13. The Yalta Conference involved leaders from:

- A) USA, USSR, UK
- B) Germany, Italy, Japan
- C) China, France, India
- D) USA, Japan, Canada

Answer: A

14. The Truman Doctrine aimed to:

- A) Promote global fascism
- B) Contain communism
- C) Build atomic bombs
- D) End WWII

Answer: B

15. The Warsaw Pact was a response to:

- A) NATO
- B) UN formation
- C) Marshall Plan
- D) Cuban Missile Crisis

Answer: A

16. Decolonization in Africa led to:

- A) Stronger European empires
- B) Independence and nation-building
- C) Global fascism
- D) Isolationism

Answer: B

17. Vietnam's struggle against France and later the USA exemplifies:

- A) Colonialism
- B) National liberation movements

- C) Industrialization
- D) Cold War alliance-building

Answer: B

18. The Eisenhower Doctrine focused on:

- A) Containing communism in the Middle East
- B) European recovery
- C) Nuclear disarmament
- D) Space exploration

Answer: A

19. The space race mainly involved:

- A) USA and China
- B) USA and USSR
- C) USSR and Germany
- D) Japan and USA

Answer: B

20. Military dictatorships in Latin America were often supported by:

- A) United Nations
- B) United States
- C) Soviet Union
- D) African states

Answer: B

21. Japan's post-war economic recovery led to:

- A) Decline of Asian Tigers
- B) Rapid industrialization and export growth
- C) Colonization of Africa
- D) Total isolation

Answer: B

22. China's political shift in 1949 led to:

- A) Democratic elections
- B) Establishment of People's Republic of China
- C) Monarchy restoration
- D) Economic liberalization immediately

Answer: B

23. SALT treaties aimed to:

- A) Expand NATO
- B) Limit strategic arms between USA and USSR
- C) Create the UN
- D) Promote colonialism

Answer: B

24. Detente in the 1970s refers to:

- A) Increased hostility between superpowers
- B) Relaxation of tensions during the Cold War
- C) End of European colonialism
- D) Nuclear proliferation

Answer: B

25. The Marshall Plan benefited Europe mainly by:

- A) Funding communist governments
- B) Providing economic aid for reconstruction
- C) Promoting fascist regimes
- D) Establishing NATO headquarters

Answer: B

DIFFICULT QUESTIONS (10)

26. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Treaty of Versailles
2. Holocaust
3. Atomic Bomb
4. United Nations
5. Marshall Plan

Column B

- A. International organization created to maintain peace after WWII
- B. Post-WWII U.S. program to aid European economic recovery
- C. Genocide perpetrated by Nazi Germany during WWII
- D. Peace settlement ending WWI, contributing to WWII
- E. Weapon used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945

Answer: 1→D, 2→C, 3→E, 4→A, 5→B

27. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Nuremberg Trials
2. Truman Doctrine
3. NATO
4. Warsaw Pact
5. Iron Curtain

Column B

- A. U.S. policy to contain communism globally
- B. Division line between Western and Eastern Europe during Cold War
- C. Alliance of Western nations against Soviet expansion
- D. Trials holding Nazi leaders accountable for war crimes
- E. Military alliance of Eastern Bloc countries led by USSR

Answer: 1→D, 2→A, 3→C, 4→E, 5→B

28. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Korean War
2. Cuban Missile Crisis
3. Vietnam War
4. Non-Aligned Movement
5. Berlin Wall

Column B

- A. Organization of countries refusing to join either Cold War bloc

- B. Southeast Asian war with heavy U.S. involvement
- C. Barrier dividing East and West Berlin
- D. Conflict between communist North Korea and South Korea (1950–1953)
- E. Crisis bringing U.S. and USSR to brink of nuclear war in 1962

Answer: 1→D, 2→E, 3→B, 4→A, 5→C

29. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Fall of the Berlin Wall
2. Apartheid
3. Asian Tigers
4. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
5. European Union (EU)

Column B

- A. UN framework to address global issues like poverty and climate
- B. South African system of racial segregation and oppression
- C. Industrialized Asian economies with rapid growth post-1960s
- D. End of division between East and West Germany in 1989
- E. Economic and political integration of European countries

Answer: 1→D, 2→B, 3→C, 4→A, 5→E

30. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Yalta Conference
2. Potsdam Conference
3. Marshall Plan
4. Truman Doctrine
5. United Nations

Column B

- A. Post-war agreement to aid European reconstruction
- B. Meetings determining post-WWII Europe's political order
- C. U.S. policy to prevent spread of communism
- D. Organization promoting international peace and cooperation
- E. Final wartime meeting to divide Germany and plan occupation

Answer: 1→B, 2→E, 3→A, 4→C, 5→D

31. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. NATO
2. Warsaw Pact

3. Iron Curtain
4. Berlin Airlift
5. Cuban Missile Crisis

Column B

- A. Blockade and supply of West Berlin by air (1948–1949)
- B. Alliance of Western nations against USSR
- C. Division of Europe into Eastern and Western spheres
- D. Crisis bringing U.S. and USSR to brink of nuclear war
- E. Military alliance of Eastern Bloc countries

Answer: 1→B, 2→E, 3→C, 4→A, 5→D

32. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Korean War
2. Vietnam War
3. Non-Aligned Movement
4. Berlin Wall
5. Fall of USSR

Column B

- A. Barrier separating East and West Berlin
- B. Movement of countries refusing to join NATO or Warsaw Pact
- C. End of the Cold War superpower rivalry in 1991
- D. Conflict in Southeast Asia with heavy U.S. involvement
- E. 1950–1953 conflict between North and South Korea

Answer: 1→E, 2→D, 3→B, 4→A, 5→C

33. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Apartheid
2. Asian Tigers
3. EU
4. SDGs
5. Marshall Plan

Column B

- A. Rapid economic growth in post-war East Asia
- B. Program aiding Western Europe after WWII
- C. UN global goals for sustainability
- D. Racial segregation system in South Africa
- E. Political and economic union of European countries

Answer: 1→D, 2→A, 3→E, 4→C, 5→B

34. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Nuremberg Trials
2. Atomic Bomb
3. Holocaust
4. UN
5. Truman Doctrine

Column B

- A. U.S. policy to contain communism
- B. Trials prosecuting Nazi leaders
- C. Weapon ending WWII in Japan
- D. Genocide of Jews and other minorities
- E. Organization promoting international peace

Answer: 1→B, 2→C, 3→D, 4→E, 5→A

35. Match the items in Column A with the correct descriptions in Column B:

Column A

1. Potsdam Conference
2. Berlin Airlift
3. Cuban Missile Crisis
4. NATO
5. Warsaw Pact

Column B

- A. Western alliance against Soviet expansion
- B. Final WWII meeting dividing Germany
- C. Eastern bloc military alliance
- D. U.S. and allies supplying West Berlin by air
- E. 1962 nuclear standoff between U.S. and USSR

Answer: 1→B, 2→D, 3→E, 4→A, 5→C