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**Directions:**

Today you will be taking the Ohio Grade 8 Social Studies Achievement Test. Three different types of questions appear on this test: multiple choice, short answer and extended response.

There are several important things to remember:

1. Read each question carefully. Think about what is being asked. Look carefully at graphs or diagrams because they will help you understand the question.
2. For short-answer and extended-response questions, use a pencil to write your answers neatly and clearly in the space provided in the answer document. Any answers you write in the Student Test Booklet will not be scored.
3. Short-answer questions are worth two points. Extended-response questions are worth four points. Point values are printed near each question in your Student Test Booklet. The amount of space provided for your answers is the same for two- and four-point questions.
4. For multiple-choice questions, shade in the circle next to your choice in the answer document for the test question. Mark only one choice for each question. Darken completely the circles on the answer document. If you change an answer, make sure that you erase your old answer completely.
5. Do not spend too much time on one question. Go on to the next question and return to the question skipped after answering the remaining questions.
6. Check over your work when you are finished.

1. Governments interact with each other in many different ways.

Which document is a formal agreement between two nations?

- A. treaty
  - B. charter
  - C. constitution
  - D. proclamation
2. Merchants from the ancient West African kingdom of Ghana prospered by controlling the trade of which goods?
- A. gold and salt
  - B. dates and wine
  - C. grain and camels
  - D. timber and olive oil
3. Which part of a research paper provides an organized list of the sources used?
- A. title page
  - B. introduction
  - C. bibliography
  - D. table of contents

4. Which right found in the Magna Carta is also included in the United States Constitution?

- A. right to vote
- B. right to a trial by jury
- C. freedom of the press
- D. freedom of assembly

5. The Quakers emigrated from England to the American colonies in the late 1600s.

The Quakers' experiences in England led them to adopt which policy in their new colony of Pennsylvania?

- A. tolerating different religions
- B. discouraging industrialization
- C. allowing women to vote in elections
- D. prohibiting Catholics from owning property

6. The Framers began writing the Constitution of the United States in May 1787, but it was not ratified by all thirteen states until May 1790. One of the issues debated during the Constitutional Convention was the congressional representation of enslaved Africans.

In your **Answer Document**, explain the positions of both Northern delegates and Southern delegates on the issue of congressional representation of enslaved Africans. (4 points)

7. Look at the outline of a history paper.

I. \_\_\_\_\_

- A. Medicine – Arabic
- B. Philosophy – Greek
- C. Engineering – Roman
- D. Technology – Chinese

II. Ancient Languages

- A. Arabic
- B. Greek
- C. Latin
- D. Mandarin

Which heading belongs in the title of Section I in this outline?

- A. World Civilizations
- B. Ancient Government
- C. Economies of the Ancient World
- D. Achievements of Ancient Civilizations

8. Which early civilization had a republican form of government for part of its existence?
- A. China
  - B. Rome
  - C. Egypt
  - D. India
9. Which phrase is directly associated with the American colonists' reaction to the Stamp Act?
- A. Live free or die
  - B. All men are created equal
  - C. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness
  - D. No taxation without representation
10. Which is the sacred book of the Islamic religion?
- A. Bible
  - B. Torah
  - C. Koran
  - D. Vedas
11. Between 1519 and 1605, the American Indian population in Central Mexico decreased from approximately 25 million to 1 million people.
- In your **Answer Document**, identify and describe one reason why this population decline was so extreme. (2 points)
12. In 1620, the Mayflower Compact created a basis for written laws in the New England colony of Plymouth.
- Why did the Pilgrims create the Mayflower Compact?
- A. to declare independence from England
  - B. to ensure peace with American Indians
  - C. to establish an orderly community
  - D. to guarantee universal religious tolerance in the colony

13. The women who participated in the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 issued a Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions modeled after the Declaration of Independence.

What controversial change was called for in this declaration?

- A. abolition of slavery
  - B. voting rights for all citizens
  - C. reform of public education
  - D. a ban on alcoholic beverages
14. European nations set up colonies in the Americas to enrich their economies.

Which economic benefit did England receive from its North American colonies?

- A. markets and goods to support trade
- B. laborers to keep its factories running
- C. entrepreneurs to lead its thriving businesses
- D. inventors to keep its industries competitive

15. A person at a city political meeting is holding this sign:



Look at the content of the sign.

What type of government does this city have?

- A. dictatorship
- B. direct democracy
- C. absolute monarchy
- D. representative democracy

16. Jamal, Louisa and Martin are working in a group in their social studies classroom. Their task is to report information on political parties to the class. Jamal and Louisa disagree on how they should present the information. Jamal suggests that they create an overhead presentation. Louisa wants to have a talk show where guest speakers are interviewed. Jamal and Louisa cannot seem to agree on the form of the presentation.

In your **Answer Document**, explain a method this group could use to make a decision on the presentation format. (2 points)

17. The term "secession" refers to which action taken by Southern states before the American Civil War?

- A. leaving the Union
- B. voting to be slave or free
- C. eliminating the Constitution
- D. compromising about slavery

18. The Articles of Confederation allowed each state to determine the tax on goods imported from other nations. The national government had no power to raise or lower these taxes.

How did this situation affect the early economy of the United States?

- A. State residents were overtaxed by the national government.
- B. State governments refused to print their own paper money.
- C. Foreign countries had to lend Congress money to build roads and canals.
- D. Inexpensive foreign imports flooded the country and hurt American industry.

19. Hinduism and Buddhism were important religions in ancient India and China.

Why do many Hindus and Buddhists tend to be vegetarians?

- A. They fear animal diseases.
- B. They believe plants are sacred.
- C. They practice equality for all people.
- D. They value all forms of human and animal life.

20. Which phrase characterizes the development of the Renaissance in Europe?

- A. the exchange of important agricultural techniques
- B. the rebirth of interest in classical art, architecture and literature
- C. the desire to modernize the styles of paintings and sculptures
- D. the announcement of corruption in the medieval church

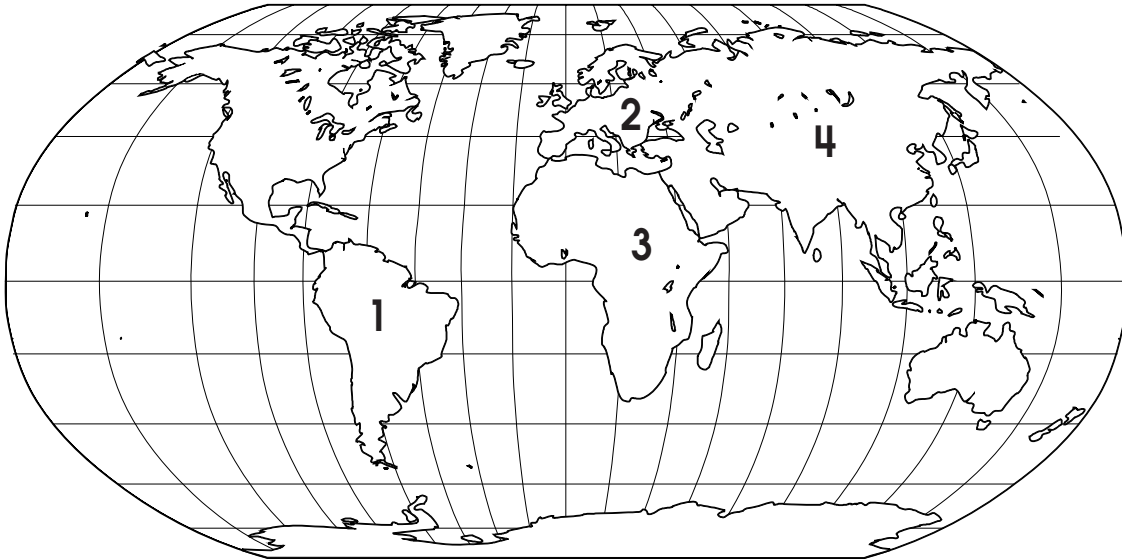


21. The British Parliament's decision to tax the American colonists caused conflict between the colonies and Britain. Read the following quotations from a British newspaper and a Massachusetts colonist.
- "The Colonies were acquired with no other view than to be a convenience to us, and therefore it can never be imagined that we are to consult their interest."  
—*The London Chronicle*, 1764
- "If our trade be taxed, why not our lands, or produce ... in short, everything we possess? They tax us without having legal representation."  
—Samuel Adams, 1765
22. In what way did Shays's Rebellion of 1786 lead to the formation of the United States Constitution?
- A. It demonstrated a need for a process for accepting territories into the union.
  - B. Disputes between states could not be resolved without a national judiciary.
  - C. It showed that farmers needed the right to vote in national elections.
  - D. The lack of a national army showed the need for a stronger national government.

In your **Answer Document**, compare how these two authors differ in their opinions about taxing the colonies. (2 points)

23. Look at the map.

World Map



Which number on the map indicates the continent on which the Nile River is located?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

24. Read the paragraph below about changes to a school music program:

Music is an important part of our school curriculum. Studies have shown that access to music education has many benefits to the development of individuals. Music helps to improve critical thinking habits and reinforces basic math and reading skills. Also, students involved in music tend to be more self-disciplined, have higher self-esteem and are more likely to graduate from high school. The school board should not eliminate costs by cutting the funding for the music program. This would be a mistake and would hurt our community in the long run.

—Desmond Potter  
8th grade student  
Hale Middle School

Which source would support the author's argument?

- A. *Essential Music History*, by Beckwett Wheeler
- B. *A Young Person's Guide to Music*, by Neil Ardley
- C. *The Music and Learning Connection*, by Dee Hansen
- D. *American Music in the Twentieth Century*, by Kyle Gann
25. Alexander the Great conquered the Persian Empire in 335 B.C.
- What was a lasting result of his conquests throughout the Mediterranean region?
- A. the expansion of Islam
- B. the rise of Roman architecture
- C. the decline of Egyptian science
- D. the spread of Greek language and culture
26. The Crusades had a great impact on European culture during the Middle Ages.
- In your **Answer Document**, identify and describe two ways the Crusaders' contact with the Middle East changed European culture. (4 points)
27. The Northwest Ordinance was passed by the United States Congress in 1787.
- What did the Northwest Ordinance make possible?
- A. the creation of several new states
- B. the discovery of gold in the Yukon Territory
- C. the establishment of public hospitals
- D. the purchase of the Oregon and Washington territories

On the May 2007 Grade 8 Social Studies Achievement Test, items 28–33 are field-test items, which are not released.



34. What provision of the Bill of Rights protects the rights of people accused of a crime?

- A. federalism
- B. due process
- C. separation of powers
- D. checks and balances

35. Before the American Civil War, Congress passed laws that were intended to solve problems caused by the expansion of slavery.

What happened as a result of the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act?

- A. slave rebellion in the border states
- B. extension of the Missouri Compromise
- C. violence between pro-slavery and anti-slavery settlers
- D. announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation



36. Look at the table below.

**Selected Items Traded Between  
Saudi Arabia and the United States in a Recent Year**

<i>Top Three Exports From Saudi Arabia to the United States</i>
crude oil
petroleum products
chemicals
<i>Top Three Exports From the United States to Saudi Arabia</i>
passenger cars
industrial engines
oil drilling equipment

What does the table indicate about the relationship between Saudi Arabia and the United States?

- A. Saudi Arabia and the United States are military allies.
- B. Saudi Arabia and the United States are interdependent.
- C. Saudi Arabia and the United States have similar standards of living.
- D. Saudi Arabia and the United States have similar economic systems.



37. Miguel must write a paper on the American Revolution. He must use one primary source and one secondary source.

Which sources should he choose?

- A. the journal of a Revolutionary War leader and an eyewitness account of a Revolutionary War battle
  - B. a colonial patriot's speech and the autobiography of a lawyer who lived during the Revolutionary War
  - C. articles on the Revolutionary War from an encyclopedia and a U.S. history textbook
  - D. the letters of a Revolutionary War patriot and a biography of a Revolutionary War leader
38. Jan Logan opposes a bill in her state legislature that would raise the speed limit on rural highways. She believes that a higher speed limit would lead to more auto accidents in her community.

In your **Answer Document**, identify one method Jan could use to keep this bill from becoming a state law in a representative democracy, and describe how the method accomplishes its goal. (2 points)

39. In the 19th century, why did large numbers of Americans who migrated to the Great Plains become involved in economic activities related to agriculture?
- A. The land was generally flat and had fertile soil.
  - B. There were no suitable means of transportation for other forms of commerce.
  - C. The American Indians who lived there had already cleared the land.
  - D. The region lacked resources to support manufacturing activities.
40. One way United States citizens can participate in government is by voting.

The right to participate in government through voting originated in which ancient civilization?

- A. Rome
- B. Egypt
- C. Greece
- D. Babylon

41. How did the arrival of Europeans change American Indians' agricultural practices?

- A. American Indians learned how to herd buffalo without using horses.
- B. American Indian tribes developed trade in foods among themselves.
- C. American Indians began to raise new crops and animals, such as rice and chickens.
- D. American Indians began raising maize (corn) when Europeans brought it across the Atlantic.

42. The environment influences the way people live and work.

What is one way Incan farmers living in mountainous regions were affected by their environment?

- A. They terraced their fields.
- B. They created paddy fields.
- C. They used horses for plowing.
- D. They invented the slash-and-burn technique.

43. Manufacturing was first developed in which economic region of the United States?

- A. Midwest
- B. Northeast
- C. Southeast
- D. Northwest

44. In the 100 years following the American Revolution, some Americans slowly gained more and more political rights.

What happened during the 1820s that made it easier for white men who did not own property to influence public policy?

- A. They were granted the right to vote.
- B. They were granted the right to free speech.
- C. They were granted the right to publish newspapers.
- D. They were granted the right to attend government meetings.

