

Released Grade 6 Social Studies Common Exam

1. How did technology change communication in the 13th century?
 - a. It helped all citizens learn to read
 - b. It allowed people to quickly contact others around the world
 - c. It enabled people to get information about other places and ideas
 - d. It helped people improve the living conditions in their societies.

2.

Ancient Olympics	Modern Olympics
held in Olympia, Greece male participants a competition between Greek city-states	held in cities all over the world male and female participants a competition between different countries
winners awarded wreaths held in honor of the god Zeus	winners awarded medals not a religious event

- The Modern Olympics came from the ancient Olympics in Greece. Which statement correctly compares the ancient and modern games?
- a. The Olympics still honor Zeus, but now winners are awarded medals
 - b. The Olympics are still an athletic competition, but now both men and women participate.
 - c. The Olympics are still held in Greece, but now the modern Olympics are not religious events.
 - d. The Olympics still only allow men, but now athletes from all over the world can participate in the modern games.
3. Exploration and conquests occurred in the middle ages. How did they affect relations between ancient societies?
 - a. They caused long-lasting peace with the help of religion
 - b. They caused empires to close off access between their societies.
 - c. They caused outbreaks of violence that closed all trade routes.
 - d. They caused trade routes and communication to open between societies.
 4. How were the oldest civilizations in Central and South America similar?
 - a. They were large, but not well-organized.
 - b. They established extensive trade with the Pacific Rim nations.
 - c. They were strongly influenced by Asian and African civilizations.
 - d. They were the first to develop advanced societies in the area.
 5. The mountains of South America made farmland difficult to find. How did ancient people adapt to this?
 - a. They used terrace farming.
 - b. They grew crops in the valleys.
 - c. They used large farm animals to plow.
 - d. They moved to a new area each growing season.
 6. Which statement shows how trade routes influenced ancient societies?
 - a. As travel over land became easier, trade by water became unnecessary.
 - b. As different civilizations traded goods, they also shared cultural values and beliefs.
 - c. As trade developed, long-distance travel became safe and easy for each civilization.
 - d. As silk grew popular, it became a common material used in clothing across civilizations.

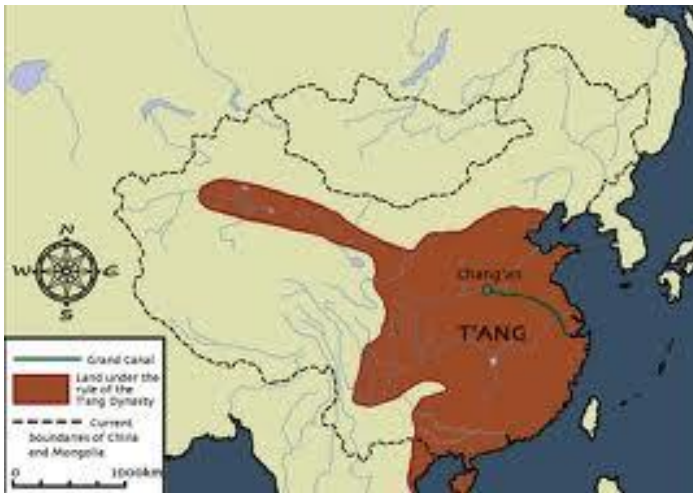
7. Societies adapted to their surroundings by irrigating and building dams. Why did they need to use these techniques?
 - a. To decrease overcrowding of crops
 - b. To increase space for people to live
 - c. To increase their farmland for growing crops
 - d. To decrease the number of animals on the land

8. **Finding from Ancient Burial Site:**

About 8,000 life size terra cotta clay soldiers were found about one mile east of the first emperor of China's tomb. Tombs in Egypt were found with tools, make-up, and clothing.

Based on these facts, how were the beliefs of these societies similar?

- a. The rulers of ancient civilizations were buried in pyramids.
 - b. Ancient people across civilizations did not appreciate the arts.
 - c. The rulers of ancient civilizations appeared modest or humble in death.
 - d. Ancient people across civilizations believed in preparing for life after death.
9. These maps show the T'ang (618-907 AD) and Yuan (1271-1368 AD) ancient Chinese dynasties.



Which statement best describes what is shown on the maps?

- a. The Yuan Dynasty expanded eastward during its reign
 - b. The T'ang Dynasty focused on expanding into desert areas
 - c. The Yuan Dynasty more than doubled the size of the T'ang Dynasty
 - d. The T'ang Dynasty's territory matched the land area of the Yuan Dynasty
10. **Ancient Empire Economic Issues:**

*Poor management by leaders, hoarding of wealth, & too much debt

How did the economic factors listed affect the ancient empires?

 - a. Empires weakened and were eventually destroyed.
 - b. Empires forced wealthy citizens to forfeit money in taxes.
 - c. Armies searched other empires for new leaders to govern.
 - d. Armies of the empires were sent to other lands to increase wealth.

11. Why did trading networks like the Silk Road develop?

- a. Certain resources were not available in all areas.
- b. The trails were used for communication between groups.
- c. People wanted to take land and to keep control of that land.
- d. Travelers enjoyed exploring nearby lands after trading for spices.

12. 'If you go and take the field of an enemy, the enemy will come and take your field.' (Babylonian proverb, 1600 B.C.)

Which is the likely purpose of this ancient proverb?

- a. To encourage people to tend their fields
- b. To discourage people from fighting in wars
- c. To encourage people to obey government laws
- d. To discourage people from defending their land

13. Why did some ancient civilizations write and publish their laws?

- a. To allow patricians and plebeians to read and vote for the laws
- b. To record the laws so that historians would understand ancient culture
- c. To ensure that citizens of the civilization would read and understand the laws
- d. To guarantee that each politician received a personal copy of the printed laws

14. **Order of ruling powers in Ancient Greece:**

1. Monarchy 2. Oligarchy 3. Tyranny 4. Democracy

Which statement explains the list above?

- a. Some city-states of Ancient Greece went from being governed by their citizens to being ruled by a king.
- b. Some city-states of Ancient Greece went from being ruled by nobility to being governed by citizens.
- c. Some city-states of Ancient Greece went from being ruled by military leaders to being governed by the upper class.
- d. Some city-states of Ancient Greece went from being ruled by rich merchants to being governed by men of nobility.

15. **Requirements and Responsibilities of Citizenship**

	Athens	Sparta
Government	Elected officials Council of 500 The assembly (males only for all)	Two kings Five overseers The council or senate (males only for all)
Military	Navy	Army
Education	<u>Boys</u> : reading, writing, math, music, poetry, and sports <u>Girls</u> : spinning, weaving, and other domestic skills	<u>Boys</u> : primarily trained in art of warfare from age 7, lived in military barracks even after married <u>Girls</u> : reading, writing, athletics, and survival skills
Lifestyle and Values	Luxurious lifestyle Valued participation in government	Simple lifestyle Valued military dominance

How was being a citizen of Sparta different from being a citizen of Athens?

- a. Spartans were expected to honor their city through creative, artistic expression
- b. Spartans were expected to be educated, so they could participate in government
- c. Spartans were expected to display the riches of Greece through grand homes and feast
- d. Spartans were expected to protect their city through military service and physical strength

16. **Egyptian Myth of the Creation of the World**

I am he who came into being in the form of the god Khepera . . . I am the creator of everything which came into being: now the things I created, and which came forth out of my mouth after that I had come into being myself were exceedingly many. The sky (or heaven) had not come into being, the earth did not exist, and the children of the earth, and creeping things, had not been made at that time. I myself raised them up out of Nu ...

The Egyptians had many myths about the world. How did these myths reflect their values and beliefs about civilization?

- a. They told about the past leaders of the Egyptian society.
- b. They told about the gods and goddesses that they worshiped.
- c. They told about the military battles of the past Egyptian armies.
- d. They told about the great pharaohs from the three great kingdoms.

17. How did early Christianity spread around the world?
- Missionaries followed conquerors and colonists.
 - Bibles were published in all languages.
 - Christian sea captains sold fares to other Christians.
 - European monarchs practiced the religion when they traveled.

18. **Social Classes**

King or Monarch

Lord or Noble

Knight or Warrior

Serf or Peasant

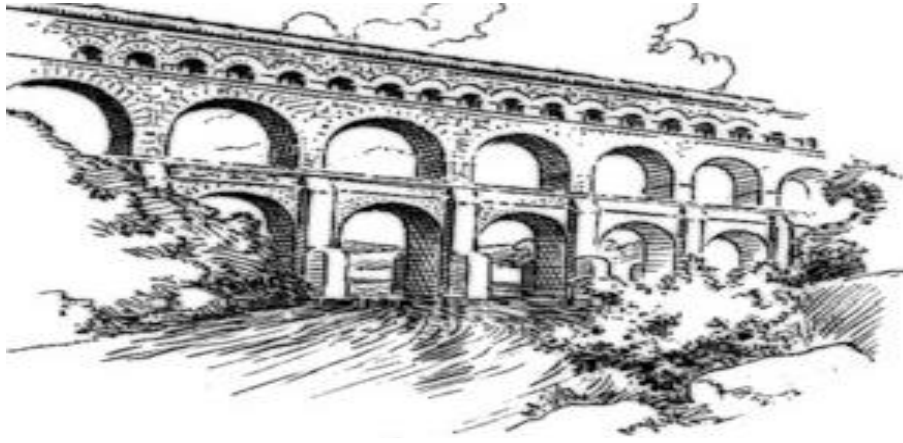
Which type of social structure divided its citizens this way?

- Socialism
 - Feudalism
 - Matrilinealism
 - Caste System
19. Which was a long-term effect on ancient trade routes?
- The spread of religion throughout trade routes
 - The spread of unifying systems of government
 - Colonization of weaker nations along the trade routes
 - Use of silk throughout ancient and modern societies
20. Which statement explains changes in government from absolute monarchy to constitutional monarchy?
- Kings and queens wished to maintain authority and control.
 - The divine right of kings to rule was reinforced.
 - Citizens wanted a stronger voice in their government.
 - The power of feudal lords was affirmed.
21. There were many advancements during the Age of Exploration. Which led to the settlement of the Americas?
- Better farming technology
 - Better printing technology
 - Better sailing technology
 - Better military technology
22. No freeman shall be taken, imprisoned. . or in any way destroyed. Nor will we proceed against or prosecute him, except by lawful judgment of his peers... (Magna Carta)

Based on this quote, how were the legal rights of freemen changed?

- Freemen were given the right to live without government interference
- The king was granted the power to exclude freemen from the laws.
- The king acquired the power to imprison freemen at will.
- Freemen gained the right to trial by jury of citizens.

23.



According to the picture, how did ancient societies change their environment to bring water into cities?

- a. abacus
- b. aqueducts
- c. sundial
- d. columns

24. Three days after I captured this city, some of the Indians who lived here came to offer to make peace . . . I received them . . . making them understand the purpose of my coming to this country, which is, in the name of His Majesty ... that they and all others in this province should become Christians. (Coronado's report)

According to this excerpt, what caused Coronado to conquer this city?

- a. He was seeking trade with the native people.
- b. He wanted to convert his fellow explorers in the region to Christianity.
- c. He was searching for a fortune in diamonds that were reported in the area.
- d. He wanted to Christianize the native population.

25. An absolute monarchy is a type of government structure. Which of the statements describes this type of structure?

- a. The citizens have and equal say in their government.
- b. The citizens elect representatives to run the government.
- c. The ruler has complete power over the citizens or inhabitants
- d. The ruler has control of the government, but citizens have rights.