World History

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. The Great Pyramid stands on a plateau near the ancient city of Memphis. Which plateau is it?
   - A. Giza
   - B. Saqqara
   - C. Dahshur
   - D. Abusir

   Correct answer: A. Giza
   The Great Pyramid of Khufu stands on the Giza Plateau alongside the pyramids of Khafre and Menkaure.

2. Which volcano erupted in 79 CE and buried the Roman town of Pompeii?
   - A. Stromboli
   - B. Mount Etna
   - C. Mount Vesuvius
   - D. Mount Olympus

   Correct answer: C. Mount Vesuvius
   Vesuvius buried Pompeii and neighboring settlements. The deposits preserved evidence of life in the Roman town.

3. Which modern country contains the Inca site of Machu Picchu?
   - A. Bolivia
   - B. Peru
   - C. Ecuador
   - D. Mexico

   Correct answer: B. Peru
   Machu Picchu sits high in the Andes in present-day Peru.

4. Which charter did England's King John issue in 1215 after a dispute with his barons?
   - A. The Petition of Right
   - B. Domesday Book
   - C. The English Bill of Rights
   - D. Magna Carta

   Correct answer: D. Magna Carta
   King John issued Magna Carta under pressure from his barons. The 1215 charter set out limits and obligations for the king.

5. In which year did crossings through the Berlin Wall open after decades of division?

A. 1985
B. 1989
C. 1990
D. 1991

Correct answer: B. 1989
Crowds crossed through the checkpoints on the night of November 9, 1989. German reunification followed in 1990.

6. A curator describes a city in present-day Mali with a historic center of learning at Sankoré and three notable mosques. Which city fits those clues?

A. Timbuktu
B. Kano
C. Fez
D. Kairouan

Correct answer: A. Timbuktu
Timbuktu grew into a center of scholarship and religious life. Sankoré is one of the three historic mosques named in its World Heritage listing.

7. A historian wants a label for the caravan paths and sea routes that carried goods and ideas between Asia, Africa, and Europe. Which name fits that network?

A. The Amber Road
B. The Grand Canal
C. The Royal Road
D. The Silk Roads

Correct answer: D. The Silk Roads
The Silk Roads were a network of land and maritime routes. Travelers exchanged knowledge and beliefs as well as goods.

8. A declaration dated January 1, 1804, announced the break with France of the colony formerly called Saint-Domingue. Which independent country emerged?

A. Cuba
B. Jamaica
C. Haiti
D. Dominican Republic

Correct answer: C. Haiti
The document proclaimed Haiti's independence. Saint-Domingue had occupied the western part of the island of Hispaniola.

9. An 1868 Japanese oath calls for seeking knowledge around the world to strengthen the country. Which policy best reflects that pledge?

A. Study ideas and techniques from abroad
B. End official contact with other countries
C. Limit education to inherited customs
D. Give foreign governments control of Japanese schools

Correct answer: A. Study ideas and techniques from abroad
The Charter Oath set out goals for the new Meiji government, including learning from other countries.

10. A timeline shows a halt to fighting with Germany in November 1918 and a formal peace treaty signed in June 1919. What belongs beside the second event?

A. The Treaty of Saint-Germain-en-Laye
B. The Armistice of Compiègne
C. The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
D. The Treaty of Versailles

Correct answer: D. The Treaty of Versailles
The November armistice stopped the fighting with Germany. The Treaty of Versailles set formal peace terms in June 1919.

11. A Korean book called Jikji has a printing record dated 1377 that names cast-metal type. Which conclusion can that surviving book support?

A. The first printing press of any kind was invented in 1377.
B. Every Korean book used movable metal type by 1377.
C. Korean printers used movable metal type by 1377.
D. Korean printers learned the method from Gutenberg.

Correct answer: C. Korean printers used movable metal type by 1377.
The printing record documents the use of movable metal type in Korea by 1377. One surviving book cannot establish when all forms of printing began.

12. Which boundary would fit a map based on the 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas between the Spanish and Portuguese crowns?

A. The equator running across the Atlantic
B. A north–south line west of the Cape Verde islands
C. The European land border between the signatories
D. A line through the Strait of Gibraltar

Correct answer: B. A north–south line west of the Cape Verde islands
The treaty set a pole-to-pole line west of Cape Verde to divide the crowns' overseas claims under their agreement.

13. A draft exhibit says the Indian Independence Act set up a single new dominion in August 1947. Which correction matches the law's opening section?

A. The act provided for two independent dominions, Bengal and Punjab.
B. The act provided for India and Ceylon to become one dominion.
C. The act provided for Pakistan as a province of an undivided India.
D. The act provided for two independent dominions, India and Pakistan.

Correct answer: D. The act provided for two independent dominions, India and Pakistan.
Section 1 names India and Pakistan as two independent dominions to be set up from August 15, 1947.

14. A reader compares the Māori and English versions of the Treaty of Waitangi. Why does reading both versions matter when studying the agreement about British authority?

A. One text uses a term for governance where the other uses sovereignty.
B. One text describes the British Crown while the other names France.
C. One text contains an agreement while the other is only a list of signers.
D. One text concerns New Zealand while the other concerns Australia.

Correct answer: A. One text uses a term for governance where the other uses sovereignty.
The archival comparison notes that the Māori text uses kāwanatanga, often translated as governance. The English text uses sovereignty. The phrasing matters to how readers understand the agreement.

15. An exhibit separates the signing of the UN Charter in June 1945 from its entry into force in October. What evidence explains why the second date is the one that mattered under Article 110?

A. The General Assembly had elected its first president.
B. A majority of conference delegates had voted to meet in San Francisco.
C. The five countries named in Article 110 and a majority of the other signatories had ratified it.
D. Every original signatory had agreed to move the UN headquarters.

Correct answer: C. The five countries named in Article 110 and a majority of the other signatories had ratified it.
Article 110 required ratification by the five named countries and a majority of the other signatory states. The June signatures alone did not satisfy that condition.