Global History Review Questions – Religion and Belief Systems

1. __
The spread of Islam throughout the African continent is an example of

1. national security
2. socialism
3. cultural diffusion
4. self-determination

2. __
The animist religions, which are widespread throughout Africa, share a belief in

1. monotheism
2. the importance of the spirits of nature
3. the writings of Mohammed
4. making a pilgrimage to Jerusalem

3. __
Mansa Musa’s journey to Mecca in the 1300s is evidence that

1. the Crusades had a great influence on western Africa
2. most African leaders were educated in the Middle East
3. European culture was superior to the cultures of western Africa
4. Islam had a major influence on the Mali Empire

4. __
The terms Brahma, dharma, and moksha are most closely associated with which religion?

1. Judaism
2. Islam
3. Hinduism
4. animism

5. __
The spread of Islam into the kingdoms of Ghana and Mali resulted from

1. imperialism
2. ethnocentrism
3. cultural diffusion
4. self-determination
6. __
Which action is most closely associated with polytheism?

1. praying in a synagogue
2. accepting the Eightfold Path
3. worshipping many gods
4. reading the Koran

7. __
Which has been one effect of the traditional caste system in India?

1. It has provided many opportunities for upward social mobility.
2. The nation’s wealth has been shared equally among the people.
3. It has provided people with a sense of identity.
4. Basic political rights have been extended to all people.

8. __
In India, the caste system has existed for many centuries because

1. contact between India and the rest of the world has been limited
2. the Hindu doctrines of dharma and karma support the caste system
3. the caste system promoted industrialization
4. the Indian Congress Party supported a rigid class structure

9. __
Which statement was true of the caste system in traditional India?

1. Members of different castes often intermarried.
2. Caste membership determined a person’s occupation.
3. The highest caste was composed of untouchables.
4. The caste system had little effect on daily village life.

10. __
Religious differences between Muslims and Hindus in the Indian subcontinent after World War II led to

1. increased control by the British colonial government
2. an arbitrated settlement by the United Nations
3. the creation of the nations of India and Pakistan
4. increased Communist influence in the region
11. ___
Which is a valid statement about the role of religion in modern India?

1. Buddhism has replaced Hinduism as the major religion.
2. Religion has lost most of its influence and importance.
3. Religion and politics are rigidly separated.
4. Religious beliefs and social structure are closely related.

12. ___
**Wanted: Brahmin girl for Sarswat Brahim, aged 30 years, 175 cm.**
Engineer, having own factory.
Father practicing doctor and brothers well-settled in U.S.A.
Which is a valid conclusion about the society described in this advertisement?

1. Rural areas have many unmarried people.
2. Most of the people are Muslims.
3. Education is not valued.
4. Traditional values continue to be important.

13. ___
“Your words are wise, Arjuna, but your sorrow is for nothing. The truly wise mourn neither for the living nor for the dead. There never was a time when I did not exist, nor you, nor any of these kings. Nor is there any future in which we shall cease to be....”
This passage best reflects a belief in

1. ancestor worship
2. the Eightfold Path
3. reincarnation
4. nirvana

14. ___
In addition to providing water for Indian agriculture, the Ganges River remains important to India because it is

1. the only source of Indian hydroelectric power
2. a sacred river for the Hindu population
3. the birthplace of the Hindu civilization
4. an unofficial boundary between Hindus and Muslims
15. **Base your answer on the diagram and on your knowledge of social studies.**

The diagram illustrates the key concepts of which religion?

1. Islam
2. Christianity
3. Hinduism
4. Buddhism

16. **According to Buddhist principles, believers can end personal suffering by**

1. doing good deeds
2. eliminating selfish desires
3. making pilgrimages to Mecca
4. relying on divine help
17. ___
Base your answer on the picture and on your knowledge of social studies.

This statue is most closely associated with which religion?

1. Buddhism
2. Islam
3. Jainism
4. Christianity

18. ___
The caste system in India and the feudal system in Europe were similar in that both

1. provided structure for society
2. developed concepts of natural rights
3. established totalitarian governments
4. promoted peace and prosperity

19. ___
Which belief is most closely associated with the teachings of Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha)?

1. People are born into a specific caste.
2. Believers must follow the Ten Commandments.
3. Followers must fast during Ramadan.
4. People can overcome their desires by following the Eight-Fold Path.
20. Base your answer to the question on the diagram and on your knowledge of social studies.
Which religion or belief system is most closely associated with the social class system illustrated in the diagram?

1. Hinduism
2. Daoism
3. Catholicism
4. animism

21. Which belief system is most closely associated with the terms Eightfold Path, Four Noble Truths, and nirvana?

1. Buddhism
2. Christianity
3. Judaism
4. Shinto

22. The Ten Commandments and Five Pillars of Wisdom are similar in that they

1. established a class structure for society
2. are guidelines for living
3. consist of prayers for salvation
4. promise a happy and easy life
23. __
Many Muslims live in Egypt, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Indonesia. Based on this information, which conclusion is valid?

1. Most Muslims tend to support repressive governments.
2. Islam is practiced by people of many different cultures.
3. Most Muslims live in areas that are sparsely populated.
4. Islamic nations produce surplus food for export.

24. __
During the 1980s, national unity in India was hindered by

1. a foreign policy of nonalignment
2. continued fear of attack from the Soviet Union
3. political interference from China
4. conflicts between Sikhs, Hindus, and Muslims

25. __
The structure shown in the graphic is located in India. Which factor is illustrated by this structure and its location?

1. growing nationalism in the 20th century
2. the spread of the religion and culture of Islam
3. policies of isolation instituted by the independent princes
4. the effect of British colonialism on the Indian caste system

26. __
Which factor has contributed most to the social and cultural identity of the Middle East?

1. political stability of the region
2. ability of the region to export oil
3. lack of foreign involvement in the region
4. strong influence of Islam on the region
27. ___
Judaism and Christianity are similar because they

1. base their beliefs on the Koran
2. stress belief in reincarnation
3. are monotheistic
4. promote the practice of polygamy

28. ___
In which Middle Eastern nation is Islamic fundamentalism the major guiding force?

1. Turkey
2. Iran
3. Israel
4. Jordan

29. ___
The religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam share a common belief in

1. nirvana
2. monotheism
3. reincarnation
4. animism

30. ___
Which statement best describes society under the influence of medieval Christianity and traditional Islam?

1. Religion was a way of life that governed people from birth to death.
2. Religion permitted the freedom to choose how people would worship.
3. Religion played a major role only in the lives of the clergy.
4. Both religions influenced society by stressing the equality of all religions.

31. ___
A goal of most modern-day fundamentalist Islamic societies is to

1. encourage the practice of other religions in society
2. maintain basic religious values in a technological society
3. adopt Western attitudes, values, and lifestyles
4. integrate the teachings of Mohammed with Christian practices
32. __
Which statement concerning the Islamic world is most accurate?

1. Religious unity had led to political unity among Islamic nations.
2. The only Islamic nations of the world are found in the Middle East.
3. All Islamic nations are totally committed to the destruction of Israel.
4. Significant religious and political differences exist among Islamic sects.

33. __
Which best describes a major characteristic of Islam?

1. Islam has largely lost its influence on the daily lives of its followers.
2. Islam, like other major religions, is composed of sects which sometimes disagree on beliefs and practices.
3. A major goal of Islamic religious leaders is the adaptation of Western cultural ideas.
4. Separation of church and state is a fundamental belief of Islam.

34. __
After the death of Mohammed, Islam spread rapidly mainly because

1. Mecca became the capital of the Islamic empire
2. Christians invaded the Holy Land
3. Arab women were encouraged to join Muslim armies
4. the Arab people developed a strong sense of purpose

35. __
The Hejira, Mohammed’s journey from Mecca to Medina in AD 622, it important to Muslims because the journey

1. resulted in Mohammed’s early death
2. ended Mohammed’s attempts to spread Islam throughout Arabia
3. established Byzantine rule throughout the region
4. signified the establishment of the Islamic faith
36. ____
Which is a valid statement about the cultural development of Southeast Asia?

1. Ethnic conflicts have not been a problem in Southeast Asia.
2. Early Southeast Asian civilizations were strongly influenced by long periods of Japanese rule.
3. Southeast Asia has not been influenced by European powers.
4. Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam, have had a major impact on Southeast Asia.

37. ____
"From as early as I can remember, the Emperor was an important presence even in our remote home. He was a descendant of the gods from thousands of years before, never to be looked at or listened to by mere mortals, a presence to be revered and protected and obeyed.... Finally..., my family and neighbors gathered around the radio and listened in stunned silence to the voice that had never before been heard, saying he was only human after all. Everyone was crying. I was sad and confused...."

The attitudes toward the Emperor expressed in this passage were based on the traditions of

1. Shintoism
2. Christianity
3. Islam
4. Judaism

38. ____
Traditional animistic beliefs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America are based on

1. a desire for wealth
2. a written tradition
3. an appreciation of the forces of nature
4. a willingness to accept Christianity

39. ____
One way in which Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, and Protestantism are similar is that each

1. accepts the supreme authority of the Pope
2. rejects the Old Testament as part of the Bible
3. is a branch of Christianity
4. was once the official religion of the Byzantine Empire
40. ___
The Koran, jihad, and the hegira are most closely associated with the practice of

1. Islam  
2. Judaism  
3. Shinto  
4. Buddhism

41. ___
A person who practices the Shinto faith would be most likely to

1. visit a shrine placed on the shore of a lake  
2. pray five times a day  
3. bathe in the Ganges River  
4. make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem

42. ___
Christianity, Islam, and Judaism are similar in that they all ask their followers to

1. believe in reincarnation  
2. strive for nirvana  
3. follow a code of behavior  
4. practice polytheism

43. ___
Which pair of belief systems share a belief that spirits reside in natural objects and forms?

1. Hinduism and Confucianism  
2. Islam and Judaism  
3. Shintoism and animism  
4. Christianity and Buddhism

44. ___
The introduction of Buddhism into Japan and of Christianity into Africa are examples of

1. modernization  
2. ethnic conflict  
3. cultural diffusion  
4. isolation
45. Base your answer to this question on the map below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which letter identifies the peninsula that is home to Mecca, the religious center of Islam?

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

46. Which text is essential to the practice of Islam?

1. New Testament
2. Analects
3. Torah
4. Qur’an (Koran)
47. ___
The philosophy of Confucius (K'ung-fu-tzu) stresses the importance of

1. respect for authority
2. religious beliefs
3. a classless society
4. owning land

48. ___
In traditional Chinese culture, which philosophy had the greatest influence on the development of social order and political organization?

1. Taoism
2. Shintoism
3. Confucianism
4. Marxism

49. ___
A goal common to Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism is to

1. establish peace and harmony
2. provide the basis for democratic government
3. return the power of the emperors
4. promote individual artistic creativity

50. ___
Confucianism emphasizes the idea that

1. government should own the means of production
2. economic success is more desirable than knowledge and learning
3. each person has an important responsibility to family and society
4. an individual’s personal goals are more important than the goals of the group