BRAINIACS OLYMPIAD

3RD BRAINIACS OLYMPIAD
HISTORY
CATEGORY 1 (GRADES 7–8)
SAMPLE PAPER



1. Which of the following best describes the Neolithic Revolution?
A) The development of metal tools
B) The transition from hunting and gathering to farming
C) The rise of the first empires
D) The invention of writing
Answer: B) The transition from hunting and gathering to farming

2. The earliest known writing system, cuneiform, was developed by the:
A) Egyptians
B) Sumerians in Mesopotamia
C) Indus Valley civilization
D) Ancient Chinese
Answer: B) Sumerians in Mesopotamia

3. The river that supported the development of ancient Egyptian civilization was the:
A) Tigris
B) Nile
C) Indus
D) Yellow (Huang He)
Answer: B) Nile

4. The Harappan civilization was located in which river valley?
A) Nile
B) Tigris-Euphrates
C) Indus
D) Yangtze
Answer: C) Indus

5. The Great Wall of China was primarily built during which dynasty?
A) Shang
B) Zhou
C) Qin
D) Han
Answer: C) Qin

6. Which empire is famous for building Machu Picchu?
A) Maya
B) Aztec
C) Inca
D) Olmec
Answer: C) Inca

7. The political system where lords granted land to vassals in exchange for loyalty and military service is called:
A) Democracy

B) Feudalism
C) Republic
D) Theocracy
Answer: B) Feudalism

8. Which ancient Greek city-state is known for its military discipline?
A) Athens
B) Sparta
C) Corinth
D) Delphi
Answer: B) Sparta

9. The Roman Republic was characterized by:
A) Rule by a king
B) Rule by a senate and elected officials
C) Rule by emperors
D) Rule by military generals
Answer: B) Rule by a senate and elected officials

10. The Persian Empire was known for:
A) Religious intolerance
B) Cultural tolerance and respect for conquered peoples
C) Isolationism
D) Destroying all local cultures
Answer: B) Cultural tolerance and respect for conquered peoples

11. The Maurya Empire was founded by:
A) Ashoka
B) Chandragupta Maurya
C) Akbar
D) Harsha
Answer: B) Chandragupta Maurya

12. Confucianism primarily focuses on:
A) Meditation and enlightenment
B) Harmony in social relationships and respect for elders
C) Strict religious rituals
D) Rebellion against authority
Answer: B) Harmony in social relationships and respect for elders

13. The building shown in the picture became a symbol of humanist art and architecture during the Renaissance. What is its name?



A) Florence Cathedral (Duomo)
B) St. Paul's Cathedral
C) Notre Dame
D) St. Basil's Cathedral
Answer: A) Florence Cathedral (Duomo)

14. The Byzantine Empire was the continuation of the:
A) Roman Empire in the East
B) Persian Empire
C) Ottoman Empire
D) Holy Roman Empire
Answer: A) Roman Empire in the East

15. The Crusades were:
A) Trade missions to Africa
B) Military campaigns by Europeans to reclaim the Holy Land
C) Explorations of the New World
D) Wars between Japan and China
Answer: B) Military campaigns by Europeans to reclaim the Holy Land

16. The Kingdom of Mali was famous for:
A) Controlling the Silk Road
B) Wealth from gold and salt trade
C) Building the Great Wall of Africa
D) Being a Greek colony
Answer: B) Wealth from gold and salt trade

17. The Renaissance was a period characterized by:
A) Feudal warfare
B) Revival of art, literature, and learning based on classical ideas
C) Religious wars only
D) Industrial development
Answer: B) Revival of art, literature, and learning based on classical ideas

18. The Reformation was started by:
A) Martin Luther
B) Galileo Galilei
C) Leonardo da Vinci
D) Henry VIII
Answer: A) Martin Luther

19. The Age of Exploration began primarily because of:
A) The search for new trade routes to Asia
B) The invention of the printing press
C) The Renaissance in Italy
D) The Crusades
Answer: A) The search for new trade routes to Asia

20. The Samanid State was located in:
A) West Africa
B) Central Asia
C) Eastern Europe
D) South America
Answer: B) Central Asia

21. The Holy Roman Empire was mainly located in:
A) Italy
B) Central Europe (modern Germany and surrounding areas)
C) Spain
D) Scandinavia
Answer: B) Central Europe (modern Germany and surrounding areas)

22. Which ancient Mesoamerican civilization is credited with developing a writing system and calendar?
A) Aztec
B) Maya
C) Inca
D) Olmec
Answer: B) Maya

23. Which East Asian philosophy emphasizes living in harmony with the Dao (Way)?
A) Confucianism
B) Daoism (Taoism)

C) Buddhism
D) Legalism
Answer: B) Daoism (Taoism)
24. The Delhi Sultanate was established in which region?
A) Southeast Asia
B) Northern India
C) Persia
D) Central Asia
Answer: B) Northern India

25. The Kushan Empire played an important role in:
A) Spreading Buddhism along the Silk Road
B) Developing agriculture in Africa
C) Founding Rome
D) Conquering Greece
Answer: A) Spreading Buddhism along the Silk Road

26. The Swahili City-States were located along the:
A) West African coast
B) East African coast
C) Mediterranean Sea
D) Indian Ocean islands
Answer: B) East African coast

27. The Timbuktu city in Mali was famous for:
A) Its gold mines
B) Its libraries and centers of Islamic learning
C) Being the capital of the Byzantine Empire
D) Its shipbuilding industry
Answer: B) Its libraries and centers of Islamic learning
28. The Delhi Sultanate was eventually replaced by which empire?
A) Mughal Empire
B) Maurya Empire
C) Gupta Empire
D) Ottoman Empire
Answer: A) Mughal Empire

29. The primary reason for the success of the Mongol Empire was:
A) Advanced technology and naval power
B) Highly skilled cavalry and military tactics
C) Large standing army of infantry
D) Use of gunpowder weapons
Answer: B) Highly skilled cavalry and military tactics

30. The Papal States were territories in:
A) France

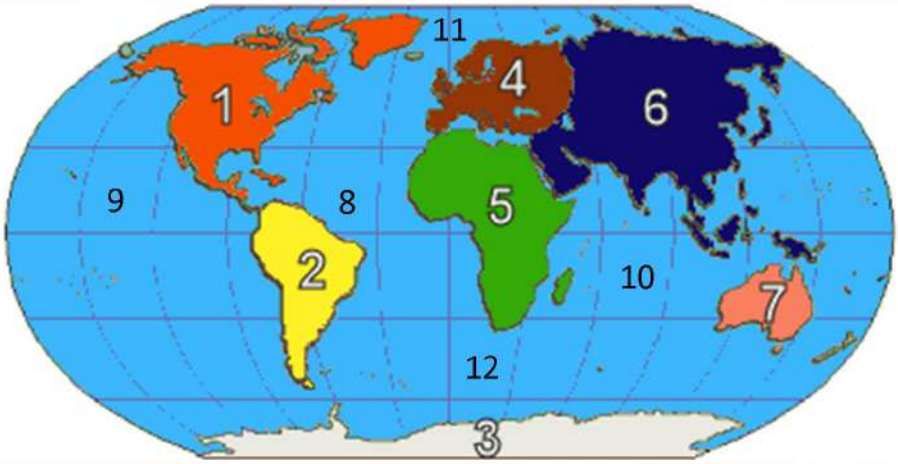
B) Italy controlled by the Pope
C) Spain
D) Germany
Answer: B) Italy controlled by the Pope

31. The rule of which Chinese dynasties overlap with the time period 1450-1750?
I. Yuan
II. Ming
III. Qing
IV. Song

A) III and IV
B) II and III
C) I and IV
D) II and IV
E) I and III
Answer: B) II and III

32. A developed civilization includes
A) stable food supply
B) a government
C) arts
D) education
E) religion
Answer: A, B, C, D, E

33. What is the name of the object by number 10?



A) Atlantic Ocean
B) Indian Ocean
C) Pacific Ocean
D) Arctic Ocean
Answer: B) Indian Ocean

34. What is the name of the object shown in the picture?



A) Stone tools
B) Bronze statue
C) Iron sword
D) Terracotta figurine
Answer: A) Stone tools

35. What activity is depicted in this image?



A) Hunting
B) Farming
C) Trading
D) Weaving
Answer: **B) Farming**

36. What civilization built the structure in the picture?



A) Egypt
B) Mesopotamia
C) Indus Valley
D) China
Answer: B) Mesopotamia

37. The monument in the picture belongs to which civilization?



A) Ancient Greece
B) Ancient Egypt
C) Persia
D) Rome
Answer: B) Ancient Egypt

38. What ancient city is shown in the ruins below?



A) Harappa
B) Babylon
C) Athens
D) Rome
Answer: A) Harappa

39.The head sculpture in the picture represents which civilization?



A) Maya
B) Aztec
C) Olmec
D) Inca
Answer: C) Olmec

40. The obelisk shown in the picture is from which African kingdom?



A) Kush
B) Mali
C) Aksum
D) Ghana
Answer: C) Aksum

41. What famous building is shown in the picture?



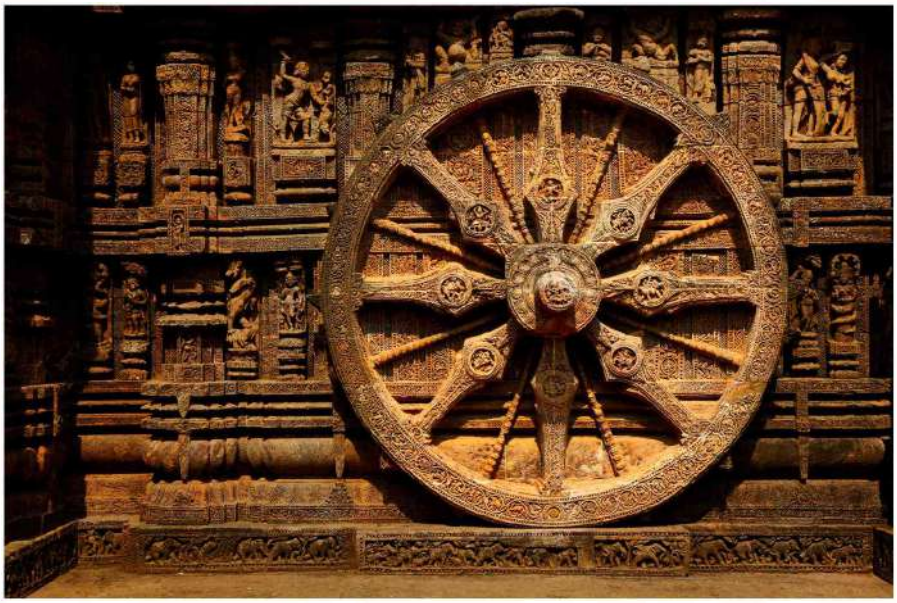
A) Parthenon
B) Colosseum
C) Hagia Sophia
D) Great Wall
Answer: A) Parthenon

42. The structure shown in the picture is located in ____?



A) India
B) China
C) Rome
D) Persia
Answer: C) Rome

43. What symbol or figure represents Buddhism in this image?



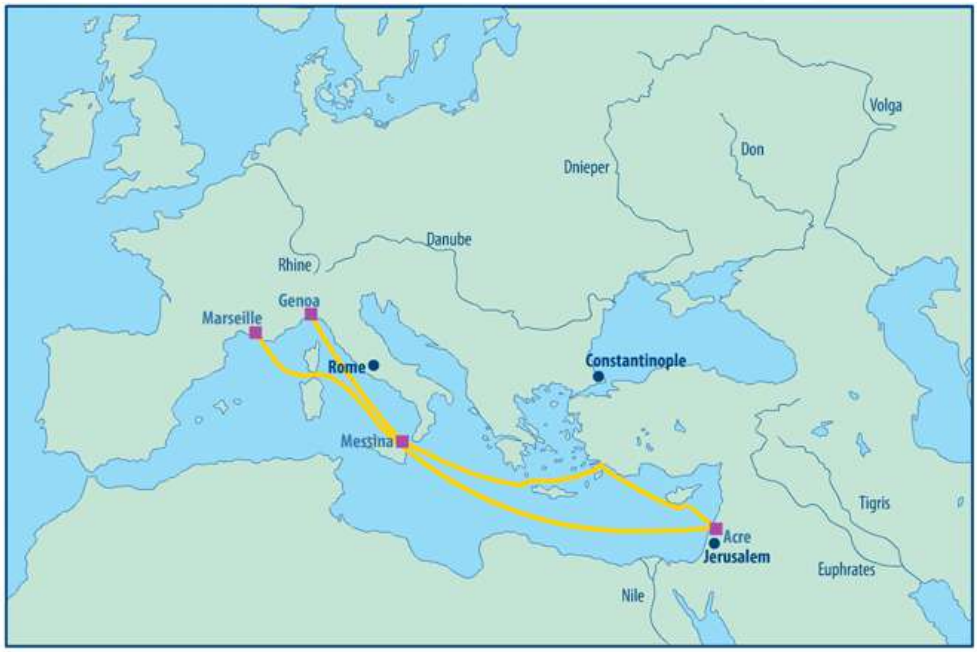
A) Cross
B) Crescent moon
C) Wheel of Dharma
D) Star of David
Answer: C) Wheel of Dharma

44. The church shown in the image is a famous example of Byzantine architecture. What is its name?



A) Hagia Sophia
B) St. Peter's Basilica
C) Notre Dame
D) St. Basil's Cathedral
Answer: A) Hagia Sophia

45. The map shows routes of which historical event?



A) Silk Road
B) Crusades
C) Roman expansion
D) Mongol conquests
Answer: B) Crusades

46. The architectural complex in the image is located in___?



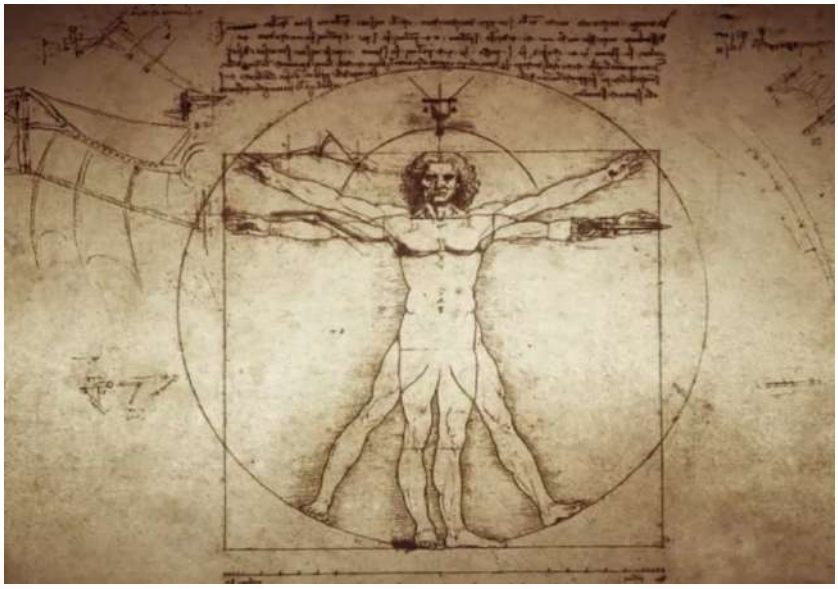
A) Samarkand
B) Bukhara
C) Baghdad
D) Isfahan
Answer: A) Samarkand

47. The image of the golden caravan represents which empire?



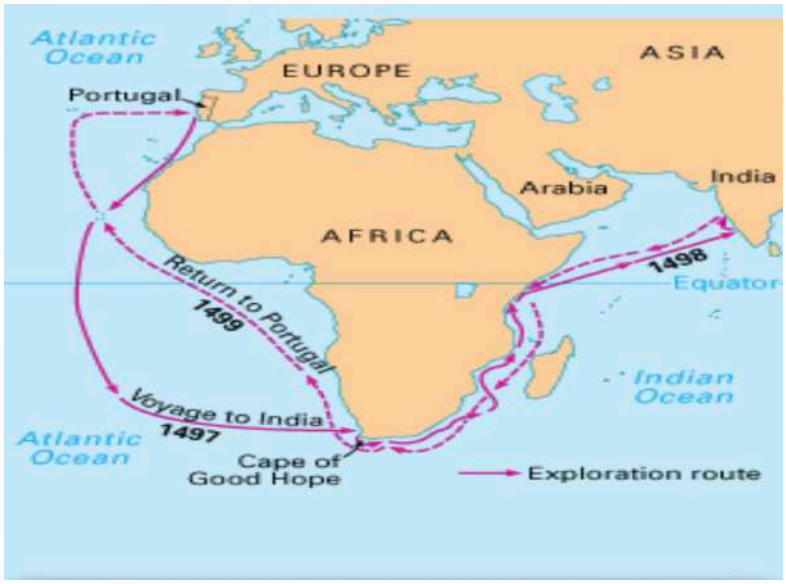
A) Ghana
B) Mali
C) Songhai
D) Great Zimbabwe
Answer: B) Mali

48. The artwork shown is typical of which European cultural period?



A) Medieval
B) Renaissance
C) Baroque
D) Modern
Answer: B) Renaissance

49. The map shows the sea route of which explorer?



A) Christopher Columbus
B) Vasco da Gama
C) Ferdinand Magellan
D) Zheng He
Answer: B) Vasco da Gama

50. The monument in the picture represents the power of which ancient empire?



A) Persian Empire
B) Greek Empire
C) Roman Empire
D) Ottoman Empire
Answer: A) Persian Empire