

Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program TCAP

Social Studies Grade 7 | Practice Test



Please PRINT all information in the box.

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

School: _____

District: _____

1 What was the importance of griots in African society?

- A** They served as central tribal leaders.
- B** They served as the main religious leaders of their tribes.
- C** They maintained the oral history of their people.
- D** They conducted trade agreements for their villages.

2 Read the list and answer the question.

Contributions to Mathematics

- Developed algebra
- Extended knowledge of trigonometry
- Spread the concept of zero to Europe

Which region is credited with these mathematic contributions?

- M** Western Europe
- P** East Asia
- R** North America
- S** Middle East

3 Read the source and answer the question.

From all this may be easily gathered the present state . . . of this country, and the hope for the future. Two or three things besides will help to the same end. The first is the method we pursue in the instruction. . . . We gather together the men as often as we can. . . . We pay special attention to the Old Men, . . . as they are the ones who determine and decide all matters, and everything is ordered by their advice. All come willingly to hear us.

— *The Travels and Explorations of the Jesuit Missionaries in New France*,
1601 – 1791

According to this source, these Jesuit missionaries were contributing to the Catholic Counter-Reformation by

- A** developing Catholic universities in the New World.
- B** spreading the Catholic religion through foreign lands.
- C** improving the training Catholic priests received.
- D** translating the Catholic Bible into local languages.

4

Read the source and answer the question.

The Forbidden City in Beijing, with its landscaped gardens and many buildings (whose nearly 10,000 rooms contain furniture and works of art), constitutes [establishes] a priceless testimony to Chinese civilization. . . . The Imperial Palace of the Ming and Qing Dynasties in Beijing known as the Forbidden City was constructed between 1406 and 1420 by the Ming emperor Zhu Di and witnessed the enthronement [crowning] of 14 Ming and 10 Qing emperors over the following 505 years.

— United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Which statement analyzes the significance of the structure described in this source?

- M** The Forbidden City used new architectural styles.
- P** The Forbidden City was where democracy was established.
- R** The Forbidden City protected the country from invasion.
- S** The Forbidden City was the center of government.

5 Read the table and answer the question.

Aztec Economy	Incan Economy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenced by religion • Based on trade and tributes from conquered territories • Used chinampas (floating gardens) to grow crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centrally planned by the government • Relied on collective labor • Used terraced farms in the mountains

Which statement best compares these two economies?

- A** Both empires depended on agriculture to feed large populations.
- B** Trade with European nations was essential to support both empires.
- C** Both empires created colonies to expand power into foreign lands.
- D** Craft guilds were created to increase profits for merchants in both empires.

6 Which statement describes the link between Christianity and the beginning of the Scientific Revolution?

- M** Catholic officials supported the separation of church and government.
- P** Catholic scholars preserved and translated classical texts.
- R** Catholic officials promoted the establishment of nonreligious universities.
- S** Catholic scholars attempted to link religious texts to new discoveries.

7 Read the source and answer the question.

About 405 ^{AD}, the Japanese court officially adopted the Chinese writing system. During the sixth century, Buddhism was introduced. These two events revolutionized Japanese culture and marked the beginning of a long period of Chinese cultural influence.

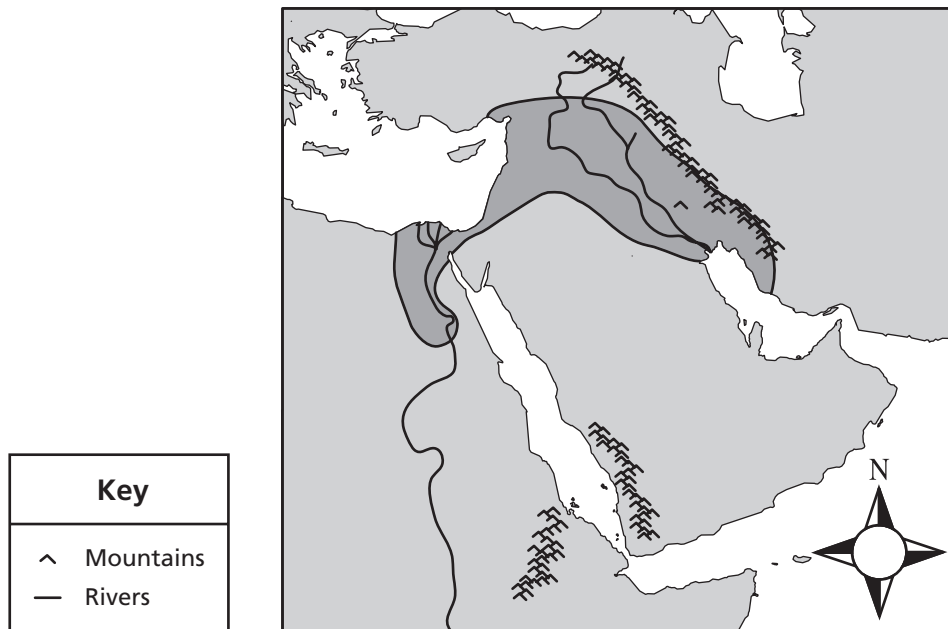
— U.S. Department of State

Which factor most contributed to the 405 ^{AD} events described in the source?

- A** invasion of Japan by Mongols during the Yuan Dynasty
- B** overseas expansion of China
- C** location of the Yangtze River
- D** diffusion of Chinese culture through the Korean peninsula

- 8 Study the map and answer the question.

The Middle East and North Africa



Which physical feature is part of the darker-shaded region on the map?

- M Caspian Sea
- P Ural Mountains
- R Black Sea
- S Euphrates River

9 Read the source and answer the question.

The good order that William established is not to be forgotten. It was such that any man . . . might travel over the kingdom with a . . . [chest] full of gold . . . ; and no man durst [dared] kill another. . . . He reigned over England, and . . . The land of the Britons [Wales] was under his sway [influence]. . . . He had full dominion [power] over the Isle of Man; Scotland was also subject to him.

— The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, 1086

Based on the source, what was one effect of William the Conqueror's reign?

- A He established political stability in England.
- B He developed an English banking system.
- C He ordered the building of new English roads.
- D He established religious reform in England.

10 Study the list and answer the question.**Art of the Renaissance**

_____ ? _____

- Leonardo da Vinci — *Mona Lisa*
- Michelangelo — The Sistine Chapel

Which idea best completes this list?

- M Used bright colors in paintings
- P Increased use of religious symbols
- R Increased realism of human figures
- S Used indoor settings for backgrounds

11 How did the development of the Gutenberg printing press change European society during the Renaissance?

- A Church officials encouraged people to study the Bible.
- B Ideas spread more quickly across Europe.
- C Merchant guilds started schools to increase literacy among their members.
- D Cartographers used the printing press to create more accurate maps.

12 Read the source and answer the question.

He who swears fealty [loyalty] to his lord ought always to have these six things in memory; what is harmless, safe, honorable, useful, easy, practicable [possible]. . . .

The lord also ought to act toward his faithful vassal reciprocally [mutually] in all these things. And if he does not do this he will be justly considered guilty of bad faith, just as the former, if he should be detected in the avoidance of or the doing of or the consenting to them, would be perfidious [disloyal].

— Fulbert of Chartres: On Feudal Obligations, 1020

Which statement best describes the system described in this source?

- M Feudalism is dependent on the vassal and lord upholding obligations of service to one another.
- P Under a feudal system, the lord is able to retain all profits made by the work of vassals on the king's land.
- R Feudalism requires the vassal and the lord to act independently of one another in service to the king.
- S Under a feudal system, the king is obligated to the lord to provide assistance in exchange for titles of nobility.

- 13** Look at the map and answer the question.



Which civilization was located in the darker-shaded area on this map?

- A Olmec
- B Mayan
- C Incan
- D Aztec

14 Which statement describes the relationship between the papacy and Charlemagne during the early Middle Ages?

- M** They often needed each other's help in order to maintain power.
- P** They frequently encouraged attacks on each other's power.
- R** They seldom came to each other's aid when power was threatened.
- S** They acted independently of each other to prevent disputes.

Use the source to answer the question.

Most historians point to Nicolaus Copernicus (1473 – 1543) and his novel [original] ideas regarding the movement of the earth as the starting point of the Scientific Revolution. In the early 1500s, Copernicus, through study and reasoning, concluded that the earth and planets revolved around the sun. This heliocentric (sun-centered) theory was in stark contrast to the traditional geocentric (earth-centered) theory. For over a thousand years people had believed the Church's teachings that the earth was the center of the universe. . . . In the Middle Ages, scholars . . . placed the earth at the center of the universe. . . .

Johannes Kepler (1571 – 1630), a mathematician, supported the Copernican theory by demonstrating with his calculations that the planets did, indeed, move around the sun. About the same time, the brilliant Galileo Galilei (1564 – 1642) challenged the Church's geocentric teachings. Galileo constructed a telescope, observed the heavens, and noted that Jupiter had four moons revolving around it — thus not everything revolved around Earth as believed. He also observed that the moon's surface was rough and uneven, not smooth and unblemished as Aristotle had proposed. . . .

The steps taken by Copernicus, Kepler, and Galileo eventually evolved into what we call the scientific method. The scientific method involves posing a question, formulating a hypothesis, performing experiments, and analyzing the results. Reason, mathematics, and observation — the steps used by Copernicus, Kepler and Galileo in proving the heliocentric theory — are integral parts of this method.

— Sara Drogin, *A Short History of Western Civilization*

15 Which three statements describe advances made during the time period discussed in this source?

- A The microscope helped improve agricultural practices.
- B The telescope allowed the observation of planetary movements.
- C Scientists accepted proof of the traditional beliefs about the universe.
- D Systematic observation led to the development of the scientific method.
- E Many new inventions resulted in more effective technology.
- F The astrolabe was adapted to help predict the seasons.

16

Read the list and answer the question.

The Economy of Ancient West Africa Empires

- The empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai thrived on the wealth of gold.
- Cities were established for the trade of gold and salt.
- Timbuktu became an economic and cultural center.

Which conclusion is best supported by the list?

- M** African rulers limited the manufacture of finished goods.
- P** Trans-Saharan trade routes helped maintain regional commerce.
- R** African rulers limited trade with overseas nations.
- S** Trans-Saharan trade routes were controlled by nomadic warlords.

17 Read the source and answer the question.

To this city also are brought articles of greater cost and rarity, and in greater abundance of all kinds, than to any other city in the world. For people of every description, and from every region, bring things (including all the costly wares of India, as well as the fine and precious goods . . . , some for the sovereign, some for the court, some for the city which is so great, some for the crowds of Barons and Knights, some for the great hosts of the Emperor which are quartered round about [living close by]; and thus between court and city the quantity brought in is endless.

— Excerpt from Marco Polo Concerning The City of Cambaluc (Beijing)

What was the outcome of the events described in this source?

- A the emergence of a Chinese dynasty
- B the establishment of a colony in the Korean Peninsula
- C the reopening of a major trade route
- D the expansion of local republics

18 How did the Age of Exploration most affect indigenous populations in the Americas?

- M the participation in global trade
- P the domestication of animals
- R the use of metal tools for farming
- S the introduction of diseases

- 19** Study the list and answer the question.

Major Events in the Reconquista

- Establishment of the kingdom of Aragon
- Marriage of Ferdinand II of Aragon and Isabella I of Castile
- The Catholic Church reclaimed the Iberian Peninsula
- ?

Which event best completes this list?

- A** Beginning of civil war in North Africa
- B** Creation of the Kingdom of Spain
- C** Increase in trade on the Silk Road
- D** Marriage of Henry VIII of England and Catherine of Aragon

20

Read the source and answer the question.

Decline in food production, growth of the population, and competition for resources among the great families all . . . gave rise to military disturbances in the mid-tenth and eleventh centuries. Members of the Fujiwara, Taira, and Minamoto families . . . attacked one another, claimed control over vast tracts of conquered land, set up rival regimes [governments], and generally broke the peace. . . . The period from 1086 to 1156 was the age of supremacy of the . . . [Secluded Emperor] and of the rise of the military class throughout the country. Military might rather than civil authority dominated the government.

— *Japan: A Country Study*, 1994

Which statement analyzes the effect of the conditions in Japan described in this source?

- M** The emperor used the samurai to defeat foreign invaders.
- P** Military conflicts led the emperor to eliminate the shogun.
- R** Ongoing conflict led to the rise of the samurai and military rule.
- S** Samurai loyalty to the emperor weakened the shogun.

Use the source to answer the question.

Article 1: Whether it is necessary to have another doctrine besides the philosophical disciplines.

Let us proceed to the first point. It seems that there is no necessity for any doctrine beyond the philosophical disciplines. Man should not strive after that which is beyond his reason. . . .

There are diverse sciences because things can be known in various ways. For example, the astronomer and the natural philosopher both demonstrate the same conclusion, such as that the world is round; yet the astronomer does so through mathematics, while the natural philosopher does so in a way that takes matter into account. Thus there is no reason why those things treated by the philosophical disciplines through natural reason should not also be treated by another science insofar as they are known by the light of divine revelation. Thus the theology which pertains to sacred doctrine differs from that theology which is a part of philosophy.

— Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, 1273

21 Which statement best summarizes the main argument of this source?

- A People should not question scientific reasoning.
- B Philosophy and theology do not have to be in conflict with each other.
- C Ideas from science and religion need to be kept separate.
- D Society should limit questioning the natural world.

22 Read the table and answer the question.

Nara Period (710 – 794 AD)	Heian Period (794 – 1185 AD)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A new Japanese capital is modeled after the Chinese capital.• Buddhism is supported by the emperor.• Roads link the capital city with distant provinces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The capital city is moved to Kyoto.• Political power is greatest in the capital.• The samurai warrior class develops.

Which conclusion can be made about the Nara and Heian periods?

- M** Most Japanese continue a traditional nomadic lifestyle.
- P** Chinese rulers assist in the unification of Japan.
- R** The Japanese develop their own cultural identity.
- S** The Chinese adopt Japanese religious philosophies.

23

Read the list and answer the question.

Song Dynasty, China (960 – 1280):

- Tea production expanded
- Fast-growing rice introduced
- Canal system expanded
- Fine porcelain developed

Which statement best summarizes the significance of these achievements?

- A** Overseas colonies were established.
- B** Commercial activity expanded.
- C** Agricultural prices increased.
- D** Foreign imports were taxed.



This is the end of the test.

Practice Test Answer Key

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