4th Grade Social Studies Practice Test

Fourth Grade Social Studies
Test

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Name: ___________________________ Date: _______________________

Instructions:
1. In April, 1775, the Revolutionary War began when British soldiers and American minutemen met in battle. The first shot that was fired is referred to as “the shot heard ’round the world.” What does this statement mean?

A. The fighting that took place was very loud.
B. The fight made news in the colonies, Europe, and other parts of the world.
C. The fighting at Lexington lasted for months.
D. The fight spread to English colonies that were all over the world.

2. One of the reasons gold and silver are valuable is because

A. there are large amounts of gold and silver.
B. gold and silver are easily mined.
C. gold and silver mines are found in all countries.
D. the amounts of gold and silver are limited.

3. At the beginning of the American Revolution Benedict Arnold was a general in the American Army. But during the war he switched sides, joining the British army. Which group of people would have thought Benedict Arnold was right to switch sides?

A. Patriots
B. Quakers
C. Loyalists
D. Mercenaries
4. Many European settlers who came to North America were interested in getting their own land. The first colonies were started on or near the coast. The Appalachian Mountains slowed movement west. In the late 1700s, more settlers moved west because of the

A. finding of the Northwest Passage, which was a water route west.
B. use of riverboats to take settlers west.
C. construction of railroads to take settlers west.
D. building of paths west, such as the Wilderness Road.

5. Some of the British colonies in North America were made up of land given to one person by the king. The colony of Pennsylvania was settled in the 1600s on land given to

A. James Oglethorpe.
B. John Winthrop.
C. John Smith.
D. William Penn.

6. Parliament passed the Tea Act in 1773. This led to some colonists taking action, such as the Boston Tea Party. What was the Boston Tea Party?

A. Colonists gave dinners to support the sale of tea.
B. Colonists dressed as Indians destroyed the tea.
C. Colonists bought tea from other countries.
D. Colonists started growing their own tea.

7. In the early 1800s, many textile mills were built to weave cloth. What invention was used to weave cloth?

A. the power loom
B. the Fulton Steamer
C. the cotton gin
D. the McCormick reaper
8. In 1774, leaders from all of the colonies except Georgia met in Philadelphia at the First Continental Congress. Which of the following BEST describes how most of the leaders felt?

A. They did not want to declare independence.
B. They wanted to get help from France.
C. They did not want to return to Great Britain.
D. They wanted to accept the high taxes.

9. During the Vietnam War, many people gathered in Washington, DC, to protest the war. This was an example of

A. freedom of the press.
B. freedom of assembly.
C. freedom of religion.
D. freedom of petition.

10. Which group of Native Americans often followed buffalo in order to help feed, cloth, and house themselves?

A. Plains
B. Southwestern
C. Pacific Northwest
D. Eastern Woodlands

11. Beginning in the 1400s, most colonizing was done by Spain and Portugal. Which one of the following statements BEST describes what Spain and Portugal did?

A. Spain started colonies for Protestants while Portugal started colonies for Catholics.
B. The Spanish treated the Native Americans better than the Portuguese.
C. The kings of Spain and Portugal shared their wealth with the Pope.
D. The Portuguese defeated the Spanish when they formed an alliance with France.
12. During the 1700s, most of the English settlers arriving in the colonies in North America were looking for

A. land.
B. the Northwest Passage.
C. gold.
D. the Fountain of Youth.

13. The way of living of Eastern Woodlands Native Americans depended on the resources in the area. Which activity BEST describes their way of living?

A. They would hunted for seal and fished for salmon.
B. They followed buffalo across the plains.
C. They hunted, fished, and grew corn and other vegetables.
D. They gathered berries and grew corn, beans, and cotton.

14. During the 1700s, people in the American colonies had to grow or make most of the products that they used. There were also people who were skilled as blacksmiths, gunsmiths, or silversmiths. These people were called

A. farmers.
B. artisans.
C. large landowners.
D. indentured servants.

15. Sometimes people do not use money to pay for goods or services. Instead, they trade a good or service with another person for a different good or service. This is an example of

A. scarcity.
B. production.
C. labor.
D. barter.
16. Citizens are expected to be involved in their community. Which of the following would be the BEST example of serving your community?

A. picking up litter in the park
B. riding a bike
C. taking your dog for a walk
D. going to a movie

17. Federalism is the division of powers between the different levels of government—national, state, and local. The part of government at the state level that makes the laws is the

A. legislature.
B. governor.
C. state court.
D. governor’s cabinet.
18. Look at the map. What is located in grid square C-4?

A. U.S. Capitol  
B. the White House  
C. Washington Monument  
D. National Air and Space Museum

19. Thomas Paine strongly believed that the American colonies should be independent of England. As a result, which of the following actions did he take?

A. He wrote a book titled *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.  
B. He wrote a pamphlet called *Common Sense*.  
C. He wrote “The Star-Spangled Banner.”  
D. He painted the famous picture “The Boston Tea Party.”
20. The early 1800s saw many technological advances in the United States. An important technological advance in communication at that time was the

A. telephone.
B. computer.
C. telegraph.
D. radio.

21. A person driving a car needs to be very responsible. Which of the following BEST describes the driver’s responsibilities?

A. The driver needs to know how to drive and the rules of driving.
B. The driver needs to know the rules of driving.
C. The driver needs to know how the car works.
D. The driver needs to know how to drive.

22. The members of Congress are considering passing a law lowering the speed limit on highways. You do not think this is a good law. As a citizen, what would be the most effective action you could take?

A. Write to your mayor and tell him/her your views.
B. Contact the head of the highway department and tell him/her your views.
C. Write to your city council and tell them your views.
D. Contact your members of Congress and tell them your views.

23. The Dutch who settled in New Netherland in the 1600s started a colony that did well. The Dutch were successful because they

A. controlled trade in the area.
B. had a strong navy.
C. made a treaty with England.
D. grew tobacco and cotton.
24. The following are important events in the history of Georgia. What is the correct order of these events?

1. Georgia representatives sign the Declaration of Independence.

2. The King of England gives permission for James Oglethorpe to start a colony.

3. The Yamacraws settle in Georgia.

4. The settlement at Savannah is established.

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

25. In which region of the United States will you find the Grand Canyon?

A. Northeast  
B. Southeast  
C. Southwest  
D. Northwest
Use the map below to answer question 26.

![Map](image_url)

26. Which town is located about 20 miles southeast of Silver Lake?

A. Eastwood  
B. Lake City  
C. Centerville  
D. Moose Corners

27. Which regions of the United States are located on the Atlantic Coast?

A. Northwest and Southeast  
B. Southeast and Southwest  
C. Northeast and Southeast  
D. Southwest and Northeast
28. The following events are important in the history of the United States. What is the correct order of these events?

1. The colony of Georgia is settled.

2. The Revolutionary War ends.

3. The Constitution is written.

4. The colony of Jamestown is settled.

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

29. The cotton gin changed the South in the early 1800s. More cotton was grown and more slaves were needed. The cotton gin was invented by

A. Cyrus McCormick.  
B. Eli Whitney.  
C. Robert Fulton.  
D. Peter Cooper.
Use the map below to answer question 30.

Regional Map of the United States

30. Which letter on the map identifies the Midwestern region of the United States?

A. D  
B. C  
C. B  
D. A