Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program

TCAP

Social Studies
Grade 7
Practice Test

Student Name

Teacher Name
Test Administrator Instructions:

This practice test has one subpart. It is recommended that you print one copy of this practice test and pull the answer key before copying and distributing the practice test to your students. The answer key is found at the end of the practice test.

There will not be an operational social studies test for students in grades 3–8 in 2016–17. However, all students will participate in a mandatory social studies field test. Testing times for the field test will be approximately 50 minutes. This field test will be administered during the same window as the operational assessments at the end of the school year. The field test will not have a written response portion.
Directions

This Practice Test booklet contains multiple-choice items in Grade 7 Social Studies. You must write your answers to the practice test items on your separate answer document.

You may use this test booklet for scratch paper or to make notes. However, you must write your answers on your separate answer document to receive credit. Nothing you write in this test booklet will be scored.

1. The map below shows four numbered routes of some European explorers.

   Which route is closest to the voyage of exploration of Bartolomeu Dias?

   A. 1
   B. 2
   C. 3
   D. 4
2. The information below relates to the historical development of West Africa.

One of the main aspects of the development of West African kingdoms was the emergence of cities. The first city, Koumbi Saleh, grew on the edge of the Sahara where the Kingdom of Ghana developed around it. Further inland, three bustling centers emerged along the Niger River: Djenné, Timbuktu, and Gao. These cities were the major sites of trading activity in the Malian Empire. Gao eventually broke from a declining Mali and created the Songhai Empire.

Which conclusion is supported by the information and your knowledge of West Africa?

A. Outside influences caused cities to decline.
B. Exhaustion of resources forced cities to change.
C. Trading centers promoted regional development.
D. Conflicts among cities hindered cultural advancement.

3. Which effect did the bubonic plague have on European life during the Middle Ages?

A. It caused a peasant labor shortage that disrupted feudal society.
B. It encouraged many people to move to colonies across the oceans.
C. It prompted the start of modern medical techniques that have cured diseases.
D. It changed the structure of medieval society because it targeted the upper classes.
4. The graph below illustrates a demographic change in China during the period of the Song Dynasty.

Which statement offers an explanation for how the Song Dynasty contributed to the change shown on the graph?

A. Expanding territorial control to the Korean Peninsula increased the population of China significantly.

B. Improving agricultural techniques with irrigation and more productive strains of rice increased food supplies.

C. Adopting government policies that led to respect for the family and ancestors resulted in increased birthrates.

D. Adopting government policies that encouraged immigration from Central Asia caused people to move to China.
5. The diagram below gives information about the Age of Discovery.

Which statement completes this diagram?

A. American Indians welcomed new Christian religious practices.
B. European powers offered justifications for colonization efforts.
C. Catholic leaders needed religious converts in the colonies to keep its power.
D. Protestant ministers believed converting American Indians offered increased spirituality.
6. The map below illustrates the Columbian Exchange.

Which statement describes a result for American Indians of the exchanges of animals shown on the map?

A. It reduced their warfare.
B. It made them more mobile.
C. It increased their population.
D. It caused a decline in hunting.
The image below shows the cover page of the 1663 edition of John Eliot’s translation of the Bible for American Indians.

Based on the image and your knowledge of European history, which conclusion can be made about the reason this book was published?

A. English missionaries sought to condemn American Indians.
B. English missionaries believed American Indians could read English.
C. English missionaries wanted American Indians to convert to Christianity.
D. English missionaries refused to help American Indians to change religious practices.
8. The excerpt describes an example of traditional West African culture.

The epic of Sundiata [is] a story passed down for seven hundred years. . . .

Sundiata was the boy-king who overcame great hardship to found the Mali empire in thirteenth-century West Africa. . . .

. . . The epic is traditionally performed by a griot, or keeper of oral traditions. Griots also act as recorders of deeds and lawyers, tracking arguments and agreements and transfers of land and property.

Source: Public Domain/National Endowment of the Humanities

Which statement explains the reason griots became honored in West Africa?

A. Griots became leaders of local religions.
B. Griots guided groups to look to the future.
C. West African cultures relied on past customs.
D. West African economies benefited from the sales of stories.

9. The list below identifies some of the complaints against the Catholic Church during the Renaissance.

- charges for church services such as baptism
- sales of indulgences to pardon sin
- accumulation of great wealth by church leaders
- ultimate authority of the church rather than the scriptures

Which solution did most people support to combat these abuses?

A. to place Church leaders under arrest
B. to break away from the Church’s authority
C. to replace Church leaders with civil officials
D. to encourage the Church to change its policies
10. The diagram below illustrates an economic development during the latter part of the Middle Ages.

Which sentence completes the diagram?

A. Manors become more self-sufficient.
B. Merchants become more politically powerful.
C. Knights become symbols of feudal-society culture.
D. Manors become centers of government administration.

11. The information below describes the political organization of the Iroquois nation.

One of the earliest governments in North America was the Iroquois Confederacy of the Six Nations. For many years, five Iroquois tribes—Cayuga, Oneida, Mohawk, Seneca, and Onondaga—considered each other enemies and fought often. Eventually several wise leaders realized that the fighting had to stop. The five tribes formed a confederacy, a union in which the chief of each tribe spoke for his people. Later, the Tuscarora migrated into Iroquois territory and joined this confederation. During meetings, leaders discussed topics suggested by a tribal leader. Actions were taken only when all leaders were in agreement. The confederacy developed a constitution called The Great Law of Peace, which contained binding laws on the issues confronting the tribes.

Which statement identifies a conclusion supported by the information?

A. The Iroquois Confederacy resulted in peaceful relations with European settlers.
B. The Iroquois Confederacy allowed the tribes to settle into an agricultural economy.
C. The Iroquois Confederacy caused the tribes problems in defending such a large territory.
D. The Iroquois Confederacy resembled the representative government of British colonists.
12. Why did Arab merchants establish trade routes through the Sahara?
   A. to trade for gold
   B. to search for camels
   C. to build new kingdoms
   D. to spread new religions

13. The map below traces the routes of some of the Crusades.

   Which statement identifies an effect on European society of these Crusades?
   A. decreased power of ruling monarchs
   B. increased curiosity about faraway places
   C. increased religious toleration for Judaism and Islam
   D. decreased respect and power for the Roman Catholic Church
14. The excerpt below is from a document produced in 1559 during the reign of King Philip II of Spain.

From New Spain are obtained gold and silver, cochineal [little insects like flies], from which crimson dye is made, leather, cotton, sugar and other things. . . . Great quantities of gold and silver are no longer found upon the surface of the earth, as they have been in past years; and to penetrate into the bowels of the earth requires greater effort, skill and outlay, and the Spaniards are not willing to do the work themselves, and the natives cannot be forced to do so, because the Emperor has freed them from all obligation of service as soon as they accept the Christian religion. Wherefore it is necessary to acquire . . . slaves, who are brought from the coasts of Africa.

—Translations and Reprints, Vol. 3 No. 3, E.P. Cheyney, ed.

Source: Public Domain

Based on the excerpt and your knowledge of colonial history, which statement identifies the primary motivation for Spanish colonization of the Americas?

A. the political competition among European powers
B. the religious conversion of native populations
C. the potential for improvement of the economy
D. the profit from the African slave trade
15. The excerpt describes an aspect of Japanese culture that developed during the Middle Ages.

Samurai grew to be the... ideal of the whole race... “As among flowers the cherry is queen, so among men the samurai is Lord,” so sang the populace. Debarred from commercial pursuits, the military class itself did not aid commerce; but there was no channel of human activity, no avenue of thought, which did not receive in some measure an impetus from Bushido. Intellectual and moral Japan was directly or indirectly the work of Knighthood.

—inazo Nitobe, Bushido: The Soul of Japan, 1900

Based on the excerpt and your knowledge of Japanese history, which statement describes one impact of the samurai way of life on Japanese society?

A. The military power of rulers decreased.
B. The ethical behavior of the people improved.
C. Control by government bureaucracy increased.
D. Religious membership in traditional faiths shrank.
The map below illustrates a political change that took place in 284 A.D. This event helped change the course of Roman history.

What was a long-term consequence of the political change illustrated by the map?

A. a revival of the power of the Roman Empire by reducing the political influence of the Eastern Empire

B. an increase in the efficiency of the bureaucracy which led to the territorial expansion of the Roman Empire

C. a fracturing of the unity of the Roman Empire which led to the elimination of the dictatorship form of government

D. an advancement of the Byzantine civilization through setting up competing centers of political power within the Roman Empire
17. The information below describes some characteristics of early capitalism.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, Britain pursued a policy of mercantilism with colonies in North America. From the colonies, Britain exported raw materials for use in its factories and then shipped finished goods back to the colonies for sale. The colonists provided a market for British merchants, where British law prevented the colonists from making finished goods themselves. Britain allowed its trading companies to set high prices and used its navy to prevent the colonists from trading with other countries.

Which phrase describes a long-term result of British mercantilism?

A. foreign alliances for colonists  
B. violent revolution by colonists  
C. resource exhaustion in Britain  
D. widespread migration from Britain

18. The diagram contains information about the Papacy and European rulers.

Which statement completes the diagram?

A. Charlemagne unites the Roman Papacy with the Byzantine Empire.  
B. Charlemagne becomes protector of the Roman Pope.  
C. Pope Leo III makes Charlemagne a cardinal.  
D. Pope Leo III crowns Charlemagne emperor.
19. The list below describes some of the decisions made by the Council of Trent.

- reaffirmed important doctrines of Scripture
- reaffirmed the seven sacraments, including the Eucharist
- reaffirmed that the Church is the ultimate interpreter of Scripture
- reaffirmed that the Bible and the Church are equal authorities
- reaffirmed practices such as the veneration of saints and relics

Which title best fits this list?

A. Catholic Church Rules Established by the Pope
B. Attempts to Restore Faith in the Catholic Church
C. Complaints against the Catholic Church by Reformers
D. Demands of the Catholic Church Made to European Monarchs
Which waterway is marked with a star?

A. Red Sea  
B. Nile River  
C. Tigris River  
D. Mediterranean Sea
21. The map below identifies West African empires from around 500 to 1400 A.D. Based on the map and your knowledge of West African history, which statement explains the reason cities developed in these empires?

A. Cities’ universities attracted students from many lands who moved to them to study.

B. Cities had large agricultural markets and technologically advanced tools needed by farmers.

C. Cities attracted missionaries who sought to spread religion further throughout West Africa.

D. Cities’ resources were in high demand and an overland trade route connected them to North Africa.
22. The list below identifies some of the beliefs of an important reformer.

- predestination determined in eternal past
- absolute power of faith
- individual control of personal behavior

Which statement summarizes the impact of these beliefs?

A. Calvinism spread these beliefs from Geneva to France.
B. Tyndale wrote popular pamphlets based on these beliefs.
C. Erasmus used these beliefs to change the Catholic Church.
D. English nobles immediately adopted these beliefs of Lutheranism.
23. The excerpt below contains the writing of a leading thinker of the Middle Ages.

Objection 1. It seems that, besides philosophical science, we have no need of any further knowledge. For man should not seek to know what is above reason. . . . But whatever is not above reason is fully treated of in philosophical science. Therefore any other knowledge besides philosophical science is superfluous.

Objection 2. Further, knowledge can be concerned only with being, for nothing can be known, save what is true; and all that is, is true. But everything that is, is treated of in philosophical science—even God Himself; so that there is a part of philosophy called theology, or the divine science, as Aristotle has proved (Metaph. vi). Therefore, besides philosophical science, there is no need of any further knowledge.

On the contrary, it is written . . . All Scripture, inspired of God, is profitable to teach . . . to instruct in justice. Now Scripture, inspired of God, is no part of philosophical science, which has been built up by human reason. Therefore it is useful that besides philosophical science, there should be other knowledge, i.e., inspired of God.

I answer that, it was necessary for man’s salvation that there should be a knowledge revealed by God besides philosophical science built up by human reason. . . . it was necessary . . . that certain truths which exceed human reason should be made known to him by divine revelation. Even as regards those truths about God which human reason could have discovered, it was necessary that man should be taught by a divine revelation; because the truth about God such as reason could discover, would only be known by a few. . . . Whereas man’s whole salvation, which is in God, depends upon the knowledge of this truth. Therefore, in order that the salvation of men might be brought about more fitly and more surely, it was necessary that they should be taught divine truths by divine revelation. It was therefore necessary that, besides philosophical science built up by reason, there should be a sacred science learned through revelation.

—Thomas Aquinas; Summa Theologica

Based on the excerpt and your knowledge of Thomas Aquinas, which statement summarizes his belief stated in the excerpt?

A. God is clearly understood through human reason.
B. Philosophical science gives humans all understanding.
C. There is knowledge beyond human reason revealed by God.
D. Human intelligence can only know what is learned from the senses.
24. How did Buddhism become widely spread during the Tang Dynasty?
   A. It was taught by Confucius.
   B. It was taught by Marco Polo.
   C. It was carried along by merchants.
   D. It was forced upon conquered people.

25. The map of Europe below shows four numbered locations with unique physical features.

Which location has a mountainous terrain?
   A. location 1
   B. location 2
   C. location 3
   D. location 4
26. How did the Mongols contribute to the transition from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance in Western civilization?

A. They expanded African trade routes, which supplied raw materials to manufacturers in Northern Europe.

B. They reopened the Silk Road, which contributed to economic growth in Southern Europe.

C. They established stable governments from Russia to Eastern Europe.

D. They forced Muslim armies to withdraw from Southern Europe.
27. The map of North America below includes four numbered areas.

Which statement describes the area explored during a voyage by Jacques Cartier?

A. Cartier explored and claimed the area marked 1 for France.
B. Cartier sailed inland and claimed the area marked 2 for the Netherlands.
C. Cartier landed near the area marked 3 and explored northward along the coast.
D. Cartier led a force of soldiers to the area marked 4 and conquered the local people.
28. The flow chart below shows a sequence of events in Aztec religious practices.

![Flow chart image]

Which event completes the flow chart?

A. Captives are forced into slavery.
B. Captives are sacrificed to the gods.
C. Captives are introduced to the nobles.
D. Captives are welcomed into the priesthood.

29. Which effect did the printing press have on the Catholic Church?

A. The printing press raised the cost for printing Church literature.
B. The printing press slowed the progress of the Protestant Reformation.
C. The printing press made it more difficult for the Protestant leaders to share ideas.
D. The printing press made it more difficult for the Church to control religious ideas.
30. The map below shows present-day South America.

Which statement describes the country marked with the star?

**A.** French priests established a series of Catholic missions.

**B.** Spanish soldiers conquered the local American Indians.

**C.** Dutch patroons created a group of large fruit farms.

**D.** Portuguese settlers established plantations.
Social Studies Practice Test Questions

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Social Studies Practice Test Questions

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