SOUTH DAKOTA WORLD HISTORY · UNIT 1

Early Civilizations and Classical Empires — Practice Test

South Dakota World History • 25 questions

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

1 **Which civilization developed along the Nile River in northeast Africa?**

- A Egypt
- B Mesopotamia
- C Greece
- D Rome

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2 **Which two rivers made farming possible in ancient Mesopotamia?**

- A Nile and Indus
- B Tigris and Euphrates
- C Danube and Rhine
- D Ganges and Yellow

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3 **What did irrigation systems in Mesopotamia mainly allow farmers to do?**

- A Sail across the Atlantic Ocean
- B Mine coal for factories
- C Control water for crops in dry seasons
- D Build roads across mountains

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4 **The Code of Hammurabi is best known as an early example of what?**

- A A system of coinage
- B A religious hymn
- C A map of trade routes
- D A written set of laws

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5 **Which writing system was developed by the Sumerians using wedge shaped marks on clay?**

- A Cuneiform
- B Hieroglyphics
- C Latin
- D Greek

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6 **Which group developed an alphabet that later influenced Greek and Latin writing?**

- A Hittites
- B Phoenicians
- C Persians
- D Nubians

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7 **In ancient Egypt, what was the role of a pharaoh?**

- A A merchant who led trade ships
- B A scribe who recorded taxes
- C A ruler believed to hold political and religious authority
- D A soldier who guarded only one city

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8 **Which Egyptian writing system used picture symbols?**

A Cuneiform

B Alphabet

C Sanskrit

D Hieroglyphics

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9 **Which ancient civilization built large pyramids as tombs for rulers?**

A Egypt

B Rome

C Greece

D Persia

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10 **Which early religion taught belief in one God and is associated with the ancient Hebrews?**

- A Polytheism
- B Judaism
- C Hinduism
- D Buddhism

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11 **The Indus Valley cities of Harappa and Mohenjo Daro are best known for what?**

- A Large stone pyramids
- B Long defensive walls around Rome
- C Planned streets and drainage systems
- D Ice roads across the Arctic

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12 **Which Chinese thinker taught respect for family, education, and proper conduct in government?**

A Laozi

B Buddha

C Zoroaster

D Confucius

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13 **Which empire built a Royal Road and used satraps to govern large provinces?**

A Persian

B Greek

C Roman

D Egyptian

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14 **What was a polis in ancient Greece?**

A An independent city state with its own government

B A large farming village with no government

C A temple used only for trade

D A ship used for long sea voyages

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15 **Which Greek city state is best known for direct democracy in which citizens voted on laws?**

A Sparta

B Corinth

C Athens

D Thebes

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16 **Which Greek city state placed the greatest emphasis on military training and discipline?**

A Athens

B Delphi

C Olympia

D Sparta

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17 **Which leader spread Greek culture across Egypt and western Asia after conquering the Persian Empire?**

A Alexander the Great

B Pericles

C Socrates

D Solon

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18 **What term describes the spread of Greek language and culture after Alexander?**

A Feudal

B Hellenistic

C Imperial

D Classical Latin

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19 **In the Roman Republic, what was the Senate?**

A A group of foreign traders

B A religious order of priests

C A council of wealthy citizens that helped govern

D An army unit that guarded the border

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20 **Which Roman achievement helped move fresh water into cities?**

- A Ziggurats
- B Pyramids
- C Canals for ocean ships
- D Aqueducts

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21 **Who became the first emperor of Rome and began a long period of relative stability called the Pax Romana?**

- A Augustus
- B Julius Caesar
- C Nero
- D Constantine

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22 **The Han Dynasty in China is best known for expanding trade along which route?**

A The Royal Road

B The Silk Road

C The Oregon Trail

D The Trans Saharan route

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23 **Which Indian emperor promoted Buddhism and carved edicts on pillars and rocks across his empire?**

A Chandragupta

B Akbar

C Asoka

D Babur

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24 **In what year did the Western Roman Empire traditionally end when the last emperor was deposed?**

ANSWER _____

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Source I - A Farmer in Mesopotamia

Use this reading for question 25.

Our village digs channels from the river before planting season. When the water is low, the channels carry it to fields far from the bank. When the river rises too high, we strengthen the banks so the flood does not wash the crops away. A good harvest depends on work shared by many families.

25 **Based on Source I, why did Mesopotamian farmers build channels and banks?**

A To create harbors for ocean ships

B To hide grain from traders

C To build walls around temples

D To control river water for farming

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ANSWER KEY

1. A
2. B
3. C
4. D
5. A
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. A
10. B
11. C
12. D
13. A
14. A
15. C
16. D
17. A
18. B
19. C
20. D
21. A
22. B
23. C
24. 476
25. D

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