

2006 AP Human Geography Released Exam (Sorted by Difficulty)

1. Production of agricultural products destined primarily for direct consumption by the producer rather than for market is called
 - (A) plantation farming
 - (B) hunting and gathering
 - (C) subsistence agriculture
 - (D) sedentary cultivation
 - (E) shifting-field agriculture
2. Which of the following profiles characterizes the population group that is the most likely to migrate?
 - (A) Married, twenty-five years old
 - (B) Single, twenty-five years old
 - (C) Married, fifty years old
 - (D) Single, fifty years old
 - (E) Married, sixty-five years old
3. Dramatic increases in global grain production since 1950 have been made possible by
 - (A) substantial increases in the amount of land under cultivation
 - (B) global warming
 - (C) an increase in the urban workforce
 - (D) an increase in the agricultural workforce
 - (E) an increase in the use of energy and technology
4. The European Union, the Arab League, and the United Nations are all examples of
 - (A) pressure groups
 - (B) nation-states
 - (C) centrifugal organizations
 - (D) supranational organizations
 - (E) federations
5. One would expect to find a population with a relatively young age structure in
 - (A) less developed countries
 - (B) highly developed countries
 - (C) countries with a low death rate
 - (D) countries with a low fertility rate
 - (E) countries with a high standard of living
6. Which of the following is true of popular culture?
 - (A) It is more static than folk culture.
 - (B) It is practiced among a homogeneous group of people in the world.
 - (C) It promotes regional diversity.
 - (D) It incorporates traits that diffuse quickly to a wide variety of places.
 - (E) It spreads primarily by relocation diffusion.
7. Which of the following countries consumes the most fossil fuels per capita?
 - (A) China
 - (B) India
 - (C) Japan
 - (D) England
 - (E) The United States
8. Why are most South American population centers located at or near the coast?
 - (A) The colonial economies were export-oriented.
 - (B) The wars of independence damaged many inland cities.
 - (C) Few Amerindian population centers were located on the coast.
 - (D) Latin American armed forces have extensive plans for the defense of coastal sites.
 - (E) The climate is generally warmer on the coast and cooler in the highlands.
9. If four languages have similar words for numbers and the names of fish, but different names for a certain disease, what might be concluded about the time at which the disease first diffused?
 - (A) The disease spread among a population that later divided and evolved into four different languages.
 - (B) The population divided and evolved into the four different languages, and then the disease spread.
 - (C) The disease spread to two different populations that later divided into two different languages.
 - (D) The disease and language spread to four different regions at the same time at the same rate.
 - (E) There can be no conclusions drawn about the initial diffusion of the disease based on language.
10. All of the following twentieth-century migration streams were propelled by persecution or open conflict EXCEPT
 - (A) Asians leaving Uganda
 - (B) Kosovars leaving Yugoslavia
 - (C) Tutsis leaving Rwanda
 - (D) Hindus leaving Pakistan
 - (E) Mexicans leaving Mexico
11. Von Thünen emphasized which of the following factors in his model of agricultural land use?
 - (A) Labor cost
 - (B) Transportation cost
 - (C) Fertilizer cost
 - (D) Machinery cost
 - (E) Seasonal fluctuations in prices of farm products
12. The term "cultural diffusion" refers to the
 - (A) modification of Earth's surface by human actions
 - (B) integration of behavioral traits within a group
 - (C) spread of an idea or innovation from its source
 - (D) relationship between human cultures and their physical environment
 - (E) assimilation of a minority culture into the host society

13. Indonesia is an example of which of the following types of states?

- (A) Prompted
- (B) Perforated
- (C) Compact
- (D) Fragmented
- (E) Bifurcated

14. During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, which of the following types of intraregional migration was the most prominent worldwide?

- (A) Rural to urban
- (B) Urban to suburban
- (C) Inland to coastal
- (D) Highland to lowland
- (E) Urban to rural

15. Which of the following characteristics is currently shared by Switzerland, Canada, and New Zealand?

- (A) Low population-growth rates
- (B) Primate urban systems
- (C) High infant-mortality rates
- (D) Membership in the European Union (EU)
- (E) More than ten percent of the population involved in sheep farming

16. According to the theory of environmental determinism, which of the following areas would have the most productive settlements?

- (A) Tropical regions
- (B) Temperate regions
- (C) Mountainous regions
- (D) Arctic regions
- (E) Arid regions

17. International company headquarters, significant global financial functions, and a polarized social structure are defining characteristics of

- (A) primate cities
- (B) entrepôts
- (C) forward capitals
- (D) world cities
- (E) edge cities

18. In the century after the arrival of Europeans, which of the following changes occurred to the indigenous population of the Americas?

- (A) It increased dramatically because of new trade routes and industries
- (B) It increased slowly with the introduction of new crops
- (C) It remained about the same, since very few Europeans actually moved there
- (D) It decreased dramatically with the introduction of new diseases
- (E) It decreased slowly due to increased competition for land

19. The maquiladoras of northern Mexico are

- (A) manufacturing outsourcing plants
- (B) illegal migrant-labor camps

- (C) border squatter settlements
- (D) organic agricultural cooperatives
- (E) commercial produce farms

20. Which of the following correctly lists the usual hierarchy of political-administrative units in order from the largest to the smallest?

- (A) Empire, county, province, nation-state
- (B) Province, empire, nation-state, county
- (C) Empire, nation-state, province, county
- (D) County, nation-state, province, empire
- (E) Empire, nation-state, county, province



21. The map above represents what kind of projection?

- (A) A Mercator projection with distorted land areas
- (B) A planar projection with diverging lines at the poles
- (C) A homolosine projection with continuity of landmasses
- (D) A Robinson projection with distortions at the equator
- (E) A gnomonic projection with distortions of bodies of water

22. Which of the following industries will most likely locate closest to its raw material sources?

- (A) Soft-drink bottling
- (B) Brewing
- (C) Nickel smelting
- (D) Baking
- (E) Automobile assembly

23. A country in which the majority of the population are Shiite Muslims is

- (A) Iran
- (B) Morocco
- (C) Saudi Arabia
- (D) Egypt
- (E) Indonesia

24. Which of the following statements best describes the impact of improvements in transportation systems on agriculture?

- (A) Local markets have become more important for dairy farmers.
- (B) Individual farms have become more diversified.
- (C) Corporate farms have gained a greater advantage over family farms.
- (D) Subsistence farmers are given great advantages.

(E) Cuisines have become more regionalized.

25. Which of the following environmental problems is most associated with the African Sahel?

- (A) Desertification
- (B) Deforestation
- (C) Air pollution
- (D) Flooding
- (E) Water pollution

26. Which of the following is most characteristic of societies currently in the last stage of demographic transition?

- (A) Hyperinflation
- (B) Unemployment
- (C) Youth dependency
- (D) Aging population
- (E) Overpopulation

27. In the United States, the largest concentrations of Amish are found in

- (A) Rhode Island, New York, and West Virginia
- (B) Tennessee, Arkansas, and Kentucky
- (C) Minnesota, Michigan, and Illinois
- (D) Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana
- (E) Utah, Arizona, and Nevada

28. The alignment of ancient Chinese cities toward the cardinal directions (north, south, east, west) best illustrates the importance of which of the following factors in the shaping of these early cities?

- (A) Belief systems
- (B) Topography
- (C) Economics
- (D) Gender
- (E) Technology

29. An urban center that is disproportionately larger than the second largest city in a country and that dominates the country's social, political, and economic activities can be best classified as

- (A) a megalopolis
- (B) a conurbation
- (C) a primate city
- (D) an edge city
- (E) an imperial city

30. The Internet is reshaping traditional economic arrangements by

- (A) reinforcing the dominance of the central business district for retail sales
- (B) expanding the importance of express package delivery systems
- (C) increasing the importance of rail transportation as compared to truck transportation
- (D) bringing consumers and producers into face-to-face contact
- (E) creating more enclosed shopping malls

31. Rostow's modernization model is concerned with which of the following concepts?

- (A) Dependency
- (B) Structuralism
- (C) Core-periphery relations
- (D) Economic development
- (E) Neocolonialism

32. Traditionally, the Ganges Valley and the Nile Valley have had comparatively high population densities because of their

- (A) tropical climate
- (B) heavy industrialization
- (C) in-migration from neighboring areas
- (D) intensive agriculture based on irrigation
- (E) designation as sacred sites



33. The shape of North Carolina's Twelfth Congressional District, shown above, is most likely the result of

- (A) watershed boundaries
- (B) gerrymandering
- (C) county boundaries
- (D) decentralization
- (E) amalgamation

34. A clustering of doctor's offices and pharmacies near hospitals is BEST explained by the benefits of

- (A) decentralization
- (B) agglomeration
- (C) intervening opportunity
- (D) balkanization
- (E) enfranchisement

35. Regionalization is to geography as

- (A) composition is to music
- (B) description is to literature
- (C) exploration is to geology
- (D) periodization is to history
- (E) characterization is to drama

36. The world's three major monotheistic religions originated in which of the following regions?

- (A) East Asia
- (B) Southwest Asia
- (C) Eastern Europe
- (D) Western Europe
- (E) Africa

37. Prior to 1850 the location of all major North American cities was related, chiefly, to the presence of

- (A) transcontinental highways
- (B) defensive sites
- (C) railroad junctions

- (D) navigable waterways
- (E) water power

38. The term Balkanization refers to the

- (A) fragmentation of a region into smaller units
- (B) introduction of an economic system of free enterprise
- (C) spread of Slavic languages
- (D) industrial growth in less-developed nations
- (E) military and economic alliance of a group of countries

39. Which of the following was NOT a reason for rapid suburbanization in the United States after the Second World War?

- (A) Mass production of the automobile
- (B) Reduction in long-distance commuting
- (C) Expansion of home construction
- (D) Expansion of the interstate highway system
- (E) Availability of low down payment terms and long-term mortgages

40. Quaternary economic activities are those that

- (A) extract natural resources from the environment
- (B) transform raw materials into finished products
- (C) involve the collection, processing, and manipulation of information
- (D) involve the exchange of goods and the provision of services
- (E) involve the production of fresh produce for urban markets

41. According to the rank-size rule, if the largest city in a country has a population of 10 million, the next largest city will have a population of

- (A) 9 million
- (B) 8 million
- (C) 7.5 million
- (D) 5 million
- (E) 3.5 million

42. The literacy rate of any country correlates most closely with which of the following?

- (A) Per capita income
- (B) Annual precipitation rates
- (C) Petroleum production
- (D) General level of intelligence
- (E) Population density

43. During the first half of the twentieth century, which of the following facilitated the transportation of beef over long distances to global markets?

- (A) Commercial canning
- (B) Irradiation of food
- (C) Refrigerated ships
- (D) Airplanes
- (E) High-speed railroads

44. All of the following have helped create ghettos in North American cities EXCEPT

- (A) blockbusting and racial steering
- (B) redlining by financial institutions
- (C) concentration of public housing and social services
- (D) fixed school district boundaries

(E) Economic Enterprise Zones

45. The popularity of which of the following is an example of the trend toward ecotourism?

- (A) Time-share condominiums on the coast of Spain
- (B) Ski resorts in Chile
- (C) National parks in Costa Rica
- (D) Recreational canals in Florida
- (E) Artificial lakes in Texas

46. Which of the following has fostered the most significant economic growth by eliminating import tariffs between member states?

- (A) European Union (EU)
- (B) Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
- (C) North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
- (D) Association of Caribbean States (ACS)
- (E) United Nations (UN)

47. Which of the following is an example of an ethnic religion?

- (A) Islam
- (B) Mormonism
- (C) Buddhism
- (D) Judaism
- (E) Roman Catholicism

48. The "Four Economic Tigers" of East and Southeast Asia include

- (A) China, Indonesia, Japan, and Taiwan
- (B) Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan
- (C) Japan, Philippines, South Korea, and Vietnam
- (D) Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam
- (E) China, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand

49. Cultural landscape can be defined as

- (A) the types of art, music, dance, and theater practiced in a particular region
- (B) the ways that people in differing cultures perceive the environment
- (C) the forms superimposed on the physical environment by the activities of humans
- (D) the diversity of distinctive cultures within a particular geographic area
- (E) a particular area within a geographic region dedicated to cultural activities

50. Which of the following environmental issues is of most immediate concern to policy-makers in New England?

- (A) Overharvesting of breeding stock by commercial fishers
- (B) Oil-spill liability
- (C) Desertification by overgrazing of cattle
- (D) Intensification of urban heat islands
- (E) Generation of electric power by wind

51. In which of the following countries is terracing LEAST likely to be used by farming groups to create

additional space and minimize erosion on steep slopes?

- (A) Nepal
- (B) Peru
- (C) The Philippines
- (D) Niger
- (E) Greece

52. Which of the following terms refers to an area of instability located between regions with opposing political and cultural values?

- (A) Rimland
- (B) Heartland
- (C) Shatter belt
- (D) Enclave
- (E) Gerrymandered area

53. Which of the following is a characteristic of shifting cultivation?

- (A) Dependency on irrigation
- (B) Sharecropping
- (C) Production of cash crops for export
- (D) Demand for wage laborers
- (E) Multicropping

54. The Canadian government created the new territory of Nunavut in order to

- (A) re-create the pre-1912 boundary of Quebec
- (B) recognize the territorial rights of indigenous people in the area
- (C) facilitate the exploration of mineral resources in the Northwest Territories
- (D) grant autonomy to the Cree and Mohawk people living in eastern Canada
- (E) guarantee Canadian fishing rights in the Atlantic Ocean

55. In the early twenty-first century, the largest number of refugees is located on which of the following continents?

- (A) Africa
- (B) Australia
- (C) Europe
- (D) North America
- (E) South America



56. On the map above, which letter represents the region of the greatest proportion of the Canadian population?

- (A) A
- (B) B

- (C) C
- (D) D
- (E) E

57. Land parcels in the American Midwest tend to be rectilinear because

- (A) the federal survey system adopted in the late eighteenth century imposed a geometric pattern on the landscape
- (B) Native American settlement patterns were rectangular
- (C) English-speaking settlers replicated the landscape patterns of England
- (D) Spanish colonists laid out settlements in a rigid geometric pattern
- (E) there were no mountains or rivers to use as boundaries

58. The early stages of the core-periphery model describe the

- (A) relationship between the outward appearance of a place and its internal functioning
- (B) ways that suburban workers commute to urban workplaces
- (C) relationship between the underlying structure of a society and its outward expressions
- (D) social and cultural differences between urban and rural people
- (E) relationship of power and the transfer of resources from less developed to more developed areas

59. Why is the traditional classification of agriculture as a primary economic activity a problem when considering the geography of agriculture?

- (A) Modern farmers are engaged in production, research, marketing, and some manufacturing of their products.
- (B) Agricultural employment is such a small fraction of the labor force in the industrialized countries that agriculture can no longer be thought of as a primary economic activity.
- (C) Unlike mining, forestry, and other primary activities, agriculture has not been affected by industrialization.
- (D) Traditional patterns of farming are disappearing.
- (E) Modern farmers use machinery.

60. According to the sector model of North American city structure, members of low-income groups tend to live in which of the following places?

- (A) The inner city only
- (B) Peripheral temporary settlements
- (C) Linear residential areas radiating from the center city outward
- (D) Evenly dispersed throughout the urban area
- (E) The suburbs and rural areas only

61. Which of the following modes of transportation is characterized by low terminal cost, high line cost, and high route flexibility?

- (A) Truck
- (B) Railroad

- (C) Ship
- (D) Pipeline
- (E) Airplane

62. Which of the following countries did NOT have a significant, long-lasting colonial presence in Africa after 1920?

- (A) Germany
- (B) Great Britain
- (C) France
- (D) Portugal
- (E) Belgium

63. Which of the following most closely describes the leading trend in retailing in the United States during the 1950s, 1970s, and 1990s?

- (A) 1950's: Downtown business district; 1970's: Shopping mall; 1990's: "Big box" superstore
- (B) 1950's: Downtown business district; 1970's: "Big box" superstore; 1990's: Shopping mall
- (C) 1950's: Shopping mall; 1970's: Downtown business district; 1990's: "Big box" superstore
- (D) 1950's: "Big box" superstore; 1970's: Downtown business district; 1990's: Shopping mall
- (E) 1950's: "Big box" superstore; 1970's: Shopping mall; 1990's: Downtown business district

64. In terms of total tonnage, which of the following is currently the leading export crop in the world?

- (A) Coffee
- (B) Sugar cane
- (C) Wheat
- (D) Corn
- (E) Rice

65. With respect to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between the United States, Canada and Mexico, which of the following statements is NOT true?

- (A) It resulted in increased trade among member nations
- (B) It outlines an eventual supranational governing body for North America
- (C) It led to a net trade deficit for the United States with Canada and Mexico
- (D) It facilitated the movement of tertiary-sector industries from the United States to Mexico
- (E) It eventually may include

66. Agriculture practiced in California differs from forms practiced in other Mediterranean agricultural regions because in California

- (A) grapes are grown for wine production
- (B) farms use more irrigation
- (C) farms are smaller
- (D) farms rely on local labor
- (E) wheat is grown in the winter as a cover crop

67. Violent confrontations in Ambon, Aceh, and East Timor illustrate the problem of holding together the physically and culturally diverse country of

- (A) India

- (B) Indonesia
- (C) Brazil
- (D) South Africa
- (E) Yugoslavia

68. Of the following, which is the best example of a footloose industry?

- (A) Wine making
- (B) Steel
- (C) Furniture
- (D) Computer chip
- (E) Tuna canning

69. Which of the following is useful for describing a settlement node whose primary function is to provide support for the population in its hinterland?

- (A) Von Thünen's model of land use
- (B) Concentric zone model
- (C) Core-periphery model
- (D) Rostow's model of economic development
- (E) Christaller's model of central place

70. The provisions of the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea give coastal countries navigational and economic sovereignty over which of the following zones?

- (A) Twelve-nautical-mile territorial sea zone
- (B) Export processing zone (EPZ)
- (C) 200-nautical-mile exclusive economic zone
- (D) Empowerment zone
- (E) Continental shelf

71. Isolated farmsteads in the United States evolved as a result of all of the following EXCEPT

- (A) political stability
- (B) colonization by individual pioneer families
- (C) agricultural private enterprise
- (D) government land policy
- (E) physical barriers preventing communal farm practices

72. In which of the following areas was wheat most probably domesticated earliest?

- (A) Southern Italy
- (B) Northern Libya
- (C) The plateau of central Mexico
- (D) Eastern China
- (E) Southeastern Turkey

73. Which of the following areas has the greatest linguistic fragmentation?

- (A) Korea
- (B) Scandinavia
- (C) Caucasus
- (D) Argentina
- (E) Quebec

74. Of the following countries, which has the fewest people per unit of arable land?

- (A) Guatemala
- (B) Bangladesh
- (C) Argentina
- (D) Netherlands
- (E) Egypt

(ONE QUESTION WAS NOT SCORED)