



Military History Examination IAC European Championships 2026

Instructions – Mark your answers on the scantron provided. Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points. Write the answer to your tiebreaker question in the box at the top of your scantron.

1. Which Roman emperor is most closely associated with significant military reforms that helped transform the Roman army in the late third century CE?
 - A. Diocletian
 - B. Nero
 - C. Augustus
 - D. Hadrian
2. Which Chinese military text, traditionally attributed to Sun Tzu, became one of the most influential works on warfare in the ancient world?
 - A. The Art of War
 - B. The Histories
 - C. The Twelve Tables
 - D. The Epic of Gilgamesh
3. Which ruler is most closely associated with the use of war elephants during the Mauryan period in ancient India?
 - A. Hammurabi
 - B. Darius III
 - C. Ramesses II
 - D. Ashoka
4. Which Roman military disaster in 9 CE resulted in the destruction of three legions in Germania?
 - A. The Battle of Cannae
 - B. The Battle of Actium
 - C. The Battle of the Teutoburg Forest
 - D. The Battle of Zama
5. The Battle of Lake Tunis during the Third Punic War and the Battle of Red Cliffs at the end of the Han Dynasty both featured what naval tactic?
 - A. extensive use of turtle ships
 - B. early use of aerial bombardment
 - C. use of ship-mounted cannons
 - D. use of fire ships to burn enemy vessels
6. Which defensive structure best represents Roman efforts to secure a frontier in northern Britain?
 - A. the 'Long Walls'
 - B. Hadrian's Wall
 - C. the Gordian knot
 - D. the Arch of Titus
7. Which military innovation is most closely associated with the Assyrian army in the ancient Near East?
 - A. The large-scale deployment of war elephants in open battle
 - B. The widespread battlefield use of iron weapons and siege engines
 - C. The invention of Greek fire for use in naval warfare
 - D. The replacement of infantry with heavily armored cavalry
8. Which military development was a major strength of the Parthian army in its conflicts with Rome?
 - A. The heavy reliance on chariot archers supported by hoplite infantry
 - B. The primary use of war elephants and naval blockade tactics
 - C. The effective combination of horse archers and armored cavalry
 - D. The strict dependence on citizen militia fighting in phalanx formation
9. Which of these was NOT a major battle during Alexander the Great's Persian Campaign?
 - A. the Siege of Halicarnassus
 - B. the Battle of Issus
 - C. the Battle of Gaugamela
 - D. the Battle of Hydaspes
10. The Battle of Megiddo in the 15th century BCE is the first recorded use of what innovative new weapon?
 - A. the pike
 - B. the ballista
 - C. the composite bow
 - D. the catapult

11. The Social War of the 1st century BCE saw the Roman Republic fight which of these groups?

- A. Rome's Italian allies
- B. Carthage and its allies
- C. Roman slaves
- D. a combined force of Egyptians and Greeks

12. What legendary first emperor of Japan supposedly defeated a group of Emishi or 'shrimp barbarians' in the 7th century BCE before taking the throne?

- A. Seiwa
- B. Koko
- C. Yozei
- D. Jimmu

13. Which of the following was a Neo-Assyrian leader who led a conquest of the Levant, including Jerusalem, in the late eighth century BCE that is mentioned in the Bible?

- A. Sennacherib
- B. Thutmose III
- C. Shalmaneser V
- D. Enkidu

14. What 'victorious woman' led the Iceni in a revolt against Roman rule in modern Britain?

- A. Hatshepsut
- B. Boudica
- C. Aemelia
- D. Agrippina the younger

15. The Battle of Aegospotami in 405 BCE was the last major battle of what conflict?

- A. the Persian Wars
- B. the Second Punic War
- C. the Peloponnesian War
- D. the Wars of the Diadochi

16. The 1314 Battle of Bannockburn was a victory for which of these nations over the English?

- A. France
- B. Scotland
- C. Spain
- D. the Netherlands

17. Which battle in 732 is traditionally associated with the Frankish leader Charles Martel halting an advancing Muslim force in Western Europe?

- A. The Battle of Tours
- B. The Battle of Manzikert
- C. The Battle of Hastings
- D. The Battle of Lepanto

18. Which of these gave steppe armies such as the Mongols a major advantage in ranged combat?

- A. the battering ram
- B. the long pike
- C. the naval torsion catapult
- D. skilled horse archers

19. The Kamakura shogunate under Minamoto no Yoritomo was established following which 12th century conflict?

- A. the Thirty-Eight Years' War
- B. Zenkunen War
- C. Genpei War
- D. Hogen Rebellion

20. Which treaty in 843 divided the Carolingian Empire into separate kingdoms and had major implications for the military and political map of medieval Europe?

- A. The Treaty of Verdun
- B. The Treaty of Tordesillas
- C. The Treaty of Westminster
- D. The Treaty of Granada

21. Which leader is most closely associated with the Muslim victory at the Battle of Hattin in 1187?

- A. Richard I
- B. Belisarius
- C. Saladin
- D. Tamerlane

22. The Battle of Kulikovo in 1380 saw the Golden Horde defeated by Dmitri Donskoy, a prince of what city?

- A. Kiev
- B. Moscow
- C. Warsaw
- D. Minsk

23. Which of these was the location of a 1066 battle that saw English King Harold Godwinson defeat a Viking force led by Harald Hardrada?

- A. Hastings
- B. Bouvines
- C. Nicopolis
- D. Stamford Bridge

24. The 14th century CE rebellions against the Yuan Dynasty in China that resulted in the rise of the Ming were named for headgear of what color?

- A. white
- B. green
- C. black
- D. red

25. Which of these men is generally recognized as the leader of the disastrous 11th century People's Crusade?

- A. Peter the Hermit
- B. Bernard of Clairvaux
- C. Louis VII
- D. Conrad III

26. Which ruler is most closely associated with the creation of a highly disciplined "New Model Army" during the English Civil War?

- A. Charles I
- B. John Churchill
- C. Oliver Cromwell
- D. Edward Montagu

27. Which military development is most strongly associated with trace italienne fortifications in early modern Europe?

- A. Circular wooden forts intended for rapid cavalry deployment
- B. Star-shaped forts designed to resist artillery bombardment
- C. Temporary hilltop camps built for elephant corps
- D. Floating river forts protected by chain barriers

28. Which battle in 1571 is best known for halting major Ottoman naval expansion in the Mediterranean?

- A. The Battle of Lepanto
- B. The Battle of Mohács
- C. The Battle of Pavia
- D. The Battle of Rocroi

29. The First Battle of Panipat led to the foundation of which of these by Babur in the early 16th century?

- A. the Delhi Sultanate
- B. the Safavid Dynasty
- C. the Mughal Empire
- D. the Khanate of Bukhara

30. At the Battle of Cajamarca, Francisco Pizarro and his force captured what Incan emperor?

- A. Pachacuti
- B. Huascar
- C. Huayna Capac
- D. Atahualpa

31. Although it would take nearly 40 more years to consolidate their rule, the Battle of Shanhai Pass in 1644 is usually considered the beginning of what dynasty in China?

- A. Han
- B. Qing
- C. Yuan
- D. Ming

32. Which battle in 1704 is best known for checking the expansion of Bourbon power during the War of the Spanish Succession?

- A. The Battle of Blenheim
- B. The Battle of Poltava
- C. The Battle of Naseby
- D. The Battle of Vienna

33. The Peace of Westphalia brought an end to what two major European conflicts in 1648?

- A. the Seven Years' War and the French and Indian War
- B. the Thirty Years' War and the Eighty Years' War
- C. Queen Anne's War and the War of the Spanish Succession
- D. King George's War and the War of the Austrian Succession

34. Which colony in North America was taken by the English during the Second Anglo-Dutch War?

- A. Georgia
- B. Florida
- C. New Netherland
- D. Massachusetts

35. Francis II disbanded which of the following in 1806, partly due to the result of the Battle of Austerlitz?

- A. Prussia
- B. Poland
- C. the Holy Roman Empire
- D. the Ottoman Empire

36. Which battle in 1905 demonstrated the growing importance of modern naval gunnery and signaled Japan's rise as a major military power?

- A. The Battle of Jutland
- B. The Battle of Tsushima
- C. The Battle of Trafalgar
- D. The Battle of Manila Bay

37. Which peace settlement in 1763 concluded the Seven Years' War and reshaped diplomacy and military power on several continents?

- A. The Treaty of Versailles
- B. The Treaty of Paris
- C. The Treaty of Tilsit
- D. The Congress of Vienna

38. Which battle in 1879 is most closely associated with a major Zulu victory over British forces in southern Africa?

- A. The Battle of Isandlwana
- B. The Battle of Omdurman
- C. The Battle of Balaclava
- D. The Battle of Königgrätz

39. What Swedish monarch was killed in 1718 during the Great Northern War?

- A. Louis IX
- B. Gustavus Adolphus
- C. Haakon V
- D. Charles XII

40. The Battle of Plassey in 1757 saw the Nawab of Bengal defeated by which of the following?

- A. the British East India Company
- B. Portugal
- C. Spain
- D. the Eight-Nation Alliance

41. Which military innovation most improved the operational range of large armies during the nineteenth century?

- A. The widespread use of railroads for mobilization and supply
- B. The return of war elephants for heavy transport
- C. The replacement of artillery by mounted archers
- D. The abandonment of staff planning in favor of local initiative

42. The Battle of Yorktown was the last major engagement of what conflict?

- A. the War of 1812
- B. the Seven Year's War
- C. the American Revolution
- D. the Mexican-American War

43. During the Second Boer War, the British used which of the following in an attempt to pacify both the Boers and local Black South Africans?

- A. nerve gas
- B. cluster bombs
- C. mass executions of civilians
- D. concentration camps

44. Which of these territories was gained by the US in the Treaty of Paris of 1898 following the Spanish-American War?

- A. California
- B. Hawai'i
- C. the Philippines
- D. Alaska

45. What Canadian rebel leader was captured following the 1885 Battle of Batoche and executed shortly after?

- A. Jean-Olivier Chénier
- B. Louis Riel
- C. James FitzGibbon
- D. Joseph Broussard dit Beausoleil

46. The Battle of Sinop, in which Russian naval forces defeated a small Ottoman fleet, is considered the first engagement of what conflict?

- A. World War I
- B. the Russo-Japanese War
- C. the Persian Expedition
- D. the Crimean War

47. The 'high water mark of the Confederacy' in the American Civil War is often tied to the charge led by what cavalry general during the Battle of Gettysburg?

- A. Braxton Bragg
- B. George Armstrong Custer
- C. George Pickett
- D. P.G.T. Beauregard

48. The Renault FT tank used during World War I was the first to have which of these design elements, now standard on tanks throughout the world?

- A. a fully rotating turret
- B. tracks instead of wheels
- C. metal armor
- D. a gasoline engine

49. Which of the following commanded the American Expeditionary Force during World War I?

- A. Herbert Kitchener
- B. John J. Pershing
- C. Douglas Haig
- D. Josephus Daniels

50. Which of these is considered the largest naval battle and the only full-scale clash of battleships of World War I?

- A. Sevastopol
- B. Jutland
- C. Tsushima
- D. Dogger Bank

51. The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk resulted in the withdrawal of which of the following from World War I in early 1918?

- A. Russia
- B. the United States
- C. Austria-Hungary
- D. the Ottoman Empire

52. Which of the following was developed by Nobel Prize-winning chemist Fritz Haber during World War I?

- A. the machine gun
- B. the exploding artillery shell
- C. plastic explosives
- D. a process for weaponizing chlorine gas

53. Which of these was the main British fighter aircraft in the closing phases of World War I?

- A. Gloster Gladiator
- B. Curtiss P-36
- C. Sopwith Camel
- D. Supermarine Spitfire

54. Which battle in 1914 is most closely associated with stopping the initial German advance toward Paris?

- A. The First Battle of the Marne
- B. The Battle of Passchendaele
- C. The Battle of Gallipoli
- D. The Battle of Tannenberg

55. Which of these was a false flag incident staged by the Japanese in 1931 to justify their invasion of Manchuria?

- A. Operation Paul Bunyan
- B. Marco Polo Bridge incident
- C. X'ian incident
- D. Mukden incident

56. Which of these is NOT characteristic of the German Blitzkrieg of the World War II era?

- A. extensive use of naval artillery
- B. rapid and overwhelming force concentration
- C. tanks and mechanized infantry
- D. close air support

57. The Nazi German Luftwaffe's Condor Legion and the Fascist Italian Aviazione Legionaria bombed which of these Spanish towns in 1937, the subject of a famous painting by Pablo Picasso?

- A. Guadalajara
- B. Bilbao
- C. Guernica
- D. Madrid

58. The 1939 Molotov–Ribbentrop Pact partitioned which of these between the USSR and Nazi Germany?

- A. Austria
- B. Czechoslovakia
- C. Yugoslavia
- D. Poland

59. The phrase 'prompt and utter destruction' was used prominently in what Allied document calling for an unconditional Japanese surrender?

- A. the Atlantic Charter
- B. the Potsdam Declaration
- C. the Berlin Decree
- D. the Cairo Declaration

60. Which battle is widely regarded as the turning point on the Eastern Front in World War II because it halted the German advance and led to a major Soviet counteroffensive?

- A. Battle of Kursk
- B. Battle of Moscow
- C. Battle of Stalingrad
- D. Battle of Berlin

61. Which military technology gave Allied convoys a major advantage in detecting German U-boats during the Battle of the Atlantic?

- A. Radar and sonar systems
- B. Ballistic missile guidance
- C. Jet-powered fighter aircraft
- D. Armored amphibious landing craft

62. What was the main objective of the Allied campaign known as "island hopping" in the Pacific Theater?

- A. To capture every Japanese-held island in sequence
- B. To bypass strongholds and seize strategic islands
- C. To defend Australia from direct land invasion
- D. To move Soviet troops into the central Pacific

63. Which Soviet commander became especially known for leading major Red Army operations against Germany and later for directing the final assault on Berlin?

- A. Georgy Zhukov
- B. Semyon Budyonny
- C. Kliment Voroshilov
- D. Mikhail Tukhachevsky

64. Why was the Messerschmitt Me 262 a significant advancement in military technology?

- A. it was the first fighter aircraft with a machine gun turret
- B. it was the first bomber aircraft
- C. it was the first operational jet fighter
- D. it was the first 'stealth' aircraft

65. What was the main military importance of the Battle of Britain in 1940?

- A. it allowed Germany to seize control of the Suez Canal
- B. it prevented Germany from gaining air superiority over Britain
- C. it enabled Italy to invade the British mainland
- D. it opened the way for an Allied invasion of Norway

66. Which military alliance, originally formed in 1949, remains a major collective security organization for a group of European allies, the US, and Canada?

- A. Warsaw Pact
- B. League of Nations
- C. Central Powers Coalition
- D. North Atlantic Treaty Organization

67. At the end of World War II, the Korean peninsula was divided at which of these locations?

- A. the Prime Meridian
- B. the 16th parallel
- C. the 38th parallel
- D. the 90th parallel

68. What was the main military significance of intercontinental ballistic missiles during the Cold War?

- A. they allowed armored divisions to cross rivers more quickly
- B. they enabled nuclear weapons to be delivered across continents
- C. they improved submarine detection in coastal waters
- D. they replaced infantry as the main ground combat force

69. Which of the following was the leader of the 1970 coup that overthrew Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Cambodia and established the short-lived Khmer Republic?

- A. Lon Nol
- B. Ngo Dinh Diem
- C. Do Cao Tri
- D. Penn Nouth

70. In 1968, Gen. William Westmoreland devised a plan named 'Fracture Jaw' that would have resulted in which of these being used in the Vietnam War?

- A. poison gas
- B. biological agents to cause disease
- C. nuclear weapons
- D. total warfare tactics like those devised by William Sherman

Tiebreaker

This question will only be scored if there is a tie for placement on the exam. **This is a required question, but there is no penalty for a wrong answer to this question.**

Write your answer legibly in the space provided on your scantron.

According to official records, what was the peak strength of the combined US and South Korean force during the Korean War?