

National History Bee – European Division – Sample Packet 2011-2012

Instructions: The Bee consists of three rounds, each with 30 questions. The first round consists of questions on European History to 1945. The second round consists of questions on World (i.e. non-European) History to 1945. The final round consists of Global History (i.e. World & European combined) History from 1946-2011.

Students are grouped into different random groups in each round, of 5-8 students. When one student gets 8 questions correct in a particular round, they are then finished for that round. However, they get bonus points based on how early in the round they reach their quota of 8.

10 Sample Questions – European History to 1945

1. This country is home to the archeological site of La Tene, (**pr. la – TEN**) from which an Iron Age culture takes its name. Its later inhabitants included the Helvetii who were conquered by Rome, but whose name lives on in this country's Latin name. For the point, name this European country, home to William Tell, and John Calvin, which has been neutral since the early 19th century, despite bordering France and Germany.

ANSWER: **Switzerland**

2. This man and his sailors sailed along the coast where the city of Durban is found on Christmas day 1497, thus naming it Natal (**pr. nay-TAHL**). In his ship the São Gabriel, he had already sailed successfully for three months over open ocean using knowledge from Bartholomeu Dias's earlier voyage. For the point, name this Portuguese explorer, leader of the first European expedition to successfully sail to India.

ANSWER: Vasco **de Gama**

3. As this language spread, it displaced the closely related Faliscan (**pr. fuh-LISS-can**) language. Early texts of this language, including the Twelve Tables, often contain the nominative masculine ending –os (**pr. OH-ESS**), which is indicative of Indo-European origin. Later, it gave rise to such languages as the now extinct Dalmatian and the still-spoken Catalan (**pr. kah-tuh-LON**). For the point, name this language used by authors including St. Jerome, Livy, and Horace.

ANSWER: **Latin**

4. Events leading to this battle include the Battle of Lade (**pr. LAH-day**). In one of Byron's works, after musing "an hour alone" at this battle's site, the narrator, "could not deem myself a slave." Miltiades (**pr. mill-TIE-uh-deez**) commanded the winning side, and the losers sailed back across the Aegean, returning ten years later in 480 BC. For the point, name this battle where Athens defeated Persia, source of the name of a long race.

ANSWER: Battle of **Marathon**

5. This man's boat was called the Lady Nyassa and his team was the first from Europe to see Lake Ngami. He named Victoria Falls and conducted a famous Zambezi Expedition but he died during his attempts to find the source of the Nile. For the point, name this Victorian age explorer of Africa and missionary who was sought out by Henry Stanley.

ANSWER: Dr. David Livingstone

6. This Florentine painter's works were largely forgotten until British collectors began promoting him in the latter half of the nineteenth century. He famously became a follower of Savonarola, and his later works focus on religious subjects rather than gods and goddesses, such as his famous painting showing the Roman goddess of love standing on a shell. For the point, name this painter of *Primavera* and the *Birth of Venus*.

ANSWER: Sandro Botticelli

7. This event which was concluded in Osnabruck and Muenster is a historical bookend of sorts along with the second Defenestration of Prague. It was agreed upon after decades of fighting which had devastated much of Germany, although Sweden, France and others had also fought. For the point, name this agreement, seen as a watershed moment in the development of the nation-state, which ended the Thirty Years War in 1648.

ANSWER: Peace of Westphalia (or Treaty of Westphalia)

8. This woman was moved to the Tuileries Palace after the death of her eldest son. While the Jacobins proceeded with a new constitution, she held out hope her brother, Leopold II of Austria, would defeat them. He did not, and she died at the guillotine nine months after her husband, Louis XVI. For the point, identify this woman who may or may not have said "let them eat cake" when she was queen of France.

ANSWER: Marie Antoinette

9. This city lost roughly 90% of its population from an original total of roughly 500,000 in the 6th century when it lost its right to free grain. For most of the Middle Ages this was the largest city in Europe, though many of its inhabitants fled in 1453, heading west to Italy to boost the Italian Renaissance. For the point, name this city, whose landmarks included the Hippodrome and the Hagia Sophia, located in modern-day Turkey, on the border of Europe and Asia.

ANSWER: Constantinople (accept Byzantium or Istanbul as well)

10. One of this man's direct paternal ancestors was a successful English general in the War of the Spanish Succession. This man who saw combat in India, Sudan, and the Second Boer War, then returned to England and entered politics, planning the Gallipoli campaign as First Lord of the Admiralty. For the point, name this man, who had nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears, and sweat as Prime Minister during World War II.

ANSWER: Winston Churchill

10 Sample Questions – World (i.e. non-European) History to 1945

1. At its heights in the seventh century BC, this kingdom was led by a king who Byron claimed "came down like a wolf on the fold." In addition to Sennacherib, it was led by a man who established a massive library in its capital of Ninevah. For the point, name this empire led by Ashurbanipal in Mesopotamia.

ANSWER: Assyrian Empire (accept Neo-Assyrian)

2. During the American Revolutionary War, this city was abandoned after a clandestine retreat in August 1776. It was also the intended endpoint of John Burgoyne's march meant to isolate New England from the rest of the colonies. Peter Stuyvesant was a prominent early leader of it while it was still ruled by the Dutch. For the point, name this large city which was originally named New Amsterdam.

ANSWER: New York City

3. It contains teachings and sayings from a period of about 23 years and was standardized by a man named Uthman. Its first version was written down after the Battle of Yamama when Abu Bakr realized the danger in having so many of its reciters perish. For the point, name this book consisting of 114 chapters known as "suras," the holy book of Islam.

ANSWER: Qur'an or Koran

4. One of this empire's armies that was sent as reinforcements lost to Gaius Nero and was led by Hasdrubal. Cato the Elder frequently used this empire's name with the words "delenda est," and it was destroyed in its third war with Rome. For the point, name this empire based around a North African city whose generals included Hamilcar Barca and Hannibal during its fighting in the Punic Wars.

ANSWER: Carthage

5. This religion is still practiced today but primarily in India among a diaspora community known as Parsis. Its liturgies are known as the Avesta and it teaches that evil, embodied by Ahriman, and good, embodied by Ahura Mazda, are in conflict, but that eventually good will prevail. For the point, name this religion of ancient Persia whose founder was the title character in a work by Nietzsche.

ANSWER: Zoroastrianism

6. In 1888, this nation became the last in the Western Hemisphere to officially ban slavery. This country is the largest Lusophone nation in the world, by both population and area and on January 1, 2011, this country's first female president, Dilma Roussef, took office. For the point, name this country discovered in 1500 by a fleet commanded by Pedro Cabral, a Portuguese-speaking country in South America.

ANSWER: Brazil

7. In one painting of this figure as a young boy, he stands next to his smiling father with an axe at his feet. Another painting of this man unrealistically depicts a scene of a general leading a river crossing on a sunny day. For the point, name this man depicted by Emanuel Leutze (**pr. LOYTZ-uh**) crossing the Delaware River, en route to the Battle of Trenton where he would defeat the British and Hessians in the American Revolution.

ANSWER: George Washington

8. This country is home to many tombs called Mastabas. This nation's Siwa Oasis can be found in its Qattara Depression, which is the second lowest point in all of Africa. The ancient cities of Thebes and Memphis are located in this present-day nation. For the point, name this country that once sported the Pharos lighthouse in its city of Alexandria.

ANSWER: Egypt

9. Joseph E. Johnston's orders to evacuate this place were overridden by Jefferson Davis, and its commander, John C. Pemberton, ultimately surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant. This city fell within a day of the end of the Battle of Gettysburg, though it was over 1000 kilometers away. For the point, name this Confederate stronghold on the Mississippi River whose fall in 1863 split the Confederacy in half.

ANSWER: Battle of Vicksburg

10. Martensite is characteristic of one kind of this material that was made in crucibles by Indians and Sri Lankans from the twelfth to nineteenth centuries. A Gilchrist-Thomas converter removes impurities by blowing air during the production of this material in an inexpensive process patented in 1855 by Henry Bessemer. For the point, name this alloy of carbon and iron that made Andrew Carnegie rich.

ANSWER: Steel

10 Sample Questions – World and European History since 1946

1. A memorial to Peter Fechter was placed at the base of this site, though it was then moved about 24 years later to where Fechter had actually died. Erich (**pr. Erik**) Honecker once famously said it would be around in 100 years, though it was down less than a decade later. For the point, name this landmark, home to Checkpoint Charlie, which Ronald Reagan once exhorted Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down in a German city.

ANSWER: Berlin Wall

2. According to historian Taylor Branch, this man was once found wandering Pennsylvania Avenue in his underwear, trying to hail a cab in an intoxicated search for pizza. Despite being re-elected in 1996 with 54% of the runoff vote, he resigned from his post in late 1999 with an estimated 2% approval rating. For the point, name this man, the first President of the Russian Federation, and the predecessor of Vladimir Putin.

ANSWER: Boris Yeltsin

3. It was originally for a time referred to as “BackRub” before it acquired its first employee, Craig Silverstein. Originating from a Stanford research project, this company was founded in 1998 and its IPO in 2004 gave it a market capitalization of \$23 billion, though it is now about 8 times that. For the point, name this company, founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin that warns itself “Don’t Be Evil,” a leader in internet searches.

ANSWER: Google

4. As part of his current position, he holds the title of Co-Prince of Andorra. He is the first president of his nation to be born after World War II, and his personal life seems to receive as much attention as his policies, including staunch opposition to Turkey’s entry into the EU and facing down student protests. For the point, name the husband of Carla Bruni, the current French President.

ANSWER: Nicholas Sarkozy

5. Her wedding was witnessed by approximately 750 million television viewers worldwide, and during her tenure in her most famous position, she was active in charities dealing with AIDS awareness, landmines, and the arts. After her divorce, she remained a public figure until her sudden death in August of 1997. For the point, name this "People's Princess", the former wife of Prince Charles.

ANSWER: Diana Spencer, Princess of Wales

6. This band's lead singer was originally a student at the London School of Economics. This band was performing at Altamont Speedway and singing a song about causing anarchy when the Hells Angels security crew killed a man in the crowd. Famous for hits such as "Gimme Shelter" and "Jumpin Jack Flash," for the point, name this British band, now nearly 50 years in the making, featuring Keith Richards and Mick Jagger.

ANSWER: Rolling Stones

7. She was the brainchild of Ruth Handler, and she made her debut on March 9, 1959. The idea came from a similar German version known as Bild Lilli though production was at first done in Japan. Since then, she's been an Air Force pilot, presidential candidate, cheerleader, and the resident of her own Dream House with her boyfriend Ken. For the point, name this Mattel icon, whose full name is Barbara Millicent Roberts.

ANSWER: Barbie

8. This country declared its independence from the Qing (**pr. Ching**) dynasty in 1911, and its constitution was rewritten following the 1990 Democratic Revolution. During the Cold War it served as a buffer state between the world's two largest communist nations. For the point, name this second largest landlocked nation, and also the least densely populated, an Asian nation located between Russia and China.

ANSWER: Mongolia

9. Dubbed Debutante of the Year in 1947, she married her first husband in Newport in 1953. She had four children, though only two survived infancy, and one of the others died in a 1999 plane crash. Her first marriage lasted only 10 years, and her second marriage just 6. And her brother-in-law from her first marriage was assassinated in 1968 too. For the point, name this star-crossed paparazzi target, and former US first lady.

ANSWER: Jacqueline Kennedy or Jacqueline Onassis (prompt on Kennedy alone)

10. The original trophy awarded to the winners of this event was stolen in Brazil in 1983, and has never been recovered. Uruguay is by far the smallest country by population to have ever won it, and the current champion has only won it once. For the point, name this global occurrence, held every four years, the world's most widely viewed sporting event.

ANSWER: The (FIFA) World Cup