The University of the State of New York

REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 — 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only

Student Name ______________________________________________________________

School Name _______________________________________________________________

The possession or use of any communications device is strictly prohibited when taking this examination. If you have or use any communications device, no matter how briefly, your examination will be invalidated and no score will be calculated for you.

Print your name and the name of your school on the lines above. A separate answer sheet for Part I has been provided to you. Follow the instructions from the proctor for completing the student information on your answer sheet. Then fill in the heading of each page of your essay booklet.

This examination has three parts. You are to answer all questions in all parts. Use black or dark-blue ink to write your answers to Parts II, III A, and III B.

Part I contains 50 multiple-choice questions. Record your answers to these questions as directed on the answer sheet.

Part II contains one thematic essay question. Write your answer to this question in the essay booklet, beginning on page 1.

Part III is based on several documents:

Part III A contains the documents. When you reach this part of the test, enter your name and the name of your school on the first page of this section.

Each document is followed by one or more questions. Write your answer to each question in this examination booklet on the lines following that question.

Part III B contains one essay question based on the documents. Write your answer to this question in the essay booklet, beginning on page 7.

When you have completed the examination, you must sign the declaration printed at the end of the answer sheet, indicating that you had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that you have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination. Your answer sheet cannot be accepted if you fail to sign this declaration.

DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION BOOKLET UNTIL THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN.
Part I

Answer all questions in this part.

Directions (1–50): For each statement or question, record on your separate answer sheet the number of the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question.

Base your answer to question 1 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

... Oral histories are as old as human beings. Before the invention of writing, information passed from generation to generation through the spoken word. Many people around the world continue to use oral traditions to pass along knowledge and wisdom. Interviews and recordings of community elders and witnesses to historical events provide exciting stories, anecdotes, and other information about the past.

—Library of Congress

1 Based on this passage, historians should treat oral histories and oral traditions as
(1) persuasive arguments
(2) statistical data
(3) unbiased sources
(4) cultural evidence

2 Which academic discipline focuses study on the roles and functions of government?
(1) political science
(2) anthropology
(3) geography
(4) economics

3 During the Neolithic Revolution, production of a food surplus led directly to
(1) a nomadic lifestyle
(2) a reliance on stone weaponry
(3) an increase in population
(4) a dependence on hunting and gathering

4 Discovery of streets arranged in a grid-like pattern and a system of pipes for moving water in Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro suggest that these ancient river valley cities in South Asia had
(1) organized governments
(2) subsistence-based economies
(3) polytheistic beliefs
(4) rigid social classes

5 Based on this passage, how have the negative effects of the monsoons been reduced in recent years?
(1) The army is building dams to hold back the floods.
(2) Farmers have begun to grow crops that require less water.
(3) Home construction in flood areas has been controlled by government regulations.
(4) An improved infrastructure makes it possible to bring supplies to areas in need of help.

6 The Egyptians used hieroglyphics in the same way as the Sumerians used
(1) ideographs
(2) calligraphy
(3) cuneiform
(4) letters
7 Which geographic feature served as a barrier to political unity and encouraged the rise of independent city-states in ancient Greece?
   (1) broad plains (3) navigable rivers
   (2) mountain ranges (4) numerous ports

8 The Tang dynasty contributed to the development of Chinese culture by
   (1) creating a shogunate
   (2) producing porcelain and block printing
   (3) introducing Hinduism as a major philosophy
   (4) devising a set of laws and carving them on rocks and pillars

9 A primary goal of European Crusaders fighting in the Middle East was to
   (1) establish markets for Italian merchants
   (2) rescue Pope Urban II from the Byzantines
   (3) halt the advance of Mongol armies in the Asian steppes
   (4) secure access to Christian holy sites in Jerusalem

10 Increases in trade and commerce that occurred during the late Middle Ages in Europe resulted in
   (1) lower living standards for guild members
   (2) the development of more towns and cities
   (3) a decline in rivalries between kings
   (4) an increase in the number of self-sufficient manors

11 The writings of both Marco Polo and Ibn Battuta inspired
   (1) exploration and trade
   (2) important military expeditions
   (3) movements for political freedom
   (4) the spread of Islam to Southeast Asia

12 Nanjing, Venice, and Mogadishu were powerful and influential cities in the 13th century because they all
   (1) developed agrarian-based economies
   (2) served as religious pilgrimage sites
   (3) established democratic governments
   (4) took advantage of the factors of location

13 The West African empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai were able to thrive because
   (1) they controlled the gold-salt trade
   (2) their herds of cattle were in demand
   (3) their armies took control of much of Africa
   (4) they adopted Christianity as their primary religion

14 What was an immediate result of the Black Death?
   (1) labor shortages
   (2) overseas exploration
   (3) decrease in anti-Semitism
   (4) improvements in medical science

15 Which statement best expresses the philosophy of humanism?
   (1) God selects those to be saved.
   (2) The pope expresses the ultimate word of God.
   (3) People have potential and can improve themselves by learning.
   (4) A person’s life on Earth is merely preparation for the afterlife.

16 Which development is most closely associated with early Inca achievements?
   (1) inventing the wheel as a transportation device
   (2) improving iron weapons
   (3) expanding global trade
   (4) adapting a mountainous environment

17 What was a major effect of the Columbian exchange?
   (1) economic collapse in Europe
   (2) introduction of new food crops to Europe
   (3) decrease in European population
   (4) expansion of democratic rights throughout Europe

18 Which policy is a country using when it regulates its colonies’ imports and exports to produce a favorable balance of trade?
   (1) embargo (3) mercantilism
   (2) outsourcing (4) transmigration
19 Which scientist is most directly associated with formulating this view of the solar system?

(1) Ptolemy   (3) Copernicus
(2) Descartes   (4) Newton

20 Akbar the Great tried to unify the Mughal Empire and create peace between the different people of India by
(1) promoting a policy of religious toleration
(2) forcing all people to adopt modern dress
(3) building the Taj Mahal to inspire healing
(4) establishing Buddhism as the state religion

21 • Signing of the Magna Carta
• Signing of the Petition of Right
• Passage of the English Bill of Rights

In England, these events were instrumental in
(1) supporting a disarmament policy
(2) promoting government control of the economy
(3) justifying the acquisition of territory in foreign lands
(4) developing parliamentary democracy

22 Between 1500 and 1750, which commercial products were produced on Latin American plantations using enslaved laborers?
(1) corn and squash   (3) sugar and tobacco
(2) bananas and tea   (4) potatoes and wool

23 The ideas of Enlightenment philosophers were based on
(1) efforts to achieve salvation
(2) faith in human reason
(3) traditional practices
(4) the inevitability of poverty

24 Toussaint L’Ouverture and José de San Martín are leaders best known for
(1) leading independence movements
(2) supporting religious reforms
(3) promoting civil disobedience
(4) opposing democracy
Base your answer to question 25 on the poster below and on your knowledge of social studies.

25 In early 20th-century Russia, which group may have gained support by circulating this poster?

(1) aristocracy               (3) monarchists
(2) Bolsheviks                (4) Orthodox clergy

Source: A. Apsit, Coloured Lithograph, 1918 (adapted)
26 Which course of action does the theory of laissez-faire suggest a government should follow?
   (1) providing help for people in need
   (2) establishing businesses to create jobs
   (3) letting natural laws regulate the economy
   (4) controlling the mineral resources of a country

27 One effect of the British landlord system in Ireland in the mid-1800s and in India in the early 1900s was that these landlord systems
   (1) contributed to famine and suffering
   (2) allowed local economies to prosper
   (3) emphasized food crops over mining
   (4) led to an agrarian revolution

28 Commodore Matthew Perry is best known for taking which action?
   (1) leading the British East India Company
   (2) rescuing Europeans during the Boxer Rebellion
   (3) justifying European spheres of influence in China
   (4) opening Japan to American and European influences

29 During World War I, developments in military technology led to
   (1) an early victory by the Allied powers
   (2) the establishment of industrial capitalism
   (3) the use of poisonous gas and submarine attacks
   (4) an increase in ethnic tension in western Europe

30 One major reason the League of Nations failed was that it
   (1) was not included in the Versailles Treaty
   (2) was controlled by communist Russia
   (3) frightened many nations with its large military force
   (4) lacked the support of many of the major world powers during crises

31 Which geographic characteristic of Japan most influenced its decision to engage in imperialism in the early to mid-20th century?
   (1) mountainous terrain
   (2) lack of natural resources
   (3) abundance of rivers
   (4) island location

32 Which condition was a result of Joseph Stalin’s command economy?
   (1) Peasants were encouraged to sell surplus grain for personal profit.
   (2) The production of consumer goods increased.
   (3) National revenue increased allowing for greater individual spending.
   (4) The government controlled agriculture through collective farms.

33 After World War I, the rise of Benito Mussolini in Italy and the rise of Adolf Hitler in Germany are most closely associated with
   (1) the development of fascism
   (2) the desire for containment
   (3) an emphasis on democratic traditions
   (4) a return to conservative religious practices

34 What was a major reason the Soviet Union established satellite states in Eastern Europe after World War II?
   (1) developing better trade relations with the West
   (2) creating a buffer zone against future invasions
   (3) participating in United Nations peacekeeping missions
   (4) controlling the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)
Base your answer to question 35 on the excerpt below and on your knowledge of social studies.

...The achievement gap between black and white students in South Africa is enormous. In the province of Western Cape, only 2 out of 1,000 sixth-graders in predominantly black schools performed at grade level on a math test in 2005, compared with 2 out of 3 children in schools once reserved for whites that are now integrated, but generally in more affluent [wealthier] neighborhoods....

—Celia W. Dugger

35 Which underlying historical factor most significantly contributed to this achievement gap?
(1) inequalities existing between the races under apartheid
(2) economic sanctions placed on school communities
(3) lack of governmental support for white educational programs
(4) a period of political assassinations and civil war

36 “India Partitioned at Independence”
“Serbs Fuel Conflict in Kosovo”
“Grievances Divide Hutu and Tutsi”

Which conclusion do these headlines support?
(1) Cultural diversity leads to stable societies.
(2) Ethnic and religious differences have been sources of tension.
(3) Economic cooperation can overcome political issues.
(4) Gender differences are more powerful than differences in social status.

37 Many conflicts in the Middle East during the post–World War II period have directly resulted from
(1) the dissolution of the Arab League
(2) border clashes between Iran and China
(3) disputes related to Palestine
(4) the partition of Egypt

38 What does the author of this 2006 passage conclude?
(1) As democracy develops, circumstances will improve.
(2) Though governments change, circumstances often remain the same.
(3) New leadership is determined to replace the Khmer Rouge.
(4) Harsh living conditions have caused people to rely extensively on a social net.

39 Which action was taken by Deng Xiaoping to improve the economy of China?
(1) discouraging foreign investment
(2) encouraging some capitalist practices
(3) organizing the Red Guard
(4) practicing glasnost

40 Which revolution led to increases in global food production as a result of using genetically altered seeds and large amounts of chemical fertilizers and pesticides?
(1) Cultural
(2) Glorious
(3) Scientific
(4) Green
Base your answer to question 41 on the cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.

![Cartoon Image]

Source: Arend Van Dam, http://www.politicalcartoons.com, July 22, 2010 (adapted)

41 What is the main idea of this 2010 cartoon?

(1) Pakistan plays a minor role in the affairs of Afghanistan.
(2) The United States and Pakistan will join forces to remove the Taliban.
(3) Disputes over water rights between Pakistan and Afghanistan continue to create challenges.
(4) The Taliban will pose a threat to Afghanistan when the United States leaves.

42 The World Trade Organization (WTO), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and European Union (EU) all share the primary goal of

(1) promoting space exploration and maintaining satellites
(2) increasing economic aid to developing nations
(3) encouraging trade between countries and lowering trade barriers
(4) developing regulations to preserve the environment

43 The use of the decimal system, advancements in medicine, and construction of Hindu temples are most closely associated with the golden age of the

(1) Abbassid dynasty (3) Gupta Empire
(2) Han dynasty (4) Roman Empire

44 One reason the Justinian Code was significant was that it

(1) became the foundation of the modern legal systems of many Western countries
(2) established the basis for the development of the Code of Hammurabi
(3) incorporated laws from all over Asia and Europe
(4) led to the protection of inalienable rights in Roman territories

45 Which technological development contributed most directly to the success of the Protestant Reformation?

(1) astrolabe (3) wheel
(2) compass (4) printing press

46 “Liberty, Equality, Fraternity” and “Peace, Land, and Bread” are slogans used by revolutionaries to represent

(1) frameworks for economic stability
(2) political and economic ideals
(3) plans for maintaining the social hierarchy
(4) methods of political reform

47 One way in which Otto von Bismarck and Camillo Cavour are similar is that both leaders

(1) followed a policy of isolationism
(2) adopted papal policies
(3) led an African independence movement
(4) promoted unification to form a new nation-state
48 Which title best completes the partial outline below?

I._______________________________
   A. During the early 1800s, Napoleon Bonaparte’s grand army sweeps across eastern Europe.
   B. During World War I, Germany invades France through Belgium.
   C. During World War II, Germans blitzkrieg western Europe.

   (1) Importance of Rivers as Invasion Routes
   (2) Stalemate of Trench Warfare
   (3) Use of the Northern Plain for Conquest
   (4) Role of Naval Blockades in Wars

49 One way in which the rule of Peter the Great in Russia and the rule of Emperor Meiji in Japan are similar is that both leaders

   (1) emancipated serfs
   (2) granted equality to women
   (3) encouraged modernization
   (4) ruled according to a constitution

50 One purpose of the Nuremberg Trials and of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa was to

   (1) address human rights abuses
   (2) support the establishment of democratic governments
   (3) establish free trade zones throughout the world
   (4) provide encouragement to people behind the Iron Curtain
In developing your answer to Part II, be sure to keep this general definition in mind:

discuss means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”

Part II

THEMATIC ESSAY QUESTION

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

Theme: Belief Systems—Movements

Belief systems are an established, orderly way that groups or individuals look at religious faith or philosophical principles. Some belief systems have spread outside their places of origin. The diffusion of these belief systems has affected other societies and regions in various ways.

Task:

Select two belief systems that have spread outside their place of origin and for each

- Discuss a central principle of this belief system
- Discuss how this belief system spread to another region
- Discuss an effect of the spread of this belief system on a society or region

You may use any belief system from your study of global history and geography. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include Buddhism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and communism.

You are not limited to these suggestions.

Do not use the United States as a region to which a belief system has spread.

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme
Part III

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

This question is based on the accompanying documents. The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purposes of this question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document. Keep in mind that the language used in a document may reflect the historical context of the time in which it was written.

Historical Context:

Throughout history, empires such as the Roman, the Ottoman, and the British have faced various problems that led to their decline. The decline of these empires has influenced changes in societies and regions.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to

Select two empires mentioned in the historical context and for each

- Describe problems that led to this empire’s decline
- Discuss how this empire’s decline influenced change in a society and/or a region

In developing your answers to Part III, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

(a) describe means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”
(b) discuss means “to make observations about something using facts, reasoning, and argument; to present in some detail”
1 Based on the information shown on this map, state one problem that helped bring about the decline of the Roman Empire. [1]
… By the middle of the second century Italy [within the Roman Empire] was in a state of decline. By the time of Diocletian, at the opening of the fourth century, decay was apparent throughout the empire. Commerce had largely disappeared owing to the lack of customers, to piracy on the seas, and to insecurity of the roads on land. Generally speaking, purchasing power at that time was confined to the public officials, to the army officers, and to the great landowners. Trade in the everyday objects of daily use had all but disappeared, but trade in luxuries prospered. The cities in the west, omitting the places where government centered, were usually in decline; their commercial and industrial classes had disappeared, the old traders having been replaced by the traveling eastern merchant, of whom the Syrian was the most notorious. Foreign trade was sharply curtailed. At various times the government attempted to prohibit the export of various commodities, among them wine, oil, grain, salt, arms, iron, and gold. With this curbing of exports there was also an effort made to control certain imports such as is evidenced by the state monopoly in silk. These two movements hampered commercial contracts outside the empire and all but killed what was left of foreign trade.…

Source: Louis C. West, “The Economic Collapse of the Roman Empire,” The Classical Journal, November 1932

2 According to Louis C. West, what were two economic problems the Roman Empire faced during its period of decline? [2]

(1)______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

(2)______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Score □
…As western Europe fell to the Germanic invasions, imperial power shifted to the Byzantine Empire, that is, the eastern part of the Roman Empire, with its capital at Constantinople. The eastern provinces of the former Roman Empire had always outnumbered those in the west. Its civilization was far older and it had larger cities, which were also more numerous than in the west.

3 According to Steven Kreis, what was one change that resulted from the fall of the western half of the Roman Empire? [1]
The power of the [Ottoman] Empire was waning [fading] by 1683 when the second and last attempt was made to conquer Vienna. It failed. Without the conquest of Europe and the acquisition of significant new wealth, the Empire lost momentum and went into a slow decline.

Several other factors contributed to the [Ottoman] Empire’s decline:
- Competition from trade from the Americas
- Competition from cheap products from India and the Far East
- Development of other trade routes
- Rising unemployment within the Empire
- Ottoman Empire became less centralised, and central control weakened
- Sultans being less severe in maintaining rigorous standards of integrity in the administration of the Empire
- Sultans becoming less sensitive to public opinion

Source: “Ottoman Empire (1301–1922),” BBC online, 2009 (adapted)

4a According to the BBC, what was one economic problem that contributed to the decline of the Ottoman Empire?  

Score

4b According to the BBC, what was one political problem that contributed to the decline of the Ottoman Empire?  

Score
Document 5

… In 1875, the Slavic peoples living in the Ottoman provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (currently the state of Bosnia-Herzegovina), led an uprising against the Ottomans in order to gain their freedom. The general weakness of the Ottomans led two independent, neighbor Slavic states, Montenegro and Serbia, to aid the rebellion. Within a year, the rebellion spread to the Ottoman province of Bulgaria. The rebellion was part of a larger political movement called the Pan-Slavic movement, which had as its goal the unification of all Slavic peoples—most of whom were under the control of Austria, Germany, and the Ottoman Empire—into a single political unity under the protection of Russia. Anxious also to conquer the Ottomans themselves and seize Istanbul, the Russians allied with the rebels, Serbia, and Montenegro and declared war against the Ottomans….

Source: Richard Hooker, “European Imperialism and the Balkan Crisis,” The Ottomans, World Cultures

5 According to Richard Hooker, what was one problem faced by the Ottomans during the decline of their Empire? [1]

Document 6

… Mustafa Kemal [Atatürk] was a secular nationalist who believed that all the inheritance of the Ottoman Empire should be abandoned and Turkey should be transformed into a modern European state. This involved less of a sudden break with the past than might appear. The Tanzimat reforms [between 1839 and 1876] had laid the foundations of a secular state, and the Young Turks, even while attempting to preserve the empire, had given a powerful impetus [motivation] to the cause of Turkish nationalism. During the war years [1914–1918], the secularization of education had proceeded and the universities and public positions had been opened to women. Certain of the law courts under the control of the religious authorities had been placed under the Ministry of Justice. A law in 1916 had reformed marriage and divorce.…

Source: Peter Mansfield, A History of the Middle East, Viking

6 According to Peter Mansfield, what was one change that occurred as the Ottoman Empire declined and a new state of Turkey began to take shape? [1]
7 Based on the information shown on this map, what was a problem the British faced that made it difficult to govern its empire?  [1]
… World War II greatly changed the British attitude toward the idea of India’s freedom. The fear that an independent India would not pay its debt to Great Britain was no longer valid. Great Britain actually owed India over a billion pounds. Nor was the concern that there were not enough Indian military officers to take over the Indian army from the British. As a result of the war, more than fifteen thousand Indian officers were available. In addition, many British soldiers who returned home from serving in India realized how unpopular their government was among the Indian people. In Great Britain, the Labour Party under Clement Attlee defeated Winston Churchill’s Conservatives and took charge of the government.…

The Labour Party, already sympathetic to the idea of India’s independence, faced a great deal of unrest in India. The cold winter of 1945–46 made shortages of food and clothing even worse. Many nationalist leaders, recently released from prison, gave speeches encouraging violent actions to achieve freedom. In Calcutta, demonstrations led to riots in which over thirty people were killed and several hundred injured.…

8 Based on this excerpt from *Indian Independence and the Question of Pakistan*, what were two factors that made Great Britain more willing to grant India independence? [2]

(1) ____________________________________________________________________________

(2) ____________________________________________________________________________

Score [ ]
... During the last 60 years [since 1928], the British Empire has broken apart. Most of the nations that were in the empire demanded and got their independence. With the empire gone, Britain lost a major source of wealth. At the same time, it lost industrial advantages it had enjoyed for many years….
Part B
Essay

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from at least four documents in your essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.

Historical Context:

Throughout history, empires such as the Roman, the Ottoman, and the British have faced various problems that led to their decline. The decline of these empires has influenced changes in societies and regions.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, write an essay in which you

Select two empires mentioned in the historical context and for each
• Describe problems that led to this empire’s decline
• Discuss how this empire’s decline influenced change in a society and/or a region

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to
• Develop all aspects of the task
• Incorporate information from at least four documents
• Incorporate relevant outside information
• Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
• Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme