

HISTORY
NECO
PAST QUESTIONS AND
ANSWERS

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SECTION A

1. The maasai tribe of East African speaks _____ language among the Nilotic family of African tribes.

- A. Maa
- B. Swahili
- C. Bini
- D. Berber

2. The policy of assimilation fails in French colony mainly due to _____

- A. the autonomous units
- B. chambers of deputies
- C. no respect for the people's opinion
- D. limited right to education

3. _____ were the first set of people to land on the present day Nigeria territory for trading activities.

- A. British
- B. French Men
- C. Spaniards
- D. Portuguese

4. The _____ wield the administrative power over other Yoruba land in 19th century.

- A. Ijebu people
- B. Oyo empire
- C. Dahomey
- D. Ile Ife

5. The Benin kingdom is stratified into three age grades which are

- A. Irogbae, Edion, Igbhele
- B. Irogbae, Ighele and Edionwere
- C. Irogbae, Edion and Edionwere
- D. Edion, Ighele and Edionwere

6. The method of tax collection introduced by the warrant chiefs in the Eastern Nigeria brought about _____

- A. justification of colonial strategy
- B. perfection of Indirect rule
- C. fear in the system
- D. democratic means of ruling

7. Egyptian nationalism in late 18th century and early 20th century majorly aimed at _____

- A. manipulating the Suez Canal
- B. turning out military dictatorship in Egypt
- C. ensuring Egyptian independence
- D. Upholding the monarch stance

8. The Emir of Sokoto controls the _____ empire as one of the supreme headquarter.

- A. Eastern
- B. Western
- C. Southern
- D. Central

9. One main factor that led to depopulation of Nigerians around 1715 to 1789 was?

- A. Sacrificing humans to appease gods
- B. Trans-Atlantic slave trade
- C. Trading with neighboring community
- D. The trans-Sahara trade

10. The establishment of _____ by _____ help fast track the activity of nationalist in Nigeria

- A. Lagos daily news/ Herbert Macaulay
- B. Daily times/ Nnamdi Azikiwe
- C. Nigeria pilot / Nnamdi Azikiwe
- D. Weekly review/ Herbert Macaulay

11. The first capital of Kanem-Bornu was located at _____

- A. Njimi
- B. Kotangora
- C. Kanuri
- D. Sokoto

12. The 1959 general election was between three political parties which at the time were

- A. NCNC, NPC, NNDP
- B. AG, NCNC, NNDP
- C. SDP, LP, NPC
- D. AG, NCNC, NPC

13. _____ was who formed the name Nigeria after the amalgamation of Southern protectorate and Northern protectorate.

- A. Lord Lugard
- B. Flora Shaw
- C. Lingard Luna
- D. Oliver Florence

14. Most Omani belongs to _____ muslim faith and are regarded as the followers of the Abdullah Ibn Ibad

- A. Ibad
- B. Arab
- C. Karen
- D. Finish

15. Before the fall of apartheid and expansion of franchise to all residents of the country, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for

- A. 37 years
- B. 18 years
- C. 27 years
- D. 26 years

16. The trans-Atlantic slave trade was displaced with search for raw materials by the British due to _____

- A. feudalism posture
- B. search for territorial expansion
- C. industrial revolution
- D. conflict with Americans

17. The spread of Islam across East Africa was a major impact of the _____

- A. Benin
- B. Omani
- C. Kanem
- D. Arab

18. The second military coup d' e tat in Nigeria took place on

- A. July 29, 1966
- B. June 30, 1976
- C. January 15, 1966

D. February 3, 1976

19. One of the following is generally referred to as the first executive president in Nigeria

- A. Murtala
- B. Shehu Shagari
- C. Olusegun Obasanjo
- D. Nnamdi Azikiwe

20. The Mahdist rebel against the Egyptian authority was a success due to

- A. They believe in God
- B. A fight back from every citizen
- C. There was a widespread support
- D. Gordon has little leadership skill

21. Nigeria became the _____ member of United nation organization in 1960.

- A. 90th
- B. 15th
- C. 99th
- D. 120th

22. Sierra Leone finally got freedom from the British colonial domination in _____

- A. 1975
- B. 1961
- C. 1964
- D. 1960

23. _____ led to the European merchant agenda for imperialism and smooth penetration of Nigeria

- A. The need to extend christianity in Africa

- B. Abolition of slave trade and the need for raw materials.
- C. Need for Africa civilization
- D. Need to help Nigeria become federation

24. One of these is not a social development under colonial rule.

- A. Trade relation
- B. Common legal system
- C. Emergence of press
- D. Exploitation

25. The Muslim reform movement have grown due to inspiration from all the following except

- A. Pakistan
- B. North Africa
- C. Argentina
- D. Arab

26. The support of the Felahin helps Mohammed Ali _____

- A. eliminating the Mamluks
- B. fight against the French men
- C. gain effective control of Egypt
- D. eradicate British rule

27. The protectorate of Nigeria in 1914 became _____ in 1946

- A. states
- B. provinces
- C. regions
- D. sections

28. Ethiopia's lowlands and high plateau protected the country from _____

- A. external invasion
- B. internal conflict
- C. wild jungle animal
- D. relation with other African nation

29. One of the following is not a gearing factor towards the great trek.

- A. Freedom from British domination
- B. Bringing back to normal the economic, cultural and political independence
- C. The panic that emigration might decline civilization
- D. The fear of conflict on the eastern frontier of South Africa

30. The decrease of Boer influence in South Africa was as a result of

- A. Mfecane
- B. The great trek
- C. British Domination
- D. Dutch Domination

SECTION B

1. In what five ways can the pre-colonial history of Nigeria be reconstructed?

Answer: The pre-history of Nigeria can be reconstructed through:

- oral traditions;
- archeological findings;
- study of serology;
- the study of numismatic;
- ethnography/anthropology;
- the study of ethnobotany;
- art forms;
- written/documentary sources;
- linguistics;
- palaeography.

2.a. List any three articles of trade exported to North Africa from Western Sudan during the trans-Saharan trade.

b. Highlight any four factors that contributed to the decline of the trans-Saharan trade.

Answer:

(a)

- Gold
- Slaves
- Hides and skin
- Ostrich feathers
- Gum
- Kolanuts
- Ivory
- Beeswax
- Camwood

(b)

- The North African towns were embroiled in internal and external conflicts.
- The cities of Gao, Timbuctu/Timbuktu and Janne declined in economic importance.
- The Portuguese exploration of Africa opened a new window of trade with Europeans on the coast of West Africa.
- As the trade in gold was declining the trade in slaves was increasing rapidly on the West African Coast.
- The Europeans introduced items of trade which were cheaper and more attractive.
- The Moroccan invasion of Songhai in the 16th century.
- The power struggle in Bornu and Hausa land in the 17th and 18th Centuries.
- Iron items were used for religious purposes.

3. Explain any five features of the economy of the Igala people in pre-colonial period.

Answer: The Igala people practiced agriculture.

- They were fishermen.
- They practiced animal husbandry.
- They engaged in internal and long distance trade.
- They were canoe builders.
- They were skilled in metal work.
- Revenue was generated from traders and conquered areas.
- They were professional house builders.
- They were hunters.
- They were traditional health workers.

4. Highlight any five negative effects of the trans-Atlantic slave trade on Nigeria.

Answer:

- Christianity tried to put an end to ethnic differences in the society by preaching the universal religion of brotherhood of man.
- through the Christian Missions, western education was promoted.
- promotion of legitimate trade.
- some Nigerian languages were put into writing.

5.a. Mention any three city states of the Niger Delta that had trade links with the Europeans.

b. Highlight any four roles played by King Jaja of Opobo in the commercial activities of the Niger Delta.

Answer:

(a)

- Bonny
- Nembe
- Brass
- Kalabari
- Buguma
- Okrika
- Koko
- Old Calabar
- Opobo

(b)

- He led the Anna Pepple House to absorb many other trade houses.
- He promoted palm oil trade after absorbing 14 out of 18 trade houses.
- He effectively blocked the access of British merchants to the interior in order to ensure an effective trade monopoly.
- He continued to impose taxes on the British traders in his domain even after the Berlin Conference.
- His excellent connection with Igboland gave him direct access to the source and regular supply of palm oil.
- His wealth and power enabled him to dictate the price of palm oil.

- He shipped his palm oil directly to Britain.
- Through his commercial activities, a new class of Merchant Princes emerged.

6. Highlight any five factors that contributed to the decline of Benin Empire in the 19th century.

Answer:

- Ascension of weak rulers to Benin throne.
- The Benin Empire declined due to the loss of revenue as a result of the abolition of the slave trade.
- The diversion of trade from Ughoton to Badagry.
- Revolts by the vassal states.
- Tributes from the vassal states declined.
- Succession disputes within the Benin Dynasty.
- The Yoruba Civil Wars made it difficult for Benin traders to transport their products by land to the port of Lagos.
- The Fulani Jihad also contributed to the decline of Benin's economy.
- Agriculture also declined.
- British interference in the Benin affairs which led to the Benin massacre.

7.a. List any three nationalists in Nigeria from 1922 to 1960.

b. State any four factors that led to the formation of nationalist movements in Nigeria.

Answer:

(a)

- Herbert Macaulay
- Nnamdi Azikiwe
- Obafemi Awolowo
- Abubakar Tafawa Balewa
- Ahmadu Bello
- Sapara Williams
- John Payne Jackson
- Samuel Ladoke Akintola
- Adeniran Ogunsanya
- Mazi Mbonu Ojike
- Micheal Opara
- K. O. Mbadiwe
- H. O. Davies
- Anthony Enahoro
- J. S. Tarka
- Aminu Kano
- Bode Thomas
- Alvan Ikoku

(b)

- The desire for self-government.
- Protest against European culture.

- Discrimination against Nigerians in jobs, social life etc.
- Experience of demobilized ex-service men after the World War II.
- Exploitation of the economic resources.
- Excessive taxation which was unpopular in Southern Nigeria.
- Confiscation of African lands by the colonial government.
- Deposition of traditional rulers.
- High cost of living.
- Repatriation of high company profit to Britain.
- The role played by the press.
- The role played by the political parties.
- The influence of independence of former British colonies e.g. India, Pakistan and Ghana.
- The effect of the proclamation of the Atlantic Charter.

8. State any five reasons for the Amalgamation of Nigeria in 1914.

Answer:

- The amalgamation of 1914 was done to harmonize the economy of the two protectorates.
- It was also done to ensure a smooth colonial administration of the area.
- It was geared towards harnessing the natural resources in the hinterland.
- It was done to reduce the cost of administration by the British government.
- It was done to solve the problem of inadequate number of British personnel in the area.
- It was to harmonize the administration of the Northern and Southern parts.
- It was to ensure a firm grip on the administration of Nigeria.
- It was to establish an outlet for the evacuation of goods and services from the hinterland to the coast without any political obstacle.

9. Outline any five benefits Nigeria has enjoyed as a member of the United Nations Organization (UN/UNO).

Answer:

- The United Nations Organization (UNO/UN) has provided Nigerians the forum to discuss international issues affecting all countries. This has raised the image of the country.
- It has provided employment opportunities to Nigerians in the Secretariat and its agencies.
- The Nigerian soldiers and police who have served in the UN peace keeping and peace enforcement operations have gained experience and financial benefits.
- Financial support – Nigeria has received financial support to improve her economy through the IMF and World Bank.
- In the field of Agriculture, Nigeria has received a lot of expert advice through its agencies such as F.A.O., World Food Programme etc.
- Health and sanitation – Nigeria has also received a lot of support in the field of health – Drugs, immunization of children, HIV/AIDS etc through the World Health Organization and UNICEF.
- Education – Nigeria has received educational aid in the form of books, science equipment, computers etc.
- Nigeria enjoyed global peace provided by the UN.

- It gave moral support for the restoration of democracy or constitutional rule in Nigeria.
- The country has benefitted from the support given to the observance and enforcement of human rights.

10. Highlight any five reasons for the need to make the study of West African history compulsory in Nigerian schools.

Answer:

- It will help students to discover West Africa's past.
- It will help them to see the need to promote West African unity, harmony and personality.
- It will help create employment opportunities.
- It will help them to discover their roots/heritage.
- It will help them to acquire knowledge of the sources of West African history
- They will be able to discover West African civilization.
- It will also help them to develop tolerance among West Africans.
- Students will be able to dispel the notion of white superiority.
- It will help to promote patriotism among the students.
- It will teach our students moral values.
- They will be able to dispel the idea that West Africa had no history before the coming of Europeans.
- It will help them to develop critical/analytical thinking.
- It will serve as foundation for those who will pursue history at the higher level.