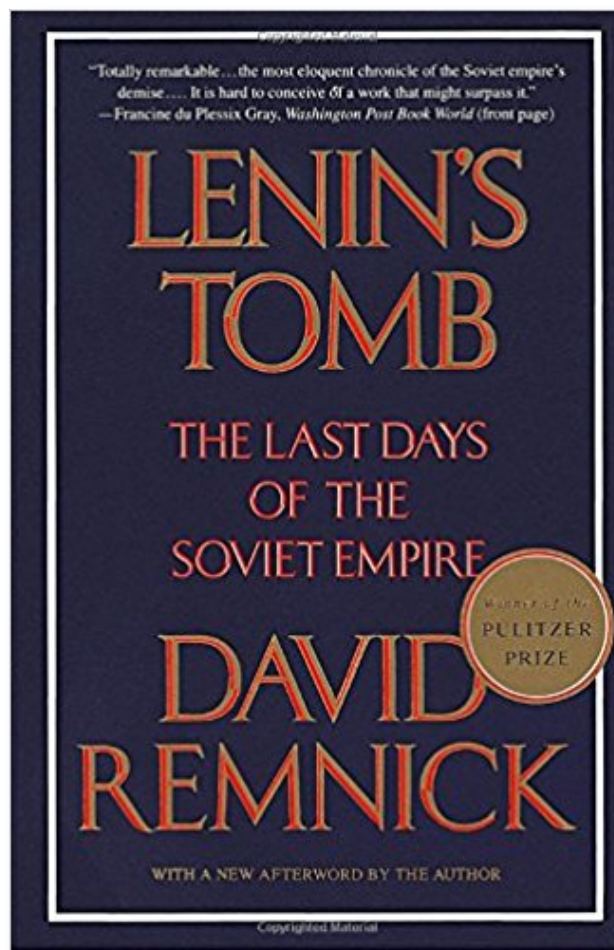




UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

Social Studies

Region • 2018



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**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST**

REGION • SPRING 2018

Part I: General Knowledge

In the Shadow of the Red Bear: Russia and the former Soviet Union

(1 point each)

1. _____ was originally built in Moscow in 1898 as the headquarters of the All-Russia Insurance Company and now houses the FSB. It is probably best known as the location of a prison and center of KGB activities during the Soviet era.

A. Lubyanka	C. The Winter Palace
B. The Kremlin	D. Red Square

2. _____ lies in the east-central part of European Russia in the middle of the Volga River basin. Kazan serves as its capital.

A. Tatarstan	C. Donetsk
B. Dagestan	D. Eurasia

3. A member of the Bolsheviks from 1915, _____ eventually became political boss of Leningrad, leading the city's defense during the siege by the Germans in WWII. He was close to Josef Stalin, but his death in 1948 was followed by the Leningrad Affair, in which many of his associates were purged.

A. Nikolai Bukharin	C. Andrei Zhdanov
B. Sergei Kirov	D. Lavrentiy Beria

4. The Russian writer _____, wrote the novel *Doctor Zhivago* which helped win him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1958. However, his work aroused so much opposition in the Soviet Union that he declined the award.

A. Boris Pasternak	C. Alexander Pushkin
B. Maxim Gorky	D. Vladimir Nabokov

5. Though he was underwhelmed by the effects of the Revolution on his homeland, _____ returned in 1928 and eventually became a prop for Stalin. As the first president of the Soviet Writers' Union, he helped to found the literary method of Socialist Realism, which was imposed on all Soviet writers and pushed them to become political propagandists.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| A. Vladimir Nabokov | C. Maxim Gorky |
| B. Boris Pasternak | D. Alexander Pushkin |

- Purged Moscow Party committee of Anti-Stalinists
- Commissar of Foreign Affairs during WWII
- USSR Ambassador to Mongolia
- Expelled from Communist Party for criticizing Khrushchev

6. The descriptions above refer to which of the following individuals?

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| A. Vladimir Voronin | C. Viacheslav Molotov |
| B. Lavrentiy Beria | D. Aleksandr Yakolev |

7. Until July 1990, the _____ exercised supreme control over the Communist Party. With the breakup of the Soviet Union and the subsequent banning of the Communist Party in Russia, it was effectively dissolved in 1991.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| A. Congress of People's Deputies | C. Politburo |
| B. Duma | D. Supreme Soviet |

8. Originally named Ovsel Radomysisky, _____ was a principal collaborator with Vladimir Lenin leading up to the Russian Revolution and despite disagreements on several issues he stayed in the party. Working with Josef Stalin, he prevented Leon Trotsky from succeeding Lenin, but was eventually betrayed by Stalin, tried at the first Great Purge trial, and executed.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| A. Nikolai Ryzhkov | C. Grigorii Zinoviev |
| B. Aleksei Rykov | D. Nikolai Bukharin |

9. Though she was alternately praised and criticized by the Soviet government _____, the author of "Poem Without a Hero," was generally recognized at her death in 1966 as the greatest female poet in Russian literature.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| A. Valentina Tereshkova | C. Aslan Maskhadov |
| B. Anna Akhmatova | D. Raisa Gorbachev |

10. A trained electrician working in the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk in the 1970s, _____ was named *TIME* magazine's 1980 Man of the Year, won the Nobel Peace Prize, was received by Pope John Paul II in 1983, and was elected to the presidency in 1990. He is considered a key figure in events leading to the collapse of the Soviet Union.
- A. Boris Yeltsin
B. Lech Walesa
C. Mikhail Gorbachev
D. Andrei Sakharov
11. At the invitation of artist Diego Rivera, _____ sought asylum in Mexico, where he settled at Coyoacán. In May 1940, men armed with machine guns attacked his house and a few months later Ramón Mercader, a Spanish communist posing as a friend, fatally attacked him with an ice pick.
- A. Leon Trotsky
B. Petr Stolypin
C. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
D. Francisco Franco
12. The Pioneers and the Octobrists were preparatory organizations for providing politically directed education and recreation to children destined for _____ membership.
- A. Red Army
B. Komsomol
C. Communist Party
D. Solidarity
13. Pokrovsky Sobor was built in Moscow in the 1500s by Ivan the Terrible. The church was dedicated to the protection and intercession of the Virgin, but it came to be known as _____ after the Russian holy fool who was “idiotic for Christ’s sake” and who was buried in the church vaults.
- A. Danilov Monastery
B. St. Basil’s Cathedral
C. Lenin’s Tomb
D. Red Square
14. By allowing the Germans to suppress the _____, from August to October 1944, the Soviet authorities helped eliminate most of the Home Army that supported the government-in-exile in London. Consequently, when the Soviet Army occupied all of the country, there was little effective organized resistance to establishing Soviet political domination.
- A. Warsaw Uprising
B. Hungary Revolution
C. Prague Spring
D. Chechen War

15. The _____ marked the climax of an extremely tense period in U.S.-Soviet relations. It also marked the closest point that the world had ever come to global nuclear war. It is generally believed that the resulting Soviet humiliation played an important part in Khrushchev's fall from power.
- A. Cuban Missile Crisis
 B. Berlin Blockade
 C. Fall of the Berlin Wall
 D. Korean War
16. _____ is a term for a blindly devoted official, follower, or member of an organization such as a corporation or political party, specifically the Communist party.
- A. Apparatchik
 B. Bolshevik
 C. Nomenklatura
 D. Comrade
17. The Karakum Canal is a massive waterway aiding irrigation in _____. The main section was started in 1954 and was completed in 1967. In the 1970s, the canal was extended to the Caspian Sea coast, making the total length 870 miles.
- A. Russia
 B. Azerbaijan
 C. Turkmenistan
 D. Kazakhstan
18. An administrative division or region in Russia and the former Soviet Union, and in some of its former constituent republics is known as a(n) _____.
- A. oblast
 B. pogrom
 C. jadid
 D. samizdat
19. The _____ that Saparmurat Niyazov created during his rule came at significant cost to Turkmenistan. It is estimated that more than half the country's gross domestic product was funneled into a special presidential fund. Much of this was spent on statues and other construction projects emphasizing the president's prestige.
- A. personality cult
 B. five-year plans
 C. dictatorship of the proletariat
 D. spiritual directorate
20. Though he officially served as the Soviet Prime Minister from 1964-1980, _____ was generally considered second in power to Leonid Brezhnev. His efforts to emphasize production of consumer goods were often stymied in favor of Brezhnev's industrial and military goals.
- A. Aleksei Kosygin
 B. Nikolay Podgorny
 C. Konstantin Chernenko
 D. Yuri Andropov

26. Vladimir Kryuchkov tried hard to convince the world that he had created a kinder, gentler secret service. By 1990, he even opened a _____.
- A. gift shop
B. museum
C. press office
D. chapel
27. _____ returned to Czechoslovakia after two decades of shame to help lead a revolution, but was seen as an “out-of-it grandfather.” He was the living personification of the 1968 Prague Spring.
- A. Victor Havel
B. Alexander Dubcek
C. Lech Walesa
D. Imre Nagy
28. In the beginning of March 1991, over 300,000 _____ had gone out on strike, terrifying hardliners in the Kremlin. The remaining 900,000 worked only to avoid a collapse of the national economy.
- A. nuclear scientists
B. miners
C. farmers
D. soldiers
29. In a thousand years of Russian history, there have always been _____ like Anatoly Kashpirovsky. They came to prominence in periods of rapid change, disaster, and disorientation.
- A. mystics
B. Eastern Orthodox clergy
C. military leaders
D. protectors of the poor
30. Two months before the August Coup, Kryuchkov flew to Havana at the personal request of _____. He concluded several secret agreements which assured the island would remain in the Soviet sphere of influence despite Gorbachev era conflicts.
- A. Manuel Noriega
B. Fidel Castro
C. Daniel Ortega
D. Valentin Falin
31. The Moscow Higher Party School had been a training ground for young Leninists, but underwent rapid change under Vyacheslav Shostokovsky. Highlighting the change was when students yelled in approval at a screening of the movie _____, when the film’s antagonist delivered the iconic line, “Greed is good!”
- A. *Dr. Zhivago*
B. *Wall Street*
C. *Stars and Stripes Forever*
D. *The Color of Money*

32. The weekly tabloid *Argumenti i Fakti* published a poll showing that _____ was the most popular politician in the country, and angered Mikhail Gorbachev so much he threatened to fire the editor.
- A. Boris Yeltsin
B. Andrei Sakharov
C. Konstantin Chernenko
D. Aleksandr Men
33. The Kremlin’s reluctant “discovery” of the secret protocols to the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, which signed over control of the independent _____ from Nazi Germany to Moscow, accelerated their independence.
- A. Georgians
B. Crimean Tatars
C. Polish kingdom
D. Baltic states
34. The “revolution from below” began when a group of workers from the Siberian town of Mezhdurechensk walked off the job. The main issue behind their strike was a lack of _____.
- A. healthcare
B. soap
C. representation in Moscow
D. safety precautions
35. The field of Soviet _____ had become so degraded over the years that the Memorial movement felt that they could not trust any of the professionals associated with it.
- A. literature
B. history
C. journalism
D. foreign affairs

Part III: Supplemental Readings

Country Profiles

(3 points each)

36. The decision to drop an agreement with the European Union brought thousands of protestors into the streets of the Ukraine in 2013, leading to the collapse of _____ government four month later.
- A. Leonid Kuchma’s
B. Petro Poroshenko’s
C. Yulia Tymoshenko’s
D. Viktor Yanukovich’s
37. The cities of Namangan, Andijan, Samarkand, and Nukus are all located in _____.
- A. Tajikistan
B. Turkmenistan
C. Kyrgyzstan
D. Uzbekistan

38. Kurbanguly Berdymukhamedov is an autocratic ruler officially titled “The Patron” and has ruled _____ since 2007.
- A. Tajikistan
B. Turkmenistan
C. Kyrgyzstan
D. Uzbekistan
39. Two days before he was scheduled to lead an opposition peace rally in 2015, the vocal Vladimir Putin critic, _____ was shot and killed in Moscow.
- A. Boris Nemtsov
B. Alexander Kononov
C. Mikhail Porkhorov
D. Vitaly Churkin
40. From the 14th to the 16th century, Poland and _____ existed as a confederacy and were one of the largest empires in Europe. In 1569, they formally united.
- A. Estonia
B. Lithuania
C. Latvia
D. Georgia
41. A Malaysia Airlines flight crashed near the Russian border in 2014, killing all 298 passengers and crew. The crash was labeled a “terrorist act” linked to pro-Russian separatists in _____.
- A. Georgia
B. Chechnya
C. Grozny
D. Ukraine
42. The European Union and the United States have denounced human rights violations in Belarus under the Soviet-style authoritarianism of President _____. His government has been accused of running a death squad that has killed dozens including opposition party members.
- A. Andrey Kabyakow
B. Alyaksandr Lukashenka
C. Ilham Aliyev
D. Giorgi Margvelashvili
43. On March 11, 1990, _____ became the first of the Soviet republics to declare its independence, but Moscow did not recognize this proclamation until September of 1991 and the last Russian troops did not withdraw until 1993.
- A. Estonia
B. Lithuania
C. Latvia
D. Georgia

44. _____ has the potential for becoming one of central Asia’s richest countries because of its huge mineral and oil resources. Oil was discovered in 2000 in the Caspian Sea and is believed to be the largest such find in 30 years.
- A. Kyrgyzstan
B. Azerbaijan
C. Turkmenistan
D. Kazakhstan
45. Vozrozhdeniye, an island in the Aral Sea belonging to _____ was a secret test site for biological weapons during the Soviet era. The Soviets attempted to bury the evidence, but U.S. scientists have confirmed that the island contains live anthrax and other deadly poisons.
- A. Uzbekistan
B. Kazakhstan
C. Turkmenistan
D. Russia

ESSAY PROMPT:

NOTE: Contestants who do not write an essay will be disqualified. Any essay that does not demonstrate a sincere effort to discuss the assigned topic will be disqualified. The rankings of essays will be based primarily on how well the topic has been addressed. A focused, concise and specific essay beats a vague and rambling essay. Proper grammar and organization should be used to aid clarity, but should not be considered a major factor in scoring. Cover as many corners of the issue as practical. Avoid including personal editorialized opinions, as more than enough information on the subject has been published.

“On August 20, 1991, a rainy, miserable afternoon, I walked among the crowds protecting the Russian parliament from a potential invasion by the leaders of a military coup...a group of ignorant men who believed themselves yet another improved version of the Bolshevik regime and possessed of a power to freeze, even turn back time. In their hurried calculations, the conspirators assumed “the masses” were too exhausted and indifferent to fight back. But tens of thousands of ordinary Muscovites were ready to die for democratic principles. It was said then and is said even now that the Russians know little or nothing of civil society. How strange, then, that so many were willing to give up their lives to defend it.”

-David Remnick, Lenin’s Tomb

The August Coup was a series of rapid dramatic events seeking to stop what had appeared to be a slow but deliberate decline of Soviet and more specifically Communist power. Despite these goals, the coup actually hastened the demise of the Soviet Union. Explain what led to the coup, what its leaders hoped to accomplish, how they failed, and what impacts the coup had on the leadership and power structures of the Soviet Union.

**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
SOCIAL STUDIES ANSWER KEY
REGION • 2018**

Part I (1 point each)	Part II (2 points each)	Points contestants could mention in their essay:	•Failure to arrest Yeltsin before reaching White House was key to coup collapse
1. A	21. C (pg. 216)	<p>Lead up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Glasnost/Perestroika era continued to question conservative authorities •In 1989, elections for the Congress of People’s Deputies began to limit the CPSU’s power •July 23, 1991, hardline newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya publishes anti-Perestroika manifesto “A Word to the People.” •August 4, Gorbachev went on holiday to his dacha in Foros, Crimea •The members of the GKChP ordered hundreds of thousands of handcuffs and arrest forms. Kryuchkov doubled the pay of all KGB personnel, called them back from holiday, placed them on alert, and made room for prisoners. <p>Major Players:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •State Committee on the State of Emergency (GKChP) •Gennady Yanayev (Soviet VP), Valentin Pavlov (Soviet PM), Vladimir Kryuchkov (KGB), Dmitry Yazov (Defense Minister), Boris Pugo (Minister of Interior), Oleg Baklanov (Central Comm.), Vasily Starodubtsev, Alexander Tizyakov •Boris Yeltsin, Mikhail Gorbachev <p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Stop planned New Union Treaty signing on August 20 •The members of the GKChP hoped Gorbachev could be persuaded to declare a state of emergency and to “restore order.” •Do away with cuts to military spending and support <p>Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •August 19-22, 1991 •Yanayev signed the decree naming himself acting USSR president due to Gorbachev’s inability to perform duties because of “illness.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Muscovites surrounded White House and created makeshift barriers to defend against an attack •tanks began surrounding White House, but most commanders realized any assault would be extremely bloody with immense civilian casualties and several officers and soldiers declared they would not attack if ordered •Yeltsin iconic address to the crowds atop a tank made it into Committee censored news cast •Near the White House, citizens barricaded a tunnel against troops. Three were killed in the incident with several others wounded. •Pugo committed suicide along with his wife the day after Gorbachev and the GKChP delegation returned to Moscow and were arrested. <p>Effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Baltic States used the chaos to declare independence •Gorbachev resigned as CPSU general secretary and by the end of August, the Supreme Soviet terminated all Party activities •Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus established the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) •Alma-Ata Protocol expanded the CIS to include all except Georgia and Baltics •On December 25, Gorbachev resigned as Soviet president and the next day, the Supreme Soviet voted the Soviet Union out of existence <p>Misc.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Centered in Moscow, but part of the failure was due to a lack of actions spreading through USSR
2. A	22. D (pg. 249)		
3. C	23. C (pg. 183)		
4. A	24. B (pg. 454)		
5. C	25. A (pg. 443)		
6. C	26. C (pg. 343)		
7. C	27. B (pg. 241)		
8. C	28. B (pg. 413)		
9. B	29. A (pg. 256)		
10. B	30. B (pg. 448)		
11. A	31. B (pg. 307)		
12. B	32. B (pg. 281)		
13. B	33. D (pg. 51)		
14. A	34. B (pg. 223)		
15. A	35. B (pg. 107)		
16. A	Part III (3 points each)		
17. C	36. D		
18. A	37. D		
19. A	38. B		
20. A	39. A		
	40. B		
	41. D		
	42. B		
	43. B		
	44. D		
	45. A		