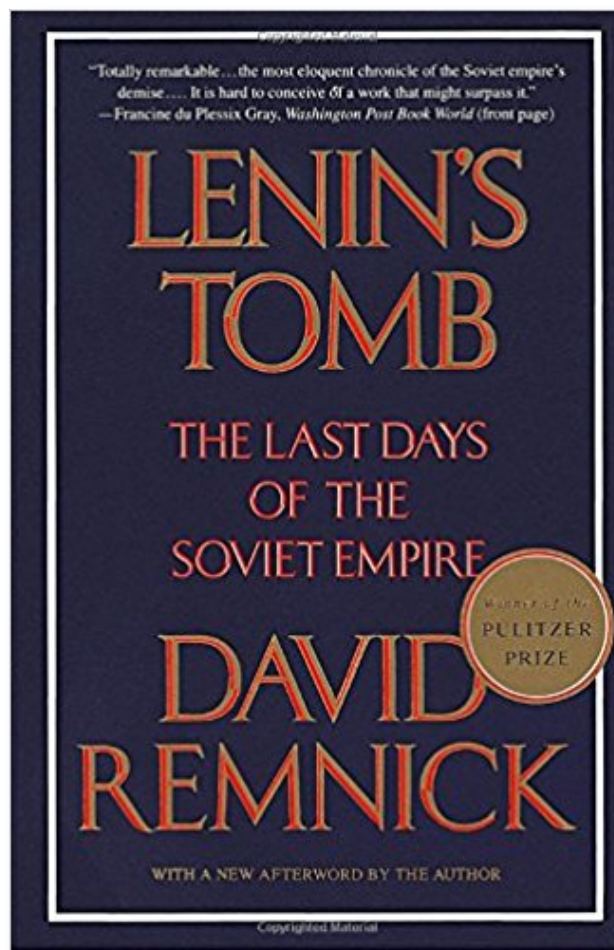




UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

Social Studies

State • 2018



DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL
YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO!

**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
SOCIAL STUDIES CONTEST**

STATE • SPRING 2018

Part I: General Knowledge

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

(1 point each)

1. *The Communist Manifesto*, by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels became one of the principal statements of the European socialist and communist movements. It explained the view that the history of all existing society is the history of _____.
 - A. political freedom
 - B. class struggles
 - C. unions
 - D. tyrants

2. Although _____ was known as the main proponent of the policy of “peaceful coexistence” he also was known for diplomatic outbursts and aggressive tactics such as “We will bury you,” the “kitchen debate” and supporting construction of the Berlin Wall.
 - A. Leonid Brezhnev
 - B. Mikhail Gorbachev
 - C. Nikita Khrushchev
 - D. Yuri Andropov

3. The author of *Eugene Onegin*, is seen as the creator of the Russian literary language, and the cornerstone of Russian literature. In Maxim Gorky’s words, _____ was “the beginning of beginnings.”
 - A. Alexander Pushkin
 - B. Leo Tolstoy
 - C. Fedor Dostoevsky
 - D. Ivan Turgenev
 - I. Cuban Missile Crisis
 - II. Yuri Gagarin becomes 1st human in space
 - III. USSR invades Afghanistan
 - IV. Mikhail Gorbachev becomes General Secretary of CPSU

4. Put the preceding events in correct chronological order from earliest to latest.
 - A. I, II, III, IV
 - B. II, I, III, IV
 - C. I, II, IV, III
 - D. II, I, IV, III

5. The mujahidin led insurgencies against the Soviet military during its decade long attempt to create a viable communist government in _____.

- A. Czechoslovakia
- B. Hungary
- C. Afghanistan
- D. Chechnya

6. The Soviet government awarded the Order of Lenin to _____ in 1945 and bestowed the title “Hero City of the Soviet Union” on it in 1965 in recognition of its survival of a nearly 900-day assault by the Nazis in WWII.

- A. Stalingrad
- B. Moscow
- C. Leningrad
- D. St. Petrograd

- Worked as a quantum nuclear physicist through the 1980s
- Named Deputy Prime Minister by Boris Yeltsin in 1997
- Co-founded pro-democracy Solidarnost in 2010
- Shot dead near Red Square in 2015

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

- A. Garry Kasparov
- B. Demetri Medvedev
- C. Mikhail Khodorkovsky
- D. Boris Nemtsov

8. _____ ordered the murder of Afghan President Nur Taraki to consolidate and ultimately seize power. His actions displeased Soviet leadership and he was killed 3 months after taking control.

- A. Hafizullah Amin
- B. Babrak Karmal
- C. Almazbek Atambayev
- D. Hamid Karzi

9. The uprising in Hungary in 1956, led to Imre Nagy becoming premier, and attempting to establish a multiparty system. His efforts at destalinization were halted when his withdrawal from _____ triggered a Soviet invasion.

- A. the Warsaw Pact
- B. the United Nations
- C. the Communist Party
- D. the Eastern Bloc

16. The fifth-largest city in Ukraine, _____ has been controlled by pro-Russian separatists since April 2014.
- A. Kiev
B. Donetsk
C. Odessa
D. Mariupol
17. In August 1989, under the leadership of _____, the Ministry of Gas Industry was transformed into the State Gas Concern, Gazprom, which became the first state-corporate enterprise and one of the USSR's few profitable government-run endeavors.
- A. Grigorii Zinoviev
B. Andrei Zhdanov
C. Viktor Chernomyrdin
D. Mikhail Khodorkovsky
18. All of the following were written by Fedor Dostoevsky except _____.
- A. *War and Peace*
B. *Crime and Punishment*
C. *The Brothers Karamazov*
D. *The Idiot*
19. The September Coup, also known as the Constitutional Crisis of 1993, saw some of the deadliest Moscow protests since czarist times. Tension in the Russian government came to a head when Boris Yeltsin attempted to dissolve the _____, despite not being granted the ability to do so by the constitution.
- A. parliament
B. Communist Party
C. Commonwealth of States
D. military leadership
20. Pravda, which translates to _____, was the official organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union from 1918 to 1991.
- A. truth
B. news
C. provider
D. unity

Part II: Primary Source Material

***Lenin's Tomb: The Last Days of the Soviet Empire*, by David Remnick**

(2 points each)

21. According to Joseph Brodsky, every Soviet life in the Brezhnev Era had a file. If it occupies too much space, a man walks into the office and says, "Let's get him." If you were a(n) _____ your file grew even faster.
- A. politician
B. historian
C. artist
D. writer

22. David Remnick had an obsession with trying to interview the last living member of Stalin’s inner circle _____, who was described as once being as close to Stalin as Goering was to Hitler.
- A. Georgi Malenkov
B. Lavrentiy Beria
C. Viacheslav Molotov
D. Lazar Kaganovich
23. The story of the perestroika years was the story of change inside the hearts and minds of people. According to *Lenin’s Tomb*, _____ was the dominant moral example of this time and even refers to him as a saint.
- A. Mikhail Gorbachev
B. Lech Walesa
C. Andrei Sakharov
D. Aleksandr Men
24. _____, a film by Tengiz Abuladze, about the legacy of evil and the moral need to confront the past stunned people into a state of awareness. Its eventual wide release coincided with Mikhail Gorbachev’s push to fill in the “blank spots” of history.
- A. *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*
B. *Memorial*
C. *Repentance*
D. *Doctor Zhivago*
25. Aleksandr Yakolev described _____ as “the most dangerous of all of them, simply because he was smarter than the rest,” but he was also responsible for curtailing the rampant corruption of the “Party mafia” after the Brezhnev Era.
- A. Konstantin Chernenko
B. Yuri Andropov
C. Yegor Ligachev
D. Aleksei Kosygin
26. Leading up to the August Coup in 1991, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker passed intelligence reports to Mikhail Gorbachev about individuals planning to depose the Soviet leader. Based on the information, Gorbachev _____ the individuals named in the report.
- A. assigned police surveillance to
B. arrested then expelled
C. attempted to befriend
D. had a tough talk with
27. Yuri Afanasyev helped lay the political and intellectual groundwork for Memorial with the most important political book of the Gorbachev era: _____.
- A. *There Is No Other Way*
B. *Requiem*
C. *The Necessity of Perestroika*
D. *Truth in the Darkness*

28. By the time Mikhail Gorbachev took power in 1985, the Soviet Union had entered the era of _____ with none of its own and no hope to compete.
- A. oil shortages
B. space weapons
C. cultural revolution
D. high tech
29. In the chaos following the August Coup, Central Committee members and their staff tried to destroy as many records as possible to avoid the judgement they knew was coming. _____ even ordered the name plate on his office door changed to “People’s Deputy” instead of Central Committee Secretary to try and avoid future prosecution.
- A. Boris Pugo
B. Valentin Falin
C. Nikolai Kruchina
D. Vladimir Kryuchkov
30. As part of the reaction to the “Doctors’ Plot” in 1953, camps were set up in Siberia for the sake of “protecting” innocent _____ from the mass hatred in the country.
- A. Mensheviks
B. Catholics
C. Jews
D. Cassocks
31. The favorite boyhood story of _____ was *The Patricide* about an avenging hero named Koba. He demanded all his friends and eventually his closest comrades in the Communist party call him Koba, sometimes up until the day he had them shot.
- A. Vladimir Lenin
B. Leon Trotsky
C. Lavrentiy Beria
D. Josef Stalin
32. Due to glasnost, young reporters were able to change the language of newspapers from the wooden bureaucratism and fanatic sloganeering of the Soviet _____ to a more Western style.
- A. Agitprop
B. Commun-ication
C. Newspeak
D. Samizdat
33. In 1986, _____ was the first CIA operative to ever defect to the USSR and the KGB.
- A. Mark David Chapman
B. Michael Clark Dobbs
C. John Wyatt Penner
D. Edward Lee Howard

34. Showing it was the Communist Party's absolute right to decide what was and was not appropriate for Soviets to read, _____ allowed *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich* to be published yet also led the campaign against Boris Pasternak.
- A. Leonid Brezhnev
B. Josef Stalin
C. Nikita Khrushchev
D. Mikhail Gorbachev
35. According to a retired secret police officer stationed near Kalinin in 1940, executioners brought a suitcase full of German Walther 2 revolvers to kill Polish officers. The reason Soviet TT weapons were not used was _____.
- A. not enough existed due to steel shortages in the USSR
B. the NKVD wanted it to appear the Nazis were responsible
C. they were not reliable and could overheat with heavy use
D. they were too loud and might draw the attention of villagers

Part III: Supplemental Readings
Country Profiles
(3 points each)

36. The people of _____ were originally pastoral nomads and some of them continued this way of life into the 20th century, living in transportable dome-shaped tents. The region was divided into two areas belonging to the khanates of Khiva and Bukhara until the 1800s.
- A. Uzbekistan
B. Kazakhstan
C. Turkmenistan
D. Tajikistan
37. The highest point in _____ and also the highest point in all of Europe is Gora El'brus.
- A. Russia
B. Ukraine
C. Belarus
D. Estonia
38. _____ is bordered by the Black Sea to the west, Turkey in the south, Azerbaijan in the east, and Russia in the North.
- A. Armenia
B. Belarus
C. Georgia
D. Moldova

39. _____ remains one of the poorest countries in Europe, importing almost all of its energy from Russia and Ukraine. It owes more than \$5 billion to Gazprom largely due to natural gas consumption by the breakaway region of Transnistria.
- A. Azerbaijan
B. Moldova
C. Armenia
D. Belarus
40. The rugged mountainous republic of _____ has about the same area as the state of Nebraska with the Tien Shan Mountain range covering approximately 95% of its territory.
- A. Kazakhstan
B. Uzbekistan
C. Kyrgyzstan
D. Tajikistan
41. Armenia is one of the oldest _____ civilizations. Its first churches were founded in the fourth century, but it has often been under the control of outside rulers with differing religious beliefs.
- A. Muslim
B. Christian
C. Buddhist
D. Sikh
- I.** Ivan the Terrible is proclaimed the first Czar of Russia
II. Russia is defeated in the Crimean War
III. Russo-Japanese War begins
IV. Napoleon invades Russia
42. Put the preceding events in correct chronological order from earliest to latest.
- A. IV, I, III, II
B. I, IV, II, III
C. I, III, IV, II
D. II, I, IV, III
43. _____ is located on the western shore of the Caspian Sea, at the southeast extremity of the Caucasus Mountains and consists of only about 7% arable land.
- A. Tajikistan
B. Kazakhstan
C. Azerbaijan
D. Uzbekistan
44. The name _____ translates as “Land of Fire” and refers to naturally occurring surface fires on ancient oil pools or from natural gas discharges.
- A. Tajikistan
B. Kazakhstan
C. Azerbaijan
D. Uzbekistan

45. Jelgava, Liepaja, Daugavpils, and Jurmala are all cities located in _____.

- A. Lithuania
- B. Belarus

- C. Estonia
- D. Latvia

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.

“I was eighteen and in my first year of college...talking to a friend...and we concluded that we were living in the most sophisticated dictatorship that has ever existed on the planet. The force of the propaganda was so strong that there could never be a revolution from below. The system permeated society at every level. It was everywhere. No one was being tortured, as in the Middle Ages or under Stalin-or, at least not as many. But the system was unshakable because it penetrated society so thoroughly.”

-Alex Kahn

David Remnick describes growing up in the USSR under Leonid Brezhnev as being crushed by a great invisible weight. Though not always as studied as other Soviet leaders it could be said that Brezhnev rivaled Stalin in the totality of his control and breadth of his impact. Describe the unique political, economic, and foreign policy qualities of the Brezhnev era including major events and their impacts on the Soviet Union.

DO NOT DISTRIBUTE TO STUDENTS BEFORE OR DURING THE CONTEST!