Multiple-Choice Questions

1) What was the African contribution to the "Colombian Exchange"?
   A) Large mammals
   B) Tapioca
   C) Slaves
   D) Manioc
   E) Potatoes

2) Which of the following was NOT considered a factor in the development of large kingdoms in Africa?
   A) A population expansion that followed the diffusion of iron tools and improved agriculture
   B) The collapse of the Christian kingdom in Ethiopia in the face of Muslim advance
   C) European demand for slaves
   D) The use of firearms
   E) Improved agriculture

3) What European nation first established direct contact with black Africa?
   A) Spain
   B) England
   C) Italy
   D) Portugal
   E) France

4) The most important Portuguese trade fort or factory was located where?
   A) El Mina
   B) Zambesi
   C) Zimbabwe
   D) Sokoto
   E) Angola

5) Which of the following statements concerning the early Portuguese trade forts is most accurate?
   A) The Portuguese trade forts permitted the political control of much of the African interior.
   B) Where Portuguese trade forts were established, large European colonies rapidly developed.
   C) Most of the forts were established with the agreement or license of local rulers.
   D) The Portuguese trade forts were the nodal points for colonial administration on the model of the American colonies.
   E) They were intended as the first step toward inland colonization and domination.

6) Which of the African kingdoms was most successfully converted to Christianity by Portuguese missionaries?
   A) Benin
   B) Zimbabwe
   C) Sokoto
   D) Kongo
   E) Luanda

7) South of their trade forts along the Gold Coast, the Portuguese established Luanda, which became the basis for the Portuguese colony of
   A) Angola.
   B) Kongo.
   C) Lesotho.
   D) Matabele.
   E) Kilwa.
8) Which of the following statements concerning the Portuguese presence in east Africa is most accurate?
   A) After the 1570s, the Portuguese gained complete control over the east African trade in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea.
   B) Unlike the Portuguese settlements on the coast of western Africa, Mozambique became the basis for a large European colony.
   C) Portuguese bases in east Africa gave them access to the gold trade of east Africa, but they were unable to completely disrupt the Muslim trade with the region.
   D) The Portuguese presence in east Africa precipitated the population movement among the Bantu that became the Mfecane.
   E) The Portuguese presence was preceded by French and the English colonization movements.

9) Following the model established by the Portuguese, which of the following was NOT one of the principal patterns of European contact with Africa?
   A) A system of fortified trading stations
   B) The combination of force and diplomacy including alliances with local leaders
   C) The predominance of commercial relations
   D) Widespread European colonization
   E) Fair trade with native peoples for free-access goods

10) Which of the following statements about slavery in Europe before 1450 was most accurate?
    A) Europe had never had a tradition of slavery going back to the Roman Empire.
    B) Slavery had been extensive in the ancient world, but had died out during the Middle Ages in all regions in the West.
    C) Slavery had died out in the Middle Ages in most of Europe except along the military frontier between Christians and Muslims in the Mediterranean.
    D) Slavery was common to Europe in all eras prior to 1450, although it tended to become more dominant during the Middle Ages.
    E) During the Middle Ages, most European states took conquered people as slaves but only if they were Muslims.

11) The first slaves brought directly to Portugal from Africa arrived in
    A) 1441.
    B) 1453.
    C) 1492.
    D) 1509.
    E) 1557.

12) In what manner did the Portuguese seize most of the slaves that were transported from Africa?
    A) They captured them in raids into the African interior.
    B) They traded for them with African rulers.
    C) As a result of the defeat of most of the African kingdoms, the Portuguese obtained a ready supply of slaves.
    D) They purchased them from the Muslim slave traders of the east African trading cities.
    E) They traded for slaves from other European powers such as France and England.

13) What development led to an intensification of the Portuguese involvement in the African slave trade?
    A) The extension of the agricultural system in Europe
    B) The Black Death, which decreased the available supply of labor in Europe
    C) The development of sugar plantations on the Atlantic island of Madeira
    D) The growth of the Ottoman Empire
    E) Spanish reconquista and the establishment of New Granada
14) What is the best estimate of the number of Africans shipped across the Atlantic between 1450 and 1850?
   A) 8 million  
   B) 10 million  
   C) 12 million  
   D) 14 million  
   E) 20 million

15) In what century did the Atlantic slave trade reach its zenith in terms of numbers of Africans exported?
   A) 15th  
   B) 16th  
   C) 17th  
   D) 18th  
   E) 14th

16) Which of the following statements concerning the volume of the slave trade to the American colonies is most accurate?
   A) The volume of the slave trade dwindled rapidly after the 17th century because the plantation economies of the Americas collapsed.  
   B) The high volume of the slave trade was a necessity because slave mortality was high and fertility was low leading to a loss of slave population.  
   C) The shift from plantation economies to mining economies in which slaves were not utilized rapidly diminished the American demand for slaves.  
   D) Demand for slaves continued to remain high due to the competing demand for slaves in Europe.  
   E) The volume of the slave trade decreased as mortality rates increased and the American economy shifted to manufacturing.

17) What region in the Americas received more slaves than any other between 1550 and 1850?
   A) Brazil  
   B) The southern British colonies of North America  
   C) Mexico  
   D) The Caribbean  
   E) Bermuda

18) Which of the following statements concerning the shape of the commerce in African slaves is most accurate?
   A) The emergence of the Atlantic slave trade caused the immediate end of the older trans-Saharan slave trade in the hands of the Muslims.  
   B) The Atlantic trade drew its slaves almost exclusively from southern Africa until the 19th century.  
   C) The African states of the interior actively resisted the slave trade.  
   D) The Atlantic slave trade drew slaves from across the African continent and its concentration shifted from Senegambia to central and western Africa over time.  
   E) Fewer slaves crossed the Atlantic than the Sahara due to the military needs of the Arabic kingdoms.

19) In what way did the trans-Saharan slave trade differ from that of the Atlantic slave trade?
   A) The Atlantic slave trade was carried out almost exclusively by Muslims.  
   B) The trans-Saharan slave trade was carried out in much greater volume than the Atlantic slave trade.  
   C) The trans-Saharan slave trade concentrated on women, but the Atlantic slave trade concentrated on young men.  
   D) The African preference for retaining young male slaves to extend kinship lines implied that primarily women were available to the Atlantic trade, while men converted to Islam were more likely trade objects for the trans-Saharan trade.  
   E) The trans-Saharan slave trade was much more arduous and cruel than the trans-Atlantic trade.
20) What was the demographic impact of the slave trade on Africa?
   A) The slave trade exported millions, but the loss was made up as a result of the natural prolificacy of
      the Africans.
   B) Population in Africa seems actually to have grown, despite the number of men, women, and
      children exported to the Americas.
   C) The slave trade had the impact of skewing the population of central Africa in favor of a
      disproportional number of women.
   D) As a result of the slave trade, the population of Africa was only one-third of what it would have
      been without the export of men and women.
   E) The African population grew as kingdoms had more slaves but was skewed toward an older
      population.

21) How did the British organize the shipment of slaves to the Americas?
   A) In Britain, unlike elsewhere, the slave trade was carried out by uncontrolled private venture.
   B) In Britain, the chartered Royal African Company was granted a monopoly over the shipment of
      slaves to colonies in the Americas.
   C) The British refused to participate in the slave trade and attempted to intercept shipments of slaves
      to the Americas beginning in the 1660s.
   D) The British government directly participated in the slave trade through use of the Royal Navy.
   E) All merchant marine ships were used for this purpose under the guidance of the Ministry of Ships.

22) The Spanish term for a healthy adult male slave was
   A) indies piece.
   B) calderon.
   C) servus dei.
   D) creole.
   E) mulatto.

23) What was the average profitability of the English slave trade in the late 18th century?
   A) 5-10 percent
   B) 15-20 percent
   C) 25-30 percent
   D) Over 50 percent
   E) 100 percent

24) How did the profitability of the slave trade compare to that of other contemporary business ventures?
   A) The slave trade was less profitable on the whole than other business ventures because of the high
      costs and risks involved.
   B) The slave trade became increasingly dangerous and risky, so that by the 18th century its returns
      were minimal and most participants were bankrupted.
   C) Profits from the slave trade in the 18th century were so lucrative that capital derived from the trade
      in human beings was used to capitalize the European Industrial Revolution.
   D) The slave trade was little more profitable than most business activities of the age and was not a
      major source for the Industrial Revolution of Europe.
   E) The slave trade was less profitable in the Sahara trade but extremely profitable for the Atlantic
      slave traders.

25) What was the term utilized for the commercial arrangement by which African slaves were shipped to the
    Americas, sugar and tobacco were carried to Europe, and European manufactured goods were transported to
    Africa?
   A) The "Colombian Exchange"
   B) Mercantilism
   C) Triangular trade
   D) The "Atlantic Express"
   E) The "Four Corners"
26) Which of the following statements concerning slavery on the continent of Africa before the arrival of the Europeans is most accurate?
   A) Most African societies were egalitarian—that is, most people enjoyed the same social status—and slavery was generally unknown.
   B) Slavery in Africa was restricted to those areas where Islamic influence had introduced the concept in the period after the 7th century.
   C) While common elsewhere in Africa, slavery was not common in the forest states of west Africa prior to the coming of the Europeans.
   D) In many African societies, the control of slaves was one of the few ways in which individuals or lineages could increase their wealth and status.
   E) Slavery had virtually been abolished in Africa before the arrival of the Europeans due to tribal and clan conflicts.

27) What was the political impact of the presence of Europeans on the African coast?
   A) States were more likely to form in the savanna regions of Africa.
   B) Strong centralized states began to form on the coastline in close proximity to the European trade forts.
   C) West and central African kingdoms just inland from the forts began to redirect their trade and expand their influence.
   D) State formation in Africa took place on the Indian Ocean coast away from the trade routes established by the Europeans.
   E) Europeans immediately divided up the entire continent and established colonies.

28) In what way did the European slave trade enable centralizing states to expand more rapidly?
   A) Slaves were traded for firearms that allowed expanding states to overpower their neighbors, resulting in more slaves.
   B) The Europeans rapidly created military alliances and added their armies to those of their slave-trading allies.
   C) The European slave trade weakened the states of central and western Africa, allowing the centralizing states of eastern Africa to expand without competition.
   D) The slave trade was restricted to the coasts, leaving the political units of interior Africa free of European interference.
   E) The slave trade declined in the cross-Sahara trade routes leading to the introduction of stronger Muslim kingdoms.

29) Which of the following was a large African state that developed in western Africa during the period of the Atlantic slave trade?
   A) Zulu
   B) Mali
   C) Swazi
   D) Asante
   E) Lesotho

30) Under whose rule was unity achieved among the numerous Akan clans of Asante?
   A) Usuman Dan Fodio
   B) Osei Tutu
   C) Shaka
   D) Agaja
   E) Sotho

31) The title given to the supreme civil and religious ruler of the Asante kingdom was
   A) bunyoro.
   B) swazi.
   C) asantehene.
   D) kowazi.
   E) Khoikhoi.
32) On the east coast of Africa, the Swahili trading cities
   A) were decimated following European naval attacks.
   B) fell entirely within the orbit of the Portuguese global trade network.
   C) continued their commerce in the Indian Ocean with both the Portuguese and the Ottoman Turks.
   D) were unique in Africa because of their refusal to participate in the slave trade.
   E) abandoned trade with Islam in favor of trade with the Europeans.

33) One of the unique features of the east African coast that differed from west Africa was
   A) the existence of the slave trade.
   B) the establishment of plantations using African slave labor.
   C) the existence of large European colonies.
   D) the widespread appearance of epidemic disease.
   E) connection to global trade.

34) An example of the acceptance of Nilotic peoples as ruling dynasties among the Bantu was the Luo at
   A) Benin.
   B) El Mina.
   C) Zanzibar.
   D) Bunyoro.
   E) San.

35) The Muslim reform movement of the 1770s that swept through the trade networks in Senegambia and the western Sudan was what variant of Islam?
   A) Ismaili
   B) Fatimid
   C) Sufi
   D) Nizari
   E) Shi'a

36) Usuman Dan Fodio began a rebellion in what African kingdoms in 1804?
   A) Hausa
   B) Benin
   C) Kongo
   D) Luanda
   E) Kani

37) Usuman Dan Fodio's rebellion eventually led to the formation of what caliphal state?
   A) Lesotho
   B) Benin
   C) Sokoto
   D) Kongo
   E) Sudan

38) What area of Africa was least affected by the slave trade?
   A) The savanna and the Sudan
   B) Southern Africa
   C) Central and west Africa
   D) East Africa
   E) West Africa

39) In 1652 what group established a colony at the Cape of Good Hope?
   A) The British East India Company
   B) The Royal African Company
   C) The Dutch East India Company
   D) The Ottoman Empire
   E) The French Colonial Federation
40) In 1818 who assumed leadership in the Zulu chiefdom of the Nguni people of southern Africa?
   A) Osei Tutu
   B) Agaja
   C) Usman Dan Fodio
   D) Shaka
   E) Sokoto

41) What was the impact of the Mfecane?
   A) It destroyed the Bantu peoples of eastern Africa.
   B) As a result, the Portuguese were able to absorb most of the east African Swahili trading cities.
   C) The Boers were forced out of southern Africa.
   D) The resulting political disruption sent African groups fleeing before the Zulus into both Portuguese coastal regions and the Boer farms of southern Africa.
   E) Greater cooperation between natives and settlers

42) What was the average mortality rate for slaves shipped to the Americas in the Atlantic slave trade?
   A) 10-15 percent
   B) 18-20 percent
   C) 25-40 percent
   D) 55-65 percent
   E) less than 10 percent

43) The slave voyage to the Americas was referred to as the
   A) "Atlantic Mistral."
   B) "Ocean Express."
   C) "American Tragedy."
   D) "Middle Passage."
   E) "Rite of Passage."

44) Why were Africans sought for plantation labor in the Americas?
   A) There was no other labor supply available in the Americas.
   B) West Africans were already familiar with metallurgy, herding, and intensive agriculture whereas Indians were not.
   C) Sugar was a crop native to Africa and exported to the Americas from there.
   D) Africans rapidly expanded their population in the Latin American colonies.
   E) Native Americans refused to perform the labor and were few in numbers.

45) How were the British colonies of the southern Atlantic coast of North America different from the Latin American colonies?
   A) There was no slavery there.
   B) Although urban slavery was common, there was no plantation agricultural system on the North American mainland.
   C) Manumission of slaves tended to be more common in the British colonies.
   D) The British colonies depended less on imported Africans because of the positive rate of growth among the slaves.
   E) The British colonies were primarily industrial.

46) Which of the following statements concerning slave families is most accurate?
   A) Despite enormous difficulties, slaves continued to live in family units.
   B) The onerous conditions of slavery and the shortage of women resulted in the creation of artificial clans and extended lineages.
   C) Lacking women, men substituted slave "fraternities" for the more traditional organization.
   D) The conditions of slavery destroyed family concepts among Africans in the New World.
   E) Family relations were stronger in the slave families than in the settler families.
47) Which of the following was NOT an African religion transported to the Americas?
   A) Obeah
   B) Vodun
   C) Asantehene
   D) Candomble
   E) Aja

48) Which of the following statements concerning resistance to slavery is most accurate?
   A) Recalcitrance, running away, and direct rebellion were present wherever slaves were employed.
   B) Although there were one or two slave rebellions in isolated areas, in general there was no organized resistance to slavery.
   C) Resistance to slavery was experienced on the mainland, but the plantation economies of the Caribbean suffered no rebellions.
   D) The only consistent location for slave resistance and rebellion was the British colonies of the southern Atlantic coast.
   E) Few slaves ever rebelled against their captivity or their owners.

49) Which of the following was a British opponent of the slave trade?
   A) John C. Calhoun
   B) John Wilkes
   C) William Wilberforce
   D) William Hanover
   E) William Penn

50) Which of the following statements concerning the ending of the slave trade is most accurate?
   A) In general the Enlightenment with its advocacy of free trade accepted the practice even if it did not approve of the slave trade.
   B) Leadership in the drive to abolish the slave trade was assumed by France.
   C) While it is true that legitimate products began to replace slaves in the European commerce with Africa, it is difficult to demonstrate a link between economic self-interest and the abolition of the slave trade.
   D) The end of the Atlantic slave trade in the 19th century led to the end of slavery in Africa itself.
   E) Rousseau and Smith favored the continuation of slavery but only under certain conditions.

**Essay Questions**

1) What model did the Portuguese establish for the exploitation of Africa?
2) Describe the structure of the Atlantic slave trade. Consider the volume of slaves by century, the places to which slaves were shipped, and the origins of slaves within Africa.
3) Why did Europeans participate in the Atlantic slave trade?
4) To what extent was slavery a feature of African society prior to the coming of the Europeans? How was it intertwined with the development of more centralized states?
5) Evaluate the causes for the end of the Atlantic slave trade.