

# **HISTORY QUIZ 2013 – GATEWAY COLLEGE, RAJAGIRIYA, SRI LANKA**

**Note:** The following questions were used in an intramural history quiz competition in Sri Lanka. Test yourself and see how many you get right! Answers are found on the page after each round of questions. The format followed a “pub quiz” style where students competed on teams of 3 and could consult on all answers. No buzzers were used. IHBB thanks Gateway College, Rajagiriya, Sri Lanka for providing these questions for practice purposes!

## **Round 1 Ancient history (3600 BCE – 500 CE)**

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1. This ruler of ancient Egypt was a pharaoh who revived the worship of the creator god Amun and restored Thebes as a religious centre. His tomb was first discovered in 1922 and the suspicious death of Carnarvon four months after its excavation led to the popularization of the phrase “The Curse of the Pharaohs. Who was this pharaoh?
2. She was the last of a dynasty of Macedonian rulers, who served as general under Alexander the Great during his conquest of Egypt in 332 B.C. The means of her death is uncertain, but it is commonly believed that she poisoned herself with a poisonous snake known as the asp. Who is she?
3. This ancient civilization on the Yucatan Peninsula was one of the most dominant indigenous societies of Mesoamerica They were deeply religious, and worshiped various gods related to nature, including the gods of the sun, the moon, rain and corn. Name this civilization.
4. Which two major states along with the smaller Greek city-states were engaged in a great war with the Persian Empire at the beginning of the fifth century B.C. In 498 B.C?
5. In ancient Greece a political system was established for the first time and Greek historian Herodotus wrote, “there is, first, that most splendid of virtues, equality before the law.” Name this political system.
6. This island was settled by the ancient Greeks, became part of the Roman empire, passed by the Byzantium, ruled by the Arabs from about 727 – 161. Then it was conquered by the Normans. What is the name of this Island?
7. As legend has it, Rome was founded by twin sons named after the twin sons of Mars, the god of war. Left to drown in a basket on the Tiber by a king of nearby Alba Longa and rescued by a she-wolf, the twins lived to defeat that king and found their own city on the river's banks in 753 B.C. Name these twins.
8. This city can trace its history back over 3000 years. It was established as the capital of the Yan states, one of the leaders of the warring states period of China. It is believed to have been the largest city in the world from 1425 to 1650 and again from 1710 to 1825. Name this city.
9. The mighty Greek and Roman civilizations flourished in western Europe and the Mediterranean from 1300 B.C to 558 A.D. The first Roman emperor was Octavian. What was he better known as?
10. Located just east of the Roman Forum, the massive stone amphitheater known as the Colosseum was commissioned around A.D. 70-72 by Emperor Vespasian. In A.D. 80, Vespasian's son Titus opened the Colosseum. What was it officially known as?

## Ancient history (3600 BCE – 500 CE) ANSWERS

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1. King Tutankhamen (or Tutankhamun)
2. Cleopatra VII
3. Mayan civilization
4. Athens and Sparta
5. Democracy
6. Sicily
7. Remus and Romulus
8. Beijing
9. Augustus Caesar
10. Flavian Amphitheater

## Round 2 Early Modern Period (1500 – 1750)

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1. Which word meaning 'rebirth' describes the period in European history which began in the 14th century which caused the new enthusiasm for classical literature, learning, and art which sprang up in Italy towards the close of the Middle Ages?
2. The Age of Exploration, officially began in the early 15th century and lasted until the 17th century. The first of the journeys associated with the Age of Discovery were conducted by the Portuguese under the command of a member of the Royal Family renowned for his navigation skills. Who was he?
3. "The Golden Age" is a term used to describe the Golden Age of Piracy, (1690 to 1725) when well-known pirates such as Edward Teach were preying on mercantile ships, and blockading ports, on both sides of the Atlantic. What was Edward Teach more commonly known as?
4. Queen Elizabeth I made naval strength a high priority. She risked war with Spain by supporting the "Sea Dogs," such as John Hawkins and Francis Drake who attacked Spanish merchant ships carrying gold and silver from the New World. Which naval fleet did the English beat that marked the height of naval power under Elizabeth I?
5. Which title, translated as 'military dictator' in Japanese was won by Togugawa Ieyasu who was one of the most powerful rulers of the Far Eastern civilization consisting of Japan and Korea in 1603?
6. The Russian Empire traces its origins to AD 950. It led to the Muscovite empire which began with the reign of whom?
7. The name Caesar had been for long a symbol of power and became a title in the Roman Empire. The word Kaiser comes from Caesar. What other monarch had a title derived from Caesar?
8. The sophisticated Andean or Incan civilization existed in South America from 1410 to 1533. Which city was the capital of the empire?
9. In 1701–14 the last of the general European wars caused by the efforts of King Louis XIV to extend French power took place. The conflict in America *corresponding* to the period of this war was known as Queen Anne's War. What was the war in Europe more commonly known as?
10. One of the Mongol Empire's greatest leaders was this man born as Temujin and known as the Great Khan of the Mongols. What was his name?

## Early Modern Period (1500 – 1750) ANSWERS

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1. Renaissance
2. Prince Henry the Navigator
3. Blackbeard
4. Spanish Armada
5. Shogun
6. Ivan the Great
7. Tsar
8. Cuzco Peru
9. War of the Spanish Succession
10. Genghis Khan

## Round 3 Mid Modern Period (1750 – 1914)

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1. The United Kingdom experienced a huge growth in the cotton industry during the Industrial Revolution. The factories that were required to produce cotton became a legacy of the time. This individual built the world's first true factory to produce cotton. Who was he?
2. A brilliant French artillery commander, general, first consul, and finally emperor, was born on the isle of Corsica. He built a massive empire that encompassed the majority of Europe. He was defeated at a famous battle at Waterloo. Who was this commander?
3. The Crimean War, famed for the 'Charge of the Light Brigade', fundamentally altered the balance of power in Europe and set the stage for World War One. It brought about an end to a treaty arranged at a conference that had maintained peace between the major powers for three decades. What was this conference?
4. Over the course of more than three and a half centuries, the forcible transportation in bondage of at least twelve million men, women, and children from their African homelands as slave took place along what trade route?
5. By the late 19th century, Antarctica was the last unexplored continent on earth. Captain Robert Falcon Scott aimed to be the first man to reach the South Pole but he was he defeated by his rival explorer. Who was this explorer?
6. Conflicts of interests in Korea between China and Japan led to the Sino-Japanese War in 1894-95. A new fight over Korea and Manchuria was fought between Japan and Russia. What was the name given to this war?
7. In 1814 as a penalty for having supported France during the Napoleonic war Denmark lost this area to Sweden but kept Iceland, Greenland and Faroe islands. Name its lost area.
8. What was the name of the group consisting mainly of teenagers that chairman Mao Zedong called on to spread the cultural revolution through China?
9. In the Crimean war (1853 to 1856), several powers formed a coalition to attack Russia. The powers attacking Russia were France, UK, Piedmont – Sardinia and another great power. What was it?
10. This was the first country in the world to grant women the right to vote in 1893.

## Round 4 Mid Modern Period (1750 – 1914) ANSWERS

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1. Sir Richard Arkwright
2. Napoleon Bonaparte
3. Congress of Vienna
4. Transatlantic trade route (or Triangular Trade Route or middle passage)
5. Captain Roald Amundsen
6. Russo-Japanese War
7. Norway
8. The Red Guards
9. The Ottoman empire
10. New Zealand

## Round 5 Contemporary Period (1914 – present)

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1. Hitler invaded USSR in June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1941 as part of his military campaign to extend the boundaries of Germany. What was this invasion called?
2. Who was said to have powers that could heal the Russian Prince Alexei Romanov of hemophilia, granting him access into the Russian Court due to the Tsarina's favor?
3. Which Nobel Prize winning daughter of a former Burmese politician has become the head of the movement for democratic rights in Burma?
4. Which country in Asia won its independence from the British Empire, though it later captured its city of Goa from the Portuguese?
5. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in what was called the silent revolution secondary schools allowed girls to study and women were allowed to attend university. Which was the first European university to admit women students?
6. What is the name of the country created in the African continent for slaves from the Americas who wanted to return to Africa?
7. In which country with capital at Freetown does the digging of infamous blood diamonds take place?
8. On August 6, 1945, during World War II (1939-45), an American B-29 bomber dropped the world's first deployed atomic bomb over the Japanese city of Hiroshima. Three days later, a second B-29 dropped another A-bomb on Nagasaki. What was the name of these two bombs?
9. Space exploration served as a dramatic arena for Cold War competition. On October 4, 1957, a Soviet R-7 intercontinental ballistic missile launched the world's first artificial satellite and the first man-made object to be placed into the Earth's orbit. What was this satellite called?
10. Which was the first nation to break away from the USSR in 1990?

## Contemporary Period (1914 – present) ANSWERS

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1. Operation Barbarossa
2. Rasputin (Grigori Yefimovich)
3. Aung San Suu Kyi
4. India
5. University of Zurich
6. Liberia
7. Sierra Leone
8. Little boy and Fat man
9. Sputnik
10. Lithuania

## Round 6 – Current Affairs

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1. Russia granted an American who leaked info about U.S. surveillance programs asylum for one year. The temporary asylum allows him to leave the Moscow airport where he has been since June. Who is this whistle blower?
2. Who was the first female Australian Prime Minister who resigned on June 26<sup>th</sup> this year?
3. This Prime Minister of Palestine resigned amid infighting among the top level of the Palestinian Authority and popular discontent. Who is he?
4. A special presidential election was held on April the 14<sup>th</sup> to pick Hugo Chavez's successor in Venezuela. Who succeeded in winning the election?
5. Who was appointed President of China on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March with a landslide victory, putting him in charge of all three central powers in China?
6. The French President received a huge welcome when he arrived in Mali when thousands of people came out to greet him with music and dance, chanting, "Vive la France!" after French troops chased Islamic extremists out of Mali. Who is the French President?
7. He studied in the United States before returning to Israel in 1967 for military service. He worked in the U.S. at the Israeli embassy and then as a representative at the United Nations. He was elected Prime Minister of Israel. Who is he?
8. He was declared President of Egypt on 24 June 2012, becoming the first democratically elected president in Egypt's history. However he was ousted from power in a military coup this year. Who is he?
9. He took office as Iran's 7th president on 4 August 2013, succeeding President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. After Iran's 1979 revolution, he became a member of the parliament and began his long career in politics. Who is the current president of Iran?
10. He has been the president of Syria since 2000. He took the oath of office on 17 July 2000, succeeding his father, Hafez al-Assad, who was Syria's president from 1971 until his death on 10 June 2000. Who is this President of Syria who has been placed in the spotlight due to the conflict ongoing in the nation of Syria?

## Round 6 – Current Affairs - ANSWERS

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1. Edward Snowden
2. Julia Gillard
3. Salam Fayyad
4. Nicolás Maduro
5. Xi Jinping
6. Francois Hollande
7. Benjamin Netanyahu
8. Mohammed Morsi
9. Hassan Rouhani
10. Bashar al-Assad