WBAFF Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Social Studies Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7th Grade S.S. Diagnostic Test

**MULTIPLE CHOICE** For each of the following, fill in the best choice on your scantron

1. Rivers, climate, and natural resources are all examples of
	1. culture b. civic duties c. civilizations d. geographic factors
2. A relief (physical) map is mainly used to show
	1. landforms b. populations c. natural resources d. jobs
3. Which two continents make up about half of Earth’s land area?

a. North America and South America c. Africa and North America

b. Antarctica and Asia d. Africa and Asia

1. Which continent has the *smallest* land area?
	1. North America b. Antarctica c. Europe d. Australia
2. Which city is the capital of New York State?
	1. Utica b. New York City c. Buffalo d. Albany
3. Before having the seven continents in the world, the supercontinent that included all the earth’s land masses was called
	1. Antarctica b. Pangea c. Paleozoic d. Mesozoic
4. Early colonists in North America tended to settle near rivers mainly because these areas provided
	1. Resources suitable for agriculture c. protection from enemies
	2. Water power for factories d. popular camping sites
5. Which source of information is an example of a primary source?
	1. a book about the life of George Washington
	2. a television show about colonial life
	3. an encyclopedia article about the Erie Canal
	4. a letter from a farmer written in the 1800s
6. The earliest known civilization in North America is the
	1. Aztec b. Inca c. Maya d. Olmec
7. What does Renaissance mean?
	1. Awakening b. enlightenment c. knowledge d. rebirth
8. A democracy is a type of government
	1. where all citizens have the right to vote c. where there is a king/queen
	2. few wealthy people make the decisions d. ruled by the people
9. One way in which the Aztecs, Incas, and Mayas were similar is that they
	1. Traveled to the Western Hemisphere from Africa
	2. Had developed advanced civilization before the arrival of Columbus
	3. Settled in the desert of the southwestern United States
	4. Left no evidence to help us understand their cultures
10. The main reason the Iroquois Confederacy was formed was to
	1. fight against the Onondaga c. achieve peace among member nations

b. continue Native American Indian traditions d. unite to battle the European colonies

1. One goal of Christopher Columbus, Jacques Cartier, and Henry Hudson was to
	1. settle New York State c. explore the Great Lakes
	2. start colonies in Virginia d. find a shorter water route to Asia
2. Finding a sea route to Asia was significant because it
	1. Gave Europeans the opportunity to hold political positions in foreign lands
	2. Allowed Europeans to bypass merchants who monopolized trade.
	3. Introduced Europeans to new investors who would support exploration.
	4. Showed Europeans that interactions with Asians were nothing new.
3. Why did the Spaniards start bringing enslaved Africans to New Spain in 1501?
	1. They knew they could sell them at a higher price than they paid.
	2. They were forced to do so by a decree from the Spanish Crown.
	3. They had exhausted the local population of American Indian slaves.
	4. They started farming large plantations and needed more workers.
4. The Boston Tea Party was significant because it showed how
	1. Unhappy colonists were with new British laws.
	2. Important tea was to colonists in relation to other imports
	3. Easily colonists could sell cheap tea from expensive tea.
	4. Angry colonists were even before the Boston Massacre.
5. Why was the phrase “taxation without representation” so important to the revolutionary cause?
	1. Colonists did not wish to support a government in which they had no voice.
	2. Great Britain would have ended taxation if colonists had kept the peace.
	3. Colonists believed that Great Britain should only tax certain items.
	4. Great Britain only taxed the colonists to force them into war.
6. Who was the leader of the Continental Army during the American Revolution?
	1. George Washington c. Benedict Arnold
	2. Patrick Henry d. John Burgoyne
7. The American colonists who supported the British government during the Revolutionary War were known as
	1. Whigs b. rebels c. Patriots d. Loyalists
8. Which document was written during the Revolutionary War and listed the reasons the 13 colonies should no longer be part of the British Empire?
	1. Declaration of Independence c. Magna Carta

b. United States Constitution d. Gettysburg Address

1. Which battle was the turning point of the Revolutionary War?
	1. Saratoga b. Long Island c. West Point d. Fort Ticonderoga
2. After the Revolutionary War, many settlers moved to New York’s western frontier and beyond. Which term best describes this group of people?
	1. merchants b. pioneers c. patrons d. soldiers
3. According to the Constitution, what is the role of the judicial branch?
	1. Giving legal advice c. writing new laws
	2. Interpreting the law d. setting legal precedent
4. The framers, writers, of the Constitution created a system of checks and balances to
	1. Outline the powers held by each branch of government
	2. Keep any one branch of government from becoming too powerful
	3. Give the people an opportunity to control the government
	4. Strengthen the powers held by each branch of government
5. The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution to
	1. Protect citizens’ rights c. outline the rights of the federal government
	2. Limit the powers of state government d. state the ways in which citizens can participate in gov.
6. Major changes or additions to the United States Constitution are called
	1. proclamations b. values c. artifacts d. amendments
7. The first 10 amendments to the United States Constitution are called the
	1. Declaration of Independence c. Mayflower Compact
	2. Bill of Rights d. Emancipation Proclamation
8. The Bill of Rights in the United States Constitution guarantees
	1. personal freedoms c. jobs for all
	2. equal health benefits for everyone d. a strong army
9. When a president refuses to sign a proposed law, he is
	1. vetoing it b. accepting it c. ratifying it d. passing it
10. What is required for a person to become a naturalized citizen?
	1. Obtaining legal-immigrant status and serving five years in the armed forces
	2. Moving to the U.S. permanently and applying for citizenship
	3. Surrendering any foreign passport and renouncing foreign citizenship
	4. Reciting the pledge of allegiance once before a judge and daily thereafter
11. Alexander Hamilton stood for a flexible reading of the Constitution, but Thomas Jefferson stood for
	1. loose construction c. soft construction
	2. tight construction d. strict construction
12. The first political party division in the United States was between
	1. Democrats and Republicans c. Liberals and Conservatives
	2. Democratic-Republicans and Federalists d. Federalists and Royalists
13. The national debt can best be defined as the amount of money owed
	1. To the nation by the nation’s citizens and by foreign countries.
	2. By the nation to foreign countries and the nation’s citizens
	3. To the federal government by individual states.
	4. By the federal government to domestic debtors.
14. Which of the following statements about the War of 1812 is true?
	1. It worsened the conflict between the North and the South
	2. It intensified American Indian resistance to Americans
	3. It severely damaged American manufacturing
	4. It strengthened patriotism among Americans.
15. The Industrial Revolution can best be described as a
	1. Period of rapid growth during which machines became essential to manufacturing
	2. Series of explosive encounters between workers and wealthy factory owners.
	3. Time of great excitement about mechanical approaches to controlling nature.
	4. Period of turmoil and upheaval within the U.S. government.
16. Mass production is a term that can best be defined as the
	1. Number of hours employees are required to work
	2. Manufacture of large quantities of a product quickly and cheaply
	3. Profit made by a large business or corporation
	4. Formation of a business monopoly.
17. Lewis and Clark failed in their expedition in that they did not
	1. Collect adequate information about western plants and animals.
	2. Survey the Louisiana Purchase
	3. Travel over the Cascade Range on horseback
	4. Find a river route across the West to the Pacific Ocean.
18. What was a major effect of the opening of the Erie Canal?
	1. The population of New York City decreased
	2. DeWitt Clinton was elected president of the United States.
	3. Wheat could no longer be shipped from the east coast to the west coast.
	4. Goods from the Great Lakes could be shipped to New York City more cheaply than before.
19. What issue most influenced Americans’ political thinking during Andrew Jackson’s presidency?
	1. Foreign policy b. federal taxes c. local economies d. States’ rights
20. During the 1840s, Americans used the idea of Manifest Destiny to justify the
	1. Expansion of women’s rights c. acquiring of new territories
	2. beginning of free public education d. repeal of the Missouri Compromise
21. What event prompted many states to strengthen their slave codes?
	1. Vesey’s Conspiracy c. Turner’s Rebellion
	2. Haiti’s Revolution d. Gabriel’s Uprising
22. In late 18th century America, the Second Great Awakening was a period of
	1. Rebirth that led to the development of a new culture centered around education.
	2. Christian renewal and revival that began in the northeastern U.S.
	3. Reform that focused on improving the quality of life for the poor
	4. Revival of traditions that existed in America before the Revolutionary War.
23. A major goal of the Seneca Falls Convention (1848) was to
	1. Form a new political party c. oppose the Mexican War
	2. publicize the need for women’s rights d. improve public education
24. In the first half of the 1800s, what portion of white southern families had slaves?
	1. one-third b. one-half c. two-third d. three-quarters
25. Which statement expresses the reason why the southern states decided to secede from the Union after the election of 1860?
	1. The southern economy and way of life would be destroyed
	2. Slaves would begin an uprising if the states did not secede
	3. Seceding from the Union would end the possibility of war.
	4. Secession would end the conflicts between northern states over slavery.
26. Frederick Douglas, William Lloyd Garrison, and Harriet Tubman were all 19th century leaders in the movement to
	1. Reform prisons c. establish woman’s suffrage

b. protect Native American Indians d. abolish slavery

1. The Underground Railroad was developed in the 1840s in order to
	1. Smuggle illegal goods into the country
	2. Help runaway slaves escape to freedom
	3. Provide a form of inexpensive transportation
	4. Stop illegal aliens from entering the country.
2. Harriet Beecher Stowe decided to write Uncle Tom’s Cabin because she wanted to
	1. Give a voice to slaves so they could publicize their experiences.
	2. Show southerners that the issue of slavery would divide the nation
	3. Educate northerners about the evils of slavery in the U.S.
	4. Increase awareness about the need for strict fugitive slave laws.
3. Stephen Douglas proposed the Kansas-Nebraska Act because he wanted to
	1. Build a railroad from Chicago to the Pacific Ocean
	2. Create a plan for the division of the Louisiana Territory.
	3. Settle the disputes that existed between the North and the South.
	4. Gain northern support for his decision to run for president.