### SOCIAL STUDIES

**SOUTHWEST ASIA (MIDDLE EAST) UNIT TEST**

Use the chart to answer questions 1-2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total Literacy</th>
<th>Literacy of males</th>
<th>Literacy of Females</th>
<th>GDP – Gross Domestic Product, per capita*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>86.5%</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
<td>83.6%</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaza/West Bank</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>$1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>83.5%</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
<td>$10,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>74.1%</td>
<td>84.5%</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>$3,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
<td>98.5%</td>
<td>95.9%</td>
<td>$25,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
<td>84.7%</td>
<td>$4,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>93.3%</td>
<td>94.4%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>$39,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
<td>93.1%</td>
<td>82.2%</td>
<td>$11,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
<td>86.8%</td>
<td>73.5%</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>89.1%</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
<td>$80,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
<td>84.7%</td>
<td>70.8%</td>
<td>$23,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>73.6%</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
<td>79.6%</td>
<td>$12,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>77.9%</td>
<td>76.1%</td>
<td>81.7%</td>
<td>$37,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>50.2%</td>
<td>70.5%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States (for comparison)</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>$45,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Which two Southwest Asian countries have the highest literacy rates?  
   A. Turkey and Qatar  
   B. Israel and Kuwait  
   C. United States and Yemen  
   D. Gaza/West Bank and Israel  

2. What generalization can be made about the relationship between GDP and literacy?  
   A. Literacy is always lower in countries with a higher GDP.  
   B. Literacy is usually higher in countries with a higher GDP.  
   C. Countries with oil wealth always have the highest literacy rates.  
   D. There is no relationship between a country’s GDP and its literacy rate.
The Saudi royal family controls the national government of Saudi Arabia. The king is the son of the previous king, and his son will rule after him. All government leaders serve by appointment from the king. The king appoints the governors of the provinces, as well. The king has the ability to remove any government official from a village, town, or province. The governments of the provinces and towns have no rights or authority.

3. Which type of government is described in the passage?
   A. unitary
   B. federation
   C. confederation
   D. parliamentary

4. Which BEST describes the government of Saudi Arabia?
   A. oligarchy
   B. monarchy
   C. democracy
   D. dictatorship

5. Which branch of government is responsible for making and carrying out the laws in a parliamentary system of government?
   A. the courts
   B. the monarch
   C. the president
   D. the legislature

6. In a presidential system of government, how is a president chosen?
   A. by a decision of the national courts
   B. by a majority vote of the legislature
   C. in a separate vote from the one that chooses the legislature
   D. by the political party with the most representatives in the legislature

7. What are the Five Pillars?
   A. the first five books of the Quran
   B. the five columns that support the roof of the Ka’aba
   C. five beliefs shared by Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
   D. five basic obligations that Muslims are supposed to do in their lives
SOCIAL STUDIES

SOUTHWEST ASIA (MIDDLE EAST) UNIT TEST

Use the chart to answer questions 8-9.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Type of Government</th>
<th>Who Votes</th>
<th>Role of Religion</th>
<th>Design of Government</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>Parliamentary Democracy</td>
<td>All citizens 18 years old or older</td>
<td>No direct role other than religious leaders elected to parliament</td>
<td>Elected parliament (the Knesset) and a Prime Minister chosen by the leading party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>Absolute Monarchy</td>
<td>Citizens do not vote</td>
<td>Religious leaders advise the king but decisions are the king’s – the Quran is the official constitution</td>
<td>King chooses his advisors and no parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>Theocracy or Theocratic Republic</td>
<td>All citizens 16 years old or older</td>
<td>Religious leaders are very influential in government decisions</td>
<td>Elected parliament (Majlis) with powerful religious leaders as advisors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Iran is to Majlis as Israel is to:
   A. Senate
   B. Congress
   C. the Knesset
   D. House of Representatives

9. Which country’s government is LEAST controlled by religion or religious leaders?
   A. Iran
   B. Israel
   C. Saudi Arabia
   D. none are influenced by religion

10. Why is Iran sometimes called a theocratic republic?
    A. Iran’s religious leaders make all the laws for the country.
    B. Religious leaders decide which Iranian citizens can vote.
    C. The people of Iran have no say in choosing their government leaders.
    D. Both an elected parliament and powerful religious leaders lead Iran’s government.

11. Who takes on the financial risk in starting a new business in a market economy?
    A. economists
    B. entrepreneurs
    C. government planners
    D. combination of government planners and economists
12. Who is the most powerful elected official in Iran?
   A. president
   B. electorate
   C. Supreme Leader
   D. head of the judiciary

13. How does the Guardian Council affect elections?
   A. The mullahs tell people who to vote for.
   B. The mullahs and lawyers must agree on the Supreme Leader.
   C. They approve candidates that will be placed on the ballots in elections.
   D. They cannot affect elections since they are appointed by the Majles and Supreme Leader.
14. Why do most economies in the world today operate somewhere in between a market economy and a command economy?

A. Most consumers prefer government control to a free market system.
B. Government control always makes a market economy more profitable.
C. Government control of some aspects of the economy has never been successful in the modern world.
D. Most countries have found they need a mix of free market and government control to be successful and protect consumers.

15. How has Israel made up for its lack of natural resources?

A. They have put everyone to work and have no unemployment.
B. They have developed a strong technology sector of their economy.
C. They have relied primarily on farming to keep their economy going.
D. Israelis have refused to import oil, saving huge amounts of money each year.

16. What is the definition of economic specialization?

A. directly swapping goods from one country to another without having to use money
B. trying to avoid investing in industry and technology because of the expense involved
C. producing all goods and services needed for a country’s growth, so that trade with other countries is not needed
D. producing those goods a country can make most easily so they can trade them for goods made by others that cannot be produced locally
The OPEC nations control about 40% of the world’s oil output. The OPEC countries work together to control prices for oil and to keep profits flowing to their countries. One way that they control prices is to limit production. Each member country is given a maximum amount of oil that they can sell in a given time.

17. What describes the limit that OPEC puts on its members’ production of oil?
   A. tax  
   B. tariff  
   C. quota  
   D. embargo  

18. What happens to the price of oil when OPEC countries decide to reduce production of oil?
   A. prices rise  
   B. prices drop  
   C. prices stay the same  
   D. oil stops being sold  

19. Why is it important for nations to have a system to convert from one currency to another?
   A. Banks are not able to handle different kinds of currencies.  
   B. Converting to different currencies makes goods cost less.  
   C. The dollar is the most valuable currency in the world today.  
   D. Converting to different currencies makes it possible to buy and sell goods between nations with different types of money.  

20. Israel has made heavy investment in capital goods in all of the following EXCEPT
   A. defense.  
   B. oil industry.  
   C. communications.  
   D. farming and agriculture.  

21. The economy of Saudi Arabia is based on which of the following?
   A. agriculture  
   B. manufacturing  
   C. oil and natural gas  
   D. computer design and technology
SOUTHWEST ASIA (MIDDLE EAST) UNIT TEST

Use the map below to answer questions 22-24.

22. Which feature is marked by the “6”?
   A. Suez Canal
   B. Arabian Sea
   C. Persian Gulf
   D. Strait of Hormuz

23. Which number marks the Euphrates?
   A. 1
   B. 2
   C. 3
   D. 4

24. Which number marks the Gaza Strip?
   A. 3
   B. 6
   C. 8
   D. 9
25. When the Ottoman Empire ended and new countries were created, what problems did the new boundaries cause as people found themselves living in newly created countries?
A. All of the new countries were very poor.
B. People in the new countries were no longer allowed to practice their religion.
C. Most of the new countries were all desert and people could not make a living.
D. The new countries often included people who did not have very much in common.

26. Which describes “anti-Semitism”?
A. denying women the right to vote
B. refusal to allow immigrants into your country
C. hatred of Jews simply because they practice Judaism
D. refusal to allow the practice of religion of any kind

27. Why did so many countries in the United Nations feel it was right to create the state of Israel in 1948?
A. There was no one else living on the land at that time.
B. Many felt the Jews deserved help because they had suffered so much in the Holocaust.
C. Arab countries in the area supported the creation of a homeland for the Jews in Palestine.
D. All national groups in the former Ottoman Empire were being given homelands at the same time.

28. What was the outcome of the 1948 War between the new state of Israel and the Arabs living in and around Palestine?
A. The conflict ended and all Palestinian Arabs became citizens in the new State of Israel.
B. Israel won the war and the new State of Israel was even larger than originally planned.
C. Almost no Jewish people were willing to go to Israel because of the country’s Arab neighbors.
D. The United Nations decided to withdraw the proposal to create a State of Israel because of all the problems it caused in the area.
29. Why did the United Nations form a coalition to stop Iraq from taking over the country of Kuwait in 1990?
   A. The United Nations wanted to completely destroy the country of Iraq.
   B. The only job of the United Nations is military action around the world.
   C. The economies of many countries depend on oil and Iraq’s actions threatened that supply.
   D. The United Nations has to intervene whenever any member nation has a conflict with another country.

30. What led the United States to bomb and invade the country of Afghanistan in 2001?
   A. Afghanistan invaded the country of Kuwait and threatened the United States’ oil supply.
   B. Nations asked the United States to overthrow the Taliban government of Afghanistan.
   C. The United States was afraid that Afghanistan was working to develop nuclear weapons and they wanted to put a stop to that program.
   D. The U.S. believed the government of Afghanistan was offering safety to al-Qaeda, the organization that led attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001.

31. Why did the United States go to war against Iraq in 2003?
   A. Iraq was threatening Afghanistan with nuclear weapons.
   B. The United Nations believed Iraq was about to invade Kuwait a second time.
   C. Iraqi troops launched an attack on Saudi Arabia, a close ally of the United States.
   D. The United States believed Iraq was developing nuclear weapons and offering aid to groups like al-Qaeda.

32. What is one of the reasons Iraqis had difficulty forming a new government after the fall of Saddam Hussein?
   A. Most Iraqis wanted Saddam Hussein to stay in power.
   B. Iraq is a poor country because they have no oil reserves.
   C. There are many religious and ethnic groups in Iraq who want power.
   D. The Iraqis have not tried to form a government of their own.
33. What number marks Afghanistan?
   A. 1  
   B. 2  
   C. 7  
   D. 8

34. Which country is marked by the “3”?
   A. Iran  
   B. Iraq  
   C. Turkey  
   D. Saudi Arabia

35. What number marks Israel?
   A. 2  
   B. 4  
   C. 5  
   D. 6
36. Why is the Suez Canal so important to international shipping?
   A. The Suez Canal is the only way for ships to get out of the Persian Gulf.
   B. The Suez Canal is Iraq’s only waterway leading into the Persian Gulf.
   C. The Suez Canal makes it possible to get from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea without sailing all the way around Africa.
   D. The Suez Canal connects the Jordan River to the Persian Gulf, making it less expensive to ship oil to other parts of Southwest Asia.

37. Which are connected by the Strait of Hormuz?
   A. the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea
   B. the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea
   C. the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea
   D. the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf
38. Which countries border the Gaza Strip?
   A. Iraq and Jordan
   B. Israel and Egypt
   C. Lebanon and Syria
   D. Israel and the West Bank

39. What is the approximate distance of the Dead Sea from Jerusalem?
   A. nearly 35 miles east
   B. nearly 35 miles west
   C. about 15 miles southeast
   D. about 15 miles southwest

40. What country is found at 31° N, 34° E?
   A. Egypt
   B. Israel
   C. Jordan
   D. Saudi Arabia

41. Why are technologies like desalinization and drip irrigation not more widely used to reduce water shortages in Southwest Asia?
   A. The technologies are too expensive.
   B. Drip irrigation is not very effective in a hot, dry climate.
   C. Most countries do not know about these technologies.
   D. Few countries in Southwest Asia have access to seawater.
42. Many of the largest cities in Southwest Asia are located on or near
   A. deserts
   B. major rivers
   C. large grasslands
   D. mountain ranges

43. Which best describes the climate of much of Southwest Asia?
   A. hot and dry
   B. windy and cold
   C. tropical and rainy
   D. moderate and cool

44. Which best describes the religion of those who call themselves Arabs?
   A. All Arabs are Sunni Muslims.
   B. Most Arabs are either Muslims or Jews.
   C. The majority of Arabs are Shia Muslims.
   D. Most are Muslim though there are also many Christians and those of other faiths.

45. Which are connected by the Suez Canal?
   A. the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea
   B. the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea
   C. the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea
   D. the Mediterranean Sea and the Persian Gulf

46. Which is TRUE of the difference between an ethnic group and a religious group?
   A. An ethnic group can have members of different races, but a religious group cannot.
   B. All members of a religious group worship the same god; members of an ethnic group may have different religions.
   C. Members of religious groups may have different religious beliefs; ethnic group members have the same religious beliefs.
   D. An ethnic group has a common race or culture but not a common religion; religious groups have a common race or culture and religion.

47. Which person is a common figure in the origins of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam?
   A. Jesus
   B. Abraham
   C. Confucius
   D. Muhammad
48. What part of the population of Iran is Sunni Muslim?
   A. 9%
   B. 33%
   C. 64%
   D. 89%

49. Which would be the BEST alternative for showing these data in another way?
   A. use two line graphs
   B. use one circle graph
   C. use two circle graphs
   D. use a line graph with two lines of different colors

50. Which question could be answered using information from the graph?
   A. Which country has the most Shia Muslims?
   B. What part of the population of Iran is Hindu?
   C. What part of the population of Iraq is Christian?
   D. Which country has the highest proportion of its population as Shia Muslim?