**Chapter 5 Practice Test**

*Indicate whether the statement is true or false.*

1. The Hawaiian Islands were formed by volcanic eruptions on the seafloor.
   a. True
   b. False

2. The Sierra Nevada are the oldest mountains in the United States.
   a. True
   b. False

3. Iron ore and coal are two important natural resources found in the Great Lakes region.
   a. True
   b. False

4. The United States lacks significant deposits of fossil fuels.
   a. True
   b. False

5. The headwaters of the Colorado River and the Rio Grande are located in the Rocky Mountains where many tributaries merge to form these two major waterways.
   a. True
   b. False

*Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.*

6. Why is the environmental condition of the Gulf of Mexico important to the U.S. economy?
   a. Commercial fishing provides jobs and a domestic food source for Americans.
   b. The region is prone to hurricanes.
   c. Several island countries lie in the Gulf of Mexico.
   d. Several major rivers empty into the Gulf of Mexico.

7. ________ is haze caused by the interaction of ultraviolet solar radiation with chemical fumes from pollutants.
   a. Acid rain
   b. Smog
   c. Desalination
   d. Eutrophication

8. California’s Silicon Valley; Seattle, Washington; and Austin, Texas are urban areas that have become leaders in the
   a. manufacturing industry.
   b. high-tech industry.
   c. offshore industry.
   d. automotive industry.
9. What was the major cause of the 2008 economic downturn in the United States?
   a. a crisis in the home mortgage banking sector
   b. a stock market crash
   c. a severe drought
   d. the collapse of the high-tech sector

10. How do aqueducts help support California’s large population?
    a. by providing a natural vent for urban smog
    b. by bringing freshwater from far away
    c. by increasing the housing supply
    d. by reducing traffic

11. What was the series of safe houses that helped thousands of African Americans escape slavery before the Civil War?
    a. the Mason-Dixon Route
    b. the Northwest Passage
    c. the Washington Expressway
    d. the Underground Railroad

12. What joint United States–Canadian project reduced pollution in the Nashua River and encouraged the construction of wastewater treatment plants?
    a. the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
    b. the North American Free Trade Agreement
    c. the Clean Water Act
    d. the Dayton Accords

13. What type of music developed in the United States during the early 1900s that combined African rhythms with European harmonies?
    a. mambo
    b. rock 'n' roll
    c. jazz
    d. merengue

14. Which of the following statements accurately describes changes in the U.S. economy since the 1950s?
    a. The number of jobs in manufacturing has declined.
    b. The number of farms has grown.
    c. The number of jobs in manufacturing has increased, as has the size of the average farm.
    d. The number of jobs in manufacturing has declined, as has the size of the average farm.
Chapter 5 Practice Test

15. NAFTA has created environmental issues along the Rio Grande by
   a. encouraging rapid industrial growth in the region
   b. constructing a series of fences along the border
   c. increasing the flow of traffic through the region
   d. increasing the flow of immigration along the border

16. What major river flows some 2,350 miles (3,782 km) from its source in Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico, making it an important route for trade?
   a. the Colorado River
   b. the Allegheny River
   c. the St. Lawrence River
   d. the Mississippi River

17. _______ automobiles cause less environmental damage than traditional automobiles because they use fuel made from corn and other organic sources.
   a. Biofuel
   b. Geothermal
   c. Hydrogen-fueled
   d. Solar-powered

18. In what city did the building of levees damage the natural landscape that once protected it from flooding?
   a. New York City
   b. New Orleans
   c. Chicago
   d. Atlanta

19. Which two U.S. states have the largest petroleum reserves?
   a. Alaska and Hawaii
   b. California and Florida
   c. Alaska and Texas
   d. California and Texas

20. _______ is an environmental problem in the United States because it corrodes stone and metal buildings, damages crops, and pollutes the soil.
   a. Agricultural runoff
   b. Smog
   c. Ozone depletion
   d. Acid rain
Chapter 5 Practice Test

21. How was geography important to the colonial New England economy?
   a. It had a mild climate and rich soils.
   b. It had excellent natural harbors and an abundant supply of timber.
   c. It had abundant reserves of fossil fuels.
   d. It had an ideal climate for growing cotton for export.

22. Because of its immigration history, _______ in the United States.
   a. cities are the most ethnically uniform areas
   b. there are abundant natural resources
   c. a postindustrial economy emerged
   d. many different religions are practiced

23. A wind turbine is a source of _______ energy.
   a. fossil fuel
   b. solar
   c. renewable
   d. geothermal

24. Where do the largest concentrations of Asians and Pacific Islanders live in the United States?
   a. the Southern states and Midwestern states
   b. the Southern states and Pacific coast states
   c. the Atlantic coast states and the Northeastern states
   d. the Atlantic coast states and Pacific coast states

25. Why did the thirteen colonies fight a war for independence from Britain?
   a. to escape Britain’s taxes and limits on colonists’ freedoms
   b. to escape Britain’s taxes and unite with New France
   c. to unite with New France and escape limits on colonists’ freedoms
   d. to protest Britain’s treatment of Native Americans

26. What effect did the 2008 economic downturn in the United States have on the global economy?
   a. Other countries prospered due to lower economic competition from the United States.
   b. Other countries balanced their budgets with profits from loaning money to the United States.
   c. Other countries also suffered financial distress.
   d. Other countries stopped investing in the United States' economy.

27. What are the Great Plains of the United States?
   a. the flat, desolate area in central Alaska
   b. the flat area between the Pacific Ranges and the Rocky Mountains
   c. the flat region surrounding the Great Lakes
   d. the flat landscape east of the Rocky Mountains
Chapter 5 Practice Test

28. What U.S. state includes areas that have a subarctic climate that supports a variety of wildlife, including grizzly bears, bald eagles, wolves, and bobcats?
   a. Maine
   b. Idaho
   c. Alaska
   d. Michigan

29. Why is the United States one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the world?
   a. The lands which Europeans colonized contained powerful kingdoms of many nationalities.
   b. The earliest inhabitants arrived some 15,000 years ago.
   c. Over centuries, immigrants have arrived from many different countries.
   d. The British founded the thirteen colonies along the Atlantic coast.

30. What is a foreclosure?
   a. an agreement by which somebody borrows money and gives the lender the right to take possession of property given as security if the loan is not repaid
   b. a procedure in which a borrower gives up rights to a property due to the inability to repay the loan
   c. an arrangement by which a buyer can take possession of something now and pay for it later or over time
   d. a sign or warning that something bad is going to happen

31. It is important to conserve fossil fuels because they are
   a. nonrenewable energy sources.
   b. the least polluting source of energy.
   c. scarce in the United States.
   d. an inexpensive source of energy.

32. Since the 1960s, the population of the Manufacturing Belt has declined while the number of businesses moving to the ________ has increased.
   a. Wheatbelt
   b. Sunbelt
   c. Rust Belt
   d. Volcanic Belt

33. Why is it important to protect wetlands and swamps such as Florida’s Everglades?
   a. They are a major source of drinking water.
   b. They are major tourist destinations.
   c. They are important navigable waterways.
   d. They provide habitats for a great variety of vegetation and wildlife.
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34. What is the area between the Pacific Ranges and the Rocky Mountains that often experiences the rain shadow effect?
   a. the Continental Divide
   b. the Great Plains
   c. the Columbia Plateau
   d. the Atlantic Coastal Plain

35. Why were the first factories in the United States located along the fall line in the Northeast?
   a. The many tributaries provided an abundant source of drinkable water.
   b. The waterfalls provided power for factories.
   c. The region had a large immigrant population that provided inexpensive labor.
   d. They were located near important mineral resources.

36. Which of the following is an economic activity characteristic of a postindustrial economy?
   a. automobile manufacturing
   b. biotechnology
   c. agriculture
   d. mining

37. From what region did the largest group of foreign-born residents living in the United States today immigrate?
   a. Europe
   b. Asia
   c. Latin America
   d. Africa

38. How did the Great Lakes form?
   a. by the collision of tectonic plates
   b. by runoff from the Appalachian Mountains
   c. by water rising from underground springs
   d. by glacier basins filling with water

39. How did the level of available natural mineral resources affect industrialization in the United States?
   a. It delayed industrialization because the country could just rely on mineral resources for exports.
   b. It speeded industrialization because the country had abundant and easy access to mineral resources.
   c. It delayed industrialization because of concerns about the environmental damage that mining can cause.
   d. It speeded industrialization because immigrants were attracted to jobs in mining.
Chapter 5 Practice Test

40. What region of Florida providing rich habitats for a variety of animals and plant species is threatened by environmental degradation?
   a. the Great Salt Lake  
   b. the Everglades  
   c. the redwood forests  
   d. the Chesapeake Bay

Enter the appropriate word(s) to complete the statement.

41. Because they contain valuable water supplies and can protect coastal areas from storms and floods, ________ are important ecological areas.

42. The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, signed by the United States and ________ in 1972, led to the end of asbestos dumping in the Nashua River and spurred the construction of wastewater treatment plants.

43. Because of widespread ________, forest ecosystems are less diverse and land is subject to erosion.

44. The ________ State Water Project is the country’s largest state-built water and power development project.

45. Algae overgrowth, a result of ________, has caused significant damage in the Everglades.
   a. Ashcan School  
   b. Clear-cutting  
   c. Great Plains  
   d. Eutrophication  
   e. Fall Line  
   f. Dry Farming  
   g. Foreclosure  
   h. Headwaters  
   i. Great Lakes–St. Lawrence Seaway  
   j. Sunbelt

46. a procedure in which a borrower gives up rights to a property due to the inability to repay the loan

47. a mild climate region in the southern and southwestern portions of the United States

48. the removal of whole forests when harvesting timber

49. the source of a stream or a river

50. the flat landscape that stretches hundreds of miles east of the Rocky Mountains

51. a group of American artists who painted the grim realities of urban America in the early 1900s

52. a series of canals, rivers, and waterways that link the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean

53. the process by which a body of water becomes rich in dissolved nutrients, encouraging the overgrowth of small plants, especially algae

54. the place where the higher land of the Piedmont drops to the lower Atlantic Coastal Plain

55. a method used in which crops are grown that rely only on natural precipitation
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a. Manufacturing Belt
b. Native American
c. Sunbelt
d. Latinos
e. Chinese

56. descendants of ancient peoples who came from Asia
57. a region that has experienced a decline in population in recent decades
58. the largest immigrant group in the United States today
59. a region to which many businesses have migrated in recent years
60. helped build the first transcontinental railroad

a. Divide b. Fall Line
c. Smog d. Tributary
e. Suburb f. Aqueduct
g. Hot Spot h. Manufacturing Belt
i. Hurricane j. Columbia Plateau

61. the dry area between the Pacific Ranges and the Rocky Mountains
62. a channel or pipeline for moving large quantities of water
63. a smaller river or stream that feeds into a larger river
64. a region in the northeastern and midwestern United States characterized by its heavy industrial concentration
65. the eastern United States boundary where the elevated Piedmont area drops to the lower Atlantic Coastal Plain
66. haze caused by the interaction of ultraviolet solar radiation with chemical fumes from pollution sources
67. a place on the ocean floor through which magma vents to create an underwater volcano that may grown into an island
68. a physical feature that determines the direction of river flow
69. a community lying on the fringes of a metropolitan area
70. a powerful tropical storm that forms over warm ocean waters
# Chapter 5 Practice Test

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<th></th>
<th>California</th>
<th>Wyoming</th>
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<td>Whites*</td>
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* Includes persons only reporting one race.
** Hispanics/Latinos may be of any race, so also are included in applicable racial categories.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts, 2013

71. The chart above shows the ethnic and racial demographics of California (the most populous state), Wyoming (the least populous state), and the United States as a whole. Use information from the chart to write a paragraph explaining how patterns of immigration in American history may have led to the pattern of ethnic and racial distribution of America’s population today. Include statistics from the chart and information from the chapter in your response.

72. Read the following passage about changes in Pittsburgh and other Rust Belt cities. (The term Rust Belt is used to refer to the manufacturing belt in the Northeast and Midwest that has suffered an economic decline in recent decades.) In a paragraph, explain how changes in Pittsburgh demonstrate the relationship between economic development and population distribution in the United States.

“Pittsburgh was once a city of immigrants, lured to the smoke-filled town by the promise of steady work in the steel mills.

In the century since the last immigration boom, the mills have largely shut down and factory jobs have moved to places with cheaper labor. And Pittsburgh and other Rust Belt cities have suffered from what was once unthinkable: a population decline.”


“American history has been in a large degree the history of the colonization of the Great West. The existence of an area of free land, its continuous recession, and the advance of American settlement westward, explain American development.”

—Frederick Jackson Turner, The Frontier in American History, 1893

73. The above quote is from an influential work published by a historian who was reflecting on the significance of the western frontier in American history at a time when the frontier had come to an end. Read the quote and write a paragraph explaining how the author links the physical and human geography of the United States to the development of a national character.
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* Includes persons only reporting one race.

** Hispanics/Latinos may be of any race, so also are included in applicable racial categories.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts, 2013

74. The chart above shows the ethnic and racial demographics of California (the most populous state), Wyoming (the least populous state), and the United States as a whole. Use information from the chapter and the chart to write a paragraph explaining how the pattern of ethnic and racial distribution of the population reflects settlement patterns of immigrants in American history. Include statistics from the chart in your response.

75. In a paragraph, explain how its abundant natural resources helped the United States to industrialize quickly.

76. In two or three paragraphs, explain how human activities have created air and water pollution in the United States. Give examples of sources of pollution and how they have affected the environment. Be sure to support your writing with evidence from the chapter.