

Chapter 14 Practice Test

Indicate whether the statement is true or false.

1. About 80 percent of all Russians live east of the Ural Mountains.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. During World War II, the Soviet Union was engaged in political and ideological war with the West, particularly the United States, which brought the world to the brink of nuclear war.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. Vladimir Lenin was the founder of modern communism.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. In the 1980s, Mikhail Gorbachev instituted a policy of economic restructuring in the Soviet Union called perestroika.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. Belarusians are an ethnic group that share a language and formed an independent country after the breakup of the Soviet Union.
 - a. True
 - b. False

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

6. What happened after the 1986 nuclear accident in the Soviet Union?
 - a. Nuclear safety standards were improved and dangerous plants were shut down.
 - b. The Soviet Union replaced all existing nuclear plants with newer, safer nuclear plants.
 - c. All nuclear power plants in the Soviet Union were shut down.
 - d. The socialist republic where it occurred was permanently closed to human settlement.

7. Why do the plains in Siberia often flood in the spring?
 - a. Poorly constructed irrigation systems fail frequently.
 - b. Ice in the Arctic Ocean prevents rivers from emptying into the ocean.
 - c. Damming of the rivers has created reservoirs that cannot handle spring snow melt.
 - d. The spring monsoons drop heavy precipitation which exceeds the capacity of the region's natural drainage system.

8. The Ural Mountains mark the traditional boundary between
 - a. Siberia and the Kamchatka Peninsula.
 - b. Russia and Mongolia.
 - c. European Russia and Siberian Russia.
 - d. Russia and Poland.

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9. What type of climate is found along Russia's northern border?
- tundra
 - subarctic
 - temporal
 - tropical
10. Overuse of fertilizers and _____ has polluted farmland and water in much of Russia.
- chernozems
 - oxisols
 - fungicides
 - pesticides
11. Beginning in 1989, many countries in Eastern Europe that had been _____ of the Soviet Union began to replace their Communist governments.
- protectorates
 - territories
 - satellites
 - colonies
12. During the reign of Peter the Great, Russia
- erupted into a civil war that became the Russian Revolution.
 - enlarged its territory and developed trade with Western Europe.
 - was invaded by Mongols from Central Asia.
 - conquered the countries of Scandinavia.
13. During the Soviet era, the Soviet Union operated as a _____ in which the government made key economic decisions.
- free market
 - black market economy
 - traditional economy
 - command economy
14. Because climate change more readily affects temperatures at higher northern latitudes, global warming has had very visible effects in
- Siberia.
 - the Ural Mountains.
 - the Caucasus Mountains.
 - the fertile triangle.

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15. Despite environmental concerns about locating a paper-pulp factory near Lake _____, the factory was built and caused substantial water pollution in the world's oldest and deepest lake.
- Baikal
 - Caspian
 - Ladoga
 - Onega
16. The rich, black soil that supports agriculture in the southern part of the Northern European Plain is called
- perestroika.
 - chernozem.
 - glasnost.
 - romanov.
17. Why has the Russian sturgeon population declined?
- The use of supertrawlers led to overfishing.
 - The development of aquaculture created environments that could not sustain fish eggs.
 - The use of fish aggregating devices drew sturgeon from their natural habitat.
 - The damming of the Volga disrupted sturgeon migration.
18. What type of biome is found in Russia's subarctic?
- permafrost
 - boreal forest
 - deciduous forest
 - grassland
19. Mount Elbrus, which is located _____, is a popular destination for skiers and hikers.
- in the Caucasus Mountains
 - in Siberia
 - in the Ural Mountains
 - in the Crimea
20. Approximately what percentage of the populations of Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine are ethnic Russian, Belarusian, and Ukrainian?
- 50 percent
 - 65 percent
 - 80 percent
 - 95 percent
21. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the government encouraged _____ which favored the wealthy.
- a black market economy
 - collectivization
 - a command economy
 - privatization

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22. Farmers use Russia's areas of rich chernozem soil to grow
- sugarcane, bananas, and pineapples.
 - coffee, cotton, and soybeans.
 - wheat, barley, rye, and oats.
 - grapes, olives, and citrus fruits.
23. Ethnic Russians today are descendants of _____ farmers and hunters who settled the Northern European Plain in the A.D. 600s.
- Aryan
 - Slav
 - Turkic
 - Roman
24. During _____, hardships led to worker strikes and protests for "bread and freedom," which eventually triggered the Russian Revolution.
- the reign of Peter the Great
 - the reign of Catherine the Great
 - World War I
 - World War II
25. During the Soviet era, the government actively promoted what set of beliefs?
- capitalism
 - atheism
 - pacifism
 - anarchism
26. Why did the Soviet era leave a legacy of environmental pollution?
- Soviet leaders were determined to have friendly governments on the country's western border.
 - Soviet leaders' priority was to industrialize and they disregarded the damage it was causing.
 - Foreign governments condemned the Soviets' reliance on nuclear power.
 - Soviet leaders were unaware of the damage industrialization was causing.
27. What is the primary reason some environmental groups are opposed to the use of supertrawlers?
- They burn fossil fuels which pollute the ocean air.
 - They could cause devastating oil spills in the Arctic Circle.
 - They cause the unnecessary deaths of millions of marine animals.
 - They are fueled by nuclear power, which poses a risk of nuclear radiation.
28. The southern part of the Russia's best agricultural region has rich, black soil called
- chernozem.
 - oxisols.
 - tar sands.
 - planosols.

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29. What river is important as a transportation route and source of hydroelectric power in Russia and is the longest river in Europe?
- a. the Rhine
 - b. the Danube
 - c. the Dnieper
 - d. the Volga
30. In what area does the majority of the Russian population live?
- a. the West Siberian Plain
 - b. the Crimean Peninsula
 - c. the Northern European Plain
 - d. the Iberian Peninsula
31. What Russian lake holds one-fifth of all unfrozen freshwater found on Earth?
- a. Baikal
 - b. Barents
 - c. Laptev
 - d. Okhotsk
32. What is the term for the by-products of producing nuclear power and weapons?
- a. nuclear power plants
 - b. nuclear wastes
 - c. nuclear meltdown
 - d. nuclear pollution
33. In Ukraine, which ethnic group forms the majority of the population?
- a. Belarusians
 - b. Russians
 - c. Tatars
 - d. Ukrainians
34. Concerns about the damage it might cause to an ecologically pristine environment has generated concern about proposals to begin
- a. constructing nuclear power plants in western Russia.
 - b. building dams on the Volga River.
 - c. allowing logging in Siberia's forests.
 - d. drilling for oil in the Arctic.

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35. Because of concern about the damage it could cause to the environment and salmon spawning grounds, environmental groups have demanded strict regulations on _____ in remote Kamchatka.
- logging
 - mining
 - air pollution
 - fishing
36. Why does the interior of Russia have more extreme variations in temperature and less precipitation than western Russia?
- It suffers frequent seismic activity, such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.
 - It experiences the rain shadow effect produced by the Ural Mountains.
 - It is closer to the Tropic of Cancer.
 - It lacks the moderating effects of a major body of water.
37. Russia's _____ River is the longest in Europe and is important as a transportation route and source of hydroelectric power.
- Rhine
 - Danube
 - Dnieper
 - Volga
38. During the Soviet era, disregard for environmental effects of industrialization
- helped the Soviet Union become a prosperous country.
 - damaged the water, air, soil, and forests.
 - led to perestroika and glasnost.
 - provoked frequent ethnic strife.
39. What group came to power as a result of the Russian Revolution of 1917?
- Communists
 - Socialists
 - Romanovs
 - Czarists
40. Due to the efforts of concerned citizens and environmental organizations, the most serious polluters of Lake _____ have been closed down and pollution levels have declined in the world's oldest and deepest lake.
- Baikal
 - Caspian
 - Ladoga
 - Onega

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

41. The _____ River extends 2,293 miles (3,690 km), making it the longest in Europe.
42. The Ural Mountains form a natural barrier between European Russia and _____ Russia.

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43. The _____ form a natural barrier between Russia and countries to the south.
44. The vast stretches of plains and plateaus of eastern Russia that extend to the Pacific Ocean make up much of _____.
45. Belarus is a landlocked country that lies entirely in the area known as the _____.
- a. communism b. satellite
c. black market d. market economy
e. Russification f. Peter the Great
g. perestroika h. glasnost
i. Karl Marx j. Catherine the Great
46. the Russian ruler in the 1700s who expanded Russia's empire, including acquiring a warm water port on the Black Sea
47. a nineteenth-century Russian policy requiring everyone in the empire to speak Russian and to become a Christian
48. the German philosopher who developed modern communism
49. a country controlled by another country, notably Eastern European countries controlled by the Soviet Union after World War II
50. a system of public ownership of all property and a classless society with equal sharing of wealth
51. a policy instituted by Mikhail Gorbachev that promoted greater political and social openness in Russia
52. the Russian ruler in the 1600s who strengthened the military, expanded Russia's territory to make "a window on the West," and developed trade with Western Europe
53. a policy of reform and restructuring of the Soviet government and economy in the 1980s begun by Mikhail Gorbachev
54. the trade of consumer goods not available under the government-sanctioned channels
55. the system in which businesses are owned privately, not by the state, and trade is competitive instead of completely regulated

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- a. boreal
 - b. perestroika
 - c. Chernobyl
 - d. taiga
 - e. Chechnya
 - f. glasnost
 - g. czar
 - h. Ural Mountains
 - i. privatization
 - j. Caucasus Mountains
56. the title held by the ruler of Russia before the 1917 revolution
57. part of Gorbachev's plan for reforming or "restructuring" the Soviet economy and government
58. a Ukrainian town where a nuclear accident occurred in 1986
59. a Russian word meaning "forest," used to describe the northern biome that includes broad expanses of coniferous evergreen trees
60. a natural barrier that marks the traditional boundary between European and Siberian Russia
61. the process of changing an economy away from state ownership of companies and industries to a competitive, market economy
62. a new openness in areas of politics, social issues, and media
63. a territory that has long sought independence from Russia
64. a word meaning "north" used to describe the huge and environmentally important evergreen forests found primarily in the Russian Core and Canada
65. a natural boundary between Russia and its southern neighbors
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- a. Arctic Circle
 - b. Chernobyl
 - c. Baikal
 - d. Siberia
 - e. Kamchatka
66. the site of a nuclear disaster
67. the area experiencing the effects of climate change, which has produced more shallow lakes
68. the still-pristine area that holds vast reserves of oil and natural gas
69. the eastern region where environmentalists and fishers have worked to prevent damage from mining
70. the world's oldest and deepest lake, which was polluted by industrial waste

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Like Russia, Ukraine is experiencing a population decline. In 2012, Iryna Kurylo, the head of the Department for the Quality of Demographic Processes at the Mykhailo Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Research in Ukraine, was interviewed about demographic trends in her country.

“We have an unprecedented mortality rate caused by excessive drinking and other bad habits. Above all, this pertains to men—the share of alcohol-related deaths is especially high in this category, just like that of premature deaths (before 65) in general. Another huge demographic problem for Ukraine is inadequate working conditions. For example, we have Europe’s highest mortality rate among coal miners.”
—Bohdan Butkevych, “Dying Out?” March 14, 2012

71. What factors are causing a high mortality rate in Ukraine? In a paragraph supported by evidence from the text, compare those factors to the reasons for other population trends occurring in Russia.

In 1986, a nuclear reactor exploded in the town of Chernobyl in Ukraine. It is the worst nuclear disaster the world has ever seen.

“The fallout, 400 times more radioactivity than was released at Hiroshima, drove a third of a million people from their homes and triggered an epidemic of thyroid cancer in children. Over the years, the economic losses—health and cleanup costs, compensation, lost productivity—have mounted into the hundreds of billions of dollars. As evidence of government bungling and secrecy emerged in its wake, Chernobyl (or Chornobyl, as it is now known in independent Ukraine) even sped the breakup of the Soviet Union.”
—Richard Stone, “The Long Shadow of Chernobyl,” April 2006

72. Write a paragraph or two explaining the significance of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster for the human and physical geography of the Russian Core then and into the future. Support your writing with details from the quote and the chapter.
73. In a paragraph, explain how Russia’s physical geography can be considered both a blessing and a challenge with regard to natural resources.
74. In a paragraph, contrast the Russian economy during the Soviet era with the Russian economy after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

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Russia: Religious Affiliations	
Christians	104,750,000
Unaffiliated	23,180,000
Muslim	14,290,000
Folk Religions	310,000
Jewish	230,000
Buddhist	170,000
Hindu	30,000
Other Religions	10,000

Source: Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, "Global Religious Landscape," 2012

75. Study the chart above and write a paragraph or two summarizing current religious affiliations in Russia and discuss how these affiliations were different in the past. Predict how religious affiliations in Russia will look in 50 years. Explain.

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76. Write a paragraph summarizing the information in the chart above. How do current trends in religious affiliation compare with those of the Soviet era and earlier?