Midterm Fall 2012 Common Questions NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Which characteristic best describes the earliest civilizations?

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| a. | Simple, with command economies |
| b. | Built on the Mediterranean Sea |
| c. | Located near major rivers |
| d. | Large and politically powerful |

2. What is the term that explains the spread and/or mixing of Greek, Persian, and Egyptian culture in Alexander the Great’s Empire?

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| a. | There was much cultural diffusion between Greece, Persia, and Egypt. |
| b. | Elephants were used as war machines. |
| c. | People did not learn other’s cultures. |
| d. | None are consequences. |

3. Which term describes the first Roman state which allowed the people to elect some of the officials?

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| a. | Republic |
| b. | Dictatorship |
| c. | Democracy |
| d. | Dynasty |

4. What was the Code of Hammurabi?

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| a. | It was the earliest known written law and system of justice |
| b. | It was a secret message to unlock the ancient pyramids |
| c. | It was an ancient form of writing |
| d. | It was an ancient king’s game |

5. Why did medieval societies rely on feudalism?

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| a. | Protect themselves |
| b. | Increase trade |
| c. | Feed the population |
| d. | Build an empire |

6. What occurred when the ownership of a manor was granted to a new lord?

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| a. | Serfs were sold to the new lord |
| b. | Serfs moved with their old lord to his new property |
| c. | Serfs remained on the land to serve the new lord |
| d. | Serfs were freed from service to the manor |

7. Why did Europeans choose to join the Crusades?

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| a. | To find adventure and take religious pilgrimage |
| b. | The pope forced them to go |
| c. | To obey of the Five Pillars of Islam |
| d. | To trade with the Infidels |

8. The Magna Carta established the idea of limited monarchy in England but it also influenced the formation of the U.S. government. Which practices can be trace back to this document?

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| a. | Mandate of Heaven and Divine Rights |
| b. | Feudalism and manorialism |
| c. | Due process and Habeas Corpus |
| d. | Democracy and capitalism |

9. How did the Black Plague benefit the economic development of Europe?

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| a. | Fewer surviving Jews meant less bank loans |
| b. | Serfs were able to seek better wages |
| c. | Church tithes increased allowing for more aid to the poor |
| d. | Medical advances created new jobs |

10. What was a major characteristic of humanism?

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| a. | Belief that the church is more important than individuals |
| b. | Rejection of ancient civilizations |
| c. | Belief that people should obey national rulers |
| d. | Value for the basic worth of individuals |

11. “*Europe is waking out of a long, deep sleep…time was when learning was only found in the religious orders…learning has passed to secular princes and peers.”*

What period of history does this quotation best describe?

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| a. | rise of Christianity |
| b. | end of the Crusades |
| c. | decline of the Roman Empire |
| d. | beginning of the Renaissance |

12. How did European society during the Renaissance differ from European society during the Middle Ages?

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| a. | the Church was no longer influential |
| b. | the emphasis on individual worth increased |
| c. | economic activity declined |
| d. | art no longer contained religious themes |

13. What best describes what Martin Luther’s *Ninety-Five Theses* called for?

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| a. | religious revolt against the German princes |
| b. | reforms within the Roman Catholic Church |
| c. | greater papal authority |
| d. | crusades to spread Christianity |

14. Which was a major result of the Reformation?

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| a. | new Christian denominations emerged |
| b. | religious teachings were no longer allowed in the universities |
| c. | the Crusades were organized |
| d. | the power of the Pope was strengthened |

15. In which type of government would a king have seemingly unlimited political power?

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| a. | Absolutism |
| b. | Constitutional Monarchy |
| c. | Republic |
| d. | Direct Democracy |

16. According to the theory of mercantilism, what is the purpose of developing colonies?

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| a. | As markets and sources of raw materials |
| b. | As an economic burden for the colonial power |
| c. | To earn independence as soon as possible |
| d. | To develop their own industries |

17. Which was an immediate result of the European Age of Exploration?

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| a. | Islamic culture spread to Africa and Asia |
| b. | European influence spread to the Western hemisphere |
| c. | Feudalism developed in Asia and Africa |
| d. | Dynasties were established throughout Latin America |

*18. The Native American population of Mexico in 1492 has been estimated at 25 million; the population in 1608 has been estimated at 1.7 million.*

What was the main cause of this population change?

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| a. | crop failures brought due to weather conditions |
| b. | emigration of Native Americans to Europe and Africa |
| c. | wars between various native groups |
| d. | diseases introduced by the Spanish |

19. Which reason explains why the Spanish conquistadors were able to conquer the Aztec and Inca Empires so rapidly?

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| a. | these empires had no standing armies |
| b. | the Spanish had better weapons |
| c. | the Spanish outnumbered the Aztecs and Incas |
| d. | the Aztecs and Incas joined together to fight the Spanish |

20. Which event led to the influence of African culture on some areas of Latin America?

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| a. | Columbian Exchange |
| b. | Magellan’s voyage across the Pacific |
| c. | success of Communist Revolutions |
| d. | Atlantic slave trade |