1 Which social class controlled most of the political, economic, and social power in colonial Latin America?

(1) peninsulares  (2) mestizos
(3) creoles   (4) native people

2 Base your answer to the following question on the cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.

![Cartoon Image]

What is the cartoonist's point of view?

(1) Columbus' initial voyage in 1492 was a cause for celebration.
(2) Many groups claim Columbus as their representative.
(3) Not all groups have the same interpretation of Columbus' role in history.
(4) Columbus was not the first European to explore Latin America.

3 A study of the Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations of Latin America would show that these civilizations

(1) developed advanced and complex societies before the arrival of the Europeans
(2) established extensive trade with Pacific Rim nations
(3) were strongly influenced by their contact with Asian and African civilizations
(4) were relatively large, but not well organized

4 Porfirio Diaz, Francisco “Pancho” Villa, and Emiliano Zapata are all associated with the revolution in

(1) Haiti   (2) Mexico
(3) Bolivia  (4) Nicaragua

5 Base your answer to the following question on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

...In the 1930s, Slyvanus G. Morley of Harvard, probably the most celebrated Mayanist of his day, espoused [argued for] what is still the best-known theory: The Maya collapsed because they overshot the carrying capacity of their environment. They exhausted their resource base, began to die of starvation and thirst, and fled their cities en masse, leaving them as silent warnings of the perils of ecological hubris [overconfidence]...

-Charles C. Mann, 1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus

According to this passage, what was a major question Morley was trying to answer about the Mayas in the 1930s?

(1) Why did the Mayas abandon their cities?
(2) What was the structure of the Maya governments?
(3) How did religious beliefs affect the Maya economy?
(4) Which neighboring city-state conquered the Mayas?

6 The Panama Canal and the Suez Canal are strategic bodies of water because they serve as

(1) sources of hydroelectric power
(2) barriers against imperialism
(3) gateways to other places
(4) reservoirs for irrigation

7 The principal aim of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the European Union is to

(1) keep communism out of the Western Hemisphere
(2) reduce environmental pollution
(3) increase economic cooperation between the member nations
(4) eliminate global terrorism

8 In Latin America during the early period of Spanish colonialism, the deaths of large numbers of the native people led to

(1) a decline in Spanish immigration to the Americas
(2) the removal of most Spanish troops from the Americas
(3) the importation of slaves from Africa
(4) improved health care in the colonies
9 Which concept led to the formation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the European Union (EU)?

(1) nationalism  (2) imperialism  
(3) interdependence  (4) Socialism

10 The encomienda system in Latin America was a direct result of the

(1) Crusades  (2) Age of Exploration  
(3) Reformation  (4) Age of Reason

11 Which statement about ancient American civilizations expresses a historical theory rather than a historical fact?

(1) The Incas lacked a written language.  
(2) The spread of disease caused the downfall of the Mayan empire.  
(3) Human sacrifice was an element of the Aztec religion.  
(4) The Pyramid of the Sun was located at Teotihuacán.

12 Base your answer to the following question on "the graph below and on your knowledge of social studies.

Which statement can best be supported by the information provided by this graph?

(1) The Indian population in Mexico steadily increased between 1500 and 1700.  
(2) The effects of the Spanish conquest on the Indian population in Mexico were most severe between 1500 and 1540.  
(3) The Spanish conquest of Mexico improved the standard of living for the Indian population in Mexico.  
(4) A Spanish influence in Mexico had ended by 1700.

13 Under the leadership of Fidel Castro, Cuba has become an example of

(1) the success of democracy in improving conditions in a developing nation  
(2) a nation in which the efforts of the United Nations have improved human rights  
(3) a Communist government struggling to maintain power despite economic problems  
(4) the successful reform of agriculture from single-crop to multi-crop production
14 The major reason the Mexican government strongly supported the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was that this agreement would

(1) raise tariffs on United States products entering Mexico
(2) reduce Mexico's economic dependence on Europe
(3) **promote investment and economic growth in Mexico**
(4) stimulate trade between Asia and Latin America

15 In Latin America, the Maya and the Aztec civilizations were similar in that they

(1) showed little evidence of urbanization
(2) lacked a strong central government
(3) **developed complex mathematical and calendar systems**
(4) used military weapons superior to those of Europeans

16 Base your answer to the following question on the statements below and on your knowledge of social studies.

*Speaker A:* This agreement would help both of our nations. We would increase trade by eliminating tariffs, and thus business and job opportunities would increase, both north and south of the border.

*Speaker B:* You, like other supporters of this agreement, are just trying to exploit our workers, who work for much lower wages, and our environment, which has much less protective legislation than your own. Your businesses would make more money, but the health of our people and the quality of our air and water would suffer.

*Speaker C:* As people and goods move more freely across our common border, so too would illegal immigrants and illegal substances. The costs would outweigh the benefits of this agreement.

*Speaker D:* In the long run, conditions would become more equal if this agreement were approved. The inefficient enterprises in our country would be forced to improve their operations. In time, the increased opportunities would benefit us all.

These speakers are discussing the

(1) **North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)**
(2) International Court of Justice
(3) G-7 (a group of seven industrialized nations)
(4) Organization of American States (OAS)
17 One reason Spain sponsored the first voyage of Columbus to the west was to

(1) find a more direct trade route to Asia
(2) obtain military technology
(3) make contact with the Empire of Benin
(4) trade in established ports in the Americas

18 One similarity in the leadership of Latin Americans Jose de San Martin, Toussaint l'Ouverture, Bernardo O'Higgins, and Pedro I was that each leader

(1) opposed United States intervention in Haiti
(2) led a struggle to gain freedom for the people of his nation
(3) opposed membership of his nation in the League of Nations
(4) established an absolute monarchy in his nation

19 Inca terrace farming and Aztec floating gardens are examples of

(1) the ability of civilizations to adapt to their region’s physical geography
(2) slash-and-burn farming techniques
(3) Mesoamerican art forms symbolizing the importance of agriculture
(4) colonial economic policies that harmed Latin American civilizations

20 According to the theory of mercantilism, colonies should be

(1) acquired as markets and sources of raw materials
(2) considered an economic burden for the colonial power
(3) granted independence as soon as possible
(4) encouraged to develop their own industries

21 One result of the European conquest of Latin America was that in Latin America

(1) Spanish became the major spoken language
(2) Native American cultures flourished
(3) the Aztec religion spread
(4) many parliamentary democracies were established

22 Which statement is most closely associated with the economic policy of mercantilism?

(1) Colonies should exist for the benefit of the mother country.
(2) Local authority should determine the type of goods to be produced.
(3) Governments should not be involved in the economy.
(4) Business and industry should be owned by the state.

23 Which statement about the Aztec and Inca civilizations is a fact rather than an opinion?

(1) The Incas had a culture that was superior to the Aztec culture.
(2) Inca temples and Aztec calendars are the best examples of advanced science and technology.
(3) Religion, art, and science were better in Aztec and Inca cities than they were in European cities.
(4) Both the Incas and the Aztecs had large urban areas with governmental and religious buildings.

24 In many Latin American nations, the leadership roles assumed by the military and by the Roman Catholic Church evolved from

(1) Native American beliefs
(2) the development of the triangular trade
(3) the effects of matriarchal societies
(4) Spanish colonial rule

25 Which idea was shared by the ancient Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations?

(1) practicing rituals to please the gods
(2) equality among the social classes
(3) direct democracy
(4) monotheism

26 One principle in the theory of mercantilism is that colonies should be

(1) granted independence as soon as possible
(2) considered an economic burden for the colonial power
(3) encouraged to develop their own industries
(4) acquired as markets and sources of raw materials
27 An effect of a mountainous topography on Inca and Chinese civilizations was the development of

(1) industrialization
(2) single-crop economy
(3) desalinization projects
(4) terrace farming

28 During the 16th century, the encomienda system of agriculture implemented by the Spanish in Latin America and the plantation system established by other European nations in Southeast Asia were similar in that both

(1) redistributed the land to the peasants
(2) depended on a system of forced labor
(3) diminished the power of the military
(4) produced multi-crop economies

29 The Aztec, Inca, and Maya civilizations all achieved great progress in developing

(1) a written language and great literature
(2) strong naval forces
(3) the arts and architecture
(4) a monotheistic religion

30 The use of terrace farming by the Inca and Japanese cultures is an example of

(1) economic improvement through trade
(2) social change through assimilation
(3) adaptation to the surrounding geography
(4) destruction of the environment

31 In colonial Latin America, the main purpose of the encomienda system was to

(1) insure that the Indians were humanely treated
(2) provide a steady labor supply for early colonists
(3) prevent slavery in Spain's New World colonies
(4) build and maintain forts to repel foreign invaders

32 In many newly independent 19th-century Latin American nations, power was often concentrated in the hands of the

(1) wealthy landowners
(2) corporate executives
(3) Maya and Aztec officials
(4) peasant farmers

33 Which statement best reflects the effect of mercantilism on the colonies in Latin America?

(1) Markets in the colonies were closed to manufactured goods from the mother country.
(2) Land was distributed equally between the social classes.
(3) Industries in the colonies manufactured the majority of finished goods for the mother country.
(4) The wealth of the colonial power increased at the expense of the colony.

34 Adolf Hitler, Mao Zedong, and Fidel Castro all came to power in their countries during periods when

(1) the people were fighting to end an absolute monarchy
(2) a series of land reforms had been unsuccessful
(3) existing governments were unable to solve political and economic problems
(4) the people were ready to overthrow their totalitarian governments

35 Within their respective nations, both Ho Chi Minh and Fidel Castro achieved their goals by

(1) seeking aid and support from the European Union
(2) using armed conflict to bring a Communist government to power
(3) following a policy of nonalignment
(4) working to build a capitalist system

36 The main purpose of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the European Union (EU) is to

(1) increase the authority of the United Nations
(2) encourage increased economic development
(3) promote peace between nations
(4) establish and enforce military alliances

37 The Suez Canal, the Panama Canal, and the Straits of the Dardanelles are similar because they

(1) are strategic waterways that have been the center of conflicts
(2) were part of the French colonial empire
(3) are located in regions that are rich in natural resources
(4) were built during the time of the Roman Empire
38 One similarity between Mao Zedong and Fidel Castro is that they
(1) achieved their goals through the use of peaceful resistance
(2) worked to protect citizens' rights to freedom of expression
(3) considered Capitalism to be the best economic system
(4) led revolutionary movements that established Communist governments

39 One reason the Spanish conquistadors were able to conquer the Aztec and Inca Empires rapidly is that
(1) these empires had no standing armies
(2) the Spanish had better weapons than the Aztecs and Incas did
(3) the Spanish greatly outnumbered the Aztecs and Incas
(4) the Aztecs and Incas joined together to fight the Spanish

40 Which statement best illustrates the contradictory actions of the Catholic Church in colonial Latin America?
(1) The Jesuits destroyed the temples of the Native Americans, but allowed them to continue their religious rituals.
(2) The Church expressed concern over the mistreatment of Native Americans, but supported the encomienda system.
(3) The Church moved many Native Americans from Spanish territory to Portuguese territory, but encouraged the importation of African slaves.
(4) The Pope endorsed the Treaty of Tordesillas, but outlawed further exploration.

41 In which way have the Andes Mountains and the Amazon rain forest affected the development of Latin America?
(1) promoting international unity
(2) increasing cultural diversity
(3) encouraging trade agreements
(4) strengthening political alliances

42 Which characteristic is common to the Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations?
(1) advancement of scientific knowledge
(2) origin in the Andes Mountains
(3) equality of all members of society
(4) territorial expansion without warfare

43 Which statement would be consistent with the views of Fidel Castro?
(1) The spread of Communism is the greatest danger facing Latin America.
(2) An American military presence is the key to the defense of Latin America.
(3) Progress and justice in Latin America can be achieved only through revolutionary Socialism.
(4) Introducing a free-market system will improve the economies of Latin American nations.
Latin American Practice Questions

44 Base your answer on the cartoon below and on your knowledge of social studies.

[Image of cartoon showing Haitians lining the streets with a speaker saying, "Haitians line the streets...devastation and despair are everywhere..."
and another speaker saying, "...and then the massive earthquake struck..."

Source: Jimmy Margulies, The Record, Hackensack, N.J. January 14, 2010 (adapted)

What is the main idea of this cartoon?

(1) After the earthquake, the government of Haiti responded quickly to the needs of the people.
(2) **The people of Haiti had been facing serious economic problems before the 2010 earthquake.**
(3) The earthquake of 2010 brought financial relief to the people of Haiti.
(4) Although the earthquake resulted in massive property damage, few Haitians were injured or lost their lives.

45 Which statement explains the long-term significance of the travels of Christopher Columbus?

(1) His interactions with the indigenous peoples served as a model for fair treatment of minorities.
(2) His ships were the first to complete an around-the-world voyage and prove the earth was round.
(3) His calculations of the distance between Europe and Asia became the basis for our modern maps.
(4) **His voyages started a vast cultural exchange between the two hemispheres.**

46 The encomienda system in colonial Latin America led to the

(1) **use of forced labor**
(2) establishment of trade unions
(3) increase in landownership by Native Americans
(4) weakening of the power of peninsulares

47 The purpose of the encomienda system in Latin America was to

(1) control overpopulation in urban centers
(2) convert native peoples to Protestantism
(3) obtain labor and taxes from the native peoples in the Spanish colonies
(4) introduce political ideas into the colonies gradually

48 The 19th-century independence movements in Latin America were influenced by

(1) Marxist ideology
(2) the Aztec wars against Hernando Cortés
(3) liberation theology
(4) **the American and the French Revolutions**
49 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. This decrease in population was mainly a result of

(1) crop failures brought on by poor weather conditions
(2) emigration of Native Americans to Europe and Africa
(3) wars between various native groups
(4) diseases introduced by the Spanish

50 "The challenges of the Andes helped the Incas develop a thriving civilization."

Based on this statement, what does the author believe?

(1) Language and religion are important to national unity.
(2) Cultural diversity flourishes in areas of agricultural prosperity.
(3) People can overcome the limitations of their environment.
(4) Natural resources are necessary for economic independence.

51 The Panama Canal and Suez Canal are similar in that both

(1) shortened shipping routes between major bodies of water
(2) were built by the British to expand their empire
(3) replaced the Silk Road as the world’s main trade route
(4) directly connected the Atlantic and Pacific oceans

52 In the 19th century, opposition to the encomienda system in Latin America demonstrated the need for

(1) landholding reforms
(2) trade restrictions
(3) female suffrage
(4) a minimum-wage law

53 A major reason for the end of the Aztec Empire was

(1) the refusal of the people to obey their leaders
(2) a conflict with the Inca Empire
(3) the technology of the Spanish conquistadors
(4) political corruption and an unstable government

54 Since the Cuban Revolution of 1959, a major goal of the government of Fidel Castro has been to

(1) strengthen its political ties to the United States
(2) convince Latin American nations to withdraw from the United Nations
(3) encourage large United States corporations to invest in Cuba
(4) reform Cuban society using socialist ideals