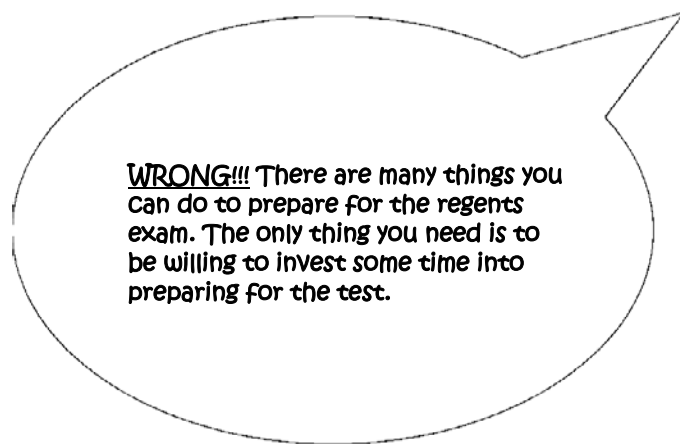


Looking Ahead-- The Regents Exam



☞ The truth is that there are many things to do before the exam. The key is to get started *NOW*- Covering two thousand years of Global History in the week before the exam is almost impossible. Yet if you start now (over Spring Break) and obtain the proper resources, you can walk into the exam feeling prepared rather than worried.

RESOURCES

The Regents Review Book- The Regents Review book is sold in room 327 for \$10. Step 1- **GET ONE!!!** Inside the text you will find just about all of the topics which might appear on the exam.

But with all this information, how do you study it? Do you just read the book from cover to cover? Absolutely not! First, the regents review book has questions for you to research and answer at the end of each chapter. This is good practice. Another good strategy would be to go through each chapter and create your own outline or list of "key points" (use bullets). You can put these key points on cards and then review them over and over again. Remember that you are also studying during the process of creating the cards, not just when you review them.

The Internet- There are endless resources on the net dedicated to Regents review. Use these sites to gather information for creating study cards or to clarify something confusing you didn't understand in the Regents Review book. Here are a few websites that may be useful:

The below website summarizes many key points on various topics found on the Regents:

<http://regentsprep.org/Regents/global/global.cfm>

This site has past Regents exams and sample questions organized by topic. You can see past essay and multiple choice questions.

<http://www.edusolution.com/regentsexams/globalhistoryindex.htm>

WHAT CAN YOU DO BEFORE THE TEST?

Create your own study aids. With the regents review book as your guide, you can create aids such as flashcards, checklists, chapter outlines, and summaries to help you organize and remember the material better. You might think that it takes a lot of time to make these aids, but they will help you condense the test material into a manageable size.

Organize a study group. Ask other students to arrange a time for a group to study on a particular time every week and then together several nights before the day of the test. If you study with a group, you can combine everyone's resources. By comparing notes, you can sometimes determine what may appear on the test. A word of caution about study groups--don't let them become social events. You will waste valuable time.

Regents Test Taking Strategies Part II

Keep this sheet!!!

Over the next few days we will be practicing regents multiple choice questions and essays. This

Breakdown of the Regents Exam

The test will include three types of questions:

Multiple Choice Questions

There are 50 questions with four choices each. The multiple choice questions will account for 55 percent of the points to be earned. Therefore you will want to get the highest possible score in this section.

Thematic Essay Question

There is one thematic essay and it will account for 15 percent of the points to be earned.

Document Based Question (DBQ)

This multi-sectional document based question will account for 30 percent of the total earnable points.

worksheet will give you tips and tricks on how to tackle the Regents style questions.

HOW TO TAKE A MULTIPLE-CHOICE EXAM

Make educated guesses. Answer every question, even if you have to guess.

Don't get stuck on any of the questions. Work through multiple-choice tests quickly and carefully. Don't get bogged down on a question that you can't answer or are unsure about. Make a small mark beside the question, and if you have the time, return to it later.

Fill in answers on standardized tests carefully. Many standardized tests have separate answer sheets. Make sure that the number you are answering corresponds to the number of the question. If you skip a question, be sure to leave the space for that question blank. Make sure you fill in the blanks completely so that the machine that grades the test can easily record your answer.

Avoid watching for patterns. Noticing that the last four answers are "c" is not a good reason to stop, go back, and break concentration.

Rely on your first impressions. The answer which comes to mind first is often correct and nervously reviewing questions and changing answers can do more harm than good.

Eliminate unlikely answers first. Eliminating two alternatives quickly may increase your probability to 50/50 or better.

Formulate your own answer before reading the options. Focus on finding an answer without actually looking at the answers the test offers. This process will increase your concentration and help you exercise your memory.

Read the question CAREFULLY. "Is the following statement true?" is a very different question from "Is the following statement not true?" Be sure to read the question TWICE before answering it.

DIRECTIONS: Use at least two of the tips above in order to answer each of the questions below. Then explain how you arrived at your answer.

6 . . . "If a man has knocked out the teeth of a man of the same rank, his own teeth shall be knocked out. If he has knocked out the teeth of a plebeian (commoner), he shall pay one-third of a mina of silver." . . .

— Code of Hammurabi

Which statement is supported by this excerpt from Hammurabi's code of laws?

- (1) All men are equal under the law.
- (2) Fines are preferable to physical punishment.
- (3) Law sometimes distinguishes between social classes.
- (4) Violence must always be punished with violence.

7. Confucianism had a strong impact on the development of China mainly because this philosophy

- (1) established a basic structure for military rule
- (2) provided a basis for social order
- (3) contained the framework for a communist government
- (4) stressed the importance of the individual

Question 6. I picked answer _____.

Which two tips from above did you use? _____

What helped you most in arriving at your final answer? Explain _____

Question 7. I picked answer _____.

Which two tips from above did you use? _____

What helped you most in arriving at your final answer? Explain _____

HOW TO TAKE AN ESSAY TEST

Read all of the questions on the test before answering any of them. The questions often contain valuable information that may be helpful when you write your answer. Reading all of the questions before starting will help refresh your memory about the material and will help you make an informed choice if you have to choose from several questions.

Underline key verbs in the question. Essay questions usually focus on one or more key verbs. Here are some key words that often appear on essay exams:

- compare*--examine similarities and differences
- summarize*--briefly give the major points
- discuss*--examine or analyze in detail
- relate*--emphasize connections and associations

Make a brief outline or graphic organizer before you start writing. Good organization is important in an essay exam. Take a few minutes in the beginning to collect your thoughts and write a brief outline for your answer. Essays often involve discussing certain key points. Identify these points and put them in your outline. If you run out of time and don't explain all of the points on your outline, write down the points in your outline and add a note saying that you ran out of time. You may get partial credit for your effort.

Plan to finish early and have time for review. Proofread your essays and pay attention to grammar and spelling.

Paraphrase the original question to form your introductory statement. Form a clear thesis statement (statement of purpose) and place it as near to the beginning as possible. Provide clear explanations to back up the main concept. Remember, a complete answer usually has a main idea, supporting details and illustrative examples.

Write clearly! Teachers need to be able to read your essay to be able to give you credit.

Identify the verbs or words in the question that give you direction. Key words in each question describe the task you are expected to complete. Circle the direction words (verbs) in the question or task to make sure that you are focusing on the desired task. (See overhead).

TASK: Examine the thematic essay directions and answer the questions below.

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs addressing the task below, and a conclusion.

Theme: Political Systems

Political systems have affected the history and culture of nations

Task:

- Choose **two** different political systems and for **each**
- Describe the characteristics of the political system
- Discuss how the political system has affected the history **or** culture of a specific nation or society

You may use any political systems from your study of global history. Some suggestions you might wish to consider include absolute monarchy, constitutional monarchy, parliamentary democracy, direct democracy, theocracy, communism, and fascism.

Step 1- Underline all of the key verbs in the essay task.

Step 2- Create a graphic organizer that organizes the information you will use for each task:

Step 3- Create a thesis which relates to all parts of the task:

Regents Test Taking Strategies

Keep this sheet!!!



The regents exam covers everything from 9th and 10th grade Global. There's no way I can do anything to prepare for this test... RIGHT???

WRONG!!! There are many things you can do to prepare for the regents exam. The only thing you need is to be willing to invest some time into preparing for the test. This worksheet will give you tips and hints for preparing for the Global Regents Exam!

GET ORGANIZED!!!

FILL IN!!!

Test: _____
Date: _____
Test Time: _____

Sleep	:
Wake up	:
Departure from home	:
Arrival at school	:

Pre-test Checklist

- 4 Sharpened Pencils
- 2 pens
- Eraser
- Gum or candy
- Watch
- _____
- _____
- _____

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LET'S PRACTICE

DIRECTIONS: Below are two pieces of information. Create a set of "key points" from the first set of information and put them on a card. Do the same with the second piece of information. Spend a few minutes reviewing the information to yourself. Then turn to a classmate and have them quiz you. Mr. N will then test your knowledge and see what you remember.

1. In the first half of the 18th century BCE., King Hammurabi had a code of law written down for all to see. It was carved on a stone eight feet tall (seen left). It was one of the first times a ruler was known to have publicly proclaimed a set of laws for everyone to follow. Hammurabi's Code dealt with both criminal (crimes and punishments) and civil (e.g. grievances between people over property, money, relationships) law. Despite the progress made by Hammurabi's Code, the heavy use of the death penalty as punishment makes it seem barbaric to the modern observer.

2. In Ancient Rome, a government where officials were chosen from among eligible citizens was established. A republic, as this form of democratic government is known, is not a direct democracy. It is called representative democracy, since only a few chosen officials represent the citizens as a whole. During the period when Rome was a republic, from about 509 BCE. to around 270 BCE., the Senate was the most powerful branch of government. By 450 BCE., the lower-class plebeians had succeeded in getting the laws of Rome written down for all to see. The Laws of the Twelve Tables were the basis of Roman law, and continue to influence law in the modern world.

WHAT CAN YOU DO THE DAY OF THE TEST?

Arrive early on the test day. Rushing to a test or arriving late can destroy your concentration.

Don't try to cram in some last minute studying or answer questions from other members of your class. Tactics like this are generally counterproductive and tend to confuse you.

Bring all the supplies you need. Be prepared for taking a test by bringing at least three *sharpened* pencils and erasers with you. Don't depend on someone else to give these supplies to you.

Read and listen to all directions carefully before starting the test. One of the most important test-taking skills is the ability to follow directions. Some students are so anxious to get the test over with that they skip the directions; this is often a costly mistake.

Budget your time. Be sure to allow enough time to answer all parts of the test, not just the hard parts or the parts you know best. Don't spend too much time on one section

Make a special effort to write neatly. Although neatness may not officially count toward your overall grade, a grader who is faced with a mountain of papers to grade will appreciate a clearly written test because it is easier to grade. Consciously or unconsciously, neatness has a positive effect on the grader.

If the test includes both essay and multiple-choice questions, fill out the multiple-choice part first. Answering multiple-choice questions will help you remember the material and make connections between concepts. Multiple-choice questions may also contain information that you can use to answer essay questions.

Check your answers. If you finish a test before your time is up, don't hand in your test. Use the extra time to check over your answers. Do not frustrate yourself, however, by concentrating on questions that you simply don't know how to answer.

TEST SCHEDULE

Test Begins	:
Read entire test including essays	:
Multiple Choice	:
Thematic Essay Preparation	:
Thematic Essay Writing	:
DBQ Scaffolding Questions	:
DBQ Essay Preparation	:
DBQ Essay Writing	:
Test Recheck	: