

NATIONAL CURRENT EVENTS LEAGUE
MEET # 1

SAMPLE

Covering Events September 1, 2014 to October 16, 2014
(1 POINT FOR EACH CORRECT ANSWER)

October 30, 2014

Time: 25 Minutes

Grades 7, 8, 9

ANSWER KEY

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. _____ C _____ | 16. _____ A _____ |
| 2. _____ A _____ | 17. _____ B _____ |
| 3. _____ C _____ | 18. _____ D _____ |
| 4. _____ B _____ | 19. _____ D _____ |
| 5. _____ D _____ | 20. _____ A _____ |
| 6. _____ A _____ | 21. _____ A _____ |
| 7. _____ D _____ | 22. _____ C _____ |
| 8. _____ C _____ | 23. _____ C _____ |
| 9. _____ B _____ | 24. _____ B _____ |
| 10. _____ B _____ | 25. _____ A _____ |
| 11. _____ D _____ | 26. _____ C _____ |
| 12. _____ C _____ | 27. _____ B _____ |
| 13. _____ C _____ | 28. _____ D _____ |
| 14. _____ D _____ | 29. _____ A _____ |
| 15. _____ B _____ | 30. _____ D _____ |

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DIRECTIONS: Choose the best answer to the question or the best word or phrase that completes the statement. Write the letter of that choice next to the number on the answer sheet.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. On September 30 U.S. officials diagnosed the first U.S. case of _____ in a patient who arrived in Texas from Liberia 10 days before. The patient died on October 8. Subsequently, two health care workers who took care of this patient got the disease.
 - A. polio
 - B. Tuberculosis
 - C. Ebola
 - D. Malaria

2. On September 16 it was announced the U.S. military will deploy about 3,000 personnel to _____ to coordinate international aid, build treatment centers and train health-care workers to help control and end the Ebola outbreak.
 - A. West Africa
 - B. northern China
 - C. west coast of South America
 - D. Central America

3. In a speech to the nation on September 10, President Obama _____.
 - A. announced a deal with Iran on nuclear weapons
 - B. announced a permanent ceasefire between Russia, Ukraine, and the separatists in Eastern Ukraine
 - C. announced that he has authorized the start of U.S. airstrikes in Syria and expanded a month-long bombing campaign in Iraq to “degrade and ultimately destroy” the militant group Islamic State
 - D. announced the details of a permanent agreement between Hamas and Israel

4. The House on Wednesday, September 19 and the Senate on September 20 _____ President Obama’s plan to train and equip Syrian rebels to fight the Islamic State.
 - A. rejected
 - B. approved

5. Throughout Wednesday, September 24 and during President Obama’s address to _____, the U.S. implored world leaders to join an international coalition against Islamic extremism.
 - A. NATO
 - B. the European Union
 - C. the Arab League
 - D. the United Nations General Assembly

SAMPLE

6. On September 26 Prime Minister Cameron secured parliamentary support for the United Kingdom to join airstrikes in _____.
 - A. Iraq only
 - B. Syria only
 - C. both Iraq and Syria

7. In late September, what group or groups does President Obama expect to fight ISIS on the ground?
 - A. U.S. troops only
 - B. Arab troops from Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and perhaps Turkey
 - C. European troops from the U.K., France, Denmark, Italy, and Germany
 - D. Kurds, Iraqi army, and Free Syrian rebels currently being trained by the U.S.

8. In early September, at the NATO Conference, NATO leaders agreed to _____.
 - A. admit Ukraine into NATO
 - B. provide heavy weapons immediately to Ukraine
 - C. establish a “spearhead force” that would be able to move quickly to trouble spots in Central and Eastern Europe
 - D. move missiles back into Poland

9. On September 5 a tentative peace deal was reached between _____ and _____ raising hopes for a resolution of the worst East-West crisis since the Cold War.
 - A. Israel, Hamas
 - B. Ukraine, Separatists
 - C. ISIS, Iraqi Army
 - D. Syria, ISIS

10. In mid-September voters in Scotland _____ an independence bid.
 - A. approved
 - B. defeated

11. On September 25 _____ Eric Holder announced that he will resign. He agreed to stay on the job until his successor is confirmed.
 - A. Secretary of State
 - B. Treasury Secretary
 - C. Secretary of Defense
 - D. Attorney General

12. On September 30 _____ signed security agreements with the U.S. and NATO, paving the way for foreign troops to remain.
 - A. Iraq
 - B. Syria
 - C. Afghanistan
 - D. Israel

13. The Director of the Secret Service resigned over the recent _____ security violations and other lapses.
 - A. U.N.
 - B. Congressional
 - C. White House
 - D. International Conference

14. On September 8 _____ Parliament approved a new government headed by Shiite Prime Minister Abadi and supported by the Sunni and Kurdish minorities.
 - A. Pakistan’s
 - B. Turkey’s
 - C. Afghanistan’s
 - D. Iraq’s

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15. On September 6 the White House announced President Obama will announce his executive action on immigration _____.
 A. before the midterm elections
 B. after the midterm elections but before the end of the year
 C. sometime before the 2016 Presidential elections
 D. after the 2016 Presidential elections but before he leaves office in January, 2017
16. Americans' wealth _____ to a 81.5 trillion in the second quarter because of a _____ in stock and home prices.
 A. rose; rise
 B. dropped; decrease
17. The number of inmates in federal prisons is expected to _____ by more than 12,000 over the next two years.
 A. rise
 B. fall
18. In late September, President Obama told the U.N. climate summit that the U.S. and _____ have a special responsibility to lead efforts to cut carbon-dioxide emissions.
 A. Japan
 B. Canada
 C. Mexico
 D. China
19. On September 29 President Hamid Karzai stepped down after 13 years as _____ leader, handing over his office to former finance minister Ashraf Ghani.
 A. Iraqi
 B. Indian
 C. Pakistani
 D. Afghan
20. On September 28 _____ police used pepper spray and tear gas to disperse pro-democracy protesters in the city's most serious confrontation with Beijing in over a decade. The demonstrations were over Beijing's influence on elections and continued into October.
 A. Hong Kong
 B. Singapore
 C. Jakarta
 D. Taipei
21. Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai were awarded the Nobel _____.
 A. Peace Prize
 B. Chemistry Prize
 C. Medicine Prize
 D. Economics Prize

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

22. On September 4 Joan Rivers passed away at the age of 81. Ms. Rivers had a tremendous career as a _____.
 A. politician
 B. novelist
 C. comedian
 D. tennis player

SCIENCE & HEALTH

23. According to new federal figures the number of uninsured in America _____ because of the Affordable Care Act.
 A. increased by 3.8 million
 B. has not changed
 C. decreased by 3.8 million

24. On September 17, a study appeared in the journal Nature that said artificial sweeteners in diet soda, yogurt and other foods can actually _____ blood sugar levels.
- A. lower
 - B. raise
25. The rate of _____ in the U.S. may be leveling off after doubling over nearly two decades. In related news, Coke, Pepsi and Dr. Pepper pledged to cut beverage calories in the U.S. diet by 20% by 2025.
- A. diabetes
 - B. heart disease
 - C. lung cancer
 - D. flu
26. On September 24, _____ space program took a giant technological leap by putting a satellite into orbit around Mars. This is the first country in Asia to achieve this feat.
- A. China's
 - B. Japan's
 - C. India's
 - D. Pakistan's

BUSINESS & FINANCE

27. On September 22 the U.S. government tightened rules to slow down the so-called inversions. What does inversions refer to?
- A. climate change
 - B. U.S. firms moving their headquarters overseas to take advantage of lower corporate taxes
 - C. business contributions to political campaigns
 - D. immigration reforms
28. On Friday, September 19, Alibaba shares surged in their debut, closing 38% above their Initial Public Offering (IPO) price of \$68. It was one of the most successful IPO's in history. Alibaba is _____.
- A. a Chinese car company
 - B. a Chinese oil company
 - C. a Chinese medical device manufacturer
 - D. a Chinese e-commerce company

SPORTS

29. At a press conference on September 19 _____ Goodell took the blame for the wave of bad news and scandals swirling around the league and outlined a new conduct committee.
- A. the NFL's
 - B. Major League Baseball's
 - C. the NBA's
 - D. the NHL's
30. This fall both U.S. women and men won gold medals in international _____ competition.
- A. swimming
 - B. gymnastics
 - C. volleyball
 - D. basketball