The 2019 Allendale Columbia Current Events Test

Covering the Events of 2018
For all Multiple Choice questions write a Large "X" through the letter of the answer on your answer sheet.

Part I: State and Local Events

1. What is the name of the Rochester School superintendent who, in late 2018, announced that she would be leaving her post at the end of January, 2019?
   A) Lovely Warren     B) Cynthia Elliott   C) Barbara Deane Williams   D) Ursula Burns

2. In January, 2018, the Buffalo Bills
   A) fired their head coach    B) announced that they were going to build a new domed stadium
   C) announced that they were banning tailgate parties   D) appeared in a playoff game for the first time in 18 years

3. What is the name of the Pittsford resident who was sentenced in November to twenty years in prison for buying a gun used to kill his father?
   A) Robert LaFave     B) Charles Tan    C) Justin White    D) Duane Rush

4. Before dying in March, 2018, this woman served the Rochester region in the U.S. House of Representatives for over thirty years:
   A) Cheryl Dinolfo   B) Louise Slaughter   C) Leticia Astacio   D) Nita Lowey

5. 2018 saw a year-long celebration to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of
   A) Frederick Douglass    B) Susan B. Anthony   C) George Eastman   D) Nick Tahou

6. In the 2018 Allendale Columbia musical You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown, who were the two actors who portrayed the main character?
   A) Andrew Ragan and Bobby Shearer   B) Gabe Rosen and Bobby Shearer
   C) Andrew Ragan and Gabe Rosen   D) Ryan Chapados and Ryan Moguaro

7. This United States senator from New York is being identified as a potential 2020 presidential candidate:
   A) Chuck Schumer    B) Kirsten Gillibrand   C) Elizabeth Warren   D) Michael Bloomberg

8. There is an empty lot in center city Rochester, once the site of Midtown Plaza, whose future use is still being debated. What is it called?
   A) Xerox Square   B) Parcel 5   C) Midtown Lot   D) No Man’s Land

9. In December, 2018, St. John Fisher College suspended two students for
   A) cheating on their Accounting exam   B) vandalizing a statue of Frederick Douglass
   C) sexually assaulting a young woman at a college party   D) carrying guns to their Biology class

10. This local university’s President Joel Seligman resigned in January, 2018, due to a sexual misconduct situation involving one of its cognitive science professors:
    A) Nazareth    B) University of Rochester   C) RIT   D) SUNY Geneseo
11. This native of Rochester, former captain of the Montreal Canadians and Buffalo Sabres, captained the U.S. men’s Olympic hockey team in 2018:
A) Rory Fitzpatrick  B) Ryan Callahan  C) Brian Gionta  D) Patrick Kane

12. In 2018, Matt Zeller, Allendale Columbia class of 2000, who is pictured below on the right,
A) was elected to Congress  B) became the new CEO of Kodak  C) published a book that made it to New York Times best seller’s list  D) was named a CNN Hero

13. Perhaps the biggest result of the 2018 elections for New York state was that
A) the Democrats gained control of the state senate  B) a woman was elected governor  C) the Republicans won most of the state legislative seats in New York City  D) the voters passed a referendum making upstate New York a separate state called Northern New York

14. In late 2018, New York governor Andrew Cuomo announced that he was supporting efforts to
A) make vaping a felony for teenagers under 18 years of age  B) legalize the recreational use of marijuana C) make election day a state holiday  D) Both B and C

15. In the fall of 2018, this HAC runner finished 21st in the state cross country championship race and went on to make the All Greater Rochester team:
A) Roxy Reisch  B) Zoe Crego  C) Mary Cotter  D) Piper Wilson
Part II: National News

16. Which Trump Administration cabinet official left his position the day after the 2018 midterm elections?
A) Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis  B) Attorney General Jeff Sessions  C) Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin  D) Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke

17. In 2018, the Miss America contest announced that
A) the contest would end after 2020  B) the contest would be adopting an age limit of 28  C) it was ending the swimsuit competition  D) Kanye West would be the M.C. in 2019

18. In February, 2018, the SpaceX company tested a rocket that was the most powerful rocket since the Saturn V rocket that took men to the moon. Who is behind the SpaceX company?
A) Elon Musk  B) Bill Gates  C) Larry Page and Sergey Brin  D) Buzz Lightyear

19. Despite the absence of long-term studies that measure the potential impact of the dangerous chemicals associated with this activity, it grew at an alarming rate among teenagers in 2018:
A) Fortnite  B) e-cigarettes  C) texting while driving  D) studying for tests

20. The federal government entered a “shut down” at the end of 2018 due to a lack of funding for
A) President Trump’s military parade  B) the 2018 tax cuts  C) Puerto Rican reconstruction  D) the border wall

21. In December, 2018, what did a federal district judge in Texas rule unconstitutional?
A) The right to an abortion in the first trimester  B) The Voting Rights Act of 1965  C) The 2017 tax cut  D) The law creating Obamacare

22. Young Americans are getting the image of this 85-year-old woman as tattoos and she was the subject of two 2018 movies. Who is she?
A. Hillary Clinton  B. Ruth Bader Ginsberg  C. Nancy Pelosi  D. Diane Feinstein

23. Who is Cesar Sayoc?
A) The third baseman of the World Series champion Boston Red Sox  B) The Florida man charged with sending pipe bombs to critics of President Trump  C) The new Republican Senator from Missouri  D) The new Supreme Court justice

24. As of the end of 2018, which of the following Trump Administration officials had not been indicted for a crime?
A) Former National Security Advisor Michael Flynn  B) Former Trump attorney Michael Cohen  C) Former Trump advisor George Papadopoulos  D) Former Secretary of State Rex Tillerson

25. What disaster hit southern California in late 2018?
A) A series of earthquakes  B) A series of power outages  C) A series of wildfires  D) The announcement that LeBron James was retiring from basketball

26. What was the name of the Boston mobster who was killed the day after he arrived in prison in West Virginia?
A) Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán  B) Whitey Bulger  C) Anwar al-Awlaki  D) David Berkowitz
27. The states of Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky form the center of
A) the nation’s skin cancer problems   B) the nation’s identity theft issues   C) the emerging social
democratic political movement   D) the nation’s opioid epidemic

28. The woman in the photo below is Christine Blasey Ford, who appeared in front of Congress
A) to share information about a school shooting   B) as a part of her confirmation process as the new U.S.
Ambassador to the United Nations   C) as a part of the confirmation process of a new Supreme Court
justice   D) to testify about her opposition to the Obamacare health care system

29. What is Cambridge Analytica?
A) A British university   B) A British consulting firm that was provided with information by
Facebook that it used to attempt to manipulate the 2016 elections   C) A firm that records the travels of
individuals using the GPS on their phones   D) A private firm hired to begin taking the place of the U.S.
Postal Service

30. At the 2018 Winter Olympics, this American became the most successful snowboarder of all time:
A. Apolo Ohno   B. Shaun White   C. Eric Heiden   D. Jonathon Lillis

31. What ubiquitous utensil is being banned by more and more cities, states, and companies?
A) The lead pencil   B) The plastic cell phone case   C) The plastic toothpick   D) The plastic straw
32. What is the name of the man who replaced Secretary of State Rex Tillerson after Tillerson was fired in March, 2018?
A) Mike Pompeo   B) John Kelly   C) Jared Kushner   D) Michael Flynn

33. What company ended its driverless car program in Arizona after a pedestrian was hit and killed by one of its cars?
A) Google   B) Tesla   C) Ford   D) Uber

34. The photo below helped to heighten emotions about what issue?
A) The impact of the Trump tax cuts   B) President Trump’s immigration policies   C) President Trump’s policies concerning the civil war in Syria   D) The new federal crime bill

35. Who was selected to be the face of Nike’s 30th anniversary “Just Do It” campaign?
A. Michael Jordan   B. Serena Williams   C. Steph Curry   D. Colin Kaepernick

36. At the end of 2018, Congress passed a law with huge bipartisan majorities that
A) reformed the immigration system   B) reformed the criminal justice system   C) ended the Federal Reserve system   D) moved the United States to the metric system

37. What is the name of the man leading the investigation into possible crimes associated with Russian interference in the 2016 American election?
A) James Comey   B) Robert Mueller   C) Michael Flynn   D) Christopher Wray
38. What happened to the U.S. unemployment rate in 2018?
A) It fell below 4%, the lowest it had been since 1969  
B) It more than doubled, ending the year at 8% 
C) It fell to 0%, as every American had a job  
D) It was consistently labeled by the president as “fake news”

39. In the 2018 election, voters in Florida voted to
A) deport released felons to other states  
B) turn all prisons over to private companies  
C) restore full voting rights to released felons  
D) provide released felons with jobs at Disney World

40. Where did the American pictured below get married in May, 2018?
A) Pittsburgh  
B) Los Angeles  
C) Mexico City  
D) Windsor Castle

41. Who was the big winner at the 2018 Grammy Awards, winning six categories, including Album of the Year and Song of the Year?
A. Bruno Mars  
B. Ed Sheeran  
C. Childish Gambino  
D. Lady Gaga

42. The March, 2018, March for Our Lives rally in Washington, D.C. took place because of
A) the repeal of a number of state gun control measures  
B) the tragic shooting at a country music festival in Las Vegas in October, 2017  
C) the February, 2018, school shooting in Parkland, Florida  
D) the January, 2018, school shooting in Benton, Kentucky

43. In 2018, teachers in West Virginia, Oklahoma, Arizona, and Kentucky
A) began carrying guns inside of their schools  
B) went on strike over their salaries  
C) accepted a “pay as you go” system of funding schools  
D) adopted a “no homework” policy in their high schools

44. What is the name of the new Supreme Court justice who was confirmed in 2018?
A) Brett Kavanaugh  
B) Samuel Alito  
C) Neil Gorsuch  
D) Antonin Scalia
45. The House of Representatives elected in the 2018 Midterm Elections includes
A) the House’s first Palestinian-American    B) the House’s first Native American women
C) the House’s first Muslim women     D) All of the above

46. In November, 2018, NASA’s InSight Lander, pictured below, landed
A) on Mars   B) on Jupiter    C) on Farout, the newly discovered dwarf planet
D) on the tenth green of the golf course at Mar-a-Lago

![InSight Lander](image)

47. New “Amazon Go” stores opened up in Chicago and San Francisco in 2018. What is unique about them?
A) There is nothing to buy in the store   B) The stores are closed to immigrants   C) The stores have no check-outs   D) All of the above

48. In December, 2018, the stock market
A) reached record highs    B) was closed down for much of the month due to technical issues    C) had its worst December since the Great Depression   D) saw a third of its stock brokers replaced by talking robots

49. Each of the following individuals died in 2018 except
A) George and Barbara Bush   B) former president Jimmy Carter   C) singer Aretha Franklin
D) cartoonist Stan Lee

50. Doctor Larry Nassar went to jail due to his years of abusing women on the Olympic
A) track team   B) crew team   C) soccer team   D) gymnastics team

51. In January, 2018, Hawaii was rattled by
A) a tsunami that came after a volcano erupted on the island of Maui   B) a false emergency warning of a ballistic missile attack   C) an influx of refugees from Indonesia   D) a group of World War II reenactors flying Japanese Zeroes
52. The synagogue in the photo below is in
A) Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania   B) Charlottesville, Virginia  C) New York City   D) Columbus, Ohio

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Significant Quotes of 2018

For Questions 53-56, match the quote to the person who said it:

53. “There’s a lot of lessons to learn here. Not just that the left and right can still agree on some things, but also this, Americans can forgive one another.”

54. “I’m innocent of this charge.”

55. “That independent judiciary is something we should all be thankful for.”

56. “When we talk about the word 'socialism,' I think what it really means is just democratic participation in our economic dignity and our economic, social, and racial dignity.

A. Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh  
B. Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
C. Former Navy Seal and Congressman Dan Crenshaw  
D. Chief Justice John Roberts
Part III: International News

57. The 2018 event pictured below was a monumental achievement for women in this country:
A) Israel  B) Saudi Arabia  C) Egypt  D) Albania

![Image of women in a car](image)

58. The national legislature of this communist nation in the Western Hemisphere voted to change its constitution to allow private property:
A) Cuba  B) Mexico  C) Brazil  D) Peru

59. The 2018 global conference on climate change was held in this European nation, which generates 80% of its electricity from coal (the U.S. number is 30%)
A) Spain  B) Germany  C) Poland  D) Norway

60. Since 2015, this Middle Eastern nation has been suffering a civil war, in which a neighboring nation has intervened:
A) Egypt  B) Yemen  C) Turkey  D) Somalia

61. In Thailand, in July, 2018, twelve boys and their soccer coach were rescued from
A) a tsunami  B) a cave  C) Somali pirates  D) a Justin Bieber concert

62. This group has offered to negotiate with the United States in order to end the war in their nation:
A) al-Qaeda  B) ISIS  C) The Taliban  D) The Confederacy

63. In March, 2018, this nation amended its constitution to allow its president to rule for life:
A) Russia  B) Germany  C) China  D) the United States

64. Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered in Turkey inside the embassy of his native country because of his extensive reporting about its government. What nation was he from?
A) Cameroon  B) Saudi Arabia  C) Russia  D) Germany
65. The photo below was taken
A) at the border of China and Vietnam   B) at the world badminton championship
C) at the World Cup in France   D) at the border of North and South Korea

66. The photo below was taken at a demonstration in Paris in the late fall of 2018. What were the protestors demonstrating against?
A) President Trump’s relationship with Vladimir Putin   B) A new tax on gasoline
C) The FIFA decision to strip France of its World Cup victory   D) The shortage of croissants in French patisseries
67. In December, 2018, President Trump announced that the United States was going to withdraw all of its troops from this country, which may put the United States’ Kurdish allies at risk:
A) Syria   B) Israel   C) Nigeria   D) Uzbekistan

Part IV: World Leaders in the News. Match these leaders, each of whom was in the news in 2018, to the correct nation.

68. Emmanuel Macron A) Iran 
69. Ali Khamenei B) Germany 
70. Justin Trudeau C) Great Britain 
71. Theresa May D) Russia 
72. Kim Jong Un E) China 
73. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan F) Syria 
74. Vladimir Putin G) Turkey 
75. Xi Jinping H) France 
76. Bashar al-Assad I) Canada 
77. Angela Merkel J) North Korea

Part V: Years Ending in "8": Match the following events to the year in which each took place.

78. The birth year of Rochester’s famous freedom fighter, Frederick Douglass
79. Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping launches a series of economic reforms 
80. The Delian League is established to liberate eastern Greek cities from Persian rule
81. A series of revolutions sweep through western and central Europe
82. The United States and France sign an alliance that will help the U.S. win its independence
83. The Hundred Years’ War begins
84. Martin Luther King is killed in Memphis
85. The Great War’s fighting ends on November 11th of this year
86. The Spanish-American War begins and ends
87. The Lehman Brothers Firm’s bankruptcy triggers a global recession

A) 478 B.C.      D) 1818      G) 1918      J) 2008
B) 1338         E) 1848      H) 1968
C) 1778         F) 1898      I) 1978
### Part VI: International Events of 2018:

Match the nation to the statement that describes it.

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88. This nation’s national men’s team won the 2018 World Cup Championship.

89. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, this Middle Eastern nation is now the world’s biggest jailer of journalists.

90. The leader of this country survived a no-confidence vote after her Brexit plan was called into question.

91. Military installations in this country have been attacked over 20 times recently by Boko Haram.

92. This nation’s chancellor, who oversaw Europe’s most open refugee policies, increasingly came under fire in 2018 and announced that she would not seek reelection.

93. In November, 2018, this nation’s navy seized three boats of its neighbor on the waters of the Black Sea.

94. For the first time in history, an experimental Ebola vaccine is being rolled out at a large scale in this war-torn equatorial nation, potentially preventing infections and saving lives.

95. In June, after meeting with President Trump, Kim Jong Un declared that this nation will denuclearize, although now he is going back on that promise.

96. This nation hosted the 2018 Winter Olympics.

97. The Castro family's more than 50-year reign over this country came to an end with the election of Miguel Diaz-Canel.

98. Voters from this nation held their first election since driving the Islamic State out of most of their country, including the city of Mosul.

99. The Chairman of Nissan was jailed in this country for financial misconduct.

100. In June, 2018, this nation’s Parliament legalized the recreational use of cannabis, making it the largest nation with legal marijuana sales.

**Tie-Breaker Question:** How many seats in the House of Representatives did the Democrats pick up in the 2018 Midterm elections?