S3 Chinese History Practice Paper 1 | Sui-Tang unification, Grand Canal, examinations, Silk Road, Opium War

Junior Secondary Chinese History

S3 Chinese History practice paper with answers: Sui-Tang unification, Grand Canal, imperial examinations, Silk Road, Song-Yuan economy, Opium War. 100 marks.

1. Sui-Tang unification and the Zhenguan era (16 marks)

Show working or explain in all parts.

#	Question	Answer and marking notes
1	(a) The Sui dynasty was founded in 581 and completed the unification of China by defeating the Chen in 589. How many years passed between the founding and the unification?	589 - 581 = 8 years.
2	(b) Emperor Taizong ascended the throne in 626 and used the Zhenguan era name from 627 to 649. How many years did the Zhenguan era last?	Counting both the first and last year: 649 - 627 + 1 = 23 years.
3	(c) Emperor Yang of Sui built the Grand Canal, about 2,700 km long: the Tongji Canal 1,000 km, the Yongji Canal 1,000 km, the Han Gou 400 km and the Jiangnan Canal 300 km. Find each section as a percentage of the total (1 decimal place).	Total = 1,000 + 1,000 + 400 + 300 = 2,700 km; Tongji 37.0%, Yongji 37.0%, Han Gou 14.8%, Jiangnan 11.1%.
4	(d) The jinshi examination was the most prestigious in Tang times. About 20 jinshi a year were passed in the Zhenguan era, rising to 30 in the Kaiyuan era. Find the percentage increase; if the examination was held every 3 years taking 30 men, how many were passed in 30 years?	Increase = (30 - 20) / 20 x 100% = 50.0%; 30 / 3 = 10 examinations, 10 x 30 = 300 men.

2. Tang foreign transport and cultural exchange (18 marks)

Parts (a) to (c) are short answers; show working in (d).

#	Question	Answer and marking notes
5	(a) Xuanzang left Chang an for India in 629 and returned in 645. How many years did the journey take?	645 - 629 = 16 years.
6	(b) Jianzhen attempted six voyages to Japan and only the sixth reached Japan. Find the success rate (1 decimal place).	1 / 6 x 100% = 16.7%.
7	(c) The overland Silk Road ran about 1,900 km from Chang an to Dunhuang and about 2,000 km from Dunhuang to Samarkand. If a caravan travelled 30 km a day, find the total distance and the number of days needed.	1,900 + 2,000 = 3,900 km; 3,900 / 30 = 130 days.
8	(d) The maritime route from Guangzhou used sea-going ships. A fleet had 20 ships, each carrying 300 people and 200 tonnes of cargo, with 40 sailors per ship. Find the total number of people carried, the total cargo, and sailors as a percentage of all people on board (1 decimal place).	People 20 x 300 = 6,000; cargo 20 x 200 = 4,000 tonnes; sailors 20 x 40 = 800, 800 / 6,000 x 100% = 13.3%.

3. Song-Yuan economy and technology (16 marks)

Show working throughout.

#	Question	Answer and marking notes
9	(a) The Northern Song government issued paper money through the Jiaozi office in Sichuan in 1023, and the Southern Song issued Huizi in 1160. How many years apart were the two issues?	1,160 - 1,023 = 137 years.
10	(b) In one Southern Song year the maritime trade office collected about 2 million strings of cash while total government revenue was about 20 million strings. Find maritime revenue as a percentage of total revenue.	200 / 2,000 x 100% = 10.0%.
11	(c) Bi Sheng invented movable type printing around 1045, and by 1119 written records describe the compass being used at sea. How many years apart are the two?	1,119 - 1,045 = 74 years.
12	(d) Quanzhou was a world port in Yuan times: around 1300 its population was about 200,000, of whom about 20,000 were foreign traders and residents. Find the foreign share; if the population grew 1% a year, what was it about ten years later (to the nearest 10,000)?	2 / 20 x 100% = 10.0%; 20 x 1.01^10 = 221,000, about 220,000.

4. Ming-Qing centralisation and institutions (18 marks)

Parts (a) to (c) are short answers; show steps in (d).

#	Question	Answer and marking notes
13	(a) Emperor Taizu of Ming abolished the chancellorship in 1380; the Ming dynasty was founded in 1368. How many years after the founding was the chancellorship abolished?	1,380 - 1,368 = 12 years.
14	(b) The Jinyiwei secret police was set up in 1382 and the Eastern Depot in 1420. How many years apart were they established?	1,420 - 1,382 = 38 years.
15	(c) The Yongzheng emperor set up the Grand Council in 1729; the Qing took control of Beijing in 1644. How many years apart?	1,729 - 1,644 = 85 years.
16	(d) Ming-Qing examinations used the eight-legged essay; the provincial examination was held every 3 years and passed about 1,000 juren each time. Find the number of examinations in 20 years and the total juren passed; if 10% later became jinshi, how many jinshi were there?	20 / 3 = 6.67, so counting both ends gives 7 examinations; 7 x 1,000 = 7,000 juren; 7,000 x 10% = 700 jinshi.

5. Ming-Qing foreign relations and the sea ban (16 marks)

Show working throughout.

#	Question	Answer and marking notes
17	(a) Zheng He first sailed in 1405 and returned from his last voyage in 1433. Find the total span in years and the average interval between the seven voyages (1 decimal place).	1,433 - 1,405 = 28 years; 28 / 7 = 4.0 years.

#	Question	Answer and marking notes
18	(b) Zheng He s first voyage used 62 ships with about 27,800 people. Find the average number per ship (whole number).	27,800 / 62 = 448.4, about 448 people.
19	(c) In 1757 the Qing allowed foreign trade only at Guangzhou; the Treaty of Nanking in 1842 opened five ports. For how many years was the one-port restriction in force?	1,842 - 1,757 = 85 years.
20	(d) In one year the Guangzhou Cohong exported 300,000 piculs of tea and 50,000 piculs of raw silk at 20 taels and 300 taels per picul. Find the total export value and the share of tea and silk (1 decimal place).	Tea 30 x 20 = 600 million taels; silk 5 x 300 = 1,500 million taels; total 2,100 million taels; tea 28.6%, silk 71.4%.

6. The Opium War and the Treaty of Nanking (16 marks)

Show working throughout.

#	Question	Answer and marking notes
21	(a) Lin Zexu destroyed opium at Humen from 3 June to 25 June 1839, burning 20,283 chests. Find the number of days and the average chests destroyed per day (1 decimal place).	25 - 3 + 1 = 23 days; 20,283 / 23 = 881.9 chests.
22	(b) The Treaty of Nanking of 1842 required an indemnity of 21 million silver dollars payable over 4 years. Find the average annual payment.	2,100 / 4 = 525 million silver dollars.
23	(c) After the Treaty of Nanking, the supplementary Treaty of the Bogue was signed in 1843 granting consular jurisdiction. How many years apart?	1,843 - 1,842 = 1 year.
24	(d) Before the Opium War the Chinese import tariff was about 20%; after the treaty it was fixed at about 5%. Find the fall in percentage points and the percentage cut (1 decimal place).	20 - 5 = 15 percentage points; 15 / 20 x 100% = 75.0%.