Black Culture Quiz

1. Born in 1940 and raised by his grandmother, this rubbery-faced entertainer attacked stereotypes and America's consciousness with his no-apologies, in-your-face style and verbal arsenal and became one of the most influential performers of the last 30 years.
   a) Chuck Berry   b) Richard Pryor   c) Denzel Washington

2. In which year were W.E.B. Du Bois and William Trotter among the leaders of the meeting from which sprung the Niagra Movement - the forerunner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People?
   a) 1905   b) 1912   c) 1895

3. Frank Sinatra once called this singer "unquestionably the most important influence on American popular singing in the last twenty years." Her career saw the highs of great record sales, a stint singing with Count Basie and the lows of drug problems. She will always be remembered for her unique style and her "bluesy" autobiography. She is:
   a) Mahalia Jackson   b) Madame C. J. Walker   c) Billie Holiday

4. Born on June 15, 1939, and embarrassed by living on public funds, he would become one of the most visible leaders in the fight against affirmative action in the United States. He once compared affirmative action to slavery - claiming it leaves blacks dependent on and dominated by whites, who make the decisions on whether to allow them special consideration in matters of education and employment. He is:
   a) Martin Luther King, Jr.   b) Ward Connerly   c) Russell Simmons

5. With such books as Dust Tracks on a Road, I Love Myself When I Am Laughing and Mules and Men, she called attention to herself and her blackness during a time when blacks were being urged to assimilate themselves to promote better race relations. Her works are seen as manifestos of selfhood and the positive aspects of black life. This author is:
   a) Gwendolyn Brooks   b) Maya Angelou   c) Zora Neale Hurston

6. In the years before Black History Month began to be celebrated, how often were African Americans lynched?
   a) Every 2½ hours   b) Every 2½ days   c) Every 2½ months   d) Every 2½ years

7. How many slaves did prominent abolitionist Frederick Douglass estimate there were in the years before the Civil War?
   a) 3000   b) 30,000   c) 1,000,000   d) 3,000,000

8. When the conflict over abolition was ended with the Civil War, what did African-American demonstrators outside the White House say was the one thing more that they needed?
   a) the right to vote   b) the right to protest   c) farms   d) jobs

9. Sixty years after the Civil War ended, what federal program helped to preserve the oral histories of people who had been slaves?
   a) the CIA   b) the WPA   c) the TVA   d) the Library of Congress

10. Who came before Rosa Parks in protesting the segregation of public transportation?
    a) Susan B. Anthony  b) Frederick Douglass  c) Sojourner Truth  d) Maya Angelou

11. Who knew by the age of 10 that he wanted to be a revolutionary?
    a) Marcus Garvey  b) Nelson Mandela  c) Martin Luther King, Jr.  d) Tupac Shakur
12. What was it that made Nat Turner lead his famous revolt in 1831?
   a) too many whippings    b) having his children sold from him
   c) a series of visions from Satan    d) a series of visions from God

13. What famous black leader said, "over blacks must be their king, Not white, but of their somber hue, To rule a nation of themselves?"
   a) Marcus Garvey    b) Nelson Mandela    c) Martin Luther King, Jr.    d) Tupac Shakur

14. How did Martin Luther King Jr. think negroes should meet the physical force thrown at them by discriminating whites?
   a) with brute force    b) with soul force    c) with a negro police force
   d) with peaceful protests

15. What were the men at the Million Man March supposed to do right after they took the pledge?
   a) raise a fist    b) contribute to their communities    c) hug their brothers
   d) hug their families

16. What's the spirit behind the last line of the poem recited at President Clinton's first inauguration?
   a) patriotism for the U.S.    b) confidence in President Clinton
   c) respect for our government    d) optimism for new beginnings

17. What percentage of U.S. newspapers have no black reporters on staff?
   a) 53%    b) 45%    c) 33%    d) 15%

18. How many poor black families and poor white families are there in America?
   a) 5 million black, over 2 million white    b) 3 million black, 3 million white
   c) Over 2 million black, 5 million white    d) 4 million black, 5 million white

19. From 1980 to 1990 what was the rate of increase for single mothers?
   a) The black rate grew nine times as much.    b) The white rate grew nine times as much.
   c) Both rates increased rapidly.    d) The black rate was increasing; the white decreasing.

20. What percentage of the U.S. 71,000 professional athletes are African-Americans?
   a) 60%    b) 25%    c) 10%    d) 7%

21. What percentage of America's drug users is black; what percentage white?
   a) over 50% black, 35% white    b) over 25% black, 50% white
   c) 12% black, less than 70% white    d) 12% black, over 70% white

MATCHING

  ____ Kenneth Clark    ____ Shirley Chisholm    ____ Jesse Owens    ____ Ella Baker
  ____ Benjamin Banneker    ____ A. Philip Randolph    ____ Booker T. Washington

a) enraged Adolf Hitler by winning four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin.
b) astronomer and mathematician, he helped survey Washington, D.C. in 1791.
c) born a slave, became one of the most influential black educators of the pre-civil rights era.
e) NAACP field secretary (1938), worked with SCLC (1957), helped found SNCC (1960).
f) instrumental in persuading FDR to ban discrimination in defense industry and fed gov (1941).
g) first black woman in Congress (House of Representatives, 1969), ran for president in 1972.