

Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) History Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. Who is recognized as the visionary and principal founder of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority?**
 - A. Margaret Flagg (Holmes)**
 - B. Ethel Hedgeman (Lyle)**
 - C. Lavinia Norman**
 - D. Lucy Diggs Slowe**
- 2. What type of events does Alpha Kappa Alpha host to promote leadership?**
 - A. Art exhibitions**
 - B. Career fairs**
 - C. Conferences and forums**
 - D. Sporting events**
- 3. When was the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. constitution adopted?**
 - A. 1908**
 - B. 1913**
 - C. 1920**
 - D. 1945**
- 4. What is one of the national programs initiated by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.?**
 - A. Target 1: HBCU 4 Life**
 - B. Women's Empowerment Initiative**
 - C. Community Health Advocacy**
 - D. Education and Scholarships**
- 5. Who delivered the oration at the May 1909 Ivy Day Celebration?**
 - A. Norma Elizabeth Boyd**
 - B. Ethel Jones**
 - C. Sarah Meriwether (Nutter)**
 - D. Alice Porter Murray**

- 6. Which member is known for her love of culinary arts and catering?**
- A. Norma Elizabeth Boyd**
 - B. Ethel Jones**
 - C. Sarah Meriwether (Nutter)**
 - D. Alice Porter Murray**
- 7. Which founder held the position of the first president of Alpha Kappa Alpha?**
- A. Ethel Hedgeman (Lyle)**
 - B. Lucy Diggs Slowe**
 - C. Lavinia Norman**
 - D. Margaret Flagg (Holmes)**
- 8. How did Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. respond to the COVID-19 pandemic?**
- A. By closing all chapters**
 - B. By launching virtual service initiatives and outreach programs**
 - C. By focusing only on local issues**
 - D. By partnering with governmental bodies exclusively**
- 9. What does the sorority's motto "By Culture and By Merit" signify?**
- A. A commitment to cultural enrichment and deserving merit**
 - B. An emphasis on academic excellence and social responsibility**
 - C. A focus on leadership and public service**
 - D. An approach to networking and professional development**
- 10. Who was a gifted writer known for her poetry, prose, and cultural commentary in Alpha Kappa Alpha?**
- A. Alice Porter Murray**
 - B. Harriet Josephine Terry**
 - C. Nellie May Quander**
 - D. J. Marjory Jackson**

Answers

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1. B
2. C
3. B
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. B
8. B
9. A
10. A

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Explanations

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1. Who is recognized as the visionary and principal founder of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority?

- A. Margaret Flagg (Holmes)**
- B. Ethel Hedgeman (Lyle)**
- C. Lavinia Norman**
- D. Lucy Diggs Slowe**

Ethel Hedgeman Lyle is recognized as the visionary and principal founder of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, established in 1908 at Howard University. Her leadership and innovative ideas were instrumental in shaping the values and mission of the organization, which was created to promote sisterhood, scholarship, and service among African American women. Ethel's commitment to empowering women through education and community service has had a lasting impact, making her a pivotal figure in the history of AKA. Her vision not only established a fraternal organization but also set a precedent for future leaders in the sorority and other similar organizations.

2. What type of events does Alpha Kappa Alpha host to promote leadership?

- A. Art exhibitions**
- B. Career fairs**
- C. Conferences and forums**
- D. Sporting events**

Conferences and forums are vital events hosted by Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) to promote leadership among its members and the broader community. These events serve as platforms for discussions on critical issues, provide networking opportunities, and facilitate professional development. The structured environment of conferences allows participants to engage with prominent leaders, gain insights into effective leadership practices, and work on their public speaking and advocacy skills. Such gatherings are designed to foster a sense of community and empower women to take leadership roles in various fields, reflecting the organization's commitment to education, service, and lifelong learning. By emphasizing leadership through these events, AKA helps to cultivate a new generation of empowered individuals who can make impactful contributions to society. Other types of events, though valuable in their own right, do not focus specifically on the development and promotion of leadership skills in the same way that conferences and forums do.

3. When was the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. constitution adopted?

A. 1908

B. 1913

C. 1920

D. 1945

The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. adopted its constitution in 1913, which is a significant date in the organization's history. This year marked the formal establishment of the structural guidelines and frameworks essential for governing the sorority's operations and the conduct of its members. The constitution provided a solid foundation that facilitated the expansion and growth of the organization, allowing it to address the needs and aspirations of its members effectively. The adoption of the constitution was a crucial step for Alpha Kappa Alpha as it transitioned from a local group to a national organization with standardized practices. This move solidified its commitment to sisterhood and service, encapsulating its mission and objectives. The other years mentioned are significant milestones in the organization's history as well, but they do not pertain to the specific adoption of the constitution. This helps to emphasize 1913 as a pivotal year in the evolution of Alpha Kappa Alpha, where formal governance structures were put in place to guide its future endeavors.

4. What is one of the national programs initiated by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.?

A. Target 1: HBCU 4 Life

B. Women's Empowerment Initiative

C. Community Health Advocacy

D. Education and Scholarships

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. has established several national programs aimed at addressing various social issues and promoting community development. One notable initiative is "Target 1: HBCU 4 Life," which focuses on supporting Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). This program is part of a broader effort to enhance the educational experiences of students at these institutions, encouraging enrollment and retention while fostering pride in HBCUs. The significance of the HBCU 4 Life initiative lies in its goal to increase awareness of the importance of HBCUs to the African American community and society as a whole. It encompasses activities such as scholarships, mentoring, and campus support, ultimately contributing to the empowerment and educational success of students. Other choices reflect important endeavors of the sorority as well, but "Target 1: HBCU 4 Life" specifically emphasizes direct support for higher education through HBCUs, making it one of the core national programs under Alpha Kappa Alpha's umbrella.

5. Who delivered the oration at the May 1909 Ivy Day Celebration?

- A. Norma Elizabeth Boyd**
- B. Ethel Jones**
- C. Sarah Meriwether (Nutter)**
- D. Alice Porter Murray**

The oration at the May 1909 Ivy Day Celebration was delivered by Sarah Meriwether (Nutter), who was one of the founding members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. This event held significant importance as Ivy Day served as a celebration of the sorority's ideals, values, and achievements, and it was also a key occasion for showcasing the talent and commitment of its members. Meriwether's delivery of the oration embodies the legacy of leadership and oratory skills that the founders of AKA established, making her contribution pivotal in the history of the organization. Her involvement reinforces the connection between the sorority's mission of service and the empowerment of women, reflecting the founding principles of AKA.

6. Which member is known for her love of culinary arts and catering?

- A. Norma Elizabeth Boyd**
- B. Ethel Jones**
- C. Sarah Meriwether (Nutter)**
- D. Alice Porter Murray**

The member known for her love of culinary arts and catering is Ethel Jones. She was recognized for her exceptional skills in cooking and her passion for the culinary field. Throughout her involvement with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, she not only showcased her talents but also contributed to the social fabric and events of the organization through her expertise in catering. Her culinary skills were a significant part of her identity within the sorority, highlighting the importance of hospitality and community among its members. Other members may have had various contributions to the sorority's mission, but Ethel Jones's distinct passion for the culinary arts sets her apart.

7. Which founder held the position of the first president of Alpha Kappa Alpha?

- A. Ethel Hedgeman (Lyle)**
- B. Lucy Diggs Slowe**
- C. Lavinia Norman**
- D. Margaret Flagg (Holmes)**

The first president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. was Lucy Diggs Slowe. She played a crucial role in the establishment of the sorority, which was founded on January 15, 1908, at Howard University. Lucy Diggs Slowe's leadership was pivotal during the early formation of the organization, and her vision helped to shape the mission and goals of AKA, making her a significant figure in the history of the sorority. Her presidency marked the beginning of a legacy of service and empowerment for women of color, reinforcing the values of sisterhood, scholarship, and service that are still upheld by the sorority today. This historical context emphasizes her importance not just as a leader, but also as a trailblazer for African American women in higher education and beyond.

8. How did Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. respond to the COVID-19 pandemic?

- A. By closing all chapters
- B. By launching virtual service initiatives and outreach programs**
- C. By focusing only on local issues
- D. By partnering with governmental bodies exclusively

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. demonstrated a proactive and adaptive response to the COVID-19 pandemic by launching virtual service initiatives and outreach programs. Recognizing the challenges posed by the pandemic, the organization shifted its focus to utilize digital platforms, enabling members to continue their community service and support efforts effectively. This included virtual education programs, health awareness campaigns, and various forms of outreach that allowed the sorority to maintain its commitment to service even when in-person gatherings were restricted. The decision to embrace technology not only facilitated continued engagement among members but also allowed the sorority to reach a broader audience, delivering essential services and support to communities during a critical time. The adaptability shown by Alpha Kappa Alpha during the pandemic highlights the importance of innovation in addressing public health crises while staying true to the organization's mission and values.

9. What does the sorority's motto "By Culture and By Merit" signify?

- A. A commitment to cultural enrichment and deserving merit**
- B. An emphasis on academic excellence and social responsibility
- C. A focus on leadership and public service
- D. An approach to networking and professional development

The motto "By Culture and By Merit" embodies the foundational principles of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., emphasizing both the significance of cultural enrichment and the importance of deserved recognition through merit. The phrase signifies that the sorority values the celebration of culture, which includes the promotion of community, heritage, and artistic expression, while also upholding a standard of merit that recognizes individual achievements, academic excellence, and personal integrity. This dual focus reflects the sorority's commitment to empowering women through education and cultural advocacy, fostering a sense of belonging and community as well as encouraging members to strive for personal and academic success. While academic excellence and social responsibility, leadership and public service, and networking and professional development are all integral to the mission and values of the organization, the essence captured in the motto specifically highlights the intertwined relationship of cultural awareness and the pursuit of merit-based achievements. This comprehensive view promotes a holistic approach to development and engagement within the sorority and the broader community.

10. Who was a gifted writer known for her poetry, prose, and cultural commentary in Alpha Kappa Alpha?

A. Alice Porter Murray

B. Harriet Josephine Terry

C. Nellie May Quander

D. J. Marjory Jackson

Alice Porter Murray is recognized as a gifted writer within Alpha Kappa Alpha for her contributions to poetry, prose, and cultural commentary. She played a significant role in the literary world, particularly in the early 20th century, where she expressed the complexities of the African American experience through her writing. Her work not only showcased her literary talent but also reflected the cultural and social issues of her time, making her an influential figure in both the sorority and the broader context of African American literature. In contrast, while the other individuals mentioned contributed to the sorority and the community, they are not primarily known for their literary achievements in the same way. Murray's ability to weave cultural narratives into her writing solidifies her legacy as a notable literary figure in Alpha Kappa Alpha.