

Test Item File

for

ARTS AND CULTURE: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HUMANITIES

Volume 1

by

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Chapter 1: Prehistoric, Mesopotamian, and Egyptian Civilizations

Multiple Choice

1. It is thought that the _____ was used for Old Kingdom tombs because, as one of the most stable geometric forms, it symbolized permanence to ancient Egyptians.

- A. circle
- B. cube
- C. sphere
- D. pyramid
- E. cone

Answer: D

Page ref: 22

2. During the New Kingdom, burial in _____ replaced burial in pyramids.

- A. the temple
- B. rock-cut tombs
- C. a courtyard in the palace
- D. the city square
- E. none of the above

Answer: B

Page ref: 26

3. The *Human-Headed Winged Lion* (fig. 1.9) with the body of a lion, wings of a bird, and head of a human probably functioned as a(n) _____.

- A. worshipper in the temples
- B. figure celebrating military victories
- C. guardian figure
- D. illustration of favorite stories
- E. king

Answer: C

Page ref: 13

4. Which of the following is not true regarding Paleolithic sculpture?

- A. The most frequently depicted subjects are memory images of animals
- B. There are few figures of wood or other perishable materials that remain today
- C. The most famous example of a sculpture from the era is the *Woman (or Venus) of Willendorf* (fig. 1.2)
- D. In France, a clay sculpture of two bison was found
- E. No humans are represented

Answer: E

Page ref: 5

5. The basic plan of the rock-cut tombs of the Middle Kingdom resemble _____.

- A. an Egyptian home of the time
- B. the pharaoh's palace
- C. a typical Egyptian shop
- D. the simplest type of temple
- E. both B and D

Answer: A

Page ref: 26

6. Egyptian relief sculptures and paintings show human figures both in profile and frontal positions simultaneously _____.

- A. to display each part of the body from its most characteristic point of view

- B. because artists were unskilled in drawing the human body
- C. because such a design was dictated by Egyptian religious beliefs
- D. none of the above
- E. both A and C

Answer: A

Page ref: 29

7. The only significant break in the continuity of Egyptian life were the political, religious, and artistic changes during the reign of which pharaoh?

- A. Zoser
- B. Chefren
- C. Tutankhamen
- D. Akhenaten
- E. Mycerinus

Answer: D

Page ref: 31

8. The ruler _____ is associated with an ancient code of laws and decrees.

- A. Naram-Sin
- B. Gilgamesh
- C. Hammurabi
- D. Nebuchadnezzar
- E. Ashurnasirpal II

Answer: C

Page ref: 12

9. Some scholars believe that cave paintings were created to _____.

- A. ensure a successful hunt
- B. express the power of the ruler
- C. commemorate the death of a member of the group
- D. celebrate an abundant harvest
- E. represent gods

Answer: A

Page ref: 6

10. King Nebuchadnezzar rebuilt _____ which became the greatest city in the Near East.

- A. Babylon
- B. Cairo
- C. Lagash
- D. Ur
- E. Persepolis

Answer: A

Page ref: 14

11. The earliest burial places of the Old Kingdom Egyptian nobility were called _____, flat-topped one-story rectangular buildings with slanted walls.

- A. pyramids
- B. serdabs
- C. mortuary temples
- D. mastabas
- E. huts

Answer: D

Page ref: 21

12. Scholars were able to decipher Egyptian writing by comparing the three languages included on the _____.

- A. *Palette of Narmer*

- B. *Rosetta Stone*
- C. *Stepped Pyramid of Zoser*
- D. *Book of the Dead*
- E. wall relief of *Ti Watching a Hippopotamus Hunt*

Answer: B

Page ref: 18

13. The term *ka* is roughly equivalent to the concept of _____.
- A. sin
 - B. good versus evil
 - C. heaven
 - D. judgment
 - E. a soul

Answer: E

Page ref: 20

14. What is known of Paleolithic life derives largely from _____.
- A. cromlechs
 - B. cuneiform writing
 - C. relief sculptures
 - D. paintings found in caves
 - E. all of the above

Answer: D

Page ref: 5

15. The *Great Sphinx* (fig. 1.17) _____.
- A. was placed in a Valley Temple
 - B. is made of gold and semiprecious stones
 - C. indicates the power of the pharaoh
 - D. reappears in Classical Greek mythology
 - E. none of the above

Answer: C

Page ref: 22

16. In painting of the Neolithic era _____.
- A. paintings are located in rock shelters and beneath cliff overhangs
 - B. the human figure is given prominence
 - C. paintings feature more storytelling than in the Paleolithic era
 - D. all of the above
 - E. none of the above

Answer: D

Page ref: 6

17. The oldest known major literary work in the world is called _____.
- A. *The Iliad*
 - B. *The Tale of Genji*
 - C. *The Poem of the Supersage*
 - D. *The Law Code of Hammurabi*
 - E. *The Epic of Gilgamesh*

Answer: E

Page ref: 10

18. Egyptian relief work, such as *Ti Watching a Hippopotamus Hunt* (fig. 1.21), was meant to be seen _____.
- A. by visitors to the nobleman's tomb
 - B. by no one
 - C. only by the *ka* of the deceased

- D. by priests who came often to the tomb to perform rituals
- E. by those who discovered the tomb thousands of years later

Answer: C

Page ref: 25

19. _____ is (are) the most common subjects for European cave paintings.

- A. Scenes of battle
- B. Animals
- C. Humans participating in religious rituals
- D. Women representing fertility goddesses
- E. none of the above

Answer: B

Page ref: 5

20. _____ is not one of the standard poses for Egyptian sculptures of the human figure.

- A. Sitting on a block
- B. Standing with one foot forward
- C. Sitting cross-legged on the floor
- D. Kneeling on both knees
- E. Reclining

Answer: E

Page ref: 22

21. Which of the following statements is true of New Kingdom temples?

- A. One of the largest is at Luxor
- B. The temples were considered the home of the gods
- C. They were constructed using the post and lintel system
- D. The entire temple complex was essentially symmetrical and organized around a longitudinal axis
- E. all of the above

Answer: E

Page ref: 26

22. _____ is (are) not included in the *Victory Stele of Naram-Sin* (fig. 1.7).

- A. A mountain
- B. The ruler Naram-Sin
- C. An army victoriously marching up the mountain
- D. A representation of the temple
- E. A set of stars representing Naram Sin's protecting gods

Answer: D

Page ref: 11

True/False

23. A ziggurat is a mountain-like platform upon which Sumerians placed their temples.

Answer: T

Page ref: 9

24. The prophet Zoroaster, a Persian, developed a dualistic religion that asserted the universe was divided between two forces, one good and the other evil.

Answer: T

Page ref: 15

25. A serdab is a hidden room in a tomb that contains a statue of the dead person.

Answer: T

Page ref: 21

26. Hieroglyphics was the writing system used by the Assyrians.

Answer: F

Page ref: 18

27. *Homo sapiens* means “the ignorant man.”

Answer: F

Page ref: 5

28. The process of brewing beer was developed by the Sumerians around 8000 years ago.

Answer: T

Page ref: 16

29. Polytheism is the belief in a single god.

Answer: F

Page ref: 9

30. The *Palette of Narmer* (fig. 1.14) comes from the Egyptian city of Hierakonpolis.

Answer: T

Page ref: 17

31. The Mesopotamians used a form of writing known as *cuneiform*.

Answer: T

Page ref: 8

32. A cromlech is a horizontal beam supported by vertical posts.

Answer: F

Page ref: 7

Short Answer

33. Examine the form and purpose of the *Woman (or Venus) of Willendorf*.

34. What is the most likely use of the architecture at Stonehenge?

35. Trace the development of cuneiform writing.

36. Summarize the Sumerian religion and include a discuss of religious architecture and artifacts.

37. Describe the aspects of the rebuilding of Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar II.

38. Trace the development of Egyptian funerary architecture of the Old Kingdom from the *mastaba* to the pyramid.

39. What is a *ka* statue and why was it made of stone?

40. Explain the changes that took place during the reign of Akhenaten and the effects of these changes on art production of the time.

41. Describe how ancient Egypt was imagined by Europeans during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century.

42. What do wall paintings suggest about dance and music in ancient Egyptian world?

Essay

43. Compare and contrast religious ideas and practice in the Stone Age, Mesopotamia, and Egypt by examining one work from each culture.

44. Explore the reasons for the emphasis on military exploits in Mesopotamian art.
45. Corroborate or refute the statement, “The unquestioning acceptance of convention is a major characteristic of ancient Egyptian culture” through an exploration of works dating to the Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms.

Chapter 2: Aegean Culture and Early Greece

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following does not describe the early *kouros*.

- A. Originally painted
- B. Influenced by Egypt
- C. Freestanding
- D. Contains a supporting back pillar
- E. Is a figure of a bird

Answer: D

Page ref: 63-65

2. The _____ is the most ancient of the Aegean civilizations.

- A. Minoan
- B. Mycenaean
- C. Geometric Greek
- D. Cycladic
- E. Sumerian

Answer: D

Page ref: 51

3. Before Athens came to dominate pottery manufacture, _____ was the biggest vase-producing city in Greece.

- A. Sparta
- B. Delphi
- C. Thessalonica
- D. Neapolis
- E. Corinth

Answer: E

Page ref: 62

4. During the Archaic period, Greek sculptors began to focus on _____.

- A. scenes of violence
- B. the accurate portrayal of animal forms
- C. narrative scenes
- D. the expression of emotion
- E. the naturalistic depiction of the human figure

Answer: E

Page ref: 62

5. The major surviving architectural monument of the Minoans is the _____.

- A. *Funerary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut*
- B. *Treasury of Atreus*
- C. *Palace of Minos*
- D. *Palace of Darius and Xerxes*
- E. none of the above

Answer: C

Page ref: 52

6. Which of the following is not a feature of the Mycenaean *Lion Gate* (fig. 2.6)?

- A. Main gateway to the fortified hilltop city of Mycenae
- B. Includes a lintel topped by a relieving triangle
- C. Guardian lions flank an Egyptian-style column
- D. The oldest piece of monumental sculpture in Europe

E. The doorway weighs approximately twenty tons

Answer: C

Page ref: 55

7. Although the methods of creating pottery changed over the centuries, subjects frequently derived from _____.

- A. mythology
- B. political gatherings
- C. daily life
- D. both A and C
- E. none of the above

Answer: D

Page ref: 62

8. The chief deities of the Minoan religion were female, and _____ is the best known example in sculptural form.

- A. *The Toreador Fresco*
- B. *The Snake Goddess*
- C. *Landscape*
- D. *Three-handled Vase with Lilies and Papyrus*
- E. *Woman of Willendorf*

Answer: B

Page ref: 54

9. According to Benton and DiYanni's text, the _____ best embodies the warlike character of the Mycenaeans.

- A. *Warrior Vase*
- B. *Mask of Agamemnon*
- C. *Treasury of Atreus*
- D. *Lion Gate*
- E. *Kamare War Spouted Three-Handled Pithos with Fish*

Answer: A

Page ref: 56

10. A number of wall paintings recently discovered at Akrotiri on Thera (Santorini) include a _____ unlike any other known to have survived from antiquity.

- A. landscape
- B. narrative scene
- C. still life
- D. portrait of the ruler
- E. decorative pattern

Answer: A

Page ref: 53

11. Just inside the *Lion Gate* (fig. 2.6) archaeologists excavated six shaft graves with many spectacular items made of _____.

- A. gold
- B. silver
- C. bronze
- D. all of the above
- E. both A and C

Answer: E

Page ref: 56

12. The _____ is the most distinctive architectural element in Minoan architecture.

- A. column
- B. arch

- C. window design
- D. shape of the roof
- E. all of the above

Answer: A

Page ref: 53

13. The Geometric period of ancient Greek art is sometimes referred to as the _____ Age, since it was during this time that Homer created his poetic epics.

- A. Homeric
- B. triumphant
- C. Heroic
- D. Odyssean
- E. city-state

Answer: C

Page ref: 58

14. The *Treasury of Atreus* (fig. 2.7) was neither a treasury nor was it associated with Atreus; it was actually a _____.

- A. lookout tower
- B. throne room
- C. meeting hall
- D. tomb
- E. temple

Answer: D

Page ref: 55

15. _____ is the writing found at Knossos on the island of Crete.

- A. Hieroglyphics
- B. Cuneiform
- C. Linear A and Linear B
- D. none of the above
- E. both A and B

Answer: C

Page ref: 51

16. In _____ pottery details are created by scraping through the black slip used to create the figures to reveal the red clay beneath.

- A. black-figure
- B. red-figure
- C. Orientalizing
- D. Geometric
- E. white ground

Answer: A

Page ref: 62

17. The Geometric style of pottery is known for its _____.

- A. horizontal rows or bands
- B. funeral scenes
- C. some narrative elements
- D. geometric ornament, such as meanders (maze patterns), checkers, zigzags, and lozenges
- E. all of the above

Answer: E

Page ref: 59

18. Minoans subsisted primarily as _____.

- A. farmers
- B. sailors and traders

C. potters
D. pirates
E. priests and prophets
Answer: B

Page ref: 52

True/False

19. The *Odyssey* was written by Hesiod.

Answer: F

Page ref: 60

20. Sappho was an Archaic lyric poet.

Answer: T

Page ref: 62

21. The Minoan culture was centered on the island of Thasos.

Answer: F

Page ref: 52

22. The term *polis* means “house.”

Answer: F

Page ref: 58

23. Heinrich Schliemann was the archaeologist who found Troy and worked at Mycenae.

Answer: T

Page ref: 56

24. The Geometric period spans the years between c. 600 and 485 B.C.E.

Answer: F

Page ref: 58

25. Red-figure is a style of Minoan pottery.

Answer: F

Page ref: 62

26. Ashlar is a type of masonry featuring stone carefully cut with right-angle corners.

Answer: T

Page ref: 55

Short Answer

27. List the three dominant civilizations of the early Aegean period, noting where each was located.

28. Describe the form and function of the typical Cycladic statuette.

29. Summarize the Greek myth of the founding of the Minoan culture.

30. What do scholars believe the *Toreador Fresco* (fig. 2.4) demonstrates about Minoan civilization?

31. What are the essential differences between the Minoans and the Mycenaeans?

32. What are the key features of Geometric Greek art and how do these elements reflect social structures?

33. Outline the main themes of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.

34. Describe some of the most important concepts of early Greek philosophy.

35. Who was Sappho and what does her work offer that epic poetry does not?

36. What is a *kouros* and *kore* and what do these figures tell one of Greek gender roles and ideals in the Archaic period?

Essay

37. Compare and contrast the treatment of the human form in Cycladic culture with that of the Archaic phase of Greek art through a detailed examination of two works.

38. Explore the effects of trading during the Orientalizing period on the ceramic art of Corinth.

39. Benton and DiYanni assert that, "Perhaps nothing distinguished the rise of ancient Greece as a civilization more than its love of pure thought," or philosophy. How was philosophy translated into visual form?