

1984 State Latin Forum
Greek Literature Test

1. Most of our knowledge of Socrates comes from
A. his own writings B. Plato C. Aristotle D. Aristophanes.
2. Tragedies were performed in Athens
A. as a part of religious celebrations B. in wartime only
C. to avoid the plague D. as a money-making enterprise.
3. Where does the Lysistrata take place?
A. Thebes B. Corinth C. Athens D. Sparta
4. Which one of the following is NOT known as a poet?
A. Hesiod B. Homer C. Pindar D. Herodotus
5. The god closely associated with Greek theatre is
A. Apollo B. Ares C. Dionysus D. Zeus.
6. The poetic metre of the Odyssey is
A. spondaic B. trochaic C. iambic D. dactylic.
7. A very well-behaved, polite and prudent girl in Homer is
A. Eurycleia B. Penelope C. Calypso D. Nausicaa.
8. The era of the Minoans and Mycenaeans is usually referred to as the
A. Golden Age B. Silver Age C. Bronze Age D. Iron Age.
9. The approximate date of the Trojan War is
A. 1700 BC B. 1200 BC C. 500 BC D. 750 BC.
10. Aristophanes' Clouds is a comedy which lampoons and criticizes
A. a new system of government B. the old system of education
C. a new system of education D. women's liberation.
11. An essential part of the Socratic method was
A. proving his own preconceived theory B. divine revelation
of the truth C. always coming to a neat conclusion
D. discovery of contradictions in a hypothesis.
12. The author of the Persians, Agamemnon, the Suppliant Women
and Seven Against Thebes is
A. Sophocles B. Aeschylus C. Euripides D. Aristophanes.
13. Hesiod spent the bulk of his life in
A. Asia Minor B. Aeolia C. Athens D. Boeotia.
14. Thurii, Herodotus' home, is in
A. Sicily B. Italy C. Asia Minor D. the Peloponnese.
15. The last play of Euripides is called the
A. Bacchae B. Electra C. Helen D. Ion.
16. Of his contemporaries Herodotus is most closely associated with
A. Sophocles B. Euripides C. Pericles D. Solon.
17. Which one of the following comedies by Aristophanes is NOT about

women?

- A. Thesmophoriazusae
- B. Lysistrata
- C. Ecclesiazusae
- D. Wasps

18. The Peloponnesian War broke out in
A. 431 BC B. 411 BC C. 415 BC D. 404 BC.
19. The author of the Anabasis (March of the Ten Thousand) is
A. Plato B. Xenophon C. Thucydides D. Herodotus.
20. The name of the woman Agamemnon takes from Achilles in the Iliad is
A. Chryseis B. Thetis C. Helen D. Briseis.
21. A Greek author who fought at the Battle of Marathon was
A. Pindar B. Simonides C. Aeschylus D. Solon.
22. For Heraclitus the primordial element is
A. earth B. air C. fire D. water.
23. The concept of the atom is owed to
A. Anaxagoras B. Parmenides C. Democritus D. Empedocles.
24. Protagoras of Abdera is the name of a famous
A. sculptor B. sophist C. philosopher D. historian.
25. The first writer to provide comedy with a dramatic plot was
A. Epicharmos B. Magnes C. Cratinos D. Crates.
26. The allegory of the cave is found in Plato's
A. Republic B. Symposium C. Phaedo D. Timaeus.
27. Xenophon's Hellenica begins in
A. 411 BC B. 431 BC C. 404 BC D. 362 BC.
28. The writer known as the "Attic Bee" in antiquity is
A. Plato B. Thucydides C. Xenophon D. Aristotle.
29. A famous philosopher who was tutor to Alexander the Great is
A. Theophrastus B. Plato C. Aristotle D. Callisthenes.
30. The city of Miletus is in
A. Ionia B. Sicily C. Thrace D. mainland Greece.
31. The name of Lycurgus is associated with
A. Megara B. Sparta C. Thebes D. Athens.
32. The Euripides play about a good wife is called
A. Antigone B. Medea C. Women of Trachis D. Alcestis.
33. Sappho and _____ are both closely associated with the island of Lesbos.
A. Anacreon B. Alcaeus C. Mimnermus D. Simonides
34. The Homeridae were
A. sons of Homer B. women in the Homeric epics C. female poets D. a minstrel fraternity who preserved Homer.
35. Another name for the Heracleidae is

- A. Dorians B. Ionians C. Aeolians D. Achaeans.
36. The hero of Aristophanes' Acharnians is
A. Cleon B. Dicaeopolis C. Demos D. Strepsiades.
37. The name of the Persian king defeated by Alexander the Great was
A. Darius B. Xerxes C. Cyrus D. Cambyses.
38. Odysseus' patron goddess is
A. Aphrodite B. Hera C. Athena D. Thetis.
39. Socrates, the man
A. had no family (i.e. wife and children) B. led a frugal life of self denial, similar to many Christian saints
C. was considered one of the handsomest men in Athens
D. loved eating, drinking and talking all night with friends.
40. As the play Antigone develops Creon gradually shows himself to be
A. a man of deep compassion B. an ardent champion of women's rights
C. totally non-violent and restrained D. a tyrannical and violent ruler.
41. Which one of the following is NOT a lyric poet?
A. Sappho B. Solon C. Simonides D. Antiphon
42. In the third play of the Oresteia trilogy, Orestes is rescued by
A. Ares B. Apollo C. Athene D. Hera.
43. Hesiod made a living as a
A. poet B. farmer C. sailor D. rhapsode.
44. Euripides spent the last years of his life in
A. Athens B. Macedon C. Syracuse D. Sparta.
45. The home of Hippocrates was
A. Cos B. Rhodes C. Delos D. Ephesus.
46. An epigram attributed to Plato calls _____ the 10th Muse.
A. Corinna B. Aspasia C. Anactoria D. Sappho
47. In the Theaetetus Plato compares his profession of philosopher with being a
A. parent B. stonecutter C. mid-wife D. tragedian.
48. The Melian dialogue in Thucydides ends with
A. an Athenian withdrawal B. peaceful reconciliation
C. an Athenian attack on the island D. a second dialogue.
49. The tyrant Hippias was driven out of Athens in
A. 530 BC B. 510 BC C. 480 BC D. 491 BC.
50. The adjective "Hellenistic" refers to
A. the period after the death of Alexander B. fifth century
C. fourth century D. archaic period.