

2006 FJCL State Latin Forum Greek Literature

1. What Greek word meaning “tragic flaw” is a requirement for a perfect tragedy, according to Aristotle?
a. hamartia b. katharsis c. hubris d. peripateia
2. Revelers during drama festivals would often dress up as what animal, from which the term “tragedy” ultimately comes?
a. horse b. dog c. eagle d. goat
3. It is likely that Greek drama has its origins in festivals celebrating which god?
a. Dionysus b. Apollo c. Zeus d. Athena
4. What was the term for a wedding song sung by the bride’s attendants as they escorted her to the groom’s house?
a. epithalamium b. encomium c. hymenaeus d. partheneia
5. In which poem of Hesiod does he use the myths of Prometheus and Pandora to explain why men have to work hard and act justly?
a. Melampodia b. Works and Days c. Theogony d. Shield
6. The ruins of a poet’s house, spared by Alexander the Great in 335 BC, were visited by Pausanias on his trip to Thebes circa 150 AD. Name him.
a. Anacreon b. Alcman c. Arion d. Pindar
7. Which philosopher’s father was the court physician of Amyntas II?
a. Aristotle b. Epicurus c. Anaxagoras d. Pythagoras
8. Which Greek orator, called “The Stammerer”, overcame his handicap by practicing speaking with pebbles in his mouth?
a. Demosthenes b. Lysias c. Gorgias d. Isocrates
9. Xenophon’s *Hellenica* picks up where the work of which historian ends?
a. Herodotus b. Polybius c. Callisthenes d. Thucydides
10. Xenophon and Plato authored two separate works with the same name. What are the shared names?
a. Apology and Laws b. Symposium and Apology
c. Anabasis and Symposium d. Republic and Symposium
11. At a dramatic festival, each playwright put on three tragedies and one different type of play, which is believed to have evolved into Greek Comedy. What type of play?
a. Pan b. Bacchic c. satyr d. centaur
12. In which comedy of Aristophanes does Pisthetairos propose that a city be built in the sky in order that Epos and his compatriots can hold sway over human affairs and demand tribute from the gods?
a. The Wasps b. The Birds c. The Clouds d. Plutus

13. Zeus decides to aid the Trojans in battle in books 1 and 2 of the *Iliad* because of the influence of which goddess?
 a. Hera b. Aphrodite c. Artemis d. Thetis
14. In which Platonic dialogue does an old friend of Socrates attempt to convince the philosopher to escape from prison, arguing that the law that put him there is unjust? In the end, Socrates rejects his friend’s argument, pointing out that “two wrongs don’t make a right”.
 a. Phaedo b. Critias c. Euthyphro d. Crito
15. Although the plots for most tragedies lie in mythology, occasionally a tragedy would look at historical events. One example is the play *Persians*, a work by which tragedian?
 a. Euripides b. Aeschylus c. Phrynichus d. Agathon
16. In which of Sophocles’ dramas do Odysseus and Neoptolemus travel to Lemnos in order to convince a man to return with them to Troy?
 a. Heracles b. Pyrrhus c. Nestor d. Philoctetes
17. Of the great Greek tragedians, which man won the fewest competitions, yet has left the largest body of extant work?
 a. Sophocles b. Aeschylus c. Euripides d. Agathon
18. The events of Odysseus’ *nostos* are told largely in flashback as he recounts his adventures to which people?
 a. Phaeacians b. Phoenicians c. Laestrygonians d. Ithacans
19. What was the name of the platform that was rolled out from the back of the stage to show some action that had taken place behind the scenes?
 a. thymele b. ekkyklema c. mechane d. proscenium
20. What Greek statesman, parodied in both *The Knights* and *The Acharnians*, was a favorite target of Aristophanes?
 a. Themistocles b. Cleon c. Pericles d. Cimon
21. Which Athenian leader was the first to declare a festival devoted entirely to tragedies in the 6th century BC?
 a. Cleisthenes b. Peisistratus c. Solon d. Hipparchus
22. What was the name given to the dancing floor on which the chorus typically performed?
 a. theatron b. skene c. orchestra d. proscenium
23. Which of the great tragedians wrote a play entitled *Trojan Women*?
 a. Agathon b. Aeschylus c. Sophocles d. Euripides
24. Because his plays were written in *koine* rather than Attic Greek, what New Comedy playwright’s work exists almost exclusively in fragments of papyrus?
 a. Philemon b. Diphilus c. Menander d. Eubulus

25. In Homeric Hymn XXVIII, the sudden appearance of which deity full-grown causes awe to seize all the gods and the earth to cry out fearfully?
 a. Athena b. Zeus c. Apollo d. Hermes
26. The *Catalogue of Women* contains accounts of women who were loved by gods and gave birth to heroes. Who wrote this work?
 a. Sappho b. Callimachus c. Apollonius d. Hesiod
27. Herodotus reported that the Pythia told which man that he would destroy a might empire if we went to war?
 a. Cyrus b. Croesus c. Xerxes d. Darius
28. A principal difference between Old and Middle Comedy was the removal of what element, the “coming forward”, in which the chorus leader addresses the audience directly?
 a. komos b. parodos c. parabasis d. exodus
29. Which of these is the time span for the period of New Comedy?
 a. 400–323 BC b. 404–321 BC c. 293–264 BC d. 323–263 BC
30. What poet, greatly admired by Solon and Aristotle and imitated by Horace, was exiled by Pittaeus, one of the Seven Sages, and lived in Sicily from 694–595 BC?
 a. Sappho b. Alcaeus c. Bacchylides d. Corinna
31. In *The Frogs*, which two tragedians challenge one another to a poetry contest to determine which one of them deserves the seat of honor next to Pluto?
 a. Euripides and Sophocles b. Aeschylus and Euripides
 c. Sophocles and Phrynicus d. Thespiis and Aeschylus
32. During his *aristeia* in book 5 of the *Iliad*, what man wounds both Ares and Aphrodite?
 a. Ajax the Greater b. Patroclus c. Diomedes d. Achilles
33. Satyr plays always featured a chorus of satyrs led by whom?
 a. Silenus b. Pan c. Dionysus d. Marsyas
34. What is the primary topic of discussion in Plato’s *Symposium*?
 a. piety b. holiness c. wisdom d. love
35. Whose nightmare is the impetus for the titular offerings in Aeschylus’ *Libation Bearers*?
 a. Orestes’ b. Aegisthus’ c. Clytemnestra’s d. Electra’s
36. Zeno of Critium tried several schools of philosophy in Athens before finally developing his own. What was it called?
 a. Cynicism b. Skepticism c. Peripateticism d. Stoicism
37. The play in which a girl is condemned to die for burying her brother against a tyrant’s wishes was written by whom?
 a. Aristophanes b. Sophocles c. Aeschylus d. Euripides

38. What story does the *Hymn to Aphrodite* tell?
 a. Aphrodite's love affair with Ares
 b. Aphrodite's marriage to Hephaestus
 c. Aphrodite's birth from the sea
 d. Aphrodite's love affair with Anchises
39. In which work does Aristotle state that people can be shown as better than they are in real life, or as they are in real life?
 a. Poetics
 b. Nicomachean Ethics
 c. Politics
 d. Physics
40. Which Greek statesman reportedly greatly disapproved of Thespis' work?
 a. Cleon
 b. Pericles
 c. Solon
 d. Peisistratus
41. In the *Panegyricus*, Isocrates calls for a union of the Greek city-states under a dual hegemony consisting of which two states?
 a. Athens and Macedon
 b. Athens and Thebes
 c. Macedon and Sparta
 d. Athens and Sparta
42. In Plato's *Symposium*, which of the following is NOT invited by Agathon to his banquet?
 a. Socrates
 b. Apollodorus
 c. Aristophanes
 d. Alcibiades
43. Which of these philosophers was the first to propose the theory of the four elements?
 a. Parmenides
 b. Empedocles
 c. Heracleitus
 d. Zeno
44. In Aristophanes' *The Clouds*, what addiction does Pheidippides, the son of the protagonist, suffer from?
 a. horse racing
 b. women
 c. wine
 d. dice games
45. Aristophanes' plays often ended with a lewd dance known as what?
 a. cordax
 b. epirrhema
 c. agon
 d. exodos
46. In which poet's *Attia* is he transported in a dream to Mt. Helicon where he is taught by the Muses?
 a. Apollonius
 b. Theocritus
 c. Callimachus
 d. Hesiod
47. Which author compares several different constitutions, including the Athenian, Spartan, and Roman in order to determine the best?
 a. Xenophon
 b. Aristotle
 c. Polybius
 d. Plutarch
48. In what city of Asia Minor was Herodotus born?
 a. Ephesus
 b. Miletus
 c. Halicarnassus
 d. Sestos
49. Which one of these is NOT typically considered one of Greece's 9 great lyric poets?
 a. Anacreon
 b. Corinna
 c. Simonides
 d. Pindar
50. Although we only have fragments of their works, what two comic playwrights were considered by the Greeks to be the greatest after Aristophanes?
 a. Crates and Pherecrates
 b. Crates and Eupolis
 c. Cratinus and Pherecrates
 d. Cratinus and Eupolis