

2016 Classical Literacy Exam: Introductory Level

1. Who gave the Apple of Discord to Aphrodite and was rewarded with Helen of Troy?
2. The crater of what volcanic mountain near Pompeii served as a hiding place for Spartacus?
3. In which Homeric epic does Athena serve as the hero's guide and protector?
4. Which Homeric epic ends with the funeral of the Trojan hero, Hector?
5. After defeating Python, what god established an oracle on Mt. Parnassus?
6. What Latin phrase indicates that a person has graduated with the highest honors?
7. What two-word Latin phrase indicates land on a map that has not yet been explored?
8. What three words of triumph did Caesar speak after his easy victory at the Battle of Zela?
9. What two-word Latin phrase acknowledges a person's acceptance of responsibility for an error?
10. What Titan's broad shoulders keep the heavens arched over the land?
11. Which of the Olympian gods is the husband of Amphitrite and the father of Triton?
12. Who officially gives the 'farewell address' at a graduation ceremony?
13. Where in the Underworld were Tantalus, Sisyphus, and the Danaids punished?
14. What is the four-letter Roman numeral for 29?
15. What bull-headed man was housed in the labyrinth on Crete?
16. By what river did the gods swear their oaths?
17. What phrase refers to a coroner's examination of a dead body?
18. What Latin phrase literally translates as "for the sake of an example"?
19. Who, according to the Roman foundation story, were the sons of Mars and Rhea Silvia?
20. Versions of what Roman name have served as titles for Russian and German rulers?
21. What villain in the Underworld served up his own son Pelops as food fit for the gods?
22. The small, round temple in the forum that housed the sacred fire of city was dedicated to whom?
23. What mythological hero did the witch Medea help in his quest?
24. What Latin phrase is often used in a bookplate to indicate from whose library a book comes?



25. What woman did the Prometheus decline to take as his wife, but his brother Epimetheus accepted?
26. What structure did the Romans build to bring water to Rome from the surrounding mountains?
27. What magistrate presided over the deliberations of the Roman Senate?
28. What derivative of a Roman name for Zeus refers to someone of a happy disposition?
29. Against what city in northern Africa did Romans fight during the Punic Wars?
30. To what group do Megaera, Allecto and Tisiphone belong?
31. To what group do Calliope, Terpsichore and Clio belong?
32. To what group do Stheno, Euryale and Medusa belong?
33. To what group do Clotho, Lachesis and Atropos belong?
34. Where were gladiatorial combats held in ancient Rome?
35. At what temple did the ancient Romans worship all the gods?
36. With what name meaning 'majestic' was Octavian, the adopted son of Caesar, honored?
37. Who was the Greek god who carried a snake-entwined staff called the caduceus?
38. For what Latin phrase is A.M. an abbreviation?
39. The Aegean Sea was named after the father of what mythological hero?
40. Hermes is to Mercury as _____ is to Diana.
41. What is the Latin phrase that means "one out of many"?
42. Who were the workmen who provided Zeus with his thunderbolts?
43. What term is used both literally and figuratively for a long and exhausting race?
44. What Latin word do we use in English to mean "by way of"?
45. The maenads were the enthusiastic women who were followers of what Greek god?
46. "I forbid" is the translation of what Latin word used in English by a president to reject a bill?
47. What was the name for the reception room in an ancient Roman house?
48. Whose life did Orpheus seek to restore through the power of his music?
49. Odysseus is to Ulysses as Persephone is to _____.
50. What two-word Latin phrase signifies the peace that Augustus tried to establish in the Roman world?

