

Greek Life and Literature
Texas State Junior Classical League: Area F Contest
Spring 2000

Directions: Record the letter of the best answer to each question on the answer sheet.

1. ____ Judicial cases involving homicide in ancient Athens were tried by the
a) Areopagus b) Boule c) Ecclesia d) Thesmothetes

2. ____ One talent is equal to:
a) 100 minae
b) 6,000 drachmae
c) 36,000 obols
d) all of the above

3. ____ The playwright best known for using the *deus ex machina* was:
a) Aeschylus b) Sophocles c) Euripides d) Menander

4. ____ To what Greek poet is the following verse (translation by J. A. Symonds) ascribed:
"Peer of the gods he seemeth to me, the blissful
Man who sits and gazes at thee before him,
Close beside thee sits, and in silence hears thee
Silverly speaking . . . "
a) Anacreon b) Homer c) Simonides d) Sappho

5. ____ The chorus sings, "Zeus, setting us on the road,
Made this a valid law --
That men must learn by suffering.
Drop by drop in sleep upon the heart
Falls the laborious memory of pain. . . " in
a) *Agamemnon* b) *Bacchae* c) *Choephoroi* d) *Eumenides*

6. ____ The letter which follows epsilon in the Greek alphabet is
a) delta b) zeta c) eta d) theta

7. ____ Pericles' famous funeral oration is found in the writing of
a) Herodotus b) Thucydides c) Polybius d) Timaeus

8. _____ Jason and Medea are characters found in the writings of all of the following except:
a) Apollonius of Rhodes b) Euripides c) Sophocles
9. _____ The Tower of the Winds, surviving in Athens today from Hellenistic times, contained:
a) munitions b) sailing gear c) wine vats d) a water clock
10. _____ The invention of the Greek lyre is told in
a) *the Iliad*
b) *the Homeric Hymn to Hermes*
c) *the Works and Days*
d) *the Theogony*
11. _____ The testimony of a slave was permitted in the Athenian courtroom only if:
a) it was extracted under torture.
b) an archon permitted it by decree.
c) the plaintiff alone so requested.
d) the dicasts declared the testimony binding.
12. _____ Herodotus' *Histories* end with:
a) Xerxes' massacre of the Greeks at Thermopylae.
b) the Greek defeat of the Persians under Mardonius at Platea.
c) Cambyses' invasion and desecration of Egypt.
d) the Greeks' defeat of the Persians at Marathon.
13. _____ Wine was mixed with water and served from a(n):
a) amphora b) askos c) crater d) hydria
14. _____ The hall of ceremonies for initiation into the Eleusinian mysteries was the
a) acroterion b) Heraion c) odeion d) telesterion
15. _____ The principal hall of a Mycenaean house was the
a) pteroma b) cella c) megaron d) peristyle
16. _____ Which of the following was not a major dialect of the Greek language in classical times?
a) Aeolic b) Ionic c) Cilesian d) Doric
17. _____ Primary historical information about Cleopatra would be found in

a) Herodotus' *Histories* b) Thucydides' *History of the Peloponnesian War*
c) Polybius' *Histories* d) Plutarch's *Parallel Lives*

18. _____ Homer's *Iliad* ends with the episode in which
a) Achilles battles the river. b) Achilles kills Hector.
c) Funeral games are held for Hector. d) Priam ransoms Hector's corpse.
19. _____ The Eleusinian Mysteries near Athens were held in honor of the goddess
a) Athena b) Artemis c) Hera
d) Demeter
20. _____ The Greek poet best known for eulogizing victorious athletes is
a) Homer b) Hesiod c) Pindar d) Simonides
21. _____ The oracular priestess at Delphi is said either to have chewed or inhaled the smoke of burning
a) laurel leaves b) poppies c) olive branches
d) barley
22. _____ "Many things are wondrous, yet none is more wonderful than man. He journeys across the grey ocean. . . crossing the waves that surge about him. . ." is the beginning of a famous chorus from Sophocles'
a) *Antigone* b) *Oedipus Rex* c) *Ajax*
d) *Women of Trachis*
23. _____ Greek numbers were represented by
a) Arabic symbols b) alphabetic letters
c) tallies d) names of numbers only
24. _____ A 'myriad of men' would be
a) 100 b) 1,000 c) 10,000 or more d) 500,000 or less
25. _____ A mountain lion and a Theban king are rent to pieces, limb from limb, in Euripides'
a) *Alcestis* b) *Bacchae* c) *Ilipolytus* d) *Rhesus*

26. _____ To Protagoras the philosopher and rhetorician is attributed the following saying:
- a) Know thyself.
 - b) Let no one enter without a knowledge of geometry.
 - c) Man is the measure of all things.
 - d) Evil communications corrupt good manners.
27. _____ The Epitaph of Seikilos from Tralles is significant as an artifact because it is:
- a) a musical inscription.
 - b) a slave's epitaph.
 - c) an early Stoic document.
 - d) a red-figured clay.
28. _____ Greek differs from Latin in all of the following except:
- a) Greek has a definite article.
 - b) Greek has a different alphabet.
 - c) Greek has more verb tenses.
 - d) Greek has more verb moods.
29. _____ Which of the following is the first known African author in Greek literature?
- a) Aesop
 - b) Bias
 - c) Callimachus
 - d) Demosthenes
30. _____ The city of Gela in Sicily is well-known mainly as:
- a) the setting for Plato's Academy.
 - b) the resting place of the dramatist Aeschylus.
 - c) a center for the worship of Asclepius.
 - d) a center for the Cynics.
31. _____ According to Aristotle, the function of the brain is to
- a) store sensations.
 - b) harbor the virtues.
 - c) cool the blood.
 - d) emit light via the eyes.
32. _____ The Spartans were reputed to be as austere in their consumption of food and drink as the ____ were greedy.
- a) Athenians
 - b) Boeotians
 - c) Corinthians
 - d) Thebans

33. _____ The Spartan lyric poet who glorified feasts and festivals in the peace after the Second Messenian War was
a) Alcman b) Bacchylides c) Callicles d) Terpander
34. _____ The orator best known for the plain style is
a) Antiphon b) Lysias c) Isocrates d) Demosthenes
35. _____ Wordsworth's Ode, *Intimations of Immortality*, espouses well Plato's doctrine of
a) anamnesis b) knowledge c) forms d) daemonism
36. _____ The New Testament was written in ____ Greek.
a) Attic b) Old Ionic c) Koine d) Doric
37. _____ Euripides' lost play *Andromeda* survives in substantial fragments in Aristophanes'
a) *Ecclesiazusae* b) *Ranae* c) *Thesmophoriazusae*
d) *Lysistrata*
38. _____ Athenian speechwriters for private legal cases were called
a) cormorants b) dicasts c) thesmothes
d) logographers
39. _____ Hermes in his function as psychopomp
a) celebrates mercant ships' returns home.
b) conducts souls of newly-dead to the underworld.
c) holds the caduceus.
d) celebrates immortality.
40. _____ The best-preserved temple on the Athenian Acropolis is the:
a) Theseum b) Parthenon c) Erechtheum
41. _____ The Latin saying *ipse dixit* is a translation of Greek ascribed to:
a) Thales b) Pythagoras c) Plato d) Aristotle

42. _____ A metal or alloy not mentioned in Homeric poems is
a) antimony b) gold c) silver d) electrum
43. _____ Light-armed soldiers were called:
a) hoplites b) horsemen c) peltasts d) nauarchs
44. _____ Corinthian columns are crowned with leaves of
a) acanthus b) laurel c) ivy d) oak
45. _____ The Athenian orator _____ tried to warn the Greeks of the
threat of Philip of Macedon and his armies.
a) Antiphon b) Lysias c) Isocrates d) Demosthenes
46. _____ The famous marble sculpture Discoboulos (discus-thrower)
was carved by
a) Phidias b) Myron c) Praxiteles d) Mesomedes
47. _____ The canon of cardinal virtues drawn from Plato include all
of the following except:
a) self-control b) justice c) courage d) kindness
48. _____ The first biography in surviving Greek literature is Xenophon's
a) *Anabasis* b) *Hellenica* c) *Cyropaedeia*
d) *De Vectigalibus*
49. _____ A parasang was a(n)
a) Persian road measure b) hat worn by travellers
c) small, auxiliary dagger d) a comb used by tragic actors
50. _____ A speechmaker's aporetic plea is a(n)
a) summary and closing b) claim of inexperience at speech
c) inquiry of the facts of the case d) request for mistrial

Tiebreakers:

51. _____ It is generally agreed that the position of women in ancient
Greece was highest in:
a) Sparta b) Homeric times c) Classical Athens
d) Hellenistic times

52. _____ Spondaic meter is so named from:
a) offering libations b) the march of an army
c) Bacchic frenzy d) a hymn to Artemis
53. _____ A play by Euripides in which a queen dies for her husband and returns to life is the
a) *Medea* b) *Hecuba* c) *Electra* d) *Alcestis*
54. _____ Demosthenes' defendant Phormio was
a) an aristocratic banker b) a freedman banker
c) a paralytic shopkeeper d) a fraudulent maritime merchant
55. _____ A Greek pottery container repeatedly joked about in Aristophanes' *Frogs* is the
a) amphora b) hydria c) crater d) lecythion