

2002 NJCL Greek Life and Literature Test

1. A public luxury tax involving the sponsorship by a wealthy citizen of a chorus, army horse, or banquet was the:
 - A) litourgia
 - B) alabastron
 - C) lekythos
 - D) oinochoe
2. An indictment against a citizen for proposing a decree that was contrary to existing law was called:
 - A) koine
 - B) thyrsos
 - C) hydraulis
 - D) graphe paranomon
3. Approximately how long was the Greek unit of measure called the stadion?
 - A) 1 foot
 - B) 20 feet
 - C) 100 feet
 - D) 600 feet
4. Cantharus, Zea, and Munychia were:
 - A) archons
 - B) Attic tribes
 - C) battle sites
 - D) harbors at Piraeus
5. For what purpose did the Athenians use the process called (in English) intercalation?
 - A) adjusting the calendar to fit solar cycles
 - B) electing magistrates
 - C) making jewelry
 - D) executing prisoners
6. For what purpose were pithoi normally used?
 - A) pinning clothes together
 - B) growing flowers
 - C) storing wine for fermentation
 - D) cleaning one's teeth
7. For what purpose were halteres used?
 - A) long-distance jumping at athletic games
 - B) undergarments
 - C) transporting market goods
 - D) lighting at night
8. How many obols were in a drachma?
 - A) two
 - B) four
 - C) six
 - D) ten
9. How were years named in ancient Athens?
 - A) from the founding of the city
 - B) from the year of Theseus' death
 - C) after various gods and goddesses
 - D) from the name of the 'eponymous archon'
10. In what Greek city were the gerousia, apella, and ephoroi all a part of the government?
 - A) Athens
 - B) Sparta
 - C) Pylos
 - D) Thebes
11. Laurium was a town in Attica known for its:
 - A) temples
 - B) fine wines
 - C) silver mines
 - D) Roman residents
12. Official records of dramatic performances (actors, sponsors, winners, etc.) were called:
 - A) stele
 - B) agoge
 - C) epyllia
 - D) didaskaliai
13. Paros, Pentelicus, and Hymettos were all known for their:
 - A) marble quarries
 - B) expensive homes
 - C) olive groves
 - D) cemetaries
14. Scenes from the Battle of Marathon and the Trojan War were painted inside the:
 - A) Stoa Poikile
 - B) Parthenon
 - C) Artemisium
 - D) Erechtheum
15. Thalamitai, zygitai, and thranitai were names for:
 - A) rowers on a trireme
 - B) soldiers
 - C) types of olives
 - D) column types
16. The 'Street of the Tripods' in Athens was a place for:
 - A) bargain shopping
 - B) the dedication of prizes won by a sponsoring choregos in the City Dionysia
 - C) lobbying legislators to attempt to sway their vote
 - D) fortune-telling
17. The game played at a drinking party in which guests attempted to hurl the dregs from the bottom of their wine cups at some target was called:
 - A) stoikhedon
 - B) cottabos
 - C) leukomata
 - D) ephebos

18. The large central room in a home which contained a central hearth (often in the floor) was the:
A) xenia B) perioikos C) metoikos D) megaron
19. The central marketplace in Athens was called the:
A) Agora B) Pnyx C) Areopagus D) Lycabettos
20. The style of writing in which lines alternated left to right, then right to left, was called:
A) lawagetas B) psephos C) klepsydra D) boustrophedon
21. The term 'chryselephantine', when applied to ancient statues, indicated:
A) it was sculpted by an apprentice C) it was larger than human size
B) a combination of gold and ivory were used D) an animal was depicted in the sculpture
22. The tholos tombs common in Bronze Age Greece have been nicknamed by modern scholars as:
A) treasuries B) shaft graves C) beehive tombs D) hecatombs
23. The two largest ancient Greek libraries were located at:
A) Alexandria and Pergamum C) Thebes and Mycenae
B) Athens and Sparta D) Athens and Alexandria
24. What action customarily took place in an odeion?
A) voting B) music performances C) bathing D) funerals
25. What action took place in the orchestra of an ancient Greek theater?
A) instruments played B) spectators sat C) tickets were sold D) acting/singing
26. What city featured the famous 'Lion Gate'?
A) Athens B) Mycenae C) Tiryns D) Olympia
27. What deity was honored by the Eleusinian Mysteries?
A) Zeus B) Hermes C) Demeter D) Apollo
28. What in Athens was given the name 'Dipylon'?
A) highest hill B) town hall C) high-rent district D) gate in the city wall
29. What sport featured a violent combination of boxing, wrestling, kicking, and strangling?
A) Greco-Roman B) marathon C) pankration D) kantharos
30. What was a hecatombe?
A) elected official B) type of seafood C) burial chamber D) sacrifice of 100 oxen
31. What was a hymenaeus?
A) cooking utensil B) war trophy C) wedding song D) meat delicacy
32. What was Koine?
A) a spoken dialect B) name for Athena C) town near Thebes D) type of money
33. What was the main purpose of the area near Athens called Kerameikos?
A) farming B) worship C) cemetery D) business
34. What was the name for the jury courts that presided in civil trials?
A) hippeis B) strategoi C) taxeis D) dikasteria
35. What was the name for the prostitutes/courtesans that worked among the upper classes of Athenian society?
A) hetairai B) syntagmata C) protostatai D) gynaikai
36. What was the name for the typical tunic worn by both men and women?
A) oxybeles B) himation C) khiton D) zoma
37. What was the name for the light-armed infantry troops?
A) phalanx B) kopites C) hoplites D) peltastes

55. Which of these was NOT the site of a famous ancient Greek oracle?
A) Sparta B) Delphi C) Dodona D) Delos
56. Which of these was NOT one of the rivers in or near Athens?
A) Cephisus B) Halys C) Eridanus D) Ilissus
57. Which of these was NOT a common musical instrument among the ancient Greeks?
A) lyra B) kithara C) aulos D) omphalos
58. Which of these was NOT a scarce natural commodity in Greece, and thus could be found there in abundance?
A) olive B) leather C) timber D) grain
59. Which three deities were honored by the Olympic, Nemean, Isthmian, and Pythian athletic festivals?
A) Zeus, Hera, and Athena C) Hestia, Artemis, and Apollo
B) Zeus, Apollo, and Poseidon D) Poseidon, Hermes, and Athena
60. The so-called "Dictum of Delphi" was:
A) the chief priest B) "water is life" C) "know thyself" D) the main entrance
61. The best-known achievement of Ictinus and Callicrates was:
A) publishing the *Iliad* B) ostracizing Cimon C) developing geometry D) building the Parthenon
62. Who founded the school of philosophy known as the Lyceum?
A) Aristotle B) Plato C) Socrates D) Callimachus
63. The earliest surviving Athenian Old Comedy play is:
A) *Persai* by Aeschylus C) *Birds* by Aristophanes
B) *Acharnians* by Aristophanes D) *Mouseion* by Alcidamas
64. Menander was the principal writer of:
A) New Comedy B) Spartan history C) tragedy D) philosophy
65. Euripides' *Cyclops* is the only complete play of this type to have survived to the present era.
A) trilogy B) mime C) satyr play D) Old Comedy
66. The so-called "father of history" according to the Greeks was:
A) Xenophon B) Thucydides C) Polybius D) Herodotus
67. Which writer fought in the battle of Marathon and possibly the battle of Salamis?
A) Menippus B) Aeschylus C) Anacreon D) Callimachus
68. Which playwright added the second actor to his dramas?
A) Aeschylus B) Euripides C) Sophocles D) Philicus
69. Which playwright added the third actor to his dramas?
A) Aeschylus B) Euripides C) Sophocles D) Philicus
70. Which is NOT the title of a play by Aeschylus?
A) *Seven Against Thebes* B) *Prometheus Bound* C) *Choephoroi* D) *Bacchae*
71. Sappho was one of two popular lyric poets from the island of Lesbos. The other was:
A) Isocrates B) Homer C) Hesiod D) Alcaeus
72. The Lenaea and the City Dionysia were:
A) festivals featuring the production of plays C) temples near the center of Athens
B) government councils that created laws D) processions to mark the new year
73. The 3rd century B.C. author who composed an epic poem (*Argonautica*) and was head of the library at Alexandria was:
A) Pindar B) Apollonius Rhodius C) Philemon D) Stesichorus

74. Which author's one surviving work is a poem on astronomy entitled *Phaenomena*?
 A) Zeno B) Tersander C) Aratus D) Androtion
75. Which statement about Aristophanes' *The Clouds* is true?
 A) it was his earliest play C) no copies of it have survived
 B) it was his last play D) it came in last place at a play competition
76. Which is NOT the title of a play by Aristophanes?
 A) *Lysistrata* B) *The Birds* C) *Antigone* D) *Themophoriazusae*
77. Which author fairly accurately calculated the circumference of the earth in the third century BC?
 A) Eratosthenes B) Euclid C) Rhianus D) Simonides
78. His *Historiai* consists of nine books about the Persian Wars.
 A) Thucydides B) Xenophon C) Herodotus D) Alcman
79. This poet tended sheep on Mt. Helicon in Boeotia, where he heard the Muses call him to write poetry and sing of the gods.
 A) Pindar B) Hesiod C) Apollodorus D) Arion
80. Into how many books were both the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* divided?
 A) 2 B) 10 C) 24 D) 36
81. Which Athenian orator called upon Philip II of Macedonia to unite the entire Greek nation against the Persians?
 A) Demosthenes B) Isocrates C) Bion D) Carcinus
82. His most famous poems were the *Epinician Odes* written to celebrate victors at the Olympics and other games.
 A) Pindar B) Epicharmus C) Ctesias D) Eumelus
83. He was especially famous for the tombstone inscriptions he composed, and his epitaph for the Athenian dead at the battle of Marathon was preferred to that of Aeschylus.
 A) Cratippus B) Dionysius C) Simonides D) Mimnermus
84. Which of Sophocles' plays was produced for the first time after Sophocles' death?
 A) *Ajax* B) *Antigone* C) *Electra* D) *Oedipus at Colonus*
85. He was the most famous elegiac poet ever to have lived and written in Sparta.
 A) Tyrtaeus B) Susarion C) Timotheus D) Thales
86. This poet's *Idylls* included many poems in hexameters about the life of a shepherd.
 A) Achaeus B) Theocritus C) Telesilla D) Posidonius
87. He might have invented the actor's mask, and he probably have invented the genre of tragedy as well.
 A) Aeschylus B) Draco C) Solon D) Thespis
88. This playwright wrote 123 plays, and we know the titles of over 110 of his plays.
 A) Sophocles B) Euripides C) Menander D) Aeschylus
89. He wrote the *Anabasis*, an account of Greek mercenaries who fought with Cyrus the Younger in Persia.
 A) Thucydides B) Polybius C) Xenophon D) Fabius Pictor
90. His works included *On the Sphere and Cylinder*, *On Spirals*, and *On Floating Bodies*.
 A) Apollodorus B) Archimedes C) Aristobulus D) Callias
91. This student of Plato later tutored Alexander the Great.
 A) Aristotle B) Arisitides C) Diagoras D) Hieronymus
92. He set up his school of philosophy in the garden of his house, and it became known as "The Garden".
 A) Zeno B) Thales C) Epicurus D) Parmenides
93. He was 'the ideal physician' from whose name the modern oath of doctors is taken.
 A) Timotheus B) Hippocrates C) Anaximander D) Empedocles

94. Leucippus and Democritus were the first two proponents of the:
- A) movement to rebuild the Parthenon
 - B) peripatetic school of philosophy
 - C) public education system in Athens
 - D) theory that all matter was composed of atoms
95. What was the topic of the greatest work by the historian Thucydides?
- A) Peloponnesian War
 - B) Persian War
 - C) Sacred War
 - D) Alexandrian War
96. According to the opening lines of the *Iliad*, what is the central theme of the poem?
- A) the construction of the Trojan Horse
 - B) the anger of Achilles toward Agamemnon
 - C) the beginning of the Trojan expedition
 - D) the Minoan civilization on Crete
97. Considered the second greatest Ionic poet (with Homer being the greatest), this author of elegiac and iambic poems wrote about his life as a soldier and how he dropped his shield and fled a battle in order to save his own life.
- A) Sophron
 - B) Pherecrates
 - C) Hecateus
 - D) Archilochus
98. Which Greek philosopher wrote, "Man is the measure of all things"?
- A) Anaximenes
 - B) Protagoras
 - C) Diogenes
 - D) Aristotle
99. The Stoic philosophy received its name from:
- A) the 'stoas' surrounding the Agora
 - B) its founder Stoicus
 - C) the city in which it was founded
 - D) the Greek word for 'harsh'
100. The orator known for putting pebbles in his mouth while speaking and for practicing oratory above the roar of the ocean's waves was:
- A) Isocrates
 - B) Demosthenes
 - C) Carneades
 - D) Phaedrus