

Greek Life and Literature

Texas State Junior Classical League

Area F Contest

Saturday, February 21st, 2015

Directions: Mark the letter of the best answer on your answer sheet for questions 1-50, and for the tie-breakers, questions 96-100.


1. The Pre-Socratic philosophers known as the atomists were Democritus and _____.
A) Aristoxenus B) Parmenides C) Leucippus D) Heraclitus
2. Athenians annually celebrated _____ and _____ for their expulsion of tyrants from Athens.
A) Harmodius & Aristogeiton C) Pyramus & Thisbe
B) Pericles and Cleon D) Isagoras & Cleomenes
3. At the performance of Aeschylus' *Eumenides* in 458 BC, the Furies were so grotesquely portrayed that women viewing the play are said to have miscarried. This ancient statement is often cited as evidence that:


A) Violence was portrayed on the Greek tragic stage.
B) Hippocratic medical terminology was already in use.
C) The Greeks advanced the theory of psychosomatic illness.
D) Women attended Greek tragic performances.
4. The Agiads and Eurypontids were the two _____.
A) archons of Athens C) hereditary families of Spartan kings
B) tyrants of Athens D) founding families of Thebes
5. Which warrior in the *Iliad* was described as "best of the Achaeans?"
A) Achilles B) Aeneas C) Hector D) Odysseus
6. The heavily armed foot soldiers of a Greek army were called _____.
A) *hippeis* B) *toxotes* C) *hoplites* D) *thesmothetae*
7. The best accounts of the continent of Atlantis may be found in the writings of _____.
A) Aristotle B) Herodotus C) Plato D) Thucydides
8. *The Peloponnesian War* by Thucydides is often described as the first work of _____.
A) mythical history B) epic history C) scientific history D) tragic history
9. Sophocles' *Trachiniae* (*Women of Trachis*) is about the _____ of Heracles.
A) birth B) madness C) labors D) death

10. According to Plutarch's *Life of Nicias*, Athenian prisoners in Sicily during the Peloponnesian War earned their freedom by reciting verses from the plays of _____.
- A) Aeschylus B) Sophocles C) Euripides D) Menander
11. Which of these structures was NOT built upon the Acropolis of Athens?
- A) Erechtheum B) Parthenon C) Propylaea D) Theseum
12. The Epitaph of Seikilos displays _____ inscribed above its poem honoring the deceased.
- A) musical notation B) boustrophedon C) Orphic symbols D) laws
13. Which unit of Greek coinage was the smallest?
- A) drachma B) obol C) stater D) talent
14. A *clepsydra* was a _____.
- A) water clock B) speaker's platform C) theater exit D) bank
15. Theft of a turnip from a garden was punishable by death in Athens under _____.
- A) Draco B) Solon C) Cleisthenes D) Pericles
16. Pericles' youngest son was not an Athenian citizen because he _____.
- A) was ostracized. C) was exiled for murder.
B) was born of a non-citizen mother. D) was born on Delos.
17. Much information about early Spartan daily life comes from Plutarch's *Life of* _____.
- A) Agiselaus B) Lycurgus C) Cleomenes D) Solon
18. Which Athenian playwright wrote comedies, not tragedies?
- A) Aeschylus B) Aristophanes C) Sophocles D) Euripides
19. Which term referred to Sparta's warrior-centered system of education?
- A) *agoge* B) *paedeia* C) *sussition* D) *euphoria*
20. _____ is often referred to as the Father of History.
- A) Eratosthenes B) Polybius C) Herodotus D) Thucydides
21. A Greek _____ was similar to a Roman *forum*.
- A) *acropolis* B) *agora* C) *heliaea* D) *phoron*
22. An Olympiad consisted of the ____-year period between Olympic games.
- A) 2 B) 3 C) 4 D) 5
23. The initiates of the Eleusinian Mysteries near Athens initially could consist of anyone except:
- A) men B) women C) slaves D) non-Greeks

24. A *Parthenaion*, or ‘Maiden-Song’ was composed by the Spartan poet _____.
 A) Alcman B) Archilochus C) Callinus D) Tyrtaeus
25. *Boustrophedon* describes a text written _____.
 A) right-to-left B) left-to-right C) in alternating directions D) up to down
26. The early Cretan ‘Phaistos disk’ displays writing in _____.
 A) Linear A B) Linear B C) Arcado-Cypriot D) Messapic
27. *Catagogia* (or *katagogia*) in Epidaurus and elsewhere were _____.
 A) shops B) theater exits C) temples D) hotels
28. Most Greek religion was _____, portraying gods as human beings.
 A) anthropomorphic B) theriomorphic C) nuministic D) polytheistic
29. Which one was NOT listed in any list of the Seven Sages of Greece?
 A) Thales B) Socrates C) Chilon D) Solon
30. Which Athenian orator opposed Athens yielding to Philip II’s unification of Greece? A) Andocides B) Isocrates C) Lysias D) Demosthenes
31. What philosopher theorized that earth, air, fire, and water made up all matter?
 A) Anaximander B) Empedocles C) Parmenides D) Heraclitus
32. *Cottobus* (*kottabos*) was a competitive game played at _____.
 A) the stoa B) the agora C) Olympic Games D) symposia
33. The Athenian Assembly (*Ecclesia*) normally met in/on the _____.
 A) Pnyx B) Acropolis C) theater D) syntagmata
34. The Epitaph for the Spartan Dead at Thermopylae was written by the poet _____.
 A) Aeschylus B) Pindar C) Simonides D) Sappho
35. A Greek *chiton* was most like a Roman _____.
 A) stola B) toga C) tunic D) palla
36. “We love beauty without extravagance, wisdom without weakness . . . Athens is the school of Hellas.” These words were spoken by _____, according to _____.
 A) Solon; Herodotus C) Socrates; Plato
 B) Pericles; Thucydides D) Plato; Aristotle



37. This  vase was one type of _____.
 A) *amphora* B) *hydria* C) *crater* D) *lekythos*
38. It was used for _____.
 A) apples B) water C) wine D) olive oil

39. This container  was a(n) _____.
 A) *amphora* B) *hydria* C) *crater* D) *lekythos*
40. It was used for _____.
 A) grain B) water C) wine D) olive oil
41. Which of the following meals was last and largest in the day?
 A) *ariston* B) *deipnon* C) *dorpon* D) *hesperisma*
42. _____ first calculated the circumference of the earth by observing shadows cast at various points in Egypt.
 A) Archimedes B) Eratosthenes C) Ctesibius D) Hero
43. *Persians*, *Seven against Thebes*, and *Agamemnon* were tragedies by _____.
 A) Aeschylus B) Aristophanes C) Sophocles D) Euripides
44. The section ζηθικλ of the Greek alphabet is followed by _____.
 A) αβγδε B) μνξοπρ C) στυφχψω
45. The Greek reed instrument commonly accompanying choral odes was the _____.
 A) aulos B) barbiton C) cithara D) sambuca
46. Pericles enabled much greater democratic participation in government by _____.
 A) instituting pay for citizens performing jury duty and other political functions.
 B) organizing familial tribes into *phylae*.
 C) instituting property requirements for government offices.
 D) requiring that a citizen be born of two citizen-parents.
47. Socrates' defense of himself before an Athenian jury is portrayed in Plato's _____.
 A) *Alcibiades* B) *Apology* C) *Critias* D) *Phaedo*
48. The *Idylls* of Theocritus are _____ poetry.
 A) epic B) lyric C) choral D) pastoral
49. "Today you will destroy a great kingdom" is an instance of a(n) _____.
 A) Stoic Paradox B) Gordian Knot C) Delphic Oracle D) Enigma
50. Athens' seaport was called _____.
 A) Hymettus B) Thalassia C) Corinth D) Piraeus

Tie-breakers:

96. Which of the following was not considered a liturgy (*leitourgia*), or public service a wealthy Athenian might finance at his own expense?

- A) outfitting and training a tragic chorus C) paying jurymen to sit trials
B) paying torch runners for festivals D) maintaining a trireme

97. In Euripides' play _____, a queen died so that her husband, the king, could live.

- A) *Alcestis* B) *Bacchae* C) *Hecuba* D) *Ion*

98. Hesiod's account of worldly creation and godly genealogy is found in his _____.

- A) *Works and Days* B) *Battle of Frogs & Mice* C) *Theogony* D) *Shield*

99. Under Cleisthenes, the period of time during which one of the ten Athenian tribes represented the *boule* for a tenth of a year was known as a/an _____.

- A) ecclesia B) prytany C) tyranny D) tryttis

100. Bacchylides and _____ composed epinician odes.

- A) Alcman B) Alcaeus C) Sappho D) Pindar