2018 SAN ANTONIO CLASSICAL SOCIETY

TSJCL AREA B ACADEMIC OLYMPICS

**ROMAN LIFE TEST**

1. What was the name for the slave who managed the villa rustica?

A. vicarius B. vilicus C. virilis D. vitricus  
  
2. The period of mourning after the funeral of a *paterfamilias* lasted for:

A. three days B. nine days C. six months D. one year  
  
3. What is the proper term for a great-grandfather in ancient Rome?

A. avunculus B. proavus C. proneptis D. sobrinus

4. What date is *pridie Kal. Oct*.?

A. September 30 B. October 4 C. October 12 D. October 31  
  
5. Prior to the wedding, families often held a formal betrothal called a:

A. confarreatio B. conubium C. flammeum D. sponsalia

6. The *toga candida* worn by candidates was this color.

A. blood red B. bright white C. deep purple    D. solid black  
  
7. During the winter months, approximately how long was an hour in ancient Rome?

A. 30 minutes B. 45 minutes C. 60 minutes D. 90 minutes

8. Romans often cremated the dead. Where were bodies burned?

A. flammeum B. hypocaust C. unctorium D. ustrinum  
  
9. What is a *commasatio*?

A. drinking party C. election debate

B. marriage ceremony D. public feast  
  
10.  What does the phrase *ab ovo usque ad mala* refer to?

A. clothing B. dining C. slavery D. theater

11. In a house, the study was called the:

A. biblioteca B. peristylium C. tablinum D. librarium

12.  Which was NOT a common color of the racing factions in Roman chariot races?

A. blue B. green C. red D. yellow

13. What is a clepsydra?

A. water clock C. musical instrument

B. mythological creature D. military weapon

14. Because it was made from cheap wine, what did slaves and the poor often drink?

A. defrutum B. mulsum C. posco D. prandium

15. The door at the rear of a Roman house was called a(n):

A. fenestra B. ianua C. ostium D. posticum   
  
16.  On the way to school, young boys might stop by a bakery. Who worked there?

A. panis B. pastor C. pistor D. pulla  
  
17.  Which of the following was NOT commonly used by Romans?

A. forks B. knives C. napkins D. plates

18.  Romans citizens traditionally had how many names?

1. one B. two C. three D. at least four

19. Who would have escorted students to and from school?

1. grammaticus B. ludi magister C. paedagogous D. vilicus

20. Which officials had the task of supervising public buildings as well as the water supply and sewers?

1. aediles B. consuls C. quaestors  D. praetors

21. Which word is NOT associated with the theater?

A. basilica B. cavea C. scaena D. tragoediae

22. Lupercalia was celebrated on a date nearest to what modern holiday?

A. Christmas B. Valentine’s C. Halloween D. Independence Day

23. Today we have Golds Gym, but where did the Romans exercise?  
 A. caldarium B. palaestra C. spina D. unctorium

24. Which elected official supervised the state treasury and conducted audits?

1. aedile B. consul C. praetor D. quaestor

25. Which vehicle was covered with a cloth roof and used for long journeys, much like the American conestoga wagon?

A. carpentum B. cisium C. plaustrum D. raeda

26. Roman homes often had a hole in the roof of the atrium. This was called the:

1. compluvium B. impluvium C. lararium D. testudinatum

27. How many numbered entrances does the Flavian Amphitheatre have?

1. 8 B. 44 C. 80 D. 160

28. According to the Roman calendar, the Ides of June would have been:

A. June 1    B. June 5   C.  June 13   D.  June 15

29. We go to school for five days and take two days off. What was the Roman school schedule?  
 A. eight days of school, one day off C. two weeks of school, one week off

B. five days of school, two days off D. three days of school, one day off

30. Togas were traditionally made from what textile?

1. cotton B. linen C. silk D. wool

31. *Denarii* were made from what metal?

A. brass B. bronze C. gold D. silver

32. Which ingredient was the most common sweetener in ancient Rome?

A. honey B. molasses C. sorghum D. sugar  
  
33. In which room of the house would the *dominus* keep the *arca*?

A. atrium B. cubiculum C. culina D. tablinum

34. Regarding togas, what was the name for the folds in the front of the garment?

A. balteus B. fibula C. sinus D. umbo

35. Which abbreviation did the Romans use in reference to years, counting back to the founding of Rome?

A. AUC B. BCE C. Kal. D. SPQR  
  
36. Which article of clothing designated a former slave as a *libertus*?

A. a belt B. a cloak C. a hat D. a toga

37. The Via Appia extended from Rome to what other city?

1. Ariminium B. Brundisium C. Placentia D. Verona

38. What items kept track of the completed laps at the chariot races?

A. dogs and cats C. eggs and dolphins

1. horses and horseshoes D. apples and pears

39. Which name was used to identify a Roman’s *gens*?

A. agnomen B. cognomen C. nomen D. praenomen

40. How would one write 1492 in Roman numerals?

A. MCDXCII B. MVIIIM C. MIVIXII D. MXDII  
  
41. If a fire broke out in the city, these men would be summoned to put it out.

A. aediles B. liberti C. quaestors D. vigiles

42. On which hill would one visit the Temple of Jupiter?

1. Aventine B. Capitoline C. Esquiline D. Palatine

43. The Saturnalian festival always began on which date?

1. December 17 B. December 23 C. December 23 D. December 25

44. What was the name for the rattle given to babies to ward off evil spirits?

1. bulla B. crepo C. lunula D. monumenta

45. Which order of columns features an array of leaves at the capital?

A. Corinthian B. Doric C. Ionic D. Tuscan  
  
46. Who was in charge of moving the retractable awning over the amphitheater?

A. citizens B. gladiators C. sailors D. slaves

47. Where would a Roman go to watch the chariot races?

A. amphitheater B. circus C. odeon D. palaestra  
  
48. Which type of gladiators fought with a heavy net?

A. andabatae B. aurigae C. murmillones D. retiarii  
  
49. Which animal is featured on the aquila, the standard for the legions?

A. bear B. eagle C. falcon D. serpent  
  
50. What was the city of Ostia’s main function for Romans?

A. cemetery B. landfill C. penitentiary D. seaport

51. What was the proper abbreviation for the praenomen Gaius?

1. C B. G C. Ga D. Gn

52. In which area of the *thermae* would one pay a slave to guard his clothing?

A. apodyterium B. laconicum C. natatio D. sudatorium

53. After 153 BC, on what date did Roman consuls take office?

A. January 1 B. January 15 C. March 1 D. March 15  
  
54. Choose the best example of a typical Roman *ientaculum*:

A. bread and water B. eggs and fruit C. meat and milk D. veggies and fish

55. Which of the following was NOT a popular pet in ancient Rome?

1. birds B. cats C. dogs D. hamsters

56. What was the main ingredient in the sauce called *garum*?

1. fish B. grapes C. olives D. tomatoes

57. On which couch would the host be seated at a *cena*?

1. lectus imus B. lectus medius C. lectus summus D. lectus triclinium

58. How many Vestal Virgins attended the sacred flame in Vesta’s temple?

A. five B. six C. twelve D. fifteen

59. The olive, when pressed, released a dark, bitter liquid called *amurca* that was not suitable for food. What was this liquid used for instead?

1. fertilizer B. fuel C. medicine D. soap

60. An association or guild of craftsman was called a:

1. collegium B. colonia C. paludamentum D. socius

61. In a Roman home, who would primarily manage household affairs, supervise the slaves, and

conduct the early teaching of the children?

1. avunculus B. mater C. pater D. vilicus

62. How many soldiers comprised a legion?

A. 24 B. 100 C. 3,000 D. 16,000

63. Roman dice would have been made from any of these materials EXCEPT:

1. clay B. ivory C. stone D. wood

64. Papyrus could be rolled into a scroll called a:

1. codex B. cornua C. umbilicus D. volumen

65. In the gladiatorial arena, a *venatio* was a(n):

A. animal hunt C. trapdoor

B. mock naval battle D. underground labyrinth

66. The name for a Roman wedding dress was a:

1. tunica alba B. tunica marita B. tunica recta C. tunica vitta

67. At a formal banquet or feast, what was the dessert course called?

1. commisatio B. gustatio C. prima mensa D. secunda mensa

68. Which order of priests was appointed to serve particular Gods at Rome?

1. augures B. flamines C. haruspices D. pontifices

69. Which word is NOT related to letter-writing?

1. lectica B. linum C. stilus D. vellum

70. Which type of gladiators fought with a lasso?

1. dimachaeri B. fuscinae C. laqueatores D. secutores

**You will now notice a jump in question numbers.**

**Tie-breakers: Answer these questions #96-100 on your answer sheet.  These will only be scored in the event of a tie.**  
  
96. If ancient Rome had a Whataburger, which menu item could NOT be served based on lack of available ingredients?

1. cheeseburger B. chicken strips C. French fries D. onion rings

97. Speaking of fast-food, where could a Roman grab a quick bite to eat at lunchtime?

A. balneum B. caldarium C. frigidarium D. thermopolium

98. The training master at a gladiatorial school was called what?

1. lanista B. magister ludi C. munera D. sagina

99. Who built the first aqueduct at Rome?

1. Aggripina the Elder C. Appius Claudius
2. Septimius Severus D. Julius Caesar

100. What is featured in this drawing?

1. Campus Martius B. Circus Maximus

C. Cloaca Maxima D. Via Appia

