

# 2005 SAN ANTONIO CLASSICAL SOCIETY TSJCL AREA B ACADEMIC OLYMPICS ROMAN HISTORY TEST: THE EMPIRE

**DIRECTIONS:** Please mark the letter of the correct answer on your scantron.

**N.B.** – All dates are AD unless otherwise specified.

1. How many emperors in the first century AD shared **Flāvius** as their **nōmen**? (a) two  
(b) three (c) four (d) five
2. The emperor who made 1,000,000 sesterces the minimum level of wealth required for a senator was (a) Septimius Severus (b) Titus (c) Nerva (d) Augustus
3. Who, wanting to die in a state of grace, was baptized just before his death in 337 (and thus became the first Christian emperor)? (a) Diocletian (b) Galerius (c) Maximinus  
(d) Constantine
4. The treacherous Prefect of the Praetorian Guards who was executed along with his relatives in the Mamertine prison in 31 was (a) Macro (b) Burrus (c) Tigellinus (d) Sejanus
5. The sixty-year-old distant relative of the Julio-Claudians who became the first emperor chosen by the Senate was (a) Vespasian (b) Galba (c) Nerva (d) Antoninus Pius
6. After this battle, Augustus was seen wandering the halls of his palace, uttering “Varus, Varus, give me back my legions!” (a) Actium (b) Naulochus (c) Teutoburg Forest (d) Thapsus
7. The emperor who, by issuing the Antoninian Constitution in 212, conferred Roman citizenship upon all free residents of the Empire who were members of organized communities was (a) Elagabalus (b) Caracalla (c) Macrinus (d) Alexander Severus
8. The emperor who was responsible for distributions of cash to the populace of the city of Rome in 99, 102, and again in 107 was (a) Trajan (b) Hadrian (c) Antoninus Pius (d) Marcus Aurelius
9. The shame of whose physical challenges consigned him to the inner rooms of the palace and the company of women and imperial freedmen? (a) Claudius (b) Diocletian (c) Macrinus  
(d) Geta
10. Who sacked the city of Jerusalem at the Feast of the Passover in 70? (a) Titus (b) Vespasian  
(c) Flavius Silva (d) Corbulo
11. Who established the **aerārium militāre** to fund the expenses of the army? (a) Constantine  
(b) Augustus (c) Domitian (d) Commodus
12. The emperor who asked the jurist Salvius Julianus to compose a revised version of the Praetorian edict in late 120s was (a) Nerva (b) Trajan (c) Hadrian (d) Antoninus Pius

13. Who massacred as many as 7,000 men thought to be loyal to Nero as soon as he arrived on the outskirts of Rome in October of 68? (a) Corbulo (b) Vindex (c) Otho (d) Galba
14. Rome's political and military disarray reached its nadir in 260 when Shapur I, the great Sasanid King of Kings, captured and executed which emperor? (a) Valerian (b) Gallienus (c) Gordian III (d) Maximus
15. Who auctioned off crown jewels and imperial finery to pay for the two new legions raised in the 160s for the purpose of fighting the Marcomanni and the Quadi? (a) Lucius Verus (b) Hadrian (c) Marcus Aurelius (d) Antoninus Pius
16. The personal nature of whose ties to the military is demonstrated by the spread of the title **māter castrōrum** for his wife Julia Domna? (a) Elagabalus (b) Septimius Severus (c) Caracalla (d) Alexander Severus
17. After which battle did Vitellius become emperor of Rome? (a) First Battle of Bedriacum (b) Second Battle of Cremona (c) Battle of Adrianople (d) Battle of Actium
18. As part of his showy self-promotion, what emperor drove a chariot over a bridge of boats from Baiae to Puteoli, resplendent in the breastplate of Alexander the Great? (a) Commodus (b) Domitian (c) Caligula (d) Caracalla
19. Whose eight-year stay on the Aegean island of Rhodes allowed him to deepen his philosophical, astrological, and other intellectual interests, and to escape his failed marriage to Julia? (a) Germanicus (b) Drusus (c) Marcellus (d) Tiberius
20. The emperor who was dethroned and sent to exile by Odovacer was (a) Romulus Augustulus (b) Gratian (c) Valens (d) Arcadius
21. The sphere of influence of the Palmyrene Empire ultimately extended to Syria, Palestine, Arabia, Egypt and much of Asia Minor under the leadership of (a) Postumus (b) Zenobia (c) Candace (d) Odenaethus
22. What emperor further alienated the Senate when he, armed with sword and shield, fought as a **secūtor** against a **rētiārius** in the amphitheater? (a) Domitian (b) Philip the Arab (c) Maximinus Thrax (d) Commodus
23. The future emperor who narrowly escaped death during the storming of the Capitol by Vitellius' supporters was (a) Titus (b) Domitian (c) Nerva (d) Trajan
24. Who undertook a massive reorganization of the administration of the empire and established a tetrarchic system of government? (a) Maximian (b) Numerian (c) Diocletian (d) Carinus
25. What Praetorian Prefect became the first equestrian emperor in Roman history when he arranged the murder of Caracalla while Caracalla was on a military campaign in Syria? (a) Macrinus (b) Elagabalus (c) Papinian (d) Alexander Severus

26. What widow of King Prasutagus led the Iceni in a rebellion against the Romans in the first century AD? (a) Cartimandua (b) Eudoxia (c) Zenobia (d) Boudicca
27. The competent and moderately distinguished senator who was adopted by Hadrian on 25 February 138 was (a) Aelius Verus (b) Fuscus Salinator (c) Antoninus Pius (d) Lucius Verus
28. Whom did Nero appoint as governor of Lusitania in 58 because Nero had fallen in love with his wife Poppaea Sabina and wanted to get rid of him? (a) Vespasian (b) Galba (c) Otho (d) Vitellius
29. What grandson of Constantius Chlorus, having received a Christian education but was more deeply influenced by pagan philosophers, proclaimed religious toleration, but actively discouraged Christianity (e.g. he forbade Christians to teach in schools)? (a) Constantine II (b) Constantius II (c) Theodosius (d) Julian the Apostate
30. Who, persuaded by Mucianus, governor of Syria, allowed himself to be proclaimed emperor by the Egyptian legions (1 July 69)? (a) Vespasian (b) Vitellius (c) Otho (d) Galba
31. The forces of what foreign king was defeated by the Roman forces under the command of Tettius Julianus at Tapae (near the mountain pass called the Iron Gate) in 88? (a) Decebalus (b) Tacfarinas (c) Carausius (d) Caratacus
32. Whose reign, reckoned from the date of a decisive battle near Antioch (8 June 218), was characterized by religious excess, cruelty, and immorality? (a) Severus Alexander (b) Elagabalus (c) Macrinus (d) Caracalla
33. Which of the following statements about Nero is NOT true? (a) he was the son of Gnaeus Domitius Ahenobarbus and Agrippina the Younger (b) he married Octavia, the daughter of Claudius (c) he relied upon Burrus and Seneca the Younger during the **quīnquennium Nerōnis** (d) he kicked his pregnant wife Octavia to death
34. The wife of Trajan was (a) Sabina (b) Plotina (c) Faustina the Younger (d) Faustina the Elder
35. What emperor was known for his rigid adherence to the Nicene Christian creed: he deposed Arian bishops, punished heretics severely, and banned all pagan worship (including the Olympic Games)? (a) Valens (b) Gratian (c) Theodosius I (d) Valentinian II
36. Who, having been offered the throne by Laetus, the Praetorian Prefect of Commodus, attempted to impose discipline and financial restraint, but was murdered within three months because he had lost the support of the praetorians? (a) Didius Julianus (b) Pertinax (c) Septimius Severus (d) Sulpicianus
37. The battle that established the political supremacy of Constantine in the West and ensured the survival and prosperity of Christianity was (a) Rubra Saxa (b) Adrianople (c) Cremona (d) Milvian Bridge

38. Whom was Tiberius forced to adopt and grant precedence over his own son Drusus?  
(a) Agrippa Postumus (b) Lucius Caesar (c) Gaius Caesar (d) Germanicus
39. Which of the following was NOT one of the wives of Claudius? (a) Urgulanilla, the daughter of Plautius Silvanus (b) Aelia Paetina, the adopted sister of Sejanus (c) Valeria Messalina, the niece of Gnaeus Domitius Ahenobarbus (d) Agrippina, the daughter of Marcus Agrippa
40. The first emperor to succeed his own birth-father was (a) Tiberius (b) Nero (c) Titus (d) Commodus
41. Which of the following powers / positions held by Marcus Aurelius marked him as the senior emperor and acknowledged his **auctoritās** as greater than that of Lucius Verus? (a) **Augustus** (b) **imperium prōconsulāre** (c) **pontifex maximus** (d) **tribūnicia potestās**
42. Julia Mamaea, whose dominant position was indicated by the title "Mother of Augustus and the camps and the Senate and the fatherland <**māter Augustī et castrōrum et senātūs et patriae**>", was the mother of (a) Severus Alexander (b) Elagabalus (c) Caracalla (d) Septimius Severus
43. What emperor celebrated the 1,000<sup>th</sup> birth of Rome on 21 April 248? (a) Carus (b) Philip the Arab (c) Gordian III (d) Gratian
44. The emperor who built a defensive wall around the city of Rome was (a) Tacitus (b) Probus (c) Aurelian (d) Carus
45. What general's military campaigns, conducted under the emperor Nero from 55 to 64, helped to settle the "Armenian Question" for almost 50 years? (a) Suetonius Paullinus (b) Ostorius (c) Corbulo (d) Agricola
46. The governor of Judaea responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus was (a) Pontius Pilate (b) Herod (c) Festus (d) L. Vitellius
47. Which of the following quotations was Vespasian's dying words? (a) "**quālis artifex pereō**" (b) "**vae, putō deus fiō**" (c) "**ōderint dum metuant**" (d) "**ōderint dum probent**"
48. Which of the following was NOT one of the provinces added by the emperor Claudius?  
(a) Britannia (b) Bithynia (c) Mauretania (d) Lycia
49. During whose reign did the Roman Empire reach its greatest territorial extent? (a) Trajan's (b) Septimius Severus' (c) Constantine's (d) Augustus'
50. As a result of whose rebellion was Judaea renamed Syria Palaestina, and Jews were forbidden entry into Jerusalem? (a) Bar Kokhba's (b) Tacfarinas' (c) Chosroes' (d) Tiridates'
51. What commander of the troops in Upper Germany led a conspiracy against the emperor Domitian in 89? (a) Lentulus Gaetulicus (b) Scribonianus (c) Iulius Civilis (d) Saturninus

52. How much money did Didius Julianus promise to each of the Praetorian Guards to outbid his opponent for the throne? (a) 15,000 sesterces (b) 20,000 sesterces (c) 25,000 sesterces (d) 30,000 sesterces
53. The favorite sister of Caligula who became the first Roman woman to be deified was (a) Agrippina the Younger (b) Drusilla (c) Livilla (d) Octavia
54. Nerva's lack of military experience was evident when he conceded to whose demands for the execution of Petronius Secundus in atonement for the murder of Domitian? (a) Arrius Varus (b) Cornelius Fuscus (c) Claudius Livianus (d) Casperius Aelianus
55. The emperor Galba lost his throne by making all of the following mistakes EXCEPT (a) designating L. Piso Licinianus as his successor (b) refusing to pay the donative promised to the Praetorian Guard (c) rewarding the Gallic tribes which had supported the rebellion against Nero (d) allowing his close confidants to help themselves freely to public funds
56. The emperor Titus took vigorous measures to alleviate the hardship resulting from all of the following EXCEPT (a) a flood at Ostia (b) an outbreak of a plague (c) eruption of Mt. Vesuvius (d) great fire in Rome
57. The short administration of the emperor C. Messius Decius was marked by (a) the 1,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rome's founding (b) a virulent outbreak of the plague which killed millions of people (c) the Saxon invasion of Britannia (d) a systematic persecution of the Christians and the execution of Pope Fabian
58. The **praepositus ā rātiōnibus** (chief accountant) of Claudius was (a) Pallas (b) Narcissus (c) Callistus (d) Polybius
59. Which of the following individuals or pairs was NOT one of the six emperors of 238? (a) Pupienus & Balbinus (b) Maximinus Thrax (c) Gordian I & II (d) Aemilianus
60. Who established seven cohorts of **vigilēs**, each commanded by an equestrian **praefectus vigilum**, to deal with the dangers of fire in the city of Rome in the first century AD? (a) Egnatius Rufus (b) Augustus (c) Statilius Taurus (d) Tiberius
61. The future emperor Vespasian incurred the displeasures of Nero by (a) protecting a member of his household (b) falling asleep during one of Nero's singing recitals (c) taking part in a court intrigue (d) taxing the people of Britain without Nero's consent
62. The assassin of the emperor Domitian was (a) Cassius Chaerea (b) Narcissus (c) Stephanus (d) Cleander
63. The Numidian chieftain who was entrapped by Iunius Blaesus and was defeated and killed by Dolabella was (a) Tacfarinas (b) Juba I (c) Juba II (d) Hiempsal II
64. The "last of the Romans" who led the coalition that defeated Attila the Hun was (a) Belisarius (b) Aetius (c) Zeno (d) Arcadius

65. The mistress of Commodus who helped plot his assassination was (a) Lucilla (b) Marcia (c) Placidia (d) Poppaea
66. Whose men occupied the city of Rome for a fortnight in June 455 and carried off many valuable works of arts, including the treasures which the Romans had taken from the Temple at Jerusalem? (a) Alaric (b) Attila (c) Gaiseric (d) Theodoric
67. Which of the rivals of Septimius Severus was based in Britannia? (a) Pescennius Niger (b) Clodius Albinus (c) Pertinax (d) Didius Julianus
68. What governor of Britain oversaw the construction of Hadrian's Wall? (a) Platorius Nepos (b) Lollius Urbicus (c) Cornelius Palma (d) Ulpius Marcellus
69. What commander of the army on the lower Rhine levied the charge of treason against the Batavian chieftain Iulius Civilis and turned Civilis into an actual traitor? (a) Dillius Vocula (b) Hordeonius Flaccus (c) Iulius Tutor (d) Fonteius Capito
70. Which of the following did NOT invade or capture Ctesiphon, one of the two great capitals of the Parthian Empire? (a) Lusius Quietus (b) Trajan (c) Septimius Severus (d) Avidius Cassius

**TIE-BREAKERS:** The following questions (#96-#100) will be scored only to break ties!

96. The assassin of the emperor Caligula was (a) Cassius Chaerea (b) Narcissus (c) Stephanus (d) Cleander
97. Which of the following was NOT one of the sons of Constantine who vied for his throne? (a) Constantine II (b) Constantius II (c) Crispus (d) Constans
98. Hadrian strengthened the frontiers of the Empire, often with physical barriers like his continuous wooden palisades in Raetia and Upper Germany, and stone walls in Britannia and (a) Numidia (b) Baetica (c) Pannonia (d) Armenia
99. Under what emperor did the Senate lose control of its provinces when the staffing of all provinces became an imperial prerogative? (a) Septimius Severus (b) Diocletian (c) Decius (d) Aurelian
100. Which of the following women was NOT a wife or lover of the emperor Titus? (a) Berenice (b) Arrecina Tertulla (c) Marcia Furnilla (d) Flavia Domitilla