

Foundations of Occultism and Esoterica

Occultism & Esoterica · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which ancient text, often associated with Hermeticism, is believed to contain foundational principles of Western esotericism?

- A) The Upanishads
- B) The Emerald Tablet**
- C) The Book of the Dead
- D) The I Ching

2. Aleister Crowley is most famously associated with the founding of which esoteric organization?

- A) The Golden Dawn
- B) The Theosophical Society
- C) Ordo Templi Orientis (OTO)**
- D) The Rosicrucian Order

3. The concept of 'As Above, So Below' is a central tenet within which esoteric tradition?

- A) Kabbalah
- B) Alchemy**
- C) Astrology
- D) Shamanism

4. The Qabalah, a system of mystical Judaism, uses a diagram known as the 'Tree of Life' which has how many main spheres or sefirot?

- A) 7
- B) 9
- C) 10**
- D) 12

5. The term 'gnosis,' often central to Gnostic traditions, refers to what?

- A) Ritual sacrifice
- B) Divine knowledge or insight**
- C) Cosmic creation myths
- D) Elemental magic

6. What is the primary goal of alchemical transmutation, according to traditional interpretations?

- A) To create gold from base metals
- B) To achieve spiritual enlightenment and perfection**
- C) To discover the elixir of life
- D) To synthesize new chemical compounds

7. Madame Blavatsky, a key figure in late 19th-century occultism, co-founded which influential society?

- A) The Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn
- B) The Theosophical Society**
- C) The Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum
- D) The Ordo Templi Orientis

8. The Tarot deck, widely used in divination and spiritual exploration, is generally believed to have originated in which country?

- A) Egypt
- B) France
- C) Italy**
- D) India

9. Which esoteric practice involves the interpretation of dreams to gain insight into the subconscious or spiritual realm?

- A) Scrying
- B) Divination
- C) Oneiromancy**
- D) Telekinesis

10. The concept of the 'astral body' is a notion found in various esoteric traditions, referring to what?

- A) A physical body made of stars
- B) An ethereal or non-physical counterpart to the physical body**
- C) A body composed of elemental forces
- D) A body that can travel through time

11. The Hermetic axiom 'The All is Mind; the Universe is Mental' is a core principle of which philosophy?

- A) Stoicism
- B) Hermeticism**
- C) Epicureanism
- D) Platonism

12. What is the name for the practice of using crystals for healing or spiritual purposes, drawing on their perceived energetic properties?

- A) Lithomancy
- B) Gemology
- C) Crystallomancy
- D) Lithotherapy**

13. Which famous occultist and ceremonial magician is known for his detailed rituals and grimoires, such as 'The Key of Solomon'?

- A) John Dee**
- B) Eliphas Levi
- C) Manly P. Hall
- D) Paracelsus

14. The esoteric concept of 'chakras' is primarily associated with which spiritual and philosophical tradition?

- A) Buddhism
- B) Hinduism**
- C) Taoism
- D) Zoroastrianism

15. What is the term for the belief that invisible spiritual forces can influence the physical world, often through prayer, ritual, or intention?

- A) Animism
- B) Pantheism
- C) Theism
- D) Magic**

16. The figure of the 'Great Work' (Magnum Opus) in alchemy refers to the process of achieving what?

- A) The creation of the Philosopher's Stone
- B) The discovery of the elixir of life
- C) Spiritual perfection and enlightenment**
- D) The transmutation of lead into gold

17. Who is considered the 'father of modern occultism' and a significant influence on figures like Aleister Crowley?

- A) Paracelsus
- B) Cagliostro
- C) Eliphas Levi**
- D) Count Saint-Germain

18. What is the practice of communicating with spirits, often through a medium, called?

A) Necromancy

B) Spiritualism

C) Phrenology

D) Astrology

19. The 'Rosicrucian Manifestos' were a series of influential texts published in the early 17th century that claimed to reveal secrets of:

A) Egyptian hieroglyphs

B) Alchemical and mystical knowledge

C) The construction of pyramids

D) The origins of Freemasonry

20. In esotericism, the concept of 'sacred geometry' suggests that:

A) The universe is inherently chaotic

B) Mathematical patterns and shapes hold spiritual significance

C) Only physical laws govern reality

D) Dreams are meaningless