

Opera Essentials

Opera · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. What is the term for the text or script of an opera?

- A) Libretto**
- B) Score
- C) Overture
- D) Aria

2. Which famous Italian city is home to the world-renowned opera house 'La Scala'?

- A) Rome
- B) Venice
- C) Milan**
- D) Florence

3. In opera, what is the term for a solo vocal piece that expresses a character's emotions?

- A) Recitative
- B) Aria**
- C) Chorus
- D) Duet

4. What is the name of the orchestral piece that typically begins an opera performance?

- A) Finale
- B) Intermission
- C) Overture**
- D) Cadenza

5. Which composer wrote the famous opera 'The Magic Flute'?

- A) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**
- B) Ludwig van Beethoven
- C) Giuseppe Verdi
- D) Giacomo Puccini

6. What is the highest female singing voice range in opera?

- A) Contralto
- B) Mezzo-soprano
- C) Soprano**
- D) Baritone

7. Which famous opera features the popular aria 'Nessun Dorma'?

- A) Carmen
- B) Turandot**
- C) The Barber of Seville
- D) Don Giovanni

8. Who is the title character in Georges Bizet's famous opera set in Spain?

- A) Tosca
- B) Aida
- C) Carmen**
- D) Lucia

9. What is the name of the structure where the orchestra sits in an opera house?

- A) Balcony
- B) Gallery
- C) Pit**
- D) Stalls

10. Which musical term describes a singer who can perform in both male and female ranges?

- A) Countertenor**
- B) Bass
- C) Tenor
- D) Baritone

11. What is the lowest male singing voice in opera?

- A) Baritone
- B) Tenor
- C) Bass**
- D) Countertenor

12. In which language were the majority of the most famous 18th-century operas originally written?

- A) English
- B) German
- C) Italian**
- D) French

13. What is the term for the artistic movement characterized by realistic and often gritty subjects in opera?

A) Verismo

B) Baroque

C) Classical

D) Romantic

14. Which legendary opera singer was known as 'La Divina'?

A) Maria Callas

B) Renée Fleming

C) Luciano Pavarotti

D) Joan Sutherland

15. What is the term for a performance style where words are sung in a rhythmic, speech-like manner?

A) Aria

B) Recitative

C) Coloratura

D) Libretto

16. Which of these is a famous opera by Giacomo Puccini about a Japanese geisha?

A) La Bohème

B) Madama Butterfly

C) Tosca

D) Rigoletto

17. What is the term for a singer who performs a specific, often virtuosic, vocal style involving rapid runs and trills?

A) Coloratura

B) Baritone

C) Bass

D) Chorus

18. Which opera house is located on Bennelong Point in Sydney, Australia?

A) The Royal Opera House

B) The Sydney Opera House

C) La Fenice

D) Vienna State Opera