

# The World of Numismatics

Numismatics · Practice Test · 18 Questions

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**1. What is the formal study or collection of coins, tokens, and paper money called?**

- A) Philately
- B) Numismatics
- C) Archaeology
- D) Cartography

**2. Which metal was historically used for the highest-value circulating coins in many ancient civilizations?**

- A) Iron
- B) Lead
- C) Gold
- D) Copper

**3. What term describes the front side of a coin, which usually features a portrait or national emblem?**

- A) Obverse
- B) Reverse
- C) Edge
- D) Rim

**4. What is the name of the edge of a coin that has small, grooved lines, historically added to prevent 'clipping'?**

- A) Blank
- B) Reeded
- C) Legend
- D) Field

**5. Which country is credited with the invention of the first standardized metal coins around the 7th century BCE?**

- A) Rome
- B) Egypt
- C) China
- D) Lydia

**6. What is the term for a coin that was produced incorrectly at the mint, making it highly valuable to collectors?**

- A) Proof
- B) Specimen
- C) Error
- D) Bullion

**7. In numismatics, what is the 'reverse' of a coin commonly referred to as in everyday language?**

- A) Heads
- B) Tails
- C) The portrait
- D) The rim

**8. What are coins called that are made specifically for collectors and have a mirror-like finish?**

- A) Circulation coins
- B) Proof coins
- C) Commemorative coins
- D) Token coins

**9. Before metal coins, which object was famously used as a form of currency in ancient China?**

- A) Cowrie shells
- B) Feathers
- C) Silk strips
- D) Clay pots

**10. What do numismatists call the 'face value' or the amount of money written on the coin?**

- A) Denomination
- B) Grade
- C) Mintage
- D) Luster

**11. What is the name of the 'mint mark' on a coin?**

- A) The artist's signature
- B) The year of issue
- C) A symbol indicating where it was made
- D) The coin's weight

**12. What is the term for the process of determining the quality and condition of a coin?**

- A) Grading
- B) Smelting
- C) Stamping
- D) Clipping

**13. Which famous leader's portrait was the first ever to appear on a real Roman coin while they were still alive?**

- A) Augustus
- B) Julius Caesar
- C) Nero
- D) Constantine

**14. What is a 'commemorative coin' primarily designed to do?**

- A) Replace paper bills
- B) Pay for groceries
- C) Honor a specific event or person
- D) Be melted down for metal

**15. What is 'bullion' in the context of money and coin collecting?**

- A) Rare collectible paper money
- B) Ancient pottery shards
- C) Precious metal in bulk form
- D) Faded copper coins

**16. What does the 'legend' on a coin refer to?**

- A) The weight of the metal
- B) The writing or inscription
- C) The portrait of the ruler
- D) The year of production

**17. During the Middle Ages, what practice involved shaving tiny slivers of gold or silver off the edges of coins?**

- A) Minting
- B) Counterfeiting
- C) Clipping
- D) Grinding

**18. Which of these terms describes a coin that has never entered general circulation?**

- A) Worn
- B) Damaged
- C) Uncirculated
- D) Polished