

Global Theatre and Drama Trivia

Drama & Theatre · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. The ancient Greek theatre tradition, which significantly influenced Western drama, originated in which city-state?

- A) Sparta
- B) Corinth
- C) Athens**
- D) Thebes

2. Noh theatre, a highly stylized and traditional Japanese dramatic form, developed primarily during which historical period?

- A) Heian period
- B) Kamakura period
- C) Muromachi period**
- D) Edo period

3. The Globe Theatre, famously associated with William Shakespeare, was located in which city?

- A) Stratford-upon-Avon
- B) Canterbury
- C) London**
- D) York

4. Kabuki theatre, known for its elaborate makeup and dramatic performances, is a traditional theatre form from which country?

- A) China
- B) South Korea
- C) Japan**
- D) Vietnam

5. Commedia dell'arte, an improvisational form of theatre with stock characters, originated in which European country?

- A) France
- B) Spain
- C) Italy**
- D) Germany

6. The tradition of Sanskrit drama, which flourished in ancient India, is characterized by its use of which language?

- A) Prakrit
- B) Tamil
- C) Sanskrit**
- D) Pali

7. The Yoruba travelling theatre, a significant form of popular African theatre, is predominantly found in which West African nation?

- A) Ghana
- B) Nigeria**
- C) Senegal
- D) Togo

8. The earliest forms of Chinese opera, such as those originating in the Yuan Dynasty, are often associated with which major city?

- A) Shanghai
- B) Beijing
- C) Xian
- D) Dadu (modern Beijing)**

9. The theatrical tradition of Bunraku, featuring elaborate puppet manipulation, is a distinct art form from which country?

- A) China
- B) Korea
- C) Japan**
- D) Thailand

10. The development of modern musical theatre, with its roots in operetta and vaudeville, is most closely associated with which city?

- A) London
- B) Paris
- C) New York City**
- D) Vienna

11. The theatre of ancient Rome, influenced by Greek drama, saw the rise of playwrights like Plautus and Terence in which geographical region?

- A) North Africa
- B) Asia Minor
- C) The Italian Peninsula**
- D) Egypt

12. Kathakali, a highly stylized classical Indian dance-drama known for its elaborate costumes and makeup, is native to which region of India?

- A) Bengal
- B) Tamil Nadu
- C) Kerala**
- D) Rajasthan

13. The tradition of opera, which combines music and drama, is widely believed to have originated in which European country during the late 16th century?

- A) Germany
- B) France
- C) Italy**
- D) England

14. The Blackfriars Theatre, an important indoor performance space in Elizabethan London, was originally a repurposed structure associated with which order?

- A) Benedictine monks
- B) Dominican friars**
- C) Franciscan friars
- D) Augustinian canons

15. The theatre movement known as the Théâtre du Soleil, famous for its ensemble-based, site-specific productions, is based in which city?

- A) Berlin
- B) Rome
- C) Paris**
- D) Madrid

16. The Bread and Puppet Theater, a radical experimental theatre group known for its giant puppet processions, was founded in which U.S. state?

- A) California
- B) New York
- C) Vermont**
- D) Massachusetts

17. The Brechtian theatre, emphasizing alienation and critical engagement, is inextricably linked to the work of its founder in which country?

- A) Austria
- B) Switzerland
- C) Germany**
- D) Poland

18. The traditional theatre form of Wayang Kulit, using shadow puppets, is a prominent cultural practice in which Southeast Asian country?

- A) Malaysia
- B) Singapore
- C) Indonesia**
- D) Philippines

19. The Moscow Art Theatre, a pivotal institution in the development of modern realist drama and acting techniques, was founded in which city?

- A) St. Petersburg
- B) Kyiv
- C) Moscow**
- D) Prague

20. The absurdism movement in theatre, characterized by its exploration of the meaninglessness of human existence, gained prominence in post-World War II Europe, particularly in which city's literary and artistic circles?

- A) Berlin
- B) London
- C) Paris**
- D) Rome