Introduction to Medical Parasitology

Biology · Practice Test · 30 Questions

1. What is the primary focus of medical parasitology?

A) The study of viruses and bacteria
B) The study of human parasites and their medical consequences
C) The study of plant diseases
D) The study of environmental ecosystems

2. Which historical figure is credited with first observing Giardia in his own stool using a single-lens microscope?

A) Louis Pasteur
B) Patrick Manson
C) Antonie van Leeuwenhoek
D) Ronald Ross

3. According to the text, which of the following is NOT typically included in the scope of medical parasitology due to historical reasons?

A) Protozoa
B) Helminths
C) Viruses
D) Arthropods

4. Medical parasitology primarily deals with which three groups of organisms?

A) Viruses, Bacteria, Fungi
B) Protozoa, Helminths, Arthropods
C) Arthropods, Plants, Animals
D) Bacteria, Fungi, Archaea

5. What is the key characteristic of mutualism in symbiotic relationships?

A) One partner benefits, the other is harmed
B) Both partners are benefited and life apart is impossible
C) One partner benefits, the other is unaffected
D) One partner benefits, the other is injured

6. In commensalism, how is the relationship between the two organisms described?

A) Both benefit
B) One benefits, the other is harmed
C) One benefits, the other is unaffected
D) Both are harmed

7. What defines a parasite?

A) An organism that lives independently
B) An organism that lives on or in a host, obtaining nourishment and causing harm
C) An organism that only provides benefits to its host
D) A free-living organism that does not interact with other species

8. Which type of parasite lives inside the body of the host?

A) Ectoparasite
B) Endoparasite
C) Facultative parasite
D) Temporary parasite

9. An obligate parasite is characterized by:

A) The ability to live independently
B) Complete dependence on its host for survival
C) A short lifespan
D) Being exclusively an ectoparasite

10. What is a temporary parasite?

A) A parasite that lives its entire adult life on a host
B) A parasite that spends only a short time on a host
C) A parasite that lives deep within the host's body
D) A parasite that can only survive in soil

11. Which type of parasite causes disease in the host?

A) Non-pathogenic parasite
B) Opportunistic parasite
C) Pathogenic parasite
D) Commensal parasite

12. A monoxenous parasite has a life cycle that involves:

A) Two or more hosts
B) Only one host (direct life cycle)
C) A vector for transmission
D) Alteration of generations

13. What is a heteroxenous parasite?

A) A parasite with a direct life cycle
B) A parasite that requires an intermediate host (indirect life cycle)
C) A parasite that lives only outside the host
D) A parasite that only reproduces asexually

14. What is the role of a definitive host in a parasite's life cycle?

A) Harbors the larval or asexual stage
B) Harbors the adult or sexual stage where fertilization occurs
C) Acts as a transport host
D) Is an accidental host that does not allow further development

15. An intermediate host harbors which stage of the parasite?

A) Adult and sexual stage
B) Larval or asexual stage
C) Only the infective stage
D) The dormant cyst stage

16. What is a paratenic or transport host?

A) The host where the parasite matures and reproduces
B) A host where the parasite cannot develop further but is transported
C) The host that is always injured by the parasite
D) The host that actively transmits the parasite

17. What is a vector in the context of parasitology?

A) A host that harbors the adult parasite
B) An organism, usually an arthropod, that transfers infective forms of a parasite
C) A type of parasite that lives inside the host
D) A stage in the parasite's life cycle

18. Which type of vector is essential for the completion of the parasite's life cycle and involves development and multiplication of the parasite?

A) Mechanical vector
B) Biological vector
C) Transport vector
D) Paratenic vector

19. What is the difference between infection and infestation?

A) Infection is by parasites like worms, infestation is by arthropods
B) Infection is by arthropods, infestation is by worms
C) Infection is always internal, infestation is always external
D) Infection is a disease, infestation is a symptom

20. Which of the following is an example of a geohelminth?

A) Filarial worms
B) Tapeworms
C) Ascaris (roundworm)
D) Liver flukes

21. What is a biohelminth?

A) A soil-transmitted helminth
B) A helminth that requires intermediate hosts for development
C) A helminth that lives only in water
D) A helminth that reproduces asexually

22. What is the function of a cyst stage in protozoa?

A) Locomotion and feeding
B) Reproduction only
C) Protection, transmission, and multiplication
D) Active invasion of the host

23. Epidemiology, as applied to parasites, studies:

A) The internal structure of parasites
B) The frequency, distribution, and determinants of parasitic diseases
C) The chemical composition of parasite toxins
D) The genetic makeup of hosts

24. What are the three key links required for parasitic disease transmission?

A) Parasite, Host, Environment
B) Source of infection, Mode of transmission, Susceptible people
C) Pathogenesis, Pathology, Immunity
D) Diagnosis, Treatment, Prevention

25. Which of the following is a common source of parasitic infections transmitted through contaminated soil?

A) Raw meat
B) Blood-sucking arthropods
C) Geohelminthes
D) Contaminated water

26. How are intestinal parasites most commonly transmitted?

A) Through insect bites
B) Via sexual intercourse
C) Through the feco-oral route
D) By blood transfusion

27. What is vertical transmission of a parasite?

A) Transmission between individuals of the same generation
B) Transmission from mother to child
C) Transmission through a vector
D) Transmission via contaminated food

28. A simple or direct life cycle of a parasite involves:

A) Multiple intermediate hosts
B) A vector and an intermediate host
C) Only one host
D) The alteration of generations

29. Why is studying parasite life cycles important?

A) To understand parasite morphology
B) To determine the genetic makeup of the host
C) To understand pathogenesis, diagnosis, and control
D) To classify parasites based on size

30. Which factor related to the host can influence the severity of a parasitic infection?

A) The size of the parasite
B) The strain of the parasite
C) Genetic factors and immune status
D) The number of vectors present