

Foundations of Circus Arts

Performing Arts · Practice Test · 25 Questions

1. Which term refers to the art of balancing on a thin wire or rope?

- A) Contortion
- B) Tightrope walking
- C) Juggling
- D) Acrobatics

2. What is the primary physical discipline used in aerial silks?

- A) Vertical apparatus
- B) Ground tumbling
- C) Equilibrium
- D) Clown logic

3. In circus terminology, what is a 'bunker' or 'base' in an acrobatic formation?

- A) The person on top
- B) The person holding the weight
- C) The audience member
- D) The ringmaster

4. Which historical figure is credited with modernizing the circus in 1768 by creating the standard 42-foot ring?

- A) P.T. Barnum
- B) Philip Astley
- C) Cirque du Soleil
- D) Jean-Baptiste Auriol

5. What is the objective of the 'diabolo' prop?

- A) To balance on a pole
- B) To spin a spool on a string
- C) To ride a unicycle
- D) To walk on stilts

6. Which circus discipline involves the manipulation of multiple objects in the air?

- A) Juggling
- B) Tightwire
- C) Trapeze
- D) Hand balancing

7. What is the primary function of a 'safety net' in aerial performances?

- A) To add aesthetic flair
- B) To catch performers in the event of a fall
- C) To store props
- D) To divide the stage

8. What is the term for a performer who specializes in extreme body flexibility?

- A) Acrobat
- B) Contortionist
- C) Mime
- D) Juggler

9. Which circus apparatus consists of two ropes hanging from a bar used for swinging?

- A) Aerial hoop
- B) Static trapeze
- C) Flying trapeze
- D) Cyr wheel

10. What defines a 'static' trapeze performance?

- A) The trapeze does not swing
- B) The performer is blindfolded
- C) The performer uses no music
- D) The apparatus is made of wood

11. Which piece of equipment is commonly used for solo balance and rotation?

- A) Cyr wheel
- B) Trampoline
- C) Teeterboard
- D) Chinese pole

12. What is the primary role of the 'ringmaster' in a traditional circus?

- A) To perform acrobatics
- B) To announce acts and manage the show flow
- C) To design the costumes
- D) To train the animals

13. Which of these is a traditional ground-based acrobatic discipline?

- A) Aerial silks
- B) Tumbling
- C) Trapeze
- D) Cloud swing

14. What is a 'human pyramid' primarily testing in a circus context?

- A) Vocal range
- B) Balance and coordination
- C) Speed
- D) Acting

15. What is the primary purpose of a 'spotter' during training?

- A) To record the session
- B) To provide physical assistance and safety
- C) To choreograph the routine
- D) To operate the lights

16. Which circus discipline utilizes a single-wheeled cycle?

- A) Bicycling
- B) Unicycling
- C) Tightrope
- D) Acrobalance

17. What is the 'aerial hoop' commonly known as in the circus industry?

- A) Lyra
- B) Silks
- C) Hammock
- D) Trapeze

18. Which circus prop is typically made of wood or plastic and manipulated by the feet?

- A) Foot juggling
- B) Clubs
- C) Rings
- D) Balls

19. What material is used to provide friction for aerial performers on silks?

- A) Oil
- B) Chalk
- C) Water
- D) Sand

20. What is the 'teeterboard' designed to do?

- A) Launch a performer into the air
- B) Balance objects
- C) Spin a performer
- D) Walk across a gap

21. Which circus discipline is most closely associated with the use of 'clown white' makeup?

- A) Acrobatics
- B) Clowning
- C) Tightwire
- D) Juggling

22. What is the primary focus of 'Chinese Pole' performance?

- A) Dancing on a flat floor
- B) Climbing and performing moves on a vertical pole
- C) Walking on a wire
- D) Swinging on ropes

23. In acrobatics, what does the term 'tuck' describe?

- A) A fully extended body position
- B) A position with knees pulled to the chest
- C) A split jump
- D) A slow rotation

24. Which circus discipline involves walking on extended wooden poles?

- A) Stilt walking
- B) Unicycling
- C) Tightrope walking
- D) Juggling

25. What is the name of the vertical fabric apparatus used for climbing and drops?

- A) Aerial silks
- B) Rope
- C) Trapeze
- D) Net