

Circus Arts Proficiency

Performing Arts · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. What is the specific name for the safety net positioned beneath a high-wire performer?

- A) Catch-line
- B) Safety mesh
- C) Fly-net**
- D) Longe

2. In aerial arts, what is the 'silk' or fabric apparatus officially known as?

- A) Tissu**
- B) Velvet cord
- C) Aero-rope
- D) Canvas ribbon

3. Which circus discipline primarily focuses on the manipulation of multiple objects in a rhythmic pattern?

- A) Acrobatics
- B) Juggling**
- C) Contortion
- D) Clowning

4. What is the vertical pole used in 'Chinese Pole' acts typically coated with to provide grip?

- A) Varnish
- B) Rubber**
- C) Fabric
- D) Powdered chalk

5. What is the professional term for a performer who excels in extreme flexibility and body bending?

- A) Flexor
- B) Contortionist**
- C) Gymnast
- D) Balancer

6. Which piece of equipment is used by 'aerial hoop' artists to perform spinning and hanging tricks?

A) Lyra

B) Cradle

C) Trapeze

D) Ring-stand

7. In acrobatics, what is a 'base' responsible for during a partner balancing act?

A) Executing flips

B) Supporting the flyer

C) Directing music

D) Spotting the audience

8. What is the purpose of a 'longe' used during training for dangerous circus stunts?

A) Decorative effect

B) Weight balancing

C) Safety harness system

D) Prop storage

9. Which physical principle do tightrope walkers primarily use to maintain stability?

A) Centrifugal force

B) Center of gravity

C) Friction

D) Inertia

10. What is the specific name for the platform located at the very top of a circus tent?

A) Cupola

B) Apex

C) Crown

D) Truss

11. Which type of prop is used in the traditional circus art of 'diabolo'?

A) A spinning top on a string

B) A balanced plate

C) A weighted ball

D) A juggling club

12. What is the technical term for the 'flyer' in a flying trapeze act jumping from one bar to another?

- A) The catch
- B) The release**
- C) The transition
- D) The swing

13. Which historical figure is often credited with establishing the structure of the modern circus in 1768?

- A) P.T. Barnum
- B) Philip Astley**
- C) Carl Hagenbeck
- D) James Bailey

14. What is a 'human pyramid' in circus arts classified as?

- A) Static acrobatics**
- B) Dynamic movement
- C) A transition
- D) A solo act

15. What material is the 'clown nose' most traditionally made from in professional settings?

- A) Hard plastic
- B) Soft foam or rubber**
- C) Wood
- D) Metal