

Renaissance Art Mastery

Art History · Answer Key · 25 Questions

1. Which painting technique, meaning 'smoky' in Italian, did Leonardo da Vinci use to create imperceptible transitions between colours and tones?

- A) Chiaroscuro
- B) Sfumato**
- C) Cangiante
- D) Tenebrism

2. Which Florentine sculptor is credited with reviving the use of contrapposto in his bronze statue of 'David'?

- A) Donatello**
- B) Verrocchio
- C) Michelangelo
- D) Ghiberti

3. The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel was commissioned by which Pope?

- A) Pope Leo X
- B) Pope Alexander VI
- C) Pope Julius II**
- D) Pope Paul III

4. Who wrote 'The Lives of the Most Excellent Painters, Sculptors, and Architects', which serves as the foundational text for the history of Renaissance art?

- A) Leon Battista Alberti
- B) Giorgio Vasari**
- C) Baldassare Castiglione
- D) Benvenuto Cellini

5. In Raphael's 'The School of Athens', which philosopher is depicted pointing upward, representing his focus on abstract ideals?

- A) Heraclitus
- B) Aristotle
- C) Socrates
- D) Plato**

6. What is the primary medium used in the 'Ghent Altarpiece' by Jan van Eyck, which allowed for unprecedented levels of detail and luminosity?

- A) Fresco
- B) Egg Tempera
- C) Oil paint**
- D) Encaustic

7. Which Renaissance artist is famous for his mastery of woodcuts and engravings, such as 'Melencolia I'?

- A) Albrecht Dürer**
- B) Hans Holbein the Younger
- C) Matthias Grünewald
- D) Lucas Cranach the Elder

8. The term 'Quattrocento' refers to which century in Italian art history?

- A) 1300s
- B) 1400s**
- C) 1500s
- D) 1600s

9. Which architectural feature, designed by Filippo Brunelleschi, remains the largest masonry vault in the world?

- A) The dome of St. Peter's Basilica
- B) The dome of the Florence Cathedral**
- C) The dome of the Pantheon
- D) The dome of the Villa Rotonda

10. What specific innovation did Masaccio demonstrate in his 'Holy Trinity' fresco, representing a milestone in linear perspective?

- A) The use of vanishing point projection**
- B) The invention of the camera obscura
- C) The application of gold leaf
- D) The technique of wet-on-wet painting

11. Which Venetian painter was renowned for his vibrant use of colour and his influence on the development of the Venetian School?

- A) Titian**
- B) Sandro Botticelli
- C) Fra Angelico
- D) Piero della Francesca

12. Which painting by Sandro Botticelli depicts the goddess of love arriving at the shore on a seashell?

A) Primavera

B) The Birth of Venus

C) Pallas and the Centaur

D) Mars and Venus

13. Which city is widely considered the primary birthplace and epicenter of the Italian Renaissance?

A) Rome

B) Venice

C) Florence

D) Milan

14. Who was the primary patron of the arts in Florence during the height of the early Renaissance, known for supporting artists like Botticelli and Michelangelo?

A) The Borgia family

B) The Medici family

C) The Sforza family

D) The Gonzaga family

15. What is the 'Pietà' by Michelangelo carved from?

A) Carrara marble

B) Travertine

C) Bronze

D) Terracotta

16. Which Northern Renaissance painter is noted for the complex symbolism and intricate detail in 'The Arnolfini Portrait'?

A) Hieronymus Bosch

B) Pieter Bruegel the Elder

C) Jan van Eyck

D) Rogier van der Weyden

17. In Leonardo da Vinci's 'The Last Supper', which mathematical concept is utilized to draw the viewer's eye to the central figure of Christ?

A) Golden Ratio

B) Linear Perspective

C) Fibonacci Sequence

D) Symmetry

18. Which Renaissance artist was also a prolific architect who designed the 'Tempietto' in Rome?

- A) Donato Bramante**
- B) Andrea Palladio
- C) Leon Battista Alberti
- D) Filippo Brunelleschi

19. What technique involves painting directly onto wet plaster so that the colours become part of the wall itself?

- A) Secco
- B) Fresco**
- C) Grisaille
- D) Impasto

20. Which Italian artist is known for the 'Lamentation over the Dead Christ', showcasing emotional intensity and foreshortening?

- A) Mantegna**
- B) Giotto
- C) Bellini
- D) Masolino

21. Which artistic style followed the High Renaissance, characterized by elongated proportions and stylized poses?

- A) Baroque
- B) Mannerism**
- C) Rococo
- D) Neoclassicism

22. Who painted the 'Isenheim Altarpiece', known for its intense and harrowing depiction of the crucifixion?

- A) Matthias Grünewald**
- B) Albrecht Altdorfer
- C) Hans Baldung
- D) Lucas van Leyden

23. Which Renaissance treatise by Leon Battista Alberti provided the first systematic rules for the construction of perspective in painting?

- A) De re aedificatoria
- B) De pictura**
- C) Il libro dell'arte
- D) Trattato della pittura

24. Which work by Michelangelo depicts the scene of the Last Judgment?

- A) The Sistine Chapel ceiling
- B) The altar wall of the Sistine Chapel**
- C) The Vatican Stanze
- D) The Medici Chapel

25. Which artist is attributed with the invention of the 'sacra conversazione' (holy conversation) style, featuring saints from different eras sharing a unified space?

- A) Domenico Veneziano
- B) Antonello da Messina
- C) Giovanni Bellini**
- D) Fra Filippo Lippi