

Heraldry for Young Scholars

Heraldry · Answer Key · 23 Questions

1. What is the main purpose of a coat of arms in heraldry?

- A) To identify a specific person or family**
- B) To display wealth and status
- C) To decorate buildings
- D) To guide travellers

2. In heraldry, what is a 'charge'?

- A) A symbol placed on a shield**
- B) The shape of the shield itself
- C) The colours used in a coat of arms
- D) A decorative border

3. Which of the following is a common 'tincture' (colour or metal) used in heraldry?

- A) Azure (blue)**
- B) Greenish-brown
- C) Orange
- D) Purple-pink

4. What does the heraldic term 'Or' refer to?

- A) Gold (yellow)**
- B) Silver (white)
- C) Red
- D) Black

5. The lion is a very common charge in heraldry. What does it often symbolise?

- A) Courage and strength**
- B) Wisdom and learning
- C) Peace and gentleness
- D) Speed and agility

6. What is the primary surface upon which heraldic symbols are displayed?

- A) A shield**
- B) A flag
- C) A banner
- D) A crest

7. In heraldry, what is the 'crest'?

A) A decorative element placed on top of a helmet

- B) The main design on the shield
- C) The outer frame of the coat of arms
- D) A special type of sword

8. Which of these is a common animal used as a charge in heraldry, often representing loyalty?

A) Dog (hound)

- B) Monkey
- C) Rabbit
- D) Sloth

9. What is the heraldic term for the division of a shield into two parts?

A) Per pale (divided vertically)

- B) Per bend (divided diagonally)
- C) Per fess (divided horizontally)
- D) Quarterly (divided into four)

10. What does the colour 'Gules' represent in heraldry?

A) Red

- B) Blue
- C) Green
- D) Yellow

11. In heraldry, what is a 'motto'?

A) A short phrase or word associated with the coat of arms

- B) The name of the family
- C) A description of the shield's charges
- D) A type of helmet

12. What does the heraldic bird, the eagle, commonly symbolise?

A) Power and authority

- B) Humility and service
- C) Playfulness and joy
- D) Curiosity and investigation

13. What is 'Sable' in heraldry?

A) Black

- B) White
- C) Orange
- D) Brown

14. The fleur-de-lis is a stylised lily. In heraldry, what does it often represent?

A) The French monarchy and purity

- B) The Roman Empire and strength
- C) The Greek gods and wisdom
- D) The Egyptian pharaohs and divinity

15. What is a 'garb' in heraldry?

A) A sheaf of wheat or barley

- B) A type of sword
- C) A crown
- D) A star

16. What does the heraldic term 'Argent' mean?

A) Silver (white)

- B) Gold (yellow)
- C) Blue
- D) Red

17. What is a 'rampant' posture for a lion in heraldry?

A) Standing on its hind legs with forepaws raised

- B) Lying down peacefully
- C) Walking with one paw raised
- D) Running very fast

18. Which of these is a common mythical creature found in heraldry, often symbolising protection?

A) Griffin

- B) Unicorn
- C) Dragon
- D) Phoenix

19. What does 'Vert' signify in heraldry?

A) Green

- B) Yellow
- C) Blue
- D) Purple

20. What is a 'mullet' in heraldry?

A) A star, usually with five or six points

- B) A small bird
- C) A type of shield
- D) A crown ornament

21. What is the main function of a 'helm' (helmet) in heraldry?

- A) To indicate rank or status**
- B) To protect the wearer's head
- C) To carry heraldic symbols
- D) To make the coat of arms look larger

22. What does the heraldic colour 'Purpure' represent?

- A) Purple**
- B) Orange
- C) Brown
- D) Pink

23. What is a 'chevron' in heraldry?

- A) A V-shaped stripe**
- B) A horizontal band
- C) A diagonal line
- D) A circular symbol