

Historical Milestones in Viticulture & Wine

Viticulture And Wine History · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. The 'Judgment of Paris' in 1976 was a landmark wine competition that famously resulted in:

- A) French wines outperforming all international entries
- B) California wines winning in both red and white categories
- C) A permanent ban on wine imports to France
- D) The invention of the appellation d'origine contrôlée system

2. Which 19th-century pest, native to North America, devastated European vineyards by attacking vine roots?

- A) Powdery mildew
- B) Phylloxera vastatrix
- C) Pierce's disease
- D) Black rot

3. The oldest known winery in the world, dating back to approximately 4100 BCE, was discovered in which country?

- A) Georgia
- B) Armenia
- C) Italy
- D) Greece

4. During the late 19th century, the 'Great French Wine Blight' was eventually overcome by grafting European vines onto:

- A) Hybrid grape varieties
- B) Ancient Roman rootstocks
- C) American rootstocks
- D) Wild mountain vine seeds

5. Which historical document, established in 1935, became the legal framework for the French system of wine classification?

- A) The Treaty of Versailles
- B) The AOC (Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée) system
- C) The Edict of Nantes
- D) The Napoleon Code

6. What substance was historically used by the Romans to sweeten and preserve wine, which is now known to be toxic?

- A) Lead acetate
- B) Copper sulfate
- C) Mercury sulfide
- D) Arsenic trioxide

7. In 1855, Emperor Napoleon III commissioned a wine classification system for which specific French region?

- A) Bordeaux
- B) Champagne
- C) Burgundy
- D) Rhone Valley

8. The monks of the Cistercian order are historically credited with developing the vineyard plots, known as 'clos', in which region?

- A) Bordeaux
- B) Burgundy
- C) Alsace
- D) Provence

9. Which country is home to the Douro Valley, the world's first officially demarcated wine region, established in 1756?

- A) Spain
- B) Portugal
- C) Italy
- D) Chile

10. The invention of the 'methode traditionnelle' for sparkling wine is historically attributed to:

- A) Dom Pierre Pérignon
- B) Louis Pasteur
- C) Madame Clicquot
- D) Jean-Antoine Chaptal

11. What is the name of the process, perfected by Louis Pasteur in the 1860s, that helped prevent wine spoilage?

- A) Fermentation
- B) Distillation
- C) Pasteurization
- D) Sulfitation

12. The term 'terroir' is a French concept that historically refers to:

- A) The specific brand of the wine
- B) The combination of natural factors affecting crop growth
- C) The specific age of the oak barrels used
- D) The percentage of alcohol by volume

13. Before the widespread use of glass bottles in the 17th century, wine was primarily stored and transported in:

- A) Clay amphorae
- B) Wooden barrels
- C) Leather skins
- D) Metal canisters

14. The 1920s 'Prohibition' era in the United States led to a significant decline in winemaking, except for which specific purpose?

- A) Exporting to Europe
- B) Sacramental and medicinal use
- C) Production of grape juice
- D) Illegal black market distillation

15. Which ancient civilization was known for spreading viticulture throughout the Mediterranean via their trade networks?

- A) The Phoenicians
- B) The Aztecs
- C) The Incas
- D) The Mongols

16. 'Chaptalization' is a winemaking process named after Jean-Antoine Chaptal, which involves:

- A) Adding sugar to the grape must
- B) Filtering the wine through charcoal
- C) Adding sulfur dioxide
- D) Pressing grapes twice

17. The 'Wine War' of 1907 was a significant social uprising by winegrowers located in which country?

- A) France
- B) Italy
- C) Spain
- D) Argentina

18. The historical 'Treaty of Methuen' in 1703 facilitated the trade of which fortified wine from Portugal to England?

- A) Sherry
- B) Madeira
- C) Port
- D) Marsala