

Exploring the Esoteric: A Middle School Challenge

Occultism & Esoterica · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with developing one of the earliest known systems of divination using entrails of animals and birds?

- A) Egyptian
- B) Mesopotamian**
- C) Greek
- D) Roman

2. The concept of 'As Above, So Below' is a fundamental principle found in Hermeticism. Which ancient text is most closely associated with this principle?

- A) The Emerald Tablet**
- B) The Book of the Dead
- C) The Kabbalistic Zohar
- D) The Corpus Hermeticum

3. In Western esotericism, what does the alchemical symbol of a circle with a dot in the center (?) commonly represent?

- A) Silver
- B) Iron
- C) Gold**
- D) Mercury

4. Which historical figure is often mistakenly associated with the creation of the Tarot deck, but is actually more linked to its popularisation and esoteric interpretation in the 18th century?

- A) Leonardo da Vinci
- B) Antoine Court de Gébelin**
- C) Eliphas Lévi
- D) Papus

5. The Golden Dawn, a prominent esoteric order founded in the late 19th century, drew heavily from which primary mystical tradition?

- A) Sufism
- B) Buddhism
- C) Kabbalah**
- D) Shamanism

6. What is the primary purpose of a 'sigil' in magical practice, according to traditions like chaos magic?

- A) To ward off evil spirits
- B) To act as a ritualistic tool for invocation
- C) To create a symbolic representation of a desired outcome**
- D) To serve as a map for astral projection

7. The concept of 'qi' or 'chi' is central to many Eastern philosophical and spiritual traditions. Which of the following best describes its meaning in this context?

- A) A divine spirit
- B) The vital life force or energy**
- C) A form of meditation
- D) A sacred text

8. Which ancient Greek philosopher's ideas, particularly regarding the Forms and the immortality of the soul, have significantly influenced Western esoteric thought?

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