

Genealogy Basics Quiz

Genealogy · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. What is the primary goal of genealogy?

- A) To discover new scientific theories
- B) To trace one's family history and ancestors**
- C) To predict future events
- D) To create fictional stories

2. What is a family tree?

- A) A type of plant
- B) A diagram showing the relationships between family members**
- C) A historical document of kings and queens
- D) A fictional story

3. Which of the following is a common type of record used in genealogy?

- A) Weather reports
- B) Birth certificates**
- C) Movie scripts
- D) Cookbooks

4. What does the term 'ancestor' refer to?

- A) A person's current friends
- B) A person's direct predecessors in one's family line**
- C) A type of furniture
- D) A famous celebrity

5. What is a 'census record' primarily used for in genealogy?

- A) Tracking animal populations
- B) Counting the population and gathering demographic information**
- C) Recording stock market prices
- D) Documenting geological formations

6. What is a 'genealogical society'?

- A) A group of musicians
- B) An organization of people interested in family history research**
- C) A club for gardeners
- D) A political action committee

7. What is a 'vital record' in genealogy?

- A) A record of important scientific discoveries
- B) A record of life events such as births, marriages, and deaths**
- C) A record of popular songs
- D) A record of sporting events

8. What is a 'surname'?

- A) A person's first name
- B) The family name passed down from one generation to the next**
- C) A nickname
- D) A title of nobility

9. Which of the following is an example of a 'primary source' in genealogy?

- A) A biography written about a person in 2020
- B) A letter written by your great-grandparent in 1930**
- C) A history textbook published last year
- D) A fictional novel about a historical figure

10. What is the purpose of a 'pedigree chart'?

- A) To map out a person's career path
- B) To show a person's direct ancestors and their relationships**
- C) To illustrate a geological survey
- D) To design a new building

11. What does 'DNA testing' for genealogy aim to achieve?

- A) To determine a person's blood type
- B) To identify ethnic origins and connect with genetic relatives**
- C) To diagnose medical conditions
- D) To predict personality traits

12. What is an 'immigrant' in the context of genealogy?

- A) Someone who moves within their own country
- B) A person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country**
- C) A person who travels for vacation
- D) A person who changes jobs frequently