

Ancient History: Essential Knowledge Challenge

Ancient History · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with the invention of cuneiform writing, one of the earliest known systems of writing?

- A) Ancient Egypt
- B) Indus Valley Civilization
- C) Mesopotamia (Sumerians)**
- D) Ancient China

2. The Code of Hammurabi, one of the earliest and most complete written legal codes, originated from which Mesopotamian empire?

- A) Assyrian Empire
- B) Akkadian Empire
- C) Babylonian Empire**
- D) Neo-Babylonian Empire

3. The Oracle of Delphi, a renowned religious sanctuary and prophecy site in ancient Greece, was dedicated to which deity?

- A) Zeus
- B) Hades
- C) Apollo**
- D) Poseidon

4. Which Greek philosopher is famously known for his Socratic method of questioning and was sentenced to death for 'corrupting the youth'?

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

5. The construction of the Great Wall of China began during which dynasty?

- A) Han Dynasty
- B) Tang Dynasty
- C) Qin Dynasty**
- D) Song Dynasty

6. What was the primary purpose of the Roman aqueducts?

- A) Military fortifications
- B) Water supply to cities**
- C) Drainage systems for agriculture
- D) Amphitheaters for entertainment

7. The concept of 'zero' as a placeholder and number was developed and widely used by mathematicians of which ancient civilization?

- A) Ancient Greece
- B) Ancient Rome
- C) Ancient India**
- D) Maya Civilization

8. Which ancient civilization developed a sophisticated calendar system and the concept of zero independently of Old World civilizations?

- A) Ancient Egypt
- B) Mesopotamia
- C) Indus Valley
- D) Maya Civilization**

9. The epic poems the 'Iliad' and the 'Odyssey,' central to ancient Greek literature, are attributed to which legendary poet?

- A) Sappho
- B) Virgil
- C) Homer**
- D) Ovid

10. The Punic Wars were a series of conflicts fought between Rome and which North African power?

- A) Egypt
- B) Numidia
- C) Carthage**
- D) Mauretania

11. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, is often attributed to which king?

- A) Sargon of Akkad
- B) Nebuchadnezzar II**
- C) Cyrus the Great
- D) Hammurabi

12. Which ancient civilization is known for its advanced bronze casting and oracle bone script, predating the unification of China?

- A) Zhou Dynasty
- B) Shang Dynasty**
- C) Han Dynasty
- D) Xia Dynasty