Historical Foundations of Semiotics

Semiotics · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which 19th-century philosopher and polymath is credited with introducing the triadic model of the sign, consisting of the representamen, object, and interpretant?

A) Ferdinand de Saussure
B) Charles Sanders Peirce
C) Roland Barthes
D) Umberto Eco

2. In 1916, students of which Swiss linguist posthumously published his lecture notes as the 'Course in General Linguistics', laying the foundation for structuralist semiotics?

A) Louis Hjelmslev
B) Roman Jakobson
C) Ferdinand de Saussure
D) Claude Lévi-Strauss

3. The term 'semiology' was formally distinguished from 'semiotics' by the IASS (International Association for Semiotic Studies) in 1969; which thinker famously titled his 1957 essay collection 'Mythologies', applying sign theory to popular culture?

A) Roland Barthes
B) Algirdas Julien Greimas
C) Julia Kristeva
D) Tzvetan Todorov

4. Which medieval philosopher is widely cited by modern semioticians like John Deely for his extensive work on the 'tractatus de signis' within the Scholastic tradition?

A) Thomas Aquinas
B) John Poinsot
C) William of Ockham
D) Roger Bacon

5. The 'Prague Linguistic Circle', which heavily influenced structuralist semiotics, was co-founded in 1926 by which Russian-born linguist?

A) Viktor Shklovsky
B) Mikhail Bakhtin
C) Roman Jakobson
D) Nikolai Trubetzkoy

Quixly | This material was auto-generated. Quixly is not liable for errors or omissions. Visit quixlylearn.com to report corrections.

6. Which influential 1976 work by Umberto Eco attempted to provide a 'Theory of Semiotics' by integrating previous traditions into a unified field of study?

A) A Theory of Semiotics
B) The Open Work
C) The Name of the Rose
D) Kant and the Platypus

7. In the 1960s, which French structuralist applied semiotic analysis to the study of 'myth' in indigenous cultures in works such as 'The Savage Mind'?

A) Michel Foucault
B) Claude Lévi-Strauss
C) Jacques Lacan
D) Jean Baudrillard

8. Which Danish linguist founded the Copenhagen School and developed 'glossematics', an algebraic form of semiotics, in his work 'Prolegomena to a Theory of Language'?

A) Viggo Brøndal
B) Louis Hjelmslev
C) Hans Jørgen Uldall
D) Otto Jespersen

9. The concept of the 'semiosphere' was introduced in 1984 by which member of the Tartu-Moscow Semiotic School?

A) Juri Lotman
B) Boris Uspensky
C) Vyacheslav Ivanov
D) Vladimir Propp

10. In his 1928 work 'Morphology of the Folktale', which Russian formalist identified 31 recurring narrative functions, a milestone in narratology?

A) Vladimir Propp
B) Mikhail Bakhtin
C) Roman Jakobson
D) Yury Tynyanov

11. Which American semiotician founded the 'Semiotica' journal in 1969, acting as its editor-in-chief for over 30 years and instrumentalizing the field's institutionalization?

A) Thomas A. Sebeok
B) John Deely
C) David Savan
D) Arthur Burks

Quixly | This material was auto-generated. Quixly is not liable for errors or omissions. Visit quixlylearn.com to report corrections.

12. The 'Paris School' of semiotics, known for the semiotic square, was led by which Lithuanian-born theorist?

A) Algirdas Julien Greimas
B) Jacques Derrida
C) Gérard Genette
D) Jean-Marie Floch

13. Which 19th-century philosopher coined the term 'semiotic' (as a noun) to describe the doctrine of signs in his 'Essay Concerning Human Understanding'?

A) John Locke
B) Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz
C) Charles Sanders Peirce
D) Immanuel Kant

14. Which key semiotic concept, referring to the 'infinite' process of sign interpretation, was formalised by Peirce in his late writings?

A) Semiosis
B) Unlimited semiosis
C) Representational chain
D) Signified recursion

15. In 1981, which French sociologist published 'Simulacra and Simulation', theorizing how signs replace reality in contemporary society?

A) Jean Baudrillard
B) Pierre Bourdieu
C) Guy Debord
D) Paul Virilio

Quixly | This material was auto-generated. Quixly is not liable for errors or omissions. Visit quixlylearn.com to report corrections.