Advanced Knowledge of Circus Arts

Circus Arts · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which 18th-century equestrian performer is historically credited as the 'father of the modern circus' for introducing the 42-foot diameter ring?

A) Philip Astley
B) P.T. Barnum
C) Antonio Franconi
D) James Anthony Bailey

2. What is the specific term for a circus aerial apparatus consisting of a horizontal bar suspended by two ropes, typically used for swinging maneuvers?

A) Silks
B) Lyra
C) Trapeze
D) Corde Lisse

3. In circus terminology, what does the word 'ballyhoo' refer to?

A) A type of balancing act
B) The exterior performance used to attract an audience into the tent
C) A specific style of clown makeup
D) A dangerous acrobatic feat involving fire

4. Which discipline involves a performer balancing on a cylinder placed on top of a board, often requiring precise core stability?

A) Tightrope walking
B) Rola Bola
C) Chinese Pole
D) Slacklining

5. What is the distinction between a 'static' trapeze and a 'flying' trapeze?

A) Static is always performed solo; Flying is always a group act
B) Static trapeze does not involve swinging; Flying trapeze involves leaping between bars
C) Static trapeze uses a safety net; Flying trapeze does not
D) Static trapeze is performed at a lower altitude than Flying trapeze

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6. The term 'contortionist' refers to a performer who specializes in extreme flexibility; what is the specific classification for one who performs back-bending feats?

A) Acrobat
B) Bender
C) Front-bender
D) Foot-archery expert

7. What is the standard length of a 'standard' circus ring diameter, which has remained consistent since the late 1700s?

A) 10 meters
B) 12.8 meters
C) 15 meters
D) 18.5 meters

8. In the context of circus clowning, what is the 'Auguste' character known for?

A) Being the authority figure in the skit
B) Being the 'fool' or the recipient of the physical comedy
C) Performing silent mime exclusively
D) Leading the circus procession

9. Which circus discipline, originating in China, involves climbers ascending a vertical pole to perform feats of strength and agility?

A) Korean Cradle
B) Chinese Pole
C) Russian Bar
D) Trampolining

10. What is a 'flyer' in the context of a flying trapeze act?

A) The person who catches the performer
B) The person who performs the tricks while swinging
C) The stage manager responsible for aerial rigging
D) The percussionist who times the music to the jumps

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