

19th Century Interior Design Terminology Quiz

Interior Design · Practice Test · 20 Questions

1. In the 19th century, what term referred to a decorative style that incorporated elements from various historical periods, often creating a rich and eclectic look?

- A) Neoclassical
- B) Eclecticism
- C) Minimalism
- D) Art Nouveau

2. What was the common term for a large, elaborately carved wooden furniture piece, popular in the Victorian era, often used for storage?

- A) Chiffonier
- B) Armoire
- C) Credenza
- D) Secretary

3. The term 'salon' in 19th-century parlance most accurately refers to which type of room?

- A) A small private study
- B) A formal reception room
- C) A kitchen and dining area
- D) A bedroom

4. What was the name for a specific type of wallpaper featuring large, bold floral or natural motifs, a characteristic of Victorian interiors?

- A) Linen print
- B) Toile de Jouy
- C) Chintz wallpaper
- D) Damask

5. In 19th-century homes, 'wainscoting' most commonly refers to decorative paneling on which part of a wall?

- A) The ceiling
- B) The upper third
- C) The lower portion
- D) The entire wall surface

6. What term describes a highly ornate and often gilded decorative frame used around mirrors, pictures, or doorways in the 19th century?

- A) Dado
- B) Cornice
- C) Cartouche
- D) Frieze

7. The Aesthetic Movement, influential in the late 19th century, often used the term 'Japonisme' to describe the influence of what country's art and design?

- A) China
- B) India
- C) Japan
- D) Persia

8. What was the common term for a decorative fringe used to edge curtains, upholstery, or cushions in 19th-century interiors?

- A) Gimp
- B) Tassel
- C) Cording
- D) Pom-pom

9. In 19th-century furniture, a 'cabriole leg' is characterized by its shape, which:

- A) Is straight and tapered
- B) Is curved outward and then inward
- C) Has a carved foot
- D) Is square and blocky

10. What was the term for a decorative plaster or molded relief often found on ceilings and the upper parts of walls during the 19th century?

- A) Dado rail
- B) Skirting board
- C) Cornice
- D) Architrave

11. The term 'chintz' in 19th-century textiles refers to a type of fabric known for its:

- A) Heavy wool weave
- B) Printed floral patterns
- C) Plain linen weave
- D) Embroidered silk

12. What was the common term for a small, decorative table placed next to a chair or sofa, often used for holding books or a lamp?

- A) Commode
- B) Sideboard
- C) Pembroke table
- D) Occasional table

13. During the 19th century, a 'fretwork' design typically involved:

- A) Heavy wood carving
- B) Intricate pierced decorative patterns
- C) Smooth polished surfaces
- D) Mosaics of stone

14. The term 'upholstery' in 19th-century design primarily refers to the covering of what?

- A) Walls with wallpaper
- B) Floors with carpets
- C) Furniture with fabric and padding
- D) Windows with draperies

15. What was a common term for a small, portable footstool, often upholstered and used for comfort?

- A) Ottoman
- B) Bench
- C) Stool
- D) Hassock

16. In architectural jargon of the 19th century, an 'architrave' is best described as:

- A) A decorative ceiling molding
- B) The ornamental molding around a door or window opening
- C) A carved wooden beam
- D) A patterned floor tile

17. What term was used to describe a decorative motif featuring stylized, repetitive patterns, often seen in wallpaper and textiles of the era?

- A) Figurative
- B) Abstract
- C) Geometric
- D) Pictorial

18. The term 'credenza' in 19th-century usage most closely aligns with which modern furniture item?

- A) A sofa
- B) A large dining table
- C) A sideboard or buffet
- D) A bedside table

19. What was a typical term for heavily draped window coverings, often made of rich fabrics and adorned with tassels and fringe, popular in the Victorian era?

- A) Blinds
- B) Shutters
- C) Valances
- D) Curtains

20. During the 19th century, what term described a specific type of decorative inlaid work, often seen on furniture and boxes, using contrasting materials?

- A) Marquetry
- B) Gesso
- C) Patina
- D) Veneer