Foundations of Philosophy

Philosophy · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which ancient Greek philosopher was the teacher of Alexander the Great and founded the Lyceum?

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

2. What is the branch of philosophy that studies the nature of knowledge and how we know what is true?

A) Ethics
B) Metaphysics
C) Aesthetics
D) Epistemology

3. Which philosopher is famous for the statement 'I think, therefore I am'?

A) René Descartes
B) John Locke
C) Immanuel Kant
D) David Hume

4. In logic, what do we call a statement that is used to support a conclusion?

A) Fallacy
B) Premise
C) Paradox
D) Syllogism

5. Who is considered the founder of Western philosophy and was known for his method of questioning?

A) Thales
B) Socrates
C) Pythagoras
D) Heraclitus

6. Which branch of philosophy deals specifically with the study of moral values and right versus wrong?

A) Logic
B) Epistemology
C) Ethics
D) Ontology

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7. The 'Allegory of the Cave' is a famous philosophical thought experiment written by which author?

A) Plato
B) Aristotle
C) Marcus Aurelius
D) Seneca

8. What is a logical fallacy?

A) A correct method of reasoning
B) A flawed argument that weakens a claim
C) A type of ethical theory
D) A branch of metaphysics

9. Which philosophical movement emphasizes human beings' ability to use reason and science to improve society?

A) Romanticism
B) Existentialism
C) The Enlightenment
D) Nihilism

10. What does the term 'Metaphysics' primarily study?

A) The principles of beauty
B) The nature of reality and existence
C) The structure of government
D) The rules of valid arguments

11. Who wrote 'The Republic', a work that discusses justice and the ideal city-state?

A) Socrates
B) Plato
C) Aristotle
D) Cicero

12. What is 'Aesthetics' the study of?

A) The nature of beauty and art
B) The history of ancient civilizations
C) The chemical makeup of matter
D) The study of political power

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13. Which philosopher is associated with the concept of the 'Social Contract', arguing that people give up some freedom to a government in exchange for protection?

A) Jean-Jacques Rousseau
B) Socrates
C) Plato
D) Epicurus

14. In ancient Chinese philosophy, what represents the balance of opposing forces in the universe?

A) Dharma
B) Yin and Yang
C) Karma
D) The Dao

15. What is the definition of a 'Syllogism'?

A) A type of poem
B) A form of reasoning where a conclusion is drawn from two premises
C) An ethical rule for behavior
D) A scientific experiment

16. Which ancient school of philosophy taught that the goal of life is to achieve peace of mind by avoiding pain and fear?

A) Stoicism
B) Epicureanism
C) Cynicism
D) Platonism

17. What is the primary goal of the 'Socratic Method'?

A) To win an argument
B) To provoke anger
C) To uncover truth through persistent questioning
D) To memorize ancient texts

18. Who is often called the first Western philosopher for suggesting that water is the fundamental substance of all matter?

A) Anaximander
B) Thales
C) Democritus
D) Parmenides

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19. Which branch of philosophy focuses on the structure and rules of valid reasoning?

A) Logic
B) Metaphysics
C) Politics
D) Ethics

20. What is the central focus of 'Stoicism'?

A) Seeking maximum pleasure
B) Living in accordance with nature and controlling one's emotions
C) Rebelling against social norms
D) Studying the stars