Circus Arts Mastery

Circus Arts · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. In aerial arts, what is the specific name of the knot used to secure the silk fabric to the rigging point?

A) Square knot
B) Figure-eight knot
C) Sheet bend
D) Lark's head knot

2. Which piece of circus equipment consists of a horizontal metal bar suspended by two ropes, used primarily for swinging maneuvers?

A) Aerial hoop
B) Trapeze
C) Corde lisse
D) Spanish web

3. What is the term for the circus performer who specializes in the art of balancing on a slack wire or tightrope?

A) Funambulist
B) Contortionist
C) Acrobat
D) Juggler

4. The 'Cyr wheel' is a large, single-rim wheel used for acrobatics. In which country was this apparatus first popularized?

A) France
B) Canada
C) United States
D) Russia

5. What is the name of the traditional circus prop that consists of a long, vertical rope used for climbing and spinning tricks?

A) Silks
B) Hammock
C) Corde lisse
D) Cloud swing

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6. In juggling, what is the 'cascade' pattern considered to be?

A) An advanced 5-ball toss
B) The basic 3-ball pattern
C) A multi-person passing technique
D) A club-only maneuver

7. What is a 'contortionist' specifically trained to do?

A) Walk on stilts
B) Master extreme physical flexibility
C) Perform magic tricks
D) Ride a unicycle

8. The Chinese Pole is a vertical pole covered in what material to provide the performer with grip for climbing and sliding?

A) Velvet
B) Rubber
C) Sandpaper
D) Leather

9. Which circus discipline involves the performer balancing atop a stack of wooden cylinders and boards?

A) Rola Bola
B) German Wheel
C) Globe walking
D) Tightrope

10. What is the primary difference between 'static' trapeze and 'flying' trapeze?

A) Weight of the bar
B) Height of the rig
C) The use of a catcher and swinging momentum
D) Material of the ropes

11. Which historical circus figure is credited with modernizing the circus in 1768 by creating the 42-foot diameter ring?

A) P.T. Barnum
B) Philip Astley
C) James Anthony Bailey
D) Joseph Grimaldi

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12. In aerial silks, a 'drop' is a sequence where a performer does what?

A) Climbs to the top
B) Unwinds quickly to create a free-fall effect
C) Spins horizontally
D) Balances on their hands

13. A 'German Wheel' (or Rhönrad) features how many hoops connected by rungs?

A) One
B) Two
C) Three
D) Four

14. What is the technical term for the art of performing balancing acts using one's hands?

A) Aerialism
B) Hand balancing
C) Equilibristics
D) Pyramiding

15. Which of these is a form of performance art involving the manipulation of a glowing or lit sphere?

A) Contact juggling
B) Diabolo
C) Plate spinning
D) Devil sticks

16. The 'Diabolo' is a classic circus prop that is derived from which traditional Asian toy?

A) Kite
B) Yo-yo
C) Spinning top
D) Bamboo flute

17. What is the name of the circus apparatus that is a circular steel ring suspended from the ceiling?

A) Aerial hoop or Lyra
B) Aerial silk
C) Hammock
D) Trapeze

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18. In circus terminology, what is a 'bally'?

A) A costume change

B) An opening performance used to attract an audience

C) The final bow

D) A juggling technique

19. What is the primary function of the 'safety mat' (crash mat) in circus training?

A) To keep equipment clean

B) To provide a soft landing for aerialists and acrobats

C) To mark the center of the ring

D) To hold the props

20. What defines the 'Spanish Web' apparatus?

A) A vertical rope with a loop at the top for the performer's wrist or ankle

B) A net for flying trapeze

C) A series of horizontal rings

D) A metal ladder

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