World Etymologies

Etymology · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. The name 'Australia' is derived from the Latin word 'australis', which translates to what?

A) Southern
B) Golden
C) Island
D) New Land

2. The name 'Canada' originates from the Iroquoian word 'kanata', which has what meaning?

A) Great River
B) Village
C) North Star
D) Cold Land

3. The name 'Brazil' is believed to be named after 'pau-brasil', a tree that produces what color dye?

A) Blue
B) Green
C) Red
D) Yellow

4. The name 'Costa Rica' translates from Spanish into English as what?

A) Rich Coast
B) Sunny Beach
C) Green Mountain
D) Hidden Bay

5. The name 'Argentina' comes from the Latin word 'argentum', which refers to which precious metal?

A) Gold
B) Copper
C) Silver
D) Platinum

6. The name 'Japan' comes from a Chinese word that translates to what?

A) Land of the Rising Sun
B) Big Island
C) Dragon Empire
D) Mountain Kingdom

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7. The name 'Florida' was given by Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León because the region was full of what?

A) Oranges
B) Flowers
C) Alligators
D) Gold

8. The name 'Iceland' was chosen by early settlers to discourage people from coming, but the country is actually known for what?

A) Volcanoes and Glaciers
B) Dense Forests
C) Desert Plains
D) Giant Jungles

9. The name 'Singapore' is derived from the Sanskrit words 'singa' and 'pura', which together mean what?

A) Lion City
B) Trading Port
C) Island Nation
D) Blue Harbor

10. The name 'Mexico' is derived from the Nahuatl word 'Mexihco', which was the name for the center of the empire of which people?

A) Incas
B) Mayans
C) Aztecs
D) Olmecs

11. The name 'Ethiopia' originates from the Greek word 'Aithiopia', which translates to what?

A) Land of Burnt Faces
B) Land of High Mountains
C) Land of Many Rivers
D) Land of Gold

12. The name 'Norway' translates from Old Norse as what?

A) The North Way
B) The Cold Path
C) The Mountain Kingdom
D) The Viking Land

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