

Ancient Culinary Origins

Ancient Culinary Arts · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which animal was the primary source of protein for the inhabitants of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- A) Cattle**
- B) Sheep
- C) Pigs
- D) Chickens

2. Ancient Egyptians used which natural substance to preserve fish for long-term storage?

- A) Honey
- B) Vinegar
- C) Natron salt**
- D) Olive oil

3. What plant was the primary staple crop in the ancient Nile River valley?

- A) Rice
- B) Wheat**
- C) Maize
- D) Potato

4. The ancient Romans used 'garum', a condiment made primarily from what?

- A) Fermented fish**
- B) Crushed olives
- C) Dried grapes
- D) Pickled roots

5. Which animal was considered sacred in ancient Egypt and rarely consumed by the common population?

- A) Goat
- B) Cat**
- C) Duck
- D) Sheep

6. In ancient Mesoamerica, what natural process was used to prepare maize to increase its nutritional value?

- A) Fermentation
- B) Nixtamalization**
- C) Sun-drying
- D) Smoking

7. What type of animal fat was most commonly used for cooking in the ancient Mediterranean climate?

- A) Lard
- B) Duck fat
- C) Olive oil**
- D) Butter

8. Which bird was domesticated for food in ancient China as early as 5000 BCE?

- A) Chicken**
- B) Turkey
- C) Goose
- D) Ostrich

9. What was the primary environmental factor that dictated the seasonal availability of wild game in ancient foraging societies?

- A) Tidal patterns
- B) Migration cycles**
- C) Soil acidity
- D) Cloud cover

10. Ancient Mesopotamian texts frequently mention the brewing of beer using which base grain?

- A) Rye
- B) Barley**
- C) Oats
- D) Buckwheat

11. What natural sweetener was the only one widely available to the ancient Greeks before the trade of sugar cane?

- A) Maple syrup
- B) Agave
- C) Honey**
- D) Date syrup

12. The ancient Phoenicians were known for utilizing which marine animal to create expensive dyes and culinary additives?

- A) Murex snail**
- B) Oyster
- C) Squid
- D) Crab

13. Which root vegetable was a staple food source for the ancient Andean civilizations of South America?

- A) Carrot
- B) Potato**
- C) Turnip
- D) Radish

14. What was the most significant environmental influence on the diet of ancient coastal communities in the Pacific?

- A) Desertification
- B) Sea level rise
- C) Marine biodiversity**
- D) Monsoon cycles

15. Ancient Persians were the first to develop techniques for creating what frozen dessert using mountain ice?

- A) Gelato
- B) Sorbet
- C) Shaved ice**
- D) Custard