

FLORIDA JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE FORUM 1992

ROMAN LIFE

1. Most Roman houses were made chiefly of
a. brick. b. stone. c. concrete. d. marble.
2. In what month did the Lupercalia take place?
a. June b. August c. December d. February
3. At what age did a Roman boy normally begin school?
a. 2 or 3 b. 4 or 5 c. 6 or 7 d. 8 or 9
4. During which of the following months would the Ides fall on the fifteenth day?
a. April b. June c. August d. October
5. A box-edged flower bed, geometrical in shape, was called a
a. viola. b. arbustum. c. rhombus. d. xystus.
6. In the name Gaius Iulius Caesar Octavianus, which is the cognomen?
a. Gaius b. Iulius c. Caesar d. Octavianus
7. Which of the following were considered to be engaged in a respectable occupation?
a. teachers b. auctioneers c. undertakers d. architects
8. The cursus publicus dealt with
a. road-building. b. protection from pirates.
c. government offices. d. the mail.
9. What in Rome was a histrion?
a. actor b. scholar c. flower-basket d. lamp
10. Which of the following were the original factiones?
a. Blue and Green b. Red and White c. Blue and White
d. Green and Red
11. Which assembly elected the praetors, consuls, and censors?
a. Comitia Tributa b. Concilium Plebis c. Comitia Centuriata
d. Patres Conscripti
12. What modern date corresponds to the Roman a.d. IV Non. Iul.?
a. July 2 b. July 4 c. July 10 d. July 12
13. The piece of furniture used for reading or writing during the day:
a. camillus b. lectus c. lacerna d. cathedra
14. Some engagement rings were made of gold, but most of them were made of
a. iron. b. bronze. c. silver. d. platinum.

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15. Physicians and surgeons were sometimes slaves but more often were freedmen or foreigners, especially
 - a. Egyptians. b. Greeks. c. Persians. d. Syrians.
16. The Romans most often _____ their meats.
 - a. fried b. boiled c. baked d. roasted
17. What type of entertainment did a schoenobates provide?
 - a. rope-walking b. juggling c. singing d. acrobatics
18. What goddess was believed to preside over the "dies lustricus"?
 - a. Themis b. Diana c. Nundina d. Minerva
19. Which of the following was often the chosen garb of philosophers?
 - a. sagum b. paenula c. abolla d. trabea
20. In ancient Rome it was considered an ill-omen if a _____ should ever escape and climb to the third floor of a building.
 - a. pig b. stallion c. rooster d. bull
21. The first gladiatorial combats in Rome were held at the funeral games of Brutus Pera in
 - a. 509 B.C. b. 451 B.C. c. 338 B.C. d. 264 B.C.
22. According to Varro, barbers appeared in Rome c. 300 B.C., but Pliny the Elder informs us that the first man to shave every day was
 - a. Cato the Censor. b. Scipio Aemilianus. c. Tiberius Gracchus. d. Pompey the Great.
23. The chair in which a patron sat to receive his clients was called a
 - a. subsellium. b. sella. c. solium. d. sedile
24. Freedmen could
 - a. vote. b. hold office. c. vote and hold office. d. neither vote nor hold office.
25. What were uninvited dinner guests or "party-crashers" called?
 - a. umbrae b. inhospitales c. rudi d. inimici
26. Who in Rome would most likely have been associated with crepundia?
 - a. a thief b. a baby c. a surgeon d. a gladiator
27. Worn primarily by lower class women, sucinum would provide a delicate fragrance when rubbed gently with the hand. What was sucinum?
 - a. aloe b. amber c. a daisy petal d. a crushed maple leaf

28. What name was given to a roll of aces, the lowest roll in knuckle-bones?
a. Venus b. Pluto c. Imus d. Vulture
29. Letters sent by tabelarii from Rome to Brundisium, a distance of 370 miles, would reach their destination in
a. 6 days. b. 14 days. c. 25 days. d. 32 days.
30. What requirement did an aspiring lawyer have to meet before practicing in the courts?
a. He had to pass an examination.
b. He had to be approved by the Senate.
c. He had to demonstrate his ability before a board composed of senators and equestrians.
d. There were no requirements.
31. The Parentalia was celebrated from the thirteenth to the twenty-first of February, the last day being especially distinguished as the
a. Feralia. b. Matronalia. c. Rosaria. d. Lemuria.
32. Children paid their school fees each month on the
a. pridie Kalendas. b. Kalends. c. Nones. d. Ides.
33. The small dole of food or money given to a client:
a. sportula b. scortilla c. scintilla d. spatula
34. Where were unchaste Vestal Virgins buried alive?
a. Campus Martius b. Forum Romanum c. Campus Sceleratus
d. Forum Boarium
35. On what day would a Roman boy have celebrated his entry into manhood?
a. January 12 b. February 28 c. March 17 d. October 1
36. In modern technology, a fulcrum is a support that sustains a lever. To the Romans, however, a fulcrum was a
a. see-saw. b. hairbrush. c. bed post. d. chariot.
37. Horseback riding was not a recognized mode of travel because
a. changing stations were few and far between.
b. Roman roads were hard on horses' hooves.
c. swift horses were hard to find.
d. saddles were unknown to the Romans.
38. The grave pits of the poor were eventually covered over to a depth of twenty-five feet and transformed into a park by
a. Caesar. b. Nero. c. Maecenas. d. Sallust.
39. A Roman military machine used to hurl large stones:
a. testudo b. ballista c. pluteus d. tormentum

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40. Which of the following did NOT build thermae in Rome?
a. Caracalla b. Marcus Aurelius c. Diocletian d. Titus
41. What act by the eldest son determined that the paterfamilias had died?
a. deductio b. salutatio c. compotatio d. conclamatio
42. The grave pits of the poor were located on the eastern side of the
a. Palatine. b. Esquiline. c. Capitoline. d. Aventine.
43. With what three things did a bride annoint the threshold of her new home?
a. linen, olive oil, and oak leaves
b. perfume, cypress branches, and pine needles
c. wool, pig's fat, and olive oil
d. silk, dog's blood, and water
44. Grapevines were not native to Italy but were probably introduced from
a. Egypt. b. Spain. c. Greece. d. Gaul.
45. When caught, runaway slaves were branded on the forehead with the letter
a. T. b. S. c. R. d. F.
46. A fullonica made
a. paper. b. bread. c. cloth. d. pottery.
47. According to Vergil, venaficae had the "power to draw the moon down from the sky." What were venaficae?
a. witches b. astrologers c. haruspices d. amazons
48. The main source of grain for Rome was
a. Asia Minor. b. Spain. c. Egypt. d. Gaul.
49. A Roman slave's private property was known as
a. pecten. b. peculium. c. privilegium. d. privata.
50. The revolving stand on which slaves stood during a slave sale was called a
a. catinus. b. caterva. c. catasta. d. castitas.