

## Certamen Culture and History Questions – Part I

1. What does the praenomen “fabius” mean?  
A. Bean
2. A typical Roman had 3 names; some had four. What was this 4<sup>th</sup> name called?  
A. Agnomen
3. What was (Marcus Licinius) Crassus’ agnomen?  
A. Dives
4. What did the agnomen “Dives” mean?  
A. Rich
5. If Gaius Scipio Paulus was adopted by Lucius Iulius Aemilius, what would his name become?  
A. Lucius Iulius Aemilius Paulanus,
6. What was lunch called?  
A. Prandium
7. Who was a “pistor”?  
A. A baker
8. How many centuries were there in a maniple?  
A. Two
9. How many maniples were in a cohort?  
A. Three
10. What was the Latin word for infantrymen?  
A. Pedites
11. What does the abbreviation Q.I.D. mean?  
A. Four times a day
12. What is the Abbreviation P.S. short for?  
A. Post Scriptum
13. What is the abbreviation for “on the back side of this page”?  
A. F.V.
14. What did the Romans call the mountain range known as the Swiss Alps?  
A. Jura
15. What was the Latin word for Ireland?  
A. Hibernia

16. What did the Romans call the Scottish?  
A. The Caledonii
17. What did the Romans call modern day Romania?  
A. Dacia
18. Where was the area known as Gallia Togata?  
A. The area of Gaul below the Po River.
19. Where was the Gallia Comata?  
A. The area of Gaul above the Po River
20. What was used to count laps at the Circus Maximus?  
A. Dolphins and Eggs
21. Between what two hills was the Forum Romanum?  
A. Palatine and Capitoline
22. Who would supervise a basilica?  
A. A praetor?
23. What was the speaking platform in the Forum called?  
A. The rostra
24. To what god was the Pantheon dedicated?  
A. All of them
25. What was the relationship between a host and a guest called?  
A. Hospitium
26. What was the relationship between a patronus and a cliens called?  
A. Clientela
27. Name the three main baths in a thermae.  
A. Tepidarium, Caldarium, and frigidarium
28. What were used to heat the baths?  
A. Hypocausts
29. Who in Rome wore a toga picta?  
A. Victorious Generals
30. What trilogy would be called Dominus Anulorum?  
A. Lord of the Rings

## History and Culture Certamen Questions Part II

1. What was the Roman god of the home?  
A. Lares
2. On tombs, what did the abbreviation S.T.T.L. stand for, and what does it mean?  
A. Sit tibi terra levis; May the earth be light upon you.
3. What emperor abolished the Olympics in 393 AD?  
A. Theodosius I
4. What were the 4 factions of chariot racing?  
A. White, green, blue, and red
5. How often were regular offices elected?  
A. Yearly
6. What was a publicanus?  
A. Tax collector
7. What does "Pontifex Maximus" literally translate into?  
A. The greatest bridge builder
8. What was the power that was bestowed upon Consuls, praetors, dictators and magistri equitum?  
A. Imperium
9. What was the purpose of the Comitia Centuriata?  
A. To declare war, sign peace treaties, elect consuls.
10. What was the purpose of the Comitia Tributa?  
A. Passed legislation, elected quaestors and aediles.
11. What was the purpose of the Comitia Curiata?  
A. Supervised wills and adoptions, confirmed imperium.
12. What king ruled with Titus Tatius?  
A. Romulus
13. What king of what city tried to reinstate the Roman monarchy?  
A. Lars Porsenna of Clusium
14. What Roman woman betrayed Rome for golden bracelets?  
A. Tarpeia
15. The rape of which first co-consul wife caused the downfall of the monarchy.  
A. Collatinus

16. In 451 B.C. power was given to what group of men?  
A. Decemviri
17. What were the first written laws of Rome?  
A. Twelve Tables
18. What temple was built to commemorate the harmony between the patricians and the plebeians?  
A. Temple of Concord
19. On what mountain did Cincinnatus save the Roman army from the Aedui?  
A. Algidus
20. What king was the first to use elephants against the Romans?  
A. King Pyrrhus
21. What Roman general lost the battle of Drepana after scorning a bad omen?  
A. Publius Claudius Pulcher
22. Name two defeats of the Romans in the Second Punic War  
A. Ticinus, Trebia, Lake Trasimene, Cannae
23. What two brothers pushed for land distribution from the plebeians to the patricians?  
A. Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus.
24. Cicero promoted the middle class, known as what?  
A. Equites
25. Gaius Julius Caesar married his daughter off to who, to seal the 1<sup>st</sup> triumvirate?  
A. Gaius Pompeius (Pompey)
26. What wife of Julius Caesar told him “Beware the Ides of March?”  
A. Calpurnia
27. When Caesar crossed the Rubicon in 49 B.C., what did he say?  
A. Alea iacta est
28. After what battle did Caesar say famously “veni, vidi, vici”?  
A. Zela
29. In what year did Julius Caesar become sole consul?  
A. 45 B.C.
30. Caesar's final words (“Et tu Brute”) were probably not in Latin, but in Greek. How do you say his parting words in Ancient Achaean?  
A. Kai Su Teknon

### History and Culture Certamen Questions Part III

1. Where did Cato the Younger commit suicide?  
A. Utica
2. Who was a descendent of Ptolemy, a Macedonian general under the command of Alexander the Great?  
A. Cleopatra
3. What daughter of Cleopatra was married to King Juba of Numidia?  
A. Cleopatra Selene
4. Who in Rome represented the interests of the wealthy?  
A. The Optimates
5. Who in Rome represented the interest of the common people?  
A. Populares
6. What did Octavian's name become when Julius Caesar adopted him?  
A. Gaius Iulius Caesar Octavianus
7. In what year was Octavian given he title Augustus?  
A. 27 B.C.
8. Who was the mother of the emperor Tiberius?  
A. Livia
9. What general of Octavian won two huge naval battles, one at Naulochus, and the other at Actium?  
A. Agrippa
10. During who's reign was Christ crucified?  
A. Tiberius's
11. Who was the last emperor to be born in the years B.C.?  
A. Tiberius
12. Which emperor made his horse a senator?  
A. Gaius Caligula
13. What was the first (and only) horse senator's name?  
A. Incitatus
14. What emperor built the Domus Aurea?  
A. Nero
15. What year was the year of 4 emperors?  
A. 69 A.D.

16. What does the Latin sentence “Vae, puto, deus fio” mean and who said it?  
A. Alas, I think, I am becoming a god; Vespasian
17. Who presided over the building of the coliseum?  
A. Titus
18. Which one of the 5 good emperors ruled for the longest?  
A. Antonius Pius
19. The empire reached its greatest extent under the emperor Trajan with the conquering of what province?  
A. Dacia
20. Who extended citizenship to all free men of the empire?  
A. Caracalla = Marcus Aurelius Antonius
21. What emperor defeated Maxentius at Mulvan Bridge?  
A. Constantine
22. Before the battle he saw a vision of an angel saying “in hoc signo vinces.” What does this translate into?  
A. In this sign you will conquer.
23. What is the year the Eastern Roman Empire fell minus the year the Western Roman Empire fell?  
A. 977
24. What children’s book is titled “Leo, Vestifera atque Vestiarium”?  
A. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
25. What Athenian politician masterminded the Greek victory at Salamis?  
A. Themistocles