

Directions: Questions 1-8 are based on the following excerpt from www.middle-ages.org.uk. Circle the best correct answer.

Courtly Love

The romance of Courtly Love practiced during the Middle Ages was combined with the Code of Chivalry. There were strict rules of courtly love and the art of courtly love was practiced by the members of the courts across Europe during the Middle Ages. The romance, rules and art of courtly love allowed knights and ladies to show their admiration regardless of their marital state. It was a common occurrence for a married lady to give a token to a knight of her choice to be worn during a Medieval tournament. There were rules which governed courtly love but sometimes the parties, who started their relationship with such elements of courtly love, would become deeply involved. A famous example of a relationship which was stirred by romantic courtly love and romance is described in the Legend of King Arthur, where his Queen, Guinevere fell in love with Sir Lancelot. Many illicit court romances were fuelled by the practice and art of courtly love.

The Origins of Courtly Love

The origins of Courtly Love were believed to be in Aquitaine in France in the 12th century and spread to other European countries. The art of courtly love was practiced in English courts from the 1300's to the 1500's. During this period of time marriages were arranged and had little to do with love. A successful marriage was perceived as one that brought material advantages to the participants and their families. As love was clearly unrelated to marriage the requirement for romance could be gained outside marriage - as long as the rules relating to chastity and fidelity were strictly adhered to.

The Rules of Courtly Love

The violence and wars of the Middle Ages were tempered by the Rules of Courtly Love. The following rules and elements of Courtly Love during the Middle Ages were written by the 12th Century Frenchman, Andreas Capellanus:

- Marriage is no real excuse for not loving
- He who is not jealous, cannot love
- No one can be bound by a double love
- It is well known that love is always increasing or decreasing
- Boys do not love until they arrive at the age of maturity
- No one should be deprived of love without the very best of reasons
- No one can love unless he is impelled by the persuasion of love
- It is not proper to love any woman whom one would be ashamed to seek to marry
- A true lover does not desire to embrace in love anyone except his beloved
- The easy attainment of love makes it of little value; difficulty of attainment makes it prized
- Every lover regularly turns pale in the presence of his beloved
- When a lover suddenly catches sight of his beloved, his heart palpitates
- A new love puts to flight an old one
- Real jealousy always increases the feeling of love
- He whom the thought of love vexes eats and sleeps very little
- Every act of a lover ends in the thought of his beloved
- A true lover considers nothing good except what he thinks will please his beloved
- Love can deny nothing to love

- A lover can never have enough of the solaces of his beloved
 - A true lover is constantly and without intermission possessed by the thought of his beloved
- The above rules of Courtly love demonstrate how playing this game could lead to all kinds of problems within the court circle.

Courtly Love Poems and Songs

The ideals of courtly love were publicized in the poems, ballads, writings and literary works of various authors of the Middle Ages. Geoffrey Chaucer, the most famous author of the Middle Ages, wrote stories about courtly love in his book *Canterbury Tales*. "The Miller's Tale" describes the art of courtly love. Geoffrey Chaucer exhibited courtly love for the beautiful Blanche, the wife of John of Gaunt. Whereas his marriage to Philippa de Roet was seen as a good but practical match. The wandering minstrels and troubadours of the Middle Ages sang ballads about courtly love and were expected to memorize the words of long poems describing the valor and the code of chivalry followed by the Medieval knights. The Dark Age myths of Arthurian Legends featuring King Arthur, Camelot and the Knights of the Round Table further strengthen the idea of a Knights Code of Chivalry and Courtly Love.

1. Like the Code of Chivalry, the ideals of Courtly Love involve a lot of _____.
 - a. fighting b. tokens c. rules d. education
2. One famous legend about courtly love comes from the story of _____.
 - a. Beowulf b. King Arthur c. Odysseus d. Gilgamesh
3. Courtly love wasn't necessarily about loving one's spouse because:
 - a. Most marriages in the Middle Ages were arranged for material advantages, not love
 - b. Marriage wasn't practiced during the Middle Ages
 - c. Courtly Love always involves cheating on one's spouse
 - d. Courtly Love isn't concerned with marriage
4. The word *chastity* means _____.
 - a. purity
 - b. youth
 - c. anger
 - d. depressed
5. The word *fidelity* means _____.
 - a. faithfulness
 - b. long-life
 - c. happiness
 - d. wealth
6. The rules of Courtly Love suggest that love should be _____.
 - a. The only thing the lover thinks about
 - b. Felt only by the young
 - c. Part of every marriage
 - d. Expressed publicly

7. One famous literary example concerning Courtly Love is ...

- a. Beowulf b. Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* c. Hamlet d. The Iliad

8. Does Courtly Love still exist in our world? Explain using details from the text above.

Directions: Questions 9-12 are based on the following passage. Choose the best correct answer. (source: www.elizabethan-era.org.uk)

Accomplishments of Queen Elizabeth I

The accomplishments and achievements of Queen Elizabeth I have given her the reputation of the greatest monarch of England. The Elizabethan era is often referred to as the Golden Age. But what did she accomplish which provide her with such a good reputation? What were the achievements of the Virgin Queen?

The Major Accomplishments of Queen Elizabeth I

Some interesting facts and information about the accomplishments and achievements of Queen Elizabeth I

- It was a major accomplishment that she ever survived to become Queen of England! Her mother was executed on the (false!) charges of Treason, adultery and incest. She was branded a bastard by her father, King Henry VIII. She lost her title of Princess Elizabeth and had to be referred to as Lady Elizabeth!
- As Princess Elizabeth she survived a scandal concerning herself and Thomas Seymour, the husband of her stepmother Katharine Parr
- It was a major accomplishment to survive the questioning she endured at the Tower of London when she was imprisoned there by her half-sister Mary Tudor (aka Mary I & Bloody Mary). She was accused of being involved with the Protestant rebellion, led by Sir Thomas Wyatt the Younger
- She was a very gifted scholar who was an accomplished linguist with the ability to speak several languages including Latin, Greek, French, Spanish and Welsh

- Her reign witnessed widespread increase in literacy and great achievements in the arts - great poets and playwrights emerged during her era such as William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser, Christopher Marlowe and Sir Walter Raleigh)
- The reign of Queen Elizabeth I also saw significant expansion overseas. Great explorers were encouraged such as Sir Francis Drake, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir John Hawkins, Sir Humphrey Gilbert and Sir Richard Greenville
- The new scientific thinking of the renaissance was encouraged and important men such as Sir Francis Bacon and Dr. John Dee emerged during the Elizabethan era
- She achieved an excellent reputation as a good and wise ruler, who was truly loved by her people - she was highly accomplished in the art of rhetoric and Public Relations
- Queen Elizabeth I surrounded herself with highly intelligent and loyal advisors such as Sir William Cecil, Sir Francis Walsingham and Sir Robert Cecil who gave her sound political advice
- A major accomplishment was the defeat of the Spanish Armada of 1588 by the English fleet of 34 ships and 163 armed merchant vessels under Lord Howard of Effingham, Sir Francis Drake, and Sir John Hawkins
- The English navy defeated further attempts at invasion in 1596 and 1597
- Her reign saw several rebellions - from the Irish, "The Rising of the North" and the Essex rebellion - all of which she defeated
- She survived various Catholic plots and conspiracies such as the Babington plot involving Mary Queen of Scots
- She was able to choose excellent advisors and statesmen but was not be dominated by them. Elizabeth was firmly in control of all major policies and England prospered under a stable Government
- Queen Elizabeth adopted a moderate religious policy. The Acts of Supremacy and Uniformity (1559), the introduction of the Prayer Book of 1559, and the Thirty-Nine Articles (1563) were all Protestant in doctrine, but preserved many traditionally Catholic ceremonies. Although a Protestant she did not persecute Catholics with conviction - she adopted a moderate approach
- She established Protestantism as the country's religion
- Queen Elizabeth established the Poor Laws - she achieved a new framework of support for the needy
- Queen Elizabeth achieved recognition for England as a leading power in Europe
- Queen Elizabeth I led England as a woman, in what was very much a man's World, and she did this with courage, intelligence and loyalty to her friends

9. Queen Elizabeth I's father was _____.

- a. William Shakespeare
- b. Julius Caesar
- c. Henry VIII
- d. Charlemagne

10. Which of the following was NOT a literary figure of the Elizabethan era?

- a. William Shakespeare
- b. Edmund Spenser
- c. Christopher Marlowe
- d. Geoffrey Chaucer

11. Queen Elizabeth was a religious _____.

- a. Catholic

- b. conservative
- c. moderate
- d. liberal

Directions for question #12: Open-ended response.

Explain why Queen Elizabeth deserves the title of “greatest monarch of England.”

Q. #12

*Directions: Q's #13-19 are based on the following passage from <http://www.globe-theatre.org.uk>.
Read the passage and choose the best correct answer.*

Globe Theatre Female Roles

Women were forbidden, by law, to perform in the Elizabethan theatre, therefore there were no actresses at the Globe Theatre. The acting profession was not a credible one and it was unthinkable that any woman would appear in a play. The parts of female characters were played by young boys. These boy actors were usually aged between 13 and 19 years of age when their voices were still high and muscles had not fully developed. The voices of Elizabethan boys were believed to break much later than the modern day due to differences in diet and lifestyle which made it possible for boy actors to play women's parts convincingly until they entered their late teens

The women's costumes and make-up

Women were allowed to act in the theatre until 1660 as it was judged to be unseemly for a woman to undertake such a profession. Young boys were therefore hired to act in the female roles. The costumes used for the female characters were extremely *elaborate*.

reflecting the clothes worn during the Elizabethan era. The women's costumes worn by the boy actors were constructed with many layers of clothing. It would have therefore taken some considerable time, and the help of a dresser, to dress a boy actor in the costume of a female. Wigs, or periwigs as they were called, were readily available as they were in fashion at the time so this was not a costuming problem. However, the make up used by Elizabethan women, and therefore the boy actors, was! The white make-up was lead based and highly poisonous! The young boy actors were therefore very unhealthy, had unpleasant facial skin diseases and a high proportion actually died of lead poisoning. The boy actors who took the female roles were also paid the least of all actors. The Admiral's Men paid boy players three shillings a week. The boys were apprenticed to adult actors and their wages were paid to their masters. In return the masters gave them board and lodging and a small allowance to spend on themselves.

Character recognition

Nearly every color of clothing had its own meaning in relation to status and rank during the Elizabethan era. And these meanings were totally understood by the audience. The colors, materials and styles of the Globe Theatre Female Roles therefore conveyed an enormous amount of information as soon as the boy actors walked on stage. As soon as a character walked on the stage the fabric and color of his clothing would indicate the role of the character he was playing. The character and rank of an actor wearing a Globe Theatre costume made of velvets, furs, silks or lace would be instantly recognized as a member of the Upper Class. Cottons and taffeta would indicate a much lower status.

The Masque and Class Differences

A great deal of attention is paid the fact that Lower Class Elizabethan women were not allowed to perform on the Elizabethan stage as it would have been considered to be lewd and highly immoral. This view was not taken regarding the appearance of Upper Class Elizabethan women who appeared in court masques! The mother of Queen Elizabeth certainly performed in masques! The first recorded appearance of Anne Boleyn at the Tudor Court was on March 1, 1522 was as a performer in a masque! Perhaps the element of disguise allowed for this as "visors", or masks, were always worn by the performers. But the more probable explanation was that these wealthy women of the court wanted to be included in performing in such an exciting diversion as a masque.

13. According to the first paragraph, female roles in Elizabethan theater were performed by:

- a. Boys between 13 and 19 years of age
- b. Lower-class women who didn't care if people thought they were being vulgar
- c. Youthful-looking adult men who could convincingly play the parts
- d. Shakespeare himself

14. The word "elaborate" in the second paragraph means:

- a. interesting
- b. beautiful
- c. detailed
- d. heavy

15. What was the least healthy part of the costumes worn to play female roles?

- a. tight corsets which restricted breathing
- b. heavy weight which caused fatigue and leg pain
- c. the prevalence of parasitic hair lice in the wigs
- d. poisonous makeup which caused skin diseases and even death

16. What costume details were understood by the audience to show character types?

- a. Types of shoes
- b. Differences in color and fabric
- c. Stage makeup used to show age or youth
- d. A wide variety of wigs and hats

17. There is some evidence that upper-class women may have performed in which type of play?
a. comedy b. tragedy c. satires d. masques

18. The word "lewd" in the final paragraph means:
a. obscene b. criminal c. exciting d. unintentional

19. How did male actors create the illusion of women's roles onstage in the Elizabethan Era?

