1. What was the lowest public office in the *cursus honorum*?
   A. Quaestor  B. Praetor  C. Aedile  D. Consul
2. What was the name of Marcus Brutus' wife (and Cato's daughter) who died after ingesting hot coals?
   A. Julia  B. Pompeia  C. Livia  D. Porcia
3. To what king of Rome did the Sibyll sell her book of prophecies?
   A. Tarquinus Superbus  B. Romulus  C. Tarquinus Priscus  D. Ancus Martius
4. Which Praetorian Guard ruled behind the throne of Emperor Tiberius until his execution in 31 AD?
   A. Macro  B. Drusus  C. Sejanus  D. Macrinus
5. Marius was exiled by which Roman general following a long-standing political struggle?
   A. Lucullus  B. Mark Antony  C. M. Junius Brutus  D. Sulla
6. What was granted to those who completed their term serving as an auxiliary soldier?
   A. Triumph  B. Horse  C. Land  D. Citizenship
7. Which famous Roman historian wrote his famous work “Historiae” in 100-110 AD?
   A. Suetonius  B. Cicero  C. Tacitus  D. Lactantius
8. In what year was Julius Caesar assassinated?
   A. 4 AD  B. 44 BC  C. 49 BC  D. 14 AD
9. Which general defeated the Romans at the Battle of Cannae in 216 BC?
   A. Antiochus  B. Cicero  C. Pyrrhus  D. Philip
10. In what year was the First Triumvirate formed?
    A. 60 BC  B. 55 BC  C. 33 BC  D. 68 AD
11. Which British warrior queen rebelled against the Romans in 60 AD?
    A. Zenobia  B. Boudicca  C. Cleopatra  D. Mavia
12. Which emperor, who liked to compete as a gladiator in fixed fights, was strangled by his wrestling partner in 192 AD?
    A. Trajan  B. Titus  C. Domitian  D. Commodus
13. In what year did the first Punic War start?
    A. 264 AD  B. 202 BC  C. 44 BC  D. 264 BC
14. Which general conquered Britain for Roman rule?
    A. Stilicho  B. Claudius  C. Caligula  D. Julius Caesar
15. Who became emperor at the end of the “Year of Four Emperors” in 69 AD, and ruled for 10 years?
    A. Vitellius  B. Nero  C. Galba  D. Vespasian
16. Under what emperor were the last persecutions of the Christians?
    A. Diocletian  B. Aurelian  C. Elagabalus  D. Gordian
17. What king of Rome established the census?
    A. Servius Tullius  B. Numa Pompilius  C. Romulus  D. Ancus Marcius
18. In Roman legend, who single-handedly defended a bridge against the army of Lars Porsenna?
    A. Horatius  B. Coriolanus  C. Cinncinatus  D. Appian
19. By what charge did Clodius have Cicero exiled in 58 BCE?
    A. Extortion  B. Bribery  C. Killing citizens without trial  D. Conspiracy
20. Which emperor ordered a statue of himself erected in the Jewish Temple?
    A. Nero  B. Claudius  C. Tiberius  D. Caligula
21. Which Iranian people ruled an empire to the east of Rome until the early 3rd century AD?
    A. Ghassanids  B. Sassanids  C. Alammani  D. Parthians
22. Which of the following was NOT a member of the Second Triumvirate?
    A. Octavian  B. Lepidus  C. Cassius  D. Antony
23. Which Numidian king in the Second Punic War allied with Rome before changing to Carthage's side?
    A. Mincipsa  B. Jugurtha  C. Syphax  D. Masinissa
24. Who was the first Roman to issue coins with his own portrait?
    A. Marcus Lepidus  B. Lucius Cinna  C. Julius Caesar  D. Marcus Cicero
25. Who was the commander of Octavian’s navy which defeated Mark Antony at the Battle of Actium?
   A. Agrippa  B. Stilicho  C. Lucullus  D. Marcellus

26. Who was Caesar’s master of the horse?
   A. Brutus  B. Mark Antony  C. Crassus  D. Hirtius

27. What public official was one position below the consul in the *cursus honorum*?
   A. Tribune  B. Quaestor  C. Censor  D. Praetor

28. Which official had the power of veto in the Roman Senate?
   A. Tribune of the Plebs  B. Dictator  C. Consul  D. Aedile

29. Who commanded the Gauls when they sacked Rome in 387 BC?
   A. Vercingetorix  B. Orthengetorix  C. Darius  D. Brennus

30. Where did Cato commit suicide after the Battle of Thapsus?
   A. Brunsidium  B. Arretium  C. Utica  D. Carthage

31. Which Egyptian city was the second largest in the empire after Rome itself?
   A. Thebes  B. Lepcis Magna  C. Carthage  D. Alexandria

32. What battle against the Goths resulted in the death of the Eastern Roman Empire’s emperor Valens?
   A. Adrianople  B. Solicinium  C. Pannonia  D. River Frigidus

33. Which Emperor committed suicide in 68 AD after being declared an enemy of the people by the Senate?
   A. Tiberius  B. Caligula  C. Titus  D. Nero

34. Under which Roman emperor were Africa, Italy, and part of Spain conquered from the barbarians in the 6th century AD?
   A. Constantius  B. Justinian  C. Anastasius  D. Heraclius

35. Which barbarian army led by Alaric sacked Rome in 410 AD?
   A. Huns  B. Vandals  C. Ostrogoths  D. Visigoths

36. Under what emperor did the empire reach its greatest extent?
   A. Trajan  B. Hadrian  C. Commodus  D. Caracalla

37. What city was razed to the ground in 146, the same year as Carthage?
   A. Thebes  B. Tarentum  C. Corinth  D. Athens

38. Who murdered his own brother in front of his mother at a supposed peace talk?
   A. Lucius Verus  B. Domitian  C. Caracalla  D. Geta

39. What war forced the Romans to change from the Greek hoplite style of warfare?
   A. Samnite Wars  B. First Punic War  C. Sabine War  D. Social War

40. The Roman province of Bithynia was located in which modern country?
   A. Syria  B. Austria  C. Turkey  D. Iran

41. Who was governor of Britain from 77-85 AD, and father-in-law of the historian, Tacitus, who wrote a book about him?
   A. Agricola  B. Aetius  C. Stilicho  D. Lucullus

42. Which Stoic philosopher was a tutor then advisor of Nero, who later forced him to commit suicide?
   A. Cicero  B. Lucan  C. Piso  D. Seneca

43. Which king of Epirus invaded Italy in 280 BC, but suffered heavy losses in his victories against the Romans?
   A. Philip  B. Seleucus  C. Pyrrhus  D. Hannibal

44. What Roman author was killed by Mt. Vesuvius when he went to aid the people and examine the eruption?
   A. Seneca  B. Quintilian  C. Pliny the Elder  D. Lucan

45. Which Roman dictator defeated the Aequians in 458 BC, then famously gave up power to return to his farm?
   A. Coriolanus  B. Cincinnatus  C. Appius Claudius  D. Camillus

46. What was the title of the two senior magistrates elected annually to rule the Roman Republic?
   A. Consul  B. Magister Equitum  C. Praetor  D. Tribune of the Plebs

47. Who was appointed dictator of Rome after Hannibal had invaded Italy?
   A. Q. Fabius Maximus  B. P. Cornelius Scipio  C. M. Marcellus  D. Gaius Flamminius

48. During whose reign was Jesus of Nazareth crucified?
   A. Caligula  B. Tiberius  C. Augustus  D. Nero

49. In 212 AD, what was granted to every inhabitant of the Roman Empire?
   A. Citizenship  B. Bonds  C. Slaves  D. Access to Imperial Domains

50. Which of these was Emperor of Rome the earliest?
   A. Constantine  B. Hadrian  C. Trajan  D. Commodus
2017 Roman History answer key

1. A
2. D
3. A
4. C
5. D
6. D
7. C
8. B
9. B
10. A
11. B
12. D
13. D
14. B
15. D
16. A
17. A
18. A
19. C
20. D
21. D
22. C
23. D
24. C
25. A
26. B
27. D
28. A
29. D
30. C
31. D
32. A
33. D
34. B
35. D
36. A
37. C
38. C
39. A
40. C
41. A
42. D
43. C
44. C
45. B
46. A
47. A
48. B
49. A
50. C