

## The Epic of Gilgamesh Vocabulary Quiz

1. The frequent ordeal of having to “voluntarily” submit to rebuilding the walls has sorely \_\_\_\_\_ the citizens of Uruk.  
(A) abated  
(B) assuaged  
(C) sated  
(D) vexed  
(E) flouted
2. When Gilgamesh discovered the blossom had disappeared, his visage had a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ look, which revealed the sorrow of his heart.  
(A) august  
(B) sundry  
(C) doleful  
(D) pallid  
(E) keen
3. While looking for Humbaba, Gilgamesh and Enkidu had very little \_\_\_\_\_ for many days; however, as the desert \_\_\_\_\_, the two men were able to eat a hearty meal in the forest of the giant.  
(A) mien . . melded  
(B) sentinel . . sundry  
(C) din . . rended  
(D) sustenance . . abated  
(E) node . . assuaged
4. The early morning fog rose from the creek bed as though it was a \_\_\_\_\_ visitor coming to haunt Gilgamesh and Enkidu.  
(A) spectral  
(B) pallid  
(C) august  
(D) sundry  
(E) keen
5. The Gilgamesh soon found himself in one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ places where a thin layer of water covered the floor; before him he could hear the constant \_\_\_\_\_ of animals crying and howling.  
(A) spectral . . sustenance  
(B) doleful . . mein  
(C) august . . node  
(D) keen . . flouting  
(E) dank . . din

**OVER**

6. AUGUST : DISGUSTING ::

- (A) worn : used
- (B) simple : complex
- (C) filthy : dirty
- (D) clear : plain
- (E) damaged : broken

7. MEIN : CHARACTER ::

- (A) soldier : sailor
- (B) depth : ocean
- (C) moon : planet
- (D) etiquette : manners
- (E) building : church

8. NODE : DIFFICULTY ::

- (A) relation : stranger
- (B) closet : house
- (C) remedy : solution
- (D) refusal : acceptance
- (E) folkdance : choir

9. REND : FIX ::

- (A) talk : speak
- (B) swim : exercise
- (C) locate : misplace
- (D) write : scribble
- (E) plant : grow

10. SENTINEL : GUARD ::

- (A) coach : player
- (B) angel : devil
- (C) teacher : principal
- (D) brother : cousin
- (E) swamp : wetland

11. After he mocked the advances of Ishtar, Gilgamesh found the goddess to be a terrible foe, even after trying to assuage her anger.

The word “to assuage” means

- (A) to ridicule.
- (B) to merge.
- (C) to sever.
- (D) to pacify.
- (E) to annoy.

12. Because of the king’s smashing the sacred stones, Urshanabi flouted the senseless ruin to Gilgamesh’s face.

The word “flout” means most nearly in this sentence

- (A) recognize.
- (B) envy.
- (C) ridicule.
- (D) ignore.
- (E) praise.

13. As Enkidu lay dying on his bed, King Gilgamesh looked upon the pallid face of his friend and wept aloud.

The word “pallid” means

- (A) penetrating.
- (B) unpleasant.
- (C) pale.
- (D) diverse.
- (E) dank.

Gilgamesh was an historical king of Uruk in Babylonia, on the River Euphrates in modern Iraq. According to many scholars, he  
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lived about 2700 B.C. Although historians tend to emphasize Hammurabi and his code of law, the civilizations of the Tigris-Euphrates area focuses rather on Gilgamesh and the legends  
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surrounding him to explain, as it were, their culture and beliefs. Many stories and myths were written about Gilgamesh, some of which were written down about 2000 B.C. in the Sumerian language on clay tablets which still survive. It, as far as anyone  
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know, bears no relation to any other human language known  
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today. These Sumerian Gilgamesh stories were integrated into a  
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longer poem, versions of which survive not only in Akkadian but also on tablets written in Hurrian and Hittite. All the above languages were written in the script known as cuneiform, which means "wedge-shaped". The most complete work of all of the  
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versions of the epic of Gilgamesh are derived from twelve stone  
20

tablets, in the Akkadian language, found in the ruins of the library of Ashurbanipal, king of Assyria 669-633 B.C., at Nineveh. They destroyed the library in 612 B.C., and all the tablets are damaged.

14. A. NO CHANGE  
B. they  
C. Gilgamesh  
D. him

15. A. NO CHANGE  
B. concentrates  
C. foci  
D. focus

16. A. NO CHANGE  
B. They  
C. He  
D. The language

17. A. NO CHANGE  
B. knows  
C. known  
D. had known

18. A. NO CHANGE  
B. Gilgamesh Sumerian stories  
C. Sumerian stories about Gilgamesh  
D. Gilgamesh-type stories in Sumeria

19. A. NO CHANGE  
B. wedgeshaped.  
C. 'wedge-shaped'.  
D. "wedge-shaped."

20. A. NO CHANGE  
B. is derived  
C. were derived  
D. had been derived

**STOP**