Gilgamesh Quiz

1. Which is not true of Enkidu: (a) he was made from clay by Aruru (b) he was covered in hair like an animal (c) he was known as the Wild Bull of the forest (d) he ate grass with the gazelles

2. Which is not true of Gilgamesh: (a) he was king of Uruk (b) he was destined to be immortal (c) he was an oppressive king whose subjects prayed for release (d) he was known for his quest for secret, hidden information

3. Which is NOT true of Shamhat (a) she was Gilgamesh’s sister (b) she was sent to Enkidu by Gilgamesh (c) she was a prostitute (d) she was the one who opened Enkidu’s eyes to human life

4. Ninsun is (a) the mother of Gilgamesh (b) the mother of Enkidu (c) the wife of Anu, king of the gods (d) the priestess of Ishtar

5. When Enkidu is about to come to Uruk, he: (a) is afraid of human civilization (b) intends to challenge Gilgamesh (c) intends to marry Ninsun (d) wants to become a hunter

6. Which is NOT true of the meeting of Gilgamesh and Enkidu: (a) the fight begins when Enkidu prevents Gilgamesh from entering the marriage chamber (b) they become friends afterward (c) Enkidu is commanded to stop his attack by the gods (d) Enkidu finally acknowledges Gilgamesh’s power as king

7. Which is NOT true of Humbaba: (a) he has been attacking the countryside around Uruk (b) he is the guardian of the Cedar forest (c) he is a terrible monster associated with fire and flood (d) he was put on earth by Enlil to terrify human beings

8. Which is true of Ninsun’s reaction to Gilgamesh’s mission against Humbaba: (a) she is happy that he is finally leading his people with wisdom (b) she is relieved that he is leaving the city (c) she wants him to stay but helps him prepare (d) she regrets having adopted Enkidu because of Enkidu’s bad influence over her son

9. Which is NOT true of Gilgamesh’s dreams on the way to the Cedar Forest: (a) they are negative and scary (b) they are sent by Ninsun (c) Enkidu interprets them as favorable omens (d) Gilgamesh requests them ritually before his sleeps

10. Shamash is (a) the protector of Gilgamesh (b) the lover of Ninsun (c) the king of the gods (d) Humbaba’s closest friend

11. Which is NOT true of the battle with Humbaba (a) Shamash assists the two heroes (b) Enkidu advises Gilgamesh to kill Humbaba (c) Humbaba retreats to the underworld (d) Humbaba curses Enkidu to bring about his early death

12. Which is NOT true of Gilgamesh’s meeting with Ishtar: (a) he demands that she return to the Cedar forest (b) she offers him riches and honor if he marries her (c) he criticizes her harshly for her past affairs (d) Ishtar retreats to her father, Anu, in a rage

13. Which is NOT true of the Bill of Heaven: (a) Ishtar sent it against Uruk (b) Enkidu held the bull down while Gilgamesh butchered it (c) Enkidu threw its hindquarter at Ishtar (d) the citizens of Uruk protested its slaughter

14. Whom does Enkidu NOT curse as he is dying: (a) the huntsman who first discovered him (b) Ninsun (c) Shamhat (d) the great door he had fashioned
15. Which is NOT true of Gilgamesh’s response to Enkidu’s death: (a) he urges the elders of Uruk to mourn for Enkidu (b) he curses Shamash for letting Enkidu die (c) he cuts off his hair (d) he has a statue of Enkidu made

16. Gilgamesh goes on his quest because (a) he has recognized his mortality and wants to find eternal life (b) he wants to bring Enkidu back from the underworld (c) he wants to make Ishtar regret her role in his death (d) he has to get back to the Cedar Forest to undo Humbaba’s curse

17. Which is NOT true of the barmaid Siduri: (a) she is afraid of Gilgamesh when she sees him for the first time (b) she is concerned that Ishtar will learn of her complicity in the quest (c) she learns of his suffering since Enkidu’s death (d) she sends him to the boatman Urshanabi

18. In Utnapishtim’s story, the gods’ reaction to the flood they have sent is (a) to rejoice in the destruction of sinful human beings (b) to urge Utnapishtim to his final safe harbor (c) to cower in fear and distress (d) to call for Utnapishtim to restrain the river

19. When Gilgamesh states his desire for immortality, Utnapishtim (a) asks him to stay awake for seven nights (b) calls upon Shamash to grant it to him (c) tells him that the curse of Enkidu is still in force (d) sends him back to Siduri

20. At the end of the epic, Gilgamesh (a) goes home alone (b) goes to live among the gods (c) stays at the ends of the earth with Utnapishtim (d) returns to Uruk after conquering several cities