

Women in Ancient Greece and Rome
Reading Focus Quiz: Hellenistic Women I

- _____ 1. Which of the following is NOT a way in which Cleopatra was portrayed in art: (a) a hook-nosed orientalized “clent” of Rome (b) a beautiful young queen (c) in the form of the goddess Athena (d) in ancient Egyptian style as Pharaoh
- _____ 2. Cleopatra came from a long line of Pharaohs who were (a) Macedonians, in power because of Alexander the Great (b) Greeks, who were the dominant force in the Hellenistic Middle East and North Africa (c) Native Egyptians from the ancient pharaonic bloodline (d) Romans, who were “governors” of Egypt as a Roman province
- _____ 3. During which of these years was Cleopatra governing Egypt? (a) 323 BCE (b) 264 BCE (c) 32 BCE (d) 18 CE
- _____ 4. Which is NOT true of women in the Hellenistic period? (a) many migrated with their families and settled in new towns (b) women skillful in the arts sometimes received public acclaim without notoreity (c) even in new cities, they lived subject to all the ingrained restrictions of the Greek mainland (d) Some lived independently, outside of the patriarchal oikos
- _____ 5. Which is NOT true of Herodas: (a) he wrote poems focusing on women’s (imagined) conversation (b) he dealt with frankly sexual topics (c) his poems are mainly comic (d) he wrote primarily for a royal audience
- _____ 6. Which is NOT true of Theocritus’ Poem 15? (a) the women involved are prostitutes (b) they are on their way to a festival of Adonis (c) they are in a huge crowd of men as well as women (d) at least one has a baby at home
- _____ 7. Which usually masculine activity was NOT a pursuit of Berenike II? (a) attending the gymnasium (though in times reserved for women) (b) sponsoring horses and chariots that competed in major athletic competitions (c) earning income from shipping (d) making important political decisions
- _____ 8. Which was NOT a factor in Berenike’s accession to power as the Queen of Ptolemy III? (a) a marriage arranged by her father (b) the support of the army and/or common people of Cyrene (c) her mother’s behind-the-scenes machinations to make her daughter queen of Egypt (d) the overthrow (led by Berenike) of her own first husband

- _____ 9. Which is NOT true of the depictions of Berenike II as queen? (a) she is portrayed pouring a libation by an altar (b) throughout her life she is idealized as a youthful, beautiful woman (c) she appears with a cornucopia which shows her as a preserver of fertility (d) she is often depicted wearing a diadem
- _____ 10. Which is NOT an element of the portrayal of Berenike in "The Lock of Berenike"? (a) she is sensualized as a beautiful young bride (b) she is portrayed as a courageous young queen (c) her obedience to her father's wishes is emphasized (d) she is deeply in love with her departed husband
- _____ 11. Which of the following is NOT true of the Canopus decree? (a) it praises Ptolemy II and Berenike for providing for the people of Egypt during a famine (b) it requires duties be performed for Egyptian gods in the (mostly) Greek city Alexandria (c) it increases the cult honors paid to Ptolemy and Berenike who are already worshipped as deities (d) it establishes cult practices for Berenike III as well as appointing young women as priestesses for these rituals
- _____ 12. Syncretism (in religion) is (a) the bull sacrifice through which one was initiated into any of several mystery cults (b) the rituals of Cybele, Atargatis, and other Eastern deities in which ecstatic priests whipped or otherwise abused themselves (c) the "social charter" through which mystery religions are integrated into a traditional community (d) the harmonizing of the cults of different countries and/or societies into hybrid religious practices
- _____ 13. Deity who (in an inscription) claims to be the ruler of every country, the inventor of agriculture, and the separator of earth and sky: (a) Aphrodite (b) Berenike III (c) Hera (d) Isis