

# CS 2301A/B: Crime and Punishment in Ancient Greece and Rome

## Sample Test and Exam Questions

The following are a representative sample of test and exam questions from the first midterm test in previous semesters. Answers are provided at the end of the sample questions. There will be no sample questions for the second midterm test and final exam. After the first midterm test, you will be familiar with the kinds of questions I am likely to ask.

1. In what language was the *Oresteia* originally written?

- A. Attic Greek
- B. Homeric Greek
- C. English
- D. Latin
- E. Koine

2. Who of the following was **not** Greek?

- A. Pericles
- B. Aeschylus
- C. Augustus
- D. Sophocles
- E. Plato

3. In Classical Athens, which of the following was a jury for homicide cases?

- A. The *Boule*
- B. The *Ephetai*
- C. The *Thesmothetai*
- D. The *Syngoroi*
- E. The *Nomothetai*

4. What was the Peiraeus?

- A. The place where the Athenian *Ekklesia* met
- B. The Athenian marketplace
- C. The Athenian port
- D. The original Athenian court
- E. The Athenian prison

5. In the *Oresteia*, why does Orestes kill Aegisthus?

- A. Aegisthus was complicit in the murder of Agamemnon
- B. Aegisthus was sleeping with Clytaemestra even when she was married to Agamemnon
- C. Aegisthus seduced Clytaemestra
- D. None of these were reasons he killed him
- E. All of these were reasons he killed him

6. Which of the following was **not** an execution method in Classical Athens?

- A. Throwing someone into a pit
- B. The *culleus*
- C. Having someone drink hemlock
- D. Exposure (tied to a plank)
- E. *Barathron*

7. When was the Roman Republic established?

- A. 753 BCE
- B. 510 BCE
- C. 272 BCE
- D. 146 BCE
- E. 27 BCE

8. What is the title of the work from which the following passage is excerpted?

*Here in the house there lies  
the cure for this, not to be brought  
from outside, never from others  
but in themselves, through the fierce wreck and bloodshed.  
Here is a song sung to the gods beneath us.*

- A. *The Iliad*
- B. *The Agamemnon*
- C. *The Eumenides*
- D. *The Libation Bearers*
- E. *The Odyssey*

9. In the following passage, the cure for what problem lies in the house?

*Here in the house there lies  
the cure for this, not to be brought  
from outside, never from others  
but in themselves, through the fierce wreck and bloodshed.  
Here is a song sung to the gods beneath us.*

- A. The plague
- B. The cycle of domestic violence
- C. The injustice of the death of Orestes
- D. Incest
- E. The unjust verdict in Orestes' trial

10. Which of the following could be punished by *atimia*?

- A. Sycophancy
- B. Prostitution
- C. Introducing a law contrary to the existing laws
- D. All of these
- E. None of these

**Answers:**

- 1. A
- 2. C
- 3. B
- 4. C
- 5. E
- 6. B
- 7. B
- 8. D
- 9. B
- 10. D