Brief Introduction to the Old Testament The Hebrew Bible in its Context 4th edition Coogan Test Bank

SKU: 9780190903756-TEST-BANK

Exam Questions

Chapter 1

What Is the Old Testament?

Essays

1. In Jewish tradition, what are the three major divisions of the Hebrew Bible? What are the characteristics of the books found in each of these divisions? Describe the processes that led to the canonization of each of these components.

2. Compare the Jewish and Christian canons of the Old Testament. How do they differ? What are the reasons for the differences in the order and content of these collections?

3. What is involved in the process of textual criticism and what is the goal of the textual critic? What role has it played in scholars' efforts to translate the Bible?

4. To what does the term "the Bible" refer? What problems arise in trying to define "the Bible"?

True/False

Please note, all odd-numbered answers are featured on the website.

1. All the books in the Hebrew Bible were accepted as canonical at the same time.
   T F

2. The Hebrew Bible includes all of the writings that the Israelites produced.
   T F

3. Genesis, the first book of the Bible, was also the first book of the Bible to be written.
   T F

4. The Septuagint is a Greek translation of the Bible produced by an unknown individual.
   T F

5. The Latter Prophets are the books named after individual prophets.
   T F

Brief Introduction to the Old Testament The Hebrew Bible in its Context 4th edition Coogan Test Bank

6. Both the Jewish and Christian canons put the books of the Hebrew Bible in the same order.
   T F

7. The books of the Apocrypha are not included as a part of the Jewish canon because they were hidden from early Jewish communities.
   T F

8. The books of the Hebrew Bible were separated into chapters and verses in ancient times.
   T F

9. The Torah was probably the first division of the Bible to gain canonical status.
   T F

10. The Dead Sea Scrolls provide evidence for a fixed canon already in the first century CE.
    T F

Multiple Choice

Please note, all odd-numbered answers are featured on the website.

1. In Jewish tradition, all are parts of the Bible except:
   a) Torah b) Apocrypha c) Writings d) Prophets
2. Which book is not a part of the Torah?
   a) Exodus b) Deuteronomy c) Joshua d) Numbers
3. The thirty-nine books that make up the Jewish Tanakh and that are also included in all Christian versions of the Old Testament are known as:
   a) the Hebrew Bible b) the Pseudepigrapha c) the Writings d) Chronicles
4. During the _____, the Bible was first divided into chapters.
   a) Middle Ages b) Reformation c) Roman period d) Hellenistic period
5. The Former Prophets begin with the divine appointment of _____ as leader of Israel.
   a) Moses b) Saul c) David d) Joshua
6. In the Tanakh the book of _____ is found in the Writings, but in the

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Christian canon it follows the book of Judges.

a) Ruth b) Job c) Psalms d) Proverbs

7. In the Christian canon the book of _____ was moved from the Writings to the Latter Prophets.

a) Job b) Isaiah c) Esther d) Daniel

8. After the Protestant Reformation in the _____ century, the Apocrypha was excluded from Protestant Bibles.

a) 16th b) 5th c) 14th d) 8th

9. The word *torah* means:

a) book b) law c) history d) prophet

10. The distinction between the Minor Prophets differ from the Major Prophets is primarily based on _____.

a) date b) theological value c) length d) theme

11. For a book to be canonical in Jewish tradition, it must be written in:

a) Greek b) Aramaic c) Yiddish d) Hebrew

12. The distinction between the Former Prophets and the Latter Prophets is primarily based on_____:

a) date b) theological value c) length d) genre

13. Which book is found in the Apocrypha?

a) Ezekiel b) Nahum c) Malachi d) 1 Maccabees

14. The _____ is a category of noncanonical Jewish literature from the Hellenistic and Roman periods attributed to famous biblical characters.

a) Apocrypha b) Prophets c) Pseudepigrapha d) Writings

15. The Council of _____ in 1546 decreed that all forty-six books of the Old Testament, including the Apocrypha, were canonical and equally authoritative.

a) Nicaea b) Trent c) Ephesus d) Constantinople

16. Most scholars identify the _____ as the group for whom the Dead Sea Scrolls served as a library.

a) Romans b) Sadducees c) Essenes d) Pharisees

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17. According to legend, _____ translators of the Torah independently produced identical translations and thus proved that the Septuagint was as inspired as the original.

a) 60 b) 70 c) 600 d) 700

18. The Bible was originally written in Hebrew, _____, and Greek.

a) Arabic b) Ugaritic c) Akkadian d) Aramaic

19. Scholars use _____ criticism to account for the editorial processes that produced the biblical texts.

a) redaction b) form c) historical d) textual

20. The earliest manuscripts for the Hebrew Bible date from the _____ century BCE.

a) fourth b) third c) second d) first

Fill in the Blank

1. The technical term for the official list of books comprising the Bible by a religious community is _____.
2. The frequently used acronym for the Jewish Bible is _____.
3. _____, _____, and _____ are the three major divisions of the Old Testament.
4. The _____ was published in 1611 as the culmination of the work of dozens of translators over seven years.
5. The Song of Solomon, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Esther are collectively known as the five _____.
6. The _____ Text is the stabilized version of the Hebrew Bible that eventually became the standard version.
7. _____ involves examining the evidence from thousands of _____, or hand copies of the Bible, to determine the earliest form of a text.
8. The books of the _____ are also designated "Deuterocanonical."
9. The _____ is the Christian term for the books of the Jewish Bible.

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10. According to ancient Jewish tradition _____ wrote the Torah.

Brief Introduction to the Old Testament The Hebrew Bible in its Context 4th edition Coogan Test Bank

Chapter 2

The Promised Land: Geography, History, and Importance

Essay

1. Discuss the value of the Bible as a historical document. Can it ever be used as a reliable historical work? What other methods and materials are used to supplement our knowledge of the biblical period?

2. Trace the development of the terms “Israel” and “Judah” over time.

3. In what ways did the period known as the Babylonian Exile function “as the impetus for preserving, editing, and developing the writings of the Hebrew Bible”?

4. What significance did the land of Israel hold for the authors of the Bible?

True/False

Please note, all odd-numbered answers are featured on the website.

1. Canaan is another name for the land of Israel.
   T F

2. The name “Israel” can refer to just the northern kingdom of Israel.
   T F

3. The words “Jew” and “Judaism” are derived from the name “Judah.”
   T F

4. The Israelites were the first inhabitants of Israel.
   T F

5. The terms “Levant” and “Canaan” are equivalent.
   T F

6. Mesopotamia means “in the middle of the rivers.”
   T F

Brief Introduction to the Old Testament The Hebrew Bible in its Context 4th edition Coogan Test Bank

7. Biblical stories recognize the similar language, culture, and religions with Ammon, Moab, and Edom by depicting their founding ancestors as close relatives to Israel's ancestors.
   T F

8. The political structure of Ammon, Moab, and Edom is best described as a collection of city-states.
   T F

9. The Fertile Crescent was linked by shared culture, by related language, and, at times, by imperial control.
   T F

10. The Philistines were part of a group of Sea Peoples who practiced circumcision.
    T F

Multiple Choice

Please note, all odd-numbered answers are featured on the website.

1. Throughout the course of biblical history, Egypt was all of the following to Israel except:

   a) military adversary b) place of refuge c) place of enslavement

   d) all of the above

2. Israel's southern border is frequently identified with:

   a) Zoar b) Beer-sheba c) Dan d) Kadesh-barnea

3. The traditional eastern boundary of Israel is:

   a) Egypt b) Shephelah c) the Jordan River d) the Mediterranean Sea

4. All controlled the arc of the Fertile Crescent into the Levant at some point except?

   a) Assyria b) Persia c) Israel d) Babylonia

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5. The group of city-states that formed diplomatic alliances and intermarried with the royal family of Israel is known as:

   a) Phoenicia b) Hatti c) Philistia d) Edom

6. All are cities of the Philistines except:

   a) Gaza b) Ashdod c) Ashkelon d) Aram

7. All are kingdoms east of the Jordan River except:

   a) Ammon b) Aram c) Edom d) Moab

8. The Assyrian empire was conquered by:

   a) Egypt b) Babylonia c) Persia d) Israel

9. _____ major north-south route(s) connected Egypt to the kingdoms of the Levant:

   a) One b) Two c) Three d) Four

10. The Babylonian Exile occurred in the _____ century BCE.

    a) eighth b) seventh d) sixth d) fifth

11. Judeans living in exile remembered Yahweh's covenant with their king, _____, to establish an eternal kingdom.

    a) Absalom b) Zedekiah c) Solomon d) David

12. Psalm 137 portrays all of the following except:

    a) a theological explanation for the fall of Jerusalem

    b) a grappling with the question of the worship of Yahweh outside Jerusalem

    c) a refusal to sing for their captors

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d) a wish for vengeance against Judah's adversaries

13. The term "Israel" can refer to all of the following except:

a) Jacob b) the twelve tribes c) the southern kingdom

d) the northern kingdom

14. The capital of Northern Israel was:

a) Samaria b) Jerusalem c) Persepolis d) Horeb

15. The king who released the deportees from Babylon in 538 BCE was:

a) Ahab b) Cyrus c) Sennacherib d) Alexander

16. All are names for the southern kingdom except:

a) Judah b) Yehud c) Judea d) Yahad

17. A large portion of the inhabitants of the northern kingdom relocated into _____ after the Assyrian conquest.

a) Egypt b) Babylonia c) Judah d) Midian

18. The _____ Empire is described as "the rod" of Yahweh's anger that was used to punish his sinful people.

a) Assyrian b) Babylonian c) Persian d) Egyptian

19. The _____ blame everyone, including the common men and women of Israel and Judah, for the Babylonian exile.

a) prophets b) priests c) elders d) kings

20. Another name for Jerusalem is:

a) Zion b) Shechem c) Ur d) Megiddo

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Fill in the Blank

1. _____ conquered _____ in 539 BCE and maintained control of the Levant until 332 BCE.
2. The term _____ refers to the lands adjacent to the eastern Mediterranean Sea, the western part of the Near East between modern Turkey and Egypt.
3. _____ has enabled archaeologists to dated excavated materials with greater accuracy.
4. The practice of _____ led to the resettling of conquered inhabitants to a new region of the conqueror's empire.
5. The major international route that ran from Arabia to Damascus was called _____.
6. The twelve tribes of Israel were named after_____.
7. _____ was a group of city-states on the northwest portion of the Fertile Crescent along the Mediterranean.
8. Judah, the tribe of King_____, became the southern kingdom when the ten northern tribes broke away from the united monarchy.
9. The word "Palestine" is derived from the word for _____.
10. The state that destroyed Samaria in 722 BCE was_____.

Brief Introduction to the Old Testament The Hebrew Bible in its Context 4th edition Coogan Test Bank

Answer Key

Chapter 1

True/False

1. F
2. F
3. F
4. T
5. T
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T

Multiple Choice

1. B
2. C
3. A
4. A
5. D
6. A
7. D
8. A
9. B
10. C
11. D
12. D
13. D
14. C
15. C

Fill in the Blank

1. canon
2. Tanakh
3. Torah, Prophets, Writings
4. Prophets
5. *megillot* or “Scrolls”
6. Masoretic
7. deuterocanonical

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8. Apocrypha
9. Old Testament
10. Moses

Chapter 2

True/False

1. T
2. T
3. T
4. F
5. F
6. T
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. F

Multiple Choice

1. D
2. D
3. C
4. C
5. A
6. D
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. D
11. D
12. A
13. C
14. A
15. B
16. D
17. C
18. A
19. A
20. A

Fill in the Blank

1. Persia, Babylonia

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2. Levant
3. Ceramic typology
4. Deportation
5. the King's Highway
6. Jacob's sons
7. Phoenicia
8. David
9. Philistines
10. Assyria

Chapter 3

True/False

1. T
2. F
3. F
4. T
5. T
6. F
7. F
8. F
9. T
10. F

Multiple Choice

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. D
5. B
6. B
7. A
8. C
9. A
10. B
11. A
12. C
13. B
14. D
15. C
16. D
17. C
18. A

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