Sample Exam Questions

1. When did the Dutch drain the Médoc peninsula?
   a. 1500s
   b. 1600s
   c. 1700s
   d. 1800s

2. Which part of the escarpment of the Côte d'Or has the thinnest topsoil and retains the least amount of precipitation?
   a. Bottom of the slope
   b. Mid-slope
   c. Top of the slope
   d. There is no variation in topsoil and precipitation on the slope.

3. Define “garrigue”.
   a. A term used to describe a nutrient poor limestone and the scrub that grows upon it
   b. A training system in Southern Beaujolais
   c. Large, rounded river stones
   d. Scrub vegetation grown on the schist and quartz soils of Provence

4. Which of the following statements is false?
   a. Bordeaux was a predominately red wine producing region during the Middle Ages.
   b. Sweet wine production did not begin in Bordeaux until after the Middle Ages.
   c. Bordeaux produced more white wine than red from the 15th century to the 20th century.
   d. Bordeaux produces more sweet white wine than red wine today.

5. Why are the wines of Southwest France relatively unknown compared to wines from other French wine regions?
   a. Bordeaux controlled access to the sea and to the international market in this corner of France when waterways were the most important means of trade; this control enabled the Bordelais to issue protectionist policies to promote Bordeaux wines over other Southwest wines.
   b. Because of the mountainous terrain, viticulture did not even begin in this corner of France until the 20th century; it is a new wine region and therefore less known.
   c. Southwest France is devoid of rivers; it was impossible to transport wine in cask over the mountainous terrain by land, therefore the wine remained largely a local product until the railroad was built.
   d. Southwest France has a strong beer tradition; viticulture did not establish a stronghold here until the 21st century.

6. Which of the following is true?
   a. Saint Véran was once a part of Beaujolais; its wines were sold as Beaujolais Blanc.
   b. Saint Veran is one of the ten Beaujolais Crus.
   c. Saint Amour was once a part of the Maconnais; its wines were sold as Mâcon Rouge.
   d. Saint Amour is the patron saint of Beaujolais.
7. “Dry Champagne” refers to those areas of Champagne whose subsoil is...
   a. Kimmeridgean marl
   b. Clay
   c. Sand
   d. Cretaceous chalk

8. What principal French IGP export comes from Southwest France?
   a. Côtes des Pyrénées
   b. Côtes de Quercy
   c. Côtes de Gascogne/Gascogne
   d. Côtes de Aquitaine

9. In Champagne, a récoltant-manipulant...
   a. incorporates grapes purchased from others in the vinification process
   b. uses only estate-grown grapes in the vinification process
   c. brings grapes to a co-op for vinification
   d. purchases finished champagnes and gives them his or her own private label

10. Which of the following statements is **incorrect**?
    a. The Diois is located in the Northern Rhône southeast of Cornas.
    b. The Diois is located in the Southern Rhône southeast of Grignan lès Adhémar
    c. The climate of the Diois is continental with alpine influences.
    d. The Diois grows Burgundian grape varieties.

11. In which French region will you find rosé wines made predominately by the “direct press” method?
    a. Bordeaux
    b. Provence
    c. Burgundy
    d. Rhône

12. The Languedoc is impacted by two north winds, the Mistral and the...
    a. Béziers
    b. Tramontane
    c. Malepère
    d. Carcassonne

13. Which French wine region boasts the highest number of AOCs?
    a. Bordeaux
    b. Rhône
    c. Burgundy
    d. Champagne

14. Which of the following pairings is **incorrect**?
    a. Bordeaux: Continental Climate with Mediterranean influences
    b. Champagne: Continental climate with Maritime influences
    c. Diois: Continental climate with Alpine influences
    d. Beaujolais: Continental climate with Mediterranean influences
15. How much of Beaujolais’ total production is nouveau?
   a. 1/4  
   b. 1/3  
   c. 1/2  
   d. 2/3

16. Which of the following grape varieties is native to France?
   a. Pinot Gris/Grigio  
   b. Riesling  
   c. Grenache  
   d. Mourvèdre

17. Which pairing does not match the Burgundian village with its most famous vineyard name?
   a. Gevrey-Chambertin  
   b. Chassagne-Montrachet  
   c. Ladoix-Serrigny  
   d. Puligny-Montrachet

18. Prior to the 16th century, the principle grapes of Champagne were...
   a. Chardonnay and Pinot Blanc  
   b. Gouais and Fromenteau  
   c. Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier  
   d. Sylvaner and Sacy

19. What distinguishes Northern Beaujolais from Southern Beaujolais?
   a. Soils  
   b. Pruning method and soil  
   c. Pruning method, soil, topography  
   d. There is no significant difference between the two sub-regions.

20. Which of the following is not a UNESCO-named “world heritage site”?
   a. The middle Loire Valley  
   b. The city of Bordeaux  
   c. Châteauneuf-du-Pape  
   d. The town of St. Emilion

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