

## ***Unearthing Ancient Secrets: True Gladiator***

**Directions:** Read the following questions and their answers. Then watch the video on gladiators. Circle the response that best answer the question.

- 1. In what Roman city did the story of Columbus begin?**
  - a. Ephesus
  - b. Rome
- 2. What was special about Columbus?**
  - a. He was a free man who volunteered and fought for pay.
  - b. He was a prisoner of war who fought for his freedom.
- 3. How were the gladiators treated by society?**
  - a. They were treated like the scum of the earth.
  - b. They were treated like honored citizens in society.
- 4. Where did they bury the dead gladiators?**
  - a. In a graveyard far outside the city.
  - b. In a special tomb inside the city.
- 5. How did the scientists know about how the gladiators lived and died?**
  - a. They learned information from their bones.
  - b. They read about them in ancient accounts.
- 6. How did the gladiators begin their training program?**
  - a. With an oath to fight and die in the ring.
  - b. With a brutal whipping by their trainers.
- 7. How did the scientists know that the gladiators trained hard?**
  - a. Their bones were enlarged, showing heavy muscle development.
  - b. Their bones were thin and narrow, showing lots of physical exercise.
- 8. How did the gladiators fight in the ring?**
  - a. They fought barefoot, because that gave them better traction on the sandy floor of the amphitheater.
  - b. They fought in sandals and boots, which protected their feet from sword cuts.
- 9. Was gladiator training barbaric?**
  - a. Yes, there is a lot of evidence (like microscopic fractures) of overtraining.
  - b. No, there is no evidence (like microscopic fractures) of overtraining.
- 10. Why did Vetius host the games?**
  - a. He wanted to make a lot of money from the games.
  - b. He wanted political advancement, and the games could give him that.

- 11. What did the word “murmillo” mean?**
  - a. It meant “man-fish.”
  - b. It meant “wolf-man.”
- 12. What did the word “gladiator” come from?**
  - a. It came from the armor they wore, the gladius.
  - b. It came from the sword they carried, the gladius.
- 13. What type of gladiator fought with a trident and a net?**
  - a. The retiarius fought with the trident and the net.
  - b. The murmillo fought with the trident and the net.
- 14. What type of medical care did the gladiators receive?**
  - a. They received very good medical care, with professional healers healing them. Their bones show signs of care while they were healing.
  - b. They generally received almost no medical care. Their ones show signs of poorly set fractures and infections.
- 15. What did Columbus’s body look like?**
  - a. He was actually fat, which probably protected his vital organs and major blood vessels in the ring.
  - b. He was quite muscular and thin, giving him the ability to move around the ring and dodge blows quickly.
- 16. What was the first event of the day in the ring?**
  - a. Men fighting beasts.
  - b. Gladiators fighting gladiators.
- 17. When were criminals executed?**
  - a. Early in the morning.
  - b. At midday.
- 18. How many gladiators were estimated to die in combat?**
  - a. One in eight
  - b. One in ten
- 19. What gladiator did Columbus face in the end?**
  - a. The Thrax, with a long curved blade.
  - b. The Retiarius, with his trident and net.
- 20. What did Columbus’s master do when he became injured in the ring during his last fight?**
  - a. He spared him to reward him for his years of service.
  - b. He ordered him killed in order to satisfy the bloodlust of the crowd.
- 21. How did the gladiator who opposed Columbus deliver the deathblow?**
  - a. He cut off Columbus’s head with a single stroke of a ceremonial axe.
  - b. He stabbed Columbus in the heart through his throat with a sword.