

**Texas FFA State Floriculture Career Development Event  
General Knowledge Examination Question Bank  
Answer Key**

1. A speckled leaf appearance with fine silky strands between leaves and on lower leaf surfaces suggests the presence of:  
**D. Spider mites**
2. Japanese style of floral arrangement is known as:  
**C. Ikebana**
3. Growing medium kept too wet will deprive plants of:  
**C. Oxygen**
4. The size relationship of a floral arrangement with its surroundings is:  
**C. Scale**
5. Which of the following is a shade-loving flower?  
**D. Impatiens**
6. The genus and species name for the Jade Plant is:  
**B. *Crassula argentea***
7. The most common summer cooling system in greenhouses is:  
**D. Fan-and-pad evaporative cooling**
8. Lack of early spring flowering from tulip bulbs planted outdoors is due to:  
**B. Lack of winter cooling**
9. \_\_\_\_\_ involves incorporating water soluble fertilizer into the irrigation systems of greenhouse and nursery crops.  
**C. Fertigation**
10. The most common stem support mechanic used by florists in fresh cut flower arrangements is:  
**B. Floral foam**

11. A leaf with parallel venation:
- B. Is a monocot**
12. Which of the following is not a method for sterilizing plant growing medium?
- D. Keeping the growing medium moist for 6 to 7 days**
13. The principles of design are fundamental truths that have evolved as various art forms have developed. Which of the following is not among the major principles of design?
- D. Price**
14. The primary colors are:
- D. Yellow, red, and blue**
15. Cut branches of evergreen 20 to 30 inches long are called:
- C. Boughs**
16. An arrangement should be \_\_\_\_\_ times the height of a tall container or the length of an elongated container.
- D. 1½ to 2**
17. A type of propagation in which the propagule remains attached to the parent plant is termed:
- A. Layering**
18. The showy red, pink, or white portion of the poinsettia are:
- B. Bracts**
19. The pH on soil test results stands for:
- C. Potential hydrogen**
20. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a floral piece commonly displayed at funerals.
- A. Standing spray**
21. An example of a mass flower is:
- C. Rose**
22. A technique growers use to produce well branched, compact plants with many flowers is:
- C. Pinching**

23. Which of the following is a member of the Dianthus family?
- D. Carnation**
24. The typical length of florist wire is:
- B. 18 inches**
25. The genus and species for Yarrow is:
- B. *Achillea filipendulina***
26. A palmately compound leaf has:
- D. Leaflets**
27. The adjustment of a plant from production conditions to interior conditions is called:
- C. Acclimatization**
28. When consulting with a bride regarding floral pieces for an upcoming wedding, which of the following is not a primary consideration the florist must address to properly assist the bride for the important occasion?
- B. Payment schedule for floral services**
29. The acceleration of flowering by manipulating environmental conditions is known as:
- B. Forcing**
30. Peat is often mixed into the growing medium of container plants because it:
- B. Has good air and water holding capacities**
31. The genus and species name for the Fiddleleaf Fig is:
- A. *Ficus lyrata***
32. Popular colors to use in floral designs during the spring and Easter season include:
- D. Pink, yellow, and white**
33. A good substitute for sand, this material provides for aeration in the growing media:
- B. Perlite**

34. When preparing a symmetrical triangular floral arrangement, the \_\_\_\_\_ flowers are placed first in the design.

**C. Line/skeletal**

35. Secondary macro-nutrients are:

**A. Calcium, magnesium, and sulfur**

36. When using the ratio markup method, a 5 to 1 item with the total wholesale value of the material costing \$12.00 would retail for:

**C. \$60.00**

37. The design principle of total compatibility of all parts of an arrangement with each other is:

**C. Harmony**

38. A hue with white added is:

**A. Tint**

39. The flower part that contains the pollen is the:

**C. Anther**

40. Nosegays originated during which period in the history of floral design:

**D. English-Georgian**

41. Flowers and colored bracts are initiated in the poinsettia as days become:

**B. Shorter**

42. For optimum vase life, most cut flowers should be stored at temperatures close to:

**A. 40 °F**

43. To survive in the florist business, an owner/manager must be able to figure out the true value of the product and strive for improvement of the perceived value. This is the essence of:

**D. Profit pricing**

44. Appropriate refrigeration of cut floral materials involves both temperature and humidity control to:

**A. Slow down respiration**

45. The \_\_\_\_\_ method of wiring is commonly used to wire flowers having large, thickened calyxes such as carnations and roses.

**D. Piercing**

46. The term that refers to all the petals of a flower collectively is:

**D. Corolla**

47. Irregularly shaped holes with smooth edges appear in *Celosia* leaves. Some leaves are even missing. The plants should be treated for:

**C. Slugs and snails**

48. \_\_\_\_\_ are sucking insects that secrete a sticky honeydew substance:

**D. Aphids**

49. Secondary colors consist of:

**A. Orange, green, and violet**

50. "Plant lice" refers to:

**A. Aphids**

51. A major problem in standard carnation production resulting in asymmetrical flowers is:

**C. Calyx splitting**

52. A \_\_\_\_\_ color scheme is made up of colors that are adjacent to both direct complement colors on the color wheel.

**C. Double split-complementary**

53. The optimum pH range for azaleas is:

**C. 4.5 to 5.5**

54. The primary macro-nutrients are:

**D. Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium**

55. The natural process by which plants grow in the direction of the strongest light source is called:

**D. Phototropism**

56. The genus and species name for the ponytail palm is:
- A. *Beaucarnea recurvata***
57. Light energy, carbon dioxide, and water enter into the process of photosynthesis, through which:
- B. Carbohydrates are formed**
58. To a retailer, the highest percentage of the cost of a floral arrangement is in the:
- B. Floral materials**
59. The major component in the protoplasm of plant cells is:
- B. Water**
60. Choosing the right heating system for a particular greenhouse depends on all but one of the following variables. Identify the one that is not applicable.
- B. Type of containers**
61. \_\_\_\_\_ is generally added to water when processing flowers in a retail floral shop.
- C. Biocide**
62. The hook method of wiring flowers for floral arrangements is used for:
- A. Flat headed flowers**
63. Which foliage has the most coarse texture?
- B. Galax**
64. Magnesium, calcium, and sulfur:
- A. Are essential elements needed for plant processes**
65. Hanging plants used in interior landscapes function to:
- B. Smooth squared edges found in the architecture**
66. In plants, \_\_\_\_\_ is the process of converting stored energy into energy for plant growth.
- C. Respiration**
67. Insects identified by cottony material found in leaf axils and along leaf veins are:
- B. Mealybugs**

68. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a candelabra displayed during the Hanukkah season that features eight identical candles and one taller center candle.

**D. Menorah**

69. The main reason many tropical foliage plants decline indoors is related to:

**D. Light**

70. Using tints, tones, and shades of the same hue results in a color scheme that is:

**B. Monochromatic**

71. A color scheme that uses any two colors located directly across from each other on the color wheel is called:

**C. Complementary**

72. A hygrometer is used to measure:

**D. Humidity**

73. A coiffure style of corsage is worn:

**B. In the hair**

74. To properly water indoor plants, consider:

**D. All of the above**

75. Gloxinia and African violet are members of the plant family:

**B. Gesneriaceae**

76. The unit of heat measurement used in the greenhouse industry is the:

**A. BTU**

77. When transplanting seedlings, handle them by their:

**C. Leaves**

78. \_\_\_\_\_ flowers are used to fill in a floral arrangement once the lines and the focal area of the design have been established.

**A. Mass**

79. A floral arrangement designed with visual paths along which the eyes move from one point of interest to another is called a(n):

**D. Line arrangement**

80. An instrument that measures the electrical conductivity of a soil solution is called a:

**D. Solubridge**

81. *Lilium longiflorum*, an important holiday potted plant, is commonly known as:

**C. Easter Lily**

82. Growth-promoting substances are often applied to the bases of cuttings when propagating plants in order to:

**D. Speed the development of roots on the cuttings**

83. An example of a specialty cut flower used in a floral arrangement is a(n):

**C. Orchid**

84. Methods of drying and preserving plant materials do **not** include:

**D. Hydration**

85. \_\_\_\_\_ is a common disease found on roses grown for cut flowers.

**D. Botrytis**

86. For optimum germination, seeds of nearly all bedding plants require a propagation medium temperature of:

**A. 75 to 85 degrees**

87. A flower worn by a man on the lapel of his jacket is a:

**C. Boutonniere**

88. Flowers used by the Egyptians included:

**C. Water lilies**

89. A ten-week group variety of chrysanthemum means:

**C. They bloom ten weeks after the start of short days**

90. \_\_\_\_\_ is the sticky excretion characteristic of aphids, mealybugs, and scale.
- C. Honeydew**
91. The new growth of a *Dieffenbachia* is weak and spindly, with large gaps between the leaves. The problem is probably:
- D. Lack of light**
92. The least desirable way to water plug-grown seedlings is with:
- A. A hand-held nozzle**
93. A container often used at Thanksgiving for floral arrangements and symbolic of a plentiful harvest is the:
- B. Cornucopia**
94. Cuttings of potted chrysanthemums are planted at an angle to encourage:
- A. Increased branching**
95. All of the protoplasm in a cell, except the nucleus, is called:
- D. Cytoplasm**
96. When black is added to a hue, the resulting color is called a:
- A. Shade**
97. Pollination occurs when:
- C. A pollen grain touches the stigma**
98. The common name for *Zebrina pendula* is:
- C. Wandering Jew**
99. The first major civilization to have professional floral designers were the:
- A. Greeks**
100. The least expensive method of propagating plants is by:
- C. Seeds**
101. Fungus gnat damage to container plants is caused by the:
- B. Larval stage**

102. Which of the following flower types is not suitable for pressing?
- A. Daffodil**
103. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are two nutrients that are not compatible with each other.
- B. Zinc, iron**
104. The most important environmental factor regulating flower initiation in bulbous species is:
- B. Temperature**
105. \_\_\_\_\_ gauge wire is most commonly used for funeral work.
- A. 18**
106. Aphids can promote growth of \_\_\_\_\_ due to the honeydew they excrete.
- D. Black sooty mold**
107. Thrips are commonly found on which part of the plant?
- D. Flowers**
108. To increase the keeping quality of plant materials with hollow stems, the stems should be:
- C. Filled with water**
109. The bract that encloses a flower cluster is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Spathe**
110. An example of a day neutral plant is the:
- C. Rose**
111. Of the following, which gauge of wire has the thinnest diameter?
- C. 36**
112. The average humidity recommended for interior plants is:
- B. 40 to 70%**
113. Which of the following is not a recognized color scheme from the color wheel?
- D. Quadraplex**

114. The all-purpose light level at which most interior plants survive, receiving as much light as possible without any direct sun is:

**B. Bright-indirect light**

115. Commercial flower crops are sometimes watered to cause leaching. This means:

**B. Watering to remove excess soluble salts from the growing medium**

116. \_\_\_\_\_ is used to secure the floral foam to the design container.

**C. Anchor tape**

117. Light intensity is expressed in units of:

**A. Foot-candles**

118. All of the following are bulbous and tuberous-rooted plants except:

**D. Snapdragons**

119. One example of a micro-element is:

**B. Copper**

120. A nitrogen deficiency causes:

**C. Short stems, small leaves, and pale color in the leaves**

121. One knife **not** used in the horticulture and floriculture industry is a \_\_\_\_\_ knife.

**A. Kitchen**

122. A granite-like volcanic material that is crushed and heated to expand to twenty times its original volume is:

**D. Perlite**

123. When listed on the labels of horticultural chemicals, the word “caution” means:

**A. Low order of toxicity**

124. The most widely used foliage in round arrangements is:

**C. Leatherleaf fern**

125. The percentages of nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium contained in a fertilizer refers to:

**A. Fertilizer analysis**

126. When making hand-tied bouquets, the stems should be positioned:

**D. In a spiraling manner**

127. Analogous color harmony utilizes:

**D. Two or three adjacent colors on the color wheel**

128. Which of the following is not characteristic of a formal floral arrangement?

**C. The central vertical axis of the arrangement may be off-center**

129. The major auxin produced in plants is:

**C. Indole-3-acetic acid (IAA)**

130. Which of the following color schemes uses three colors equidistant from each other on the color wheel?

**A. Triadic**

131. Interveneal refers to:

**C. Between the veins**

132. Transition in a floral arrangement is the process of rhythmic change through progression, sequence, or \_\_\_\_\_.

**B. Gradation**

133. The following is **not** a characteristic of an insect:

**D. Two tentacles**

134. When cells are turgid, they are:

**C. Inflated**

135. The main commercial method for propagating African violets is by:

**D. Leaf petioles**

136. Failure of a bulb to produce a marketable flower following floral initiation is:

**B. Flower blasting**

137. Mealybugs:

**C. Are cottony and white**

138. A \_\_\_\_\_ flower is a type of flower often used as a focal point.

**C. Form**

139. Growing medium for greenhouse plant production is:

**A. A nutritive substance in which seeds germinate and plants grow**

140. The light intensity at which respiration and photosynthesis are balanced is:

**C. Light compensation point**

141. The most commonly used design for all-purpose vase arrangements and baskets is the:

**B. Symmetrical triangle**

142. \_\_\_\_\_ is an inexpensive material from which some floral containers are made, consisting of wood pulp and glue pressed together.

**A. Papier-mâché**

143. The cool colors on a typical color wheel include:

**C. Green, blue-green, blue, blue-violet, violet**

144. The removal of lateral flower buds from stems, such as carnations and chrysanthemums, is called:

**D. Disbudding**

145. Which of the following are fungus diseases of plants:

**A. Mildew, fusarium, damping off**

146. Spathiphyllums are popular for their dark, glossy, green leaves and their snowy white \_\_\_\_\_.

**C. Spathes**

147. What nutrient is deficient if the deficiency symptoms are found on older/lower leaves and the plant is dark green or reddish-purple with short, slender stalks?

**B. Phosphorus**

148. Gladiolus are typically propagated from:

**C. Corms**

149. An arrangement of flowers designed for the top of a closed funeral casket is a:

**B. Full couch spray**

150. \_\_\_\_\_ is the ribbon size typically used for corsage work.

**A. #3**

151. When designing an asymmetrical floral arrangement, the floral designer must consider which of the following design principles:

**D. All of the above**

152. Floral designers wire flowers to:

**A. Keep flowers upright**

153. To be profitable for the florist, a floral arrangement should have no more than \_\_\_\_\_ percent of its retail price in Cost of Goods Sold (COGS).

**B. 35**

154. The emission of water vapor from the surface of plant leaves is called:

**D. Transpiration**

155. Which of the following is an example of a symmetrical floral design?

**C. Round**

156. The framework of a floral design is created by:

**A. Line**

157. In Japanese floral design, Tai represents:

**B. Earth**

158. An example of a macro-element is:

**A. Phosphorus**