



Fencing Quiz

1. Which of the following weapons would not be used in fencing?

- Epee
- Sabre
- Foil
- Cleaver

2. How many weapons are there? And name them!

3 – Foil, Epee and Sabre

3. There are three different weapons used in fencing. In which one is the whole body target area?

Epee - Dagger and rapier are not used in fencing. The third weapon is foil. For foil the target area is the torso, for sabre it is the waist up.

4. What colour is usually worn by competitors in a fencing tournament?

White - Fencing suits are white. This is because in the past, touching was recorded by a piece of cotton that had been dipped in ink and then attached to the appropriate area of the weapon.

5. Which weapon do you have the least target area with?

Foil - The target area in foil is the upper torso. With epee, it is the whole body. (Yes, you can hit his foot, and you score!) Sabre is all around the body as well, but you must slash (or hit with the edge) to score.

6. Which weapon is an 'edged weapon', meaning to successfully hit, you must hit with the edge and not the tip of the weapon?

Sabre - The sabre is based on the weapon of the cavalry, where the only attack that could really be made was a slash, since it's hard to hit with the point from atop a horse.

7. With which weapon are you able to slash rather than poke?

Sabre - Slashing or cutting makes sabre bouts proceed very quickly.

8. Which of these statements about fencing is true?

- The weapons used in modern fencing are made of plastic
- Fencing originated in Australia
- It is acceptable to tackle your opponent if you lose your weapon
- Fencing is the only combat sport with no weight class

9. What is a 'lame'?

The vest-like jacket worn over your uniform when doing an electric bout. A lame is an electric jacket used in foil and sabre. They have wires running through the target areas, so when a fencer hits that spot, it will set off the score machine.

10. If the whole body is an acceptable target, what weapon would you be using?

Epee - Epee is based on 'first blood' dueling. You didn't have to kill someone to be the victor, just make them bleed. It didn't matter if it was their chest, their arm, or anywhere, you won.

11. With which weapon can a double touch be scored?

Epee - Foil and sabre have something called right of way. Basically, this means that you have to have been the one attacking in order to score a point. So when both lights go off, it is the person who had right of way who scores.

12. If, during a tournament, a judge gives you a "Black Card", what does this mean?

You are being disqualified and must leave.

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13. In a dry bout ('Dry bout' means that you are fencing without any electric equipment), how many judges are needed?

4 - There are two judges for each fencer. They watch to see who attacks first, or if the attack is off target.

14. The position of the guard of the sword in En Guard defines inside line. Where is it always?

- To the left of the guard
- Below the guard
- To the right of the guard
- None of these

For a right-handed person it would be to the left of the guard, however this is not true for a left-handed person. The official definition is towards the body from the blade, or farthest away from the opponent. As you can imagine, outside line is on the other side, high line is above the guard, and low line is below.

15. In 1936, which major change in fencing went into effect?

Electronic Scoring - In 1936, electronic scoring became available doing away with the job of the side judge. This new apparatus reduced the bias of human judges and was much more accurate. The lights and sounds of electronic scoring machines can be seen and heard at all fencing tournaments today.

16. In a tournament, a "DE" bout is a what?

Direct Elimination - DE bouts can be such a pain. It doesn't matter how well you did in pools (pools is just a chart saying who fences who, you fight those bouts to get total points and to determine who you fence the first DE with), because if you lose the DE bout, you're out of the tournament.

17. What is 'En Garde'?

The starting posture and position that signals you are ready to begin. French for 'On Guard', it is the basic posture of a fencer. The director will say En Garde, or 'Fencers Ready', as a signal that the bout is about to begin/continue.

18. "On deck" means what?

The next people to fence - The director will call whose "on deck" so the fencers know to be ready. The term "on strip" is who is being called to fence at that moment.

19. Which of the following is not worn during an epee bout?

- Knickers
- Jacket
- Plastron
- 'Lame'

20. In the context of competitive fencing what is a plastron?

An underarm protector - The plastron goes underneath the jacket worn by fencers and provides protection for the underarm and the ribcage. The outfit, worn by fencers today, is all about protecting the athlete. Because of the potential lethality of this sport, every protective measure is taken.

21. If the director calls a 'parry', it means you just did what?

Blocked the opponent's blade - A parry is one of the most basic fencing moves, however, it is not sufficient if used by itself. You should either retreat (means to back up) while doing so, or just block and riposte (riposte is to attack after parrying).

22. What is a beat?

An attempt to knock the opponent's blade aside - A beat attack is a beat followed by an attack.

23. What is the best definition of the word 'appel' as it is used in the sport of competitive fencing?

Distracting your opponent by stomping the ground - 'Appel' is the practice of the stomping on the ground, in an attempt to make a distracting sound in an attempt to catch your opponent off guard. It is also used in an attempt to startle your opponent. If you see a participant repeatedly stomping the ground, this is not an 'appel' but is an indication by the participant that the bout must be stopped due to injury or equipment failure.

24. If the director calls a 'parry four riposte', what did you just do?

Block your opponent's blade and scored a point - This is another basic fencing move. My coach is always asking me how many words parry four riposte is, it's three, but it's one move, which was his point. I would parry and forget to riposte, which

isn't horribly bad, you just don't get a point. (Parry-four refers to where you hold your arm while you're en garde).

25. What is a "lame"?

The special second jacket used in foil and sabre fencing, to register touches by machine - A lame, pronounced lam-ay, is used to register touches with electronic equipment. Unlike Epee, where the whole body is a target, sabre and foil have limited target areas, and the lame allows only hits to those areas to register.

26. What is counter-time?

- An action that goes against the rhythm of the bout
- A bout that goes over time
- The minute break allowed in the middle of a bout
- Any action against a counter-attack

If a bout exceeds the allotted time, the player with the most points wins. If they are tied, a coin is flipped. The winner of the coin toss gets priority. They fence for a minute. If someone gets a point, they win, if not, when the minute is up, the player with priority wins. In longer bouts of say nine minutes, one minute breaks are allowed every three minutes, however the fencers are not permitted to leave the strip.

27. Some right handed fencers are afraid of what?

Left handed fencers

28. Where are the blades foible?

The end farthest from the guard - The end closest to the guard is the forte. When holding an opponent's blade in counter six, one should have the weakest part of their blade (the foible) with the strongest part (forte) of yours.

29. A "one, two" is a what?

A lunge combined with a disengage at the end - A disengage is where you circle around your opponents blade and hit near the shoulder (if you're aiming right).

30. What is the name for an attack in which the aggressor leaps off his leading foot, attempts to make the hit, and then passes the opponent at a run?

Fleche - One passes one's opponent on their non-weapon side which makes fleching against a lefty somewhat tricky.