

Wine in Easy English
What's For English Dot Com

The Wines of Chablis

Pre and Post Questions

Pre-Questions: What do you know or think about Chablis before the podcast?

1. Chablis is a small town in
Burgundy Alsace Bordeaux Champagne
2. Only white wines are made in Chablis
True False
3. Chablis wines are made with which grape
Sauvignon Blanc Chardonnay Semillon Ugni Blanc
4. Chablis is well-known as a low-cost, "value" wine.
Yes No
5. Chablis is an exclusive, "luxury" product.
Yes No
6. In this podcast/article I expect to learn more about
 - The vineyards in Chablis YES NO
 - The terroir of Chablis YES NO
 - Winemaking in Chablis YES NO
 - The history of Chablis YES NO
 - Which producers to purchase and which ones to avoid YES NO
 - Which producers have received the highest ratings by Robert Parker. YES NO

Post Questions: Comprehension

1. Where is Chablis located?
 - A. In the center of Burgundy.
 - B. Near Paris
 - C. In California
 - D. Between Dijon and Paris

2. Why may consumers be confused about Chablis?
 - A. They may believe it's a "style" of California white wine.
 - B. They think it's too expensive.
 - C. They think it's a grape.
 - D. They think it's a sweet wine.

3. Two very important factors in the quality of chablis are
 - A.Minerality and citrus character
 - B.Soil and amount of sunlight
 - C.Vineyard management and winemaking
 - D.Limestone soil and fossilized sea creatures

4. What is Kimmeridgian?
 - A.A vineyard in Chablis.
 - B.A wine producer in Chablis
 - C.A type soil in Chablis.
 - D.A cold weather condition in Chablis.

5. Why are the best vineyards are planted on steep slopes?
 - A.They get more rain.
 - B.Rainwater drains away quickly.
 - C.The temperatures are warmer.
 - D.There are more nutrients in the soil.

6. A Grand Cru is
 - A.Wine made from one of the top vineyards.
 - B.Wine blended from the best grapes.
 - C.Wine made in new barrels
 - D.Wine made from a mountain vineyard.

7. When a wine is made from grapes of one particular vineyard, it's called
 - A.A.C. Chablis
 - B.Premier Cru
 - C.A single vineyard wine
 - D.Mountain grown

8. In Chablis, how is it that several wine producers can all make wine from the same Grand Cru or Premier Cru vineyard?
 - A.They invested in the vineyard together.
 - B.They can sell off unwanted wine to each other.
 - C.Some of them cheat by falsely using famous names on their labels.
 - D.The vineyards are owned by multiple owners.

9. When a wine is "closed" it means,
 - A.The cork is difficult to pull out.
 - B.The wine is very high quality.
 - C.The wine has gone bad.
 - D.It's difficult to detect aroma.

10. T. F. Soon California producers will not be allowed to use "Chablis" on their white wine labels.
11. T. F. Cold temperatures can be a problem in Chablis in both Spring and Fall.
12. T. F. Decanting will help a wine to open up.
13. T. F. A wine labeled as "Appellation Controlee" means it is from one of the villages in Chablis.
14. T. F. The lesser quality vineyards are probably planted on the the Portlandian soil.
15. T. F. Most Chablis wine has some contact with wood.
16. T. F. Stainless steel tanks are cleaner than wood tanks or barrels.
17. T. F. Malolactic fermentation increases acidity in wine.

Vocabulary

With my dinner last night, I enjoyed a great bottle of Chablis. **On / In** the nose I got a wonderful **minerality / mineral** character - grapefruit - even lime. The wine was quite **large-bodied / full-bodied** and ended with a long **finish / finisher**. **On / At** the finish the fruit tasted a little like pear - or even hazelnuts. It was a wonderfully dry wine - very **food-friend / food-friendly**. I think I should buy some more - because it ought to **age / aged** well - if I can resist the urge to drink it up!

Answers:

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

With my dinner last night, I enjoyed a great bottle of Chablis. **On** the nose I got a wonderful **mineral** character - grapefruit - even lime. The wine was quite **full-bodied** and ended with a long **finish**. **On** the finish the fruit tasted a little like pear - or even hazelnuts. It was a wonderfully dry wine - very **food-friendly**. I think I should buy some more - because it ought to **age** well - if I can resist the urge to drink it up!