**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter, Council or Commandery:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mentors:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This exercise is not a test of your memory. It is an exercise to help you seek out more Light and to improve your skills, knowledge and understanding of hidden mysteries within the degrees and orders of York Rite Masonry.

Answers to nearly all of the questions can be found in the quest books and the manual/ritual book. Other answers can be found on the web or within other Masonic and York Rite resources. You should also use your mentor, Brothers and Companions to find or develop your answers.

**Note:** If you do not agree with a “Provided Answer” feel free to provide your own answer along with evidence and source information supporting your answer.

**HISTORY OF THE CRYPTIC DEGREES**

The true origins of the Cryptic degrees are cloaked in mystery and have probably become lost within the labyrinth of history. Therefore, the answers to the next four questions are your opinion and are correct as long as you support your opinion with evidence.

1. Most Masonic historians agree that the Cryptic Council degrees first appear when? Include the time frame and your source!
2. Who is Enoch and how does he fit into story told in the Cryptic degrees?
3. There are a number of theories about the origins of the Cryptic Council degrees, identify by name two or more of these theories. Which theory do you believe is the most plausible and why.
4. There are a number of important Mason involved in the creation of the Cryptic degrees. Which individual do you believe was the most influential and why.

**ROYAL MASTER DEGREE**

1. What does the term “crypt” mean and where (the origin of the word) did it come from?
2. What does the term “cryptic” mean?
3. Mysterious or obscure
4. Difficult to understand
5. Hidden meaning
6. All of the above
7. The symbol of the Cryptic Council is a broken triangle. Why?
8. In a Council of Royal Masters the Bible is opened to what chapter?
9. Psalms 23
10. Ecclesiastes 12
11. Exodus XVI
12. First Kings v. 48-50
13. A Council of Royal Masters is assembled in a place representing the:
14. The outer court of King Solomon’s Temple
15. The middle chamber of King Solomon’s Temple
16. The Sanctum Sanctorum of King Solomon’s Temple
17. The chamber beneath King Solomon’s Temple

1. As like several degrees the Royal Master degree is performed out of sequence. If the Royal Master degree was performed in its proper sequence it would be after the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ degree and before the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ degree.
2. What is the battery of knocks for the Royal Master degree?
3. Five
4. Six
5. Seven
6. Eight
7. What does the battery of the Royal Master degree allude to?
8. Resurrection and regeneration
9. A new beginning
10. Circumcision
11. A new covenant with God
12. All of the above
13. How many compose a Council of Royal Masters?
14. Two or more
15. Three or more
16. Five or more
17. Seven or more
18. What does the three branched candelabra within the Royal Master degree allude to?
19. Where do you also see the three branched candelabra?
20. What is the lesson of the Royal Master degree?
21. Patience and fortitude
22. Dedication and hard work
23. Take credit for no work but your own
24. Devotion and zeal
25. Loyalty and faithfulness
26. How many times does Master Hiram circumambulate the Council room?
27. Two times
28. Three times
29. Five times
30. Eight times
31. How many times does candidate circumambulate the Council room?
32. Two times
33. Three times
34. Five times
35. Eight times
36. What is deposited in the Secret Vault per Master Hiram? (He says it a number of times) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
37. What is the Shekinah?
38. Where would you find the Shekinah located?
39. What major event occurred between the first and second sections of the Royal Master degree?
40. What is the Bathkol (bat kol)?
41. The voice of God
42. A Devine Pronouncement
43. An angle
44. A dove
45. All of the above
46. If you were within the Temple and the Holy of Holies, where would the Bath Kol issue forth from?

The following are the short answer essay questions. These questions don’t have a “correct” or single answers. It all about what it means to you as a man and a Mason. You may write your answer on this page or use an attached sheet.

1. What are the cherubim and what are their duties?
2. Who is Adoniram and why is he important?
3. With the death of Master Hiram the two Kings discovered something. What was it and how did they deal with it?
4. List and describe the articles found within the Holy of Holies in King Solomon’s Temple.
5. Identify one or more things that you think are a hidden meaning within this degree.
6. What is the thing within this degree that struck you the most?
7. Did you find this exercise useful and or meaningful and why?
8. What can we do to improve or make this exercise better?