

Regency Card Party Quiz



What Kind of Regency Woman Are You?

Here you are at a London Regency card party in 1815. Let's find out what kind of Regency woman you are. Choose your response and record your answers, whether a, b, c, or d.

1. The hostess cannot tear herself away from the Earl of Evergreen who, being most unusually (and flatteringly) attentive, cannot be brooked. She must leave you, therefore, to yourself to choose a table to join a game. Do you: (Choose your response and record a, b, c, or d.)

- a) Look for the emptiest table available?
- b) Seek out an acquaintance?
- c) See a spot beside the dashing Lord What's His Name and grab it?
- d) Feel swoony at the mere thought of inserting yourself and hide on the sofa against the wall?

2. A servant brings around a tray with various libations. You wait for him to explain what they are, but he offers no information. Do you:

- a) Inquire as to the contents on account of being a stickler about ingredients?
- b) Take your pick, assuming it's something familiar that you'll enjoy?
- c) Ask the servant which one is spiked so you can choose that one?
- d) Take one no matter what it is because you're too timid to inquire.

3. You discover that the Regent himself is at an adjoining table! Do you:

- a) Watch him with furtive interest, as you've never shared a room with royalty before?
- b) Watch him hopefully, considering whether to ask the hostess to inquire if you may be introduced? (While men were most often the ones to solicit an introduction, royalty had to consent to giving one.)
- c) Make flirty eyes at him because you know he's a roue and you are, after all, looking your absolute best.
- d) Move as far away as possible so that there is no chance of you making a faux pas in his presence.

4. Your younger brother who inherited the family estate arrived "in his cups" and is gaming at the Regent's table with alarmingly high stakes. You know he's already in debt up to his ears. Do you:

- a) Determine if any of the men around him might be able to extricate him from further gaming. You pick out a reasonable, intelligent man and muster your bravado; you approach your hostess to speak to him on your brother's behalf.
- b) Go to him between hands and earnestly persuade him to quit?
- c) Since all the men at his table are "well-heeled," tell him to offer your hand in marriage instead of the forty thousand pounds now in peril?
- d) Beg the hostess with near-hysterics to put a stop to the game before he's a bankrupt and loses the family estate?

5. Mr. So-So, whom you have never formed an acquaintance with before, turns out to be a witty companion, excellent player, and tries engaging you in thoughtful conversation over refreshments. Do you:

- a) Consider him too polite to be without an ulterior motive? You're so busy trying to determine why he is attending you at all, that you fail to offer any good conversation in return.
- b) Enjoy his banter and plan on accepting his request (politely though with secret delight) if he asks to pay you a morning call or go for a drive?
- c) Treat him tolerably but decide he isn't worth your time, as he lacks both a large fortune and a title.
- d) Rehearse how you will rebuff him if he requests permission to give you a morning call or take you for a drive through Hyde Park, because, my word, he must be up to no good.

ANSWERS

If you chose mostly A answers:

You, dearest, are a Regency wallflower. You are good and well-intentioned, but timid. You would adore being in the spotlight as any celebrated lady of society, but would never, never, put yourself forward.

If you chose mostly B answers:

You, my love, are the quintessential Regency belle, a gentlewoman in the marriage mart but who looks for an intelligent and kind companion you can love. You are reasonable and moderate in your views and tastes.

If you chose mostly C answers:

You, my darling naughty girl, may be a Regency minx! You are passionate about marrying well, above yourself if possible, and throw caution to the wind when trying to reach your goal.

If you chose mostly D answers:

You, my adorable mob-cap wearer, are a Regency spinster, either a future one, or an established one, and this, by choice. You are fiercely protective of those you love, and have much affection to give your extended family and dearest friends.

As writers, we like to use all of these Regency characters in our books. The Regency belle, or gentlewoman, is our most likely heroine, but in my latest release, *Forever Lovely*, Miss Margaret is a wallflower who believes she is doomed to future spinsterhood. The fun comes in when she meets Stewart Russell who slowly erodes her self-effacing notions with remarkable, wondrous, lovely new ones!

