

Certified Spirits Educator (CSE) Exam—Practice Essay Questions



- Compare and contrast Bourbon and Tennessee Whiskey. Discuss the regulations, production processes, and flavor profiles that pertain to each type of whiskey.
- Irish Whiskey is one of the fastest-growing spirit categories in the world. Describe this phenomenon, using both historical information and modern-day trends; include a discussion of at least two specific brands of Irish Whisky.
- Describe and discuss the three different AOCs of Calvados. Include information on the product specifications and typical flavor profile of each.
- Compare and contrast the production of sugarcane-based rum versus molasses-based rum.
- Describe and discuss the various methods that are using in flavoring stage of the production of gin. Include a discussion of the specific types, styles, or brands that are created via each method.
- Describe and discuss the tequila production region. Include details of the five Mexican states that are part of the defined region, the (unofficial) subzones of Jalisco, and the terroir associated with the area.
- Using at least three specific examples, describe and discuss the loosely defined product category of “Alpine Spirits.”
- Describe and discuss how you would teach a 2-hour class on Polish Vodka for a group of professionals. Include a synopsis of the class, details on the specific products you would offer, and a discussion on how you would present your information.
- Describe and discuss the production, culture, and consumption of vermouth in Spain.