

History of Basic Mathematics

History Of Mathematics · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with inventing the abacus, one of the earliest tools for calculation?

- A) Ancient China**
- B) Ancient Egypt
- C) Ancient Greece
- D) Ancient Rome

2. The mathematical symbol for zero was first formally developed and used as a placeholder in which country?

- A) India**
- B) Brazil
- C) Norway
- D) Canada

3. Which ancient mathematician, known as the 'Father of Geometry', authored the textbook 'Elements'?

- A) Euclid**
- B) Pythagoras
- C) Archimedes
- D) Newton

4. What is the name of the ancient counting tool made of knotted strings used by the Inca Empire for record-keeping?

- A) Quipu**
- B) Abacus
- C) Slide rule
- D) Tally stick

5. Roman numerals use which of the following letters to represent the number 100?

- A) C**
- B) V
- C) X
- D) L

6. The 'Equal' sign (=) was invented in 1557 by a Welsh mathematician named what?

- A) Robert Recorde**
- B) Isaac Newton
- C) Alan Turing
- D) John Napier

7. The word 'arithmetic' originates from the Greek word 'arithmos', which literally translates to what?

A) Number

B) Addition

C) Shape

D) Logic

8. In the binary system, which is used by modern computers, how many distinct digits are used?

A) Two

B) Ten

C) Eight

D) Five

9. Which number is known as the 'base' of the decimal system used by most modern cultures?

A) 10

B) 2

C) 20

D) 60

10. The ancient Babylonians used a base-60 system, which is the reason we have how many minutes in an hour?

A) 60

B) 100

C) 24

D) 30

11. What is the oldest known mathematical object, dating back approximately 35,000 years, used for counting?

A) Lebombo Bone

B) Stone Tablet

C) Clay Pot

D) Iron Rod

12. Which culture developed the 'Hindu-Arabic' numeral system that we use globally today?

A) India

B) Egypt

C) France

D) Japan

13. Who is often referred to as the 'Father of Algebra' for his work in the 9th century?

A) Al-Khwarizmi

B) Plato

C) Galileo

D) Einstein

14. The word 'fraction' is derived from a Latin word that means what?

A) To break

B) To add

C) To measure

D) To count

15. In the 17th century, Blaise Pascal invented one of the first mechanical devices capable of what?

A) Addition

B) Teleportation

C) Photography

D) Printing

16. Which mathematical constant, represented by the Greek letter π , describes the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter?

A) Pi

B) Phi

C) Sigma

D) Delta

17. The Pythagorean theorem, which relates the sides of a right-angled triangle, is named after a philosopher from where?

A) Greece

B) China

C) Mexico

D) Egypt

18. What does the Roman numeral 'V' represent?

A) 5

B) 10

C) 50

D) 100