

# History of Basic Mathematics

History Of Mathematics · Practice Test · 18 Questions

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**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  $\pi$ , 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