

Historical Milestones in Meteorology

Meteorology · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Which scientist is credited with inventing the first mercury barometer in 1643?

- A) Galileo Galilei
- B) Evangelista Torricelli
- C) Blaise Pascal
- D) Robert Boyle

2. The Beaufort Wind Scale, which remains a standard in maritime observation, was introduced by Sir Francis Beaufort in which year?

- A) 1805
- B) 1822
- C) 1850
- D) 1876

3. What was the name of the first weather satellite successfully launched into orbit by the United States on April 1, 1960?

- A) Nimbus 1
- B) GOES-1
- C) TIROS-1
- D) Vanguard 2

4. In 1934, the Mount Washington Observatory recorded a wind gust of 231 mph, which stood as the fastest surface wind speed ever observed by humans for 62 years. In which U.S. state is this observatory located?

- A) Vermont
- B) Maine
- C) New Hampshire
- D) New York

5. Which 19th-century meteorologist is famous for pioneering the use of synoptic weather maps, specifically the first daily weather map published in 1851?

- A) Luke Howard
- B) Robert FitzRoy
- C) Cleveland Abbe
- D) James Glaisher

6. The 'Great Hurricane' of 1780, which remains the deadliest Atlantic hurricane on record, primarily affected which region?

- A) The Caribbean Islands
- B) The Gulf Coast of the US
- C) The Atlantic coast of Canada
- D) The British Isles

7. Who is known as the 'father of cloud classification' for his 1803 paper that introduced the Latin names cumulus, stratus, and cirrus?

- A) John Dalton
- B) Luke Howard
- C) Daniel Bernoulli
- D) William Ferrel

8. The Fujita scale, used to classify tornado intensity, was developed by Tetsuya 'Ted' Fujita and introduced in which year?

- A) 1961
- B) 1971
- C) 1981
- D) 1991

9. During the 'Year Without a Summer' in 1816, widespread climate abnormalities caused massive crop failures. What was the primary cause of this event?

- A) A massive solar flare
- B) The eruption of Mount Tambora
- C) A significant shift in the Gulf Stream
- D) An asteroid impact

10. In 1922, who published the book 'Weather Prediction by Numerical Process', laying the theoretical foundation for modern computer-based weather forecasting?

- A) Vilhelm Bjerknes
- B) Lewis Fry Richardson
- C) Carl-Gustaf Rossby
- D) Jacob Bjerknes

11. The 1970 Bhola cyclone, the deadliest tropical cyclone ever recorded, struck which country, then known as East Pakistan?

- A) India
- B) Bangladesh
- C) Myanmar
- D) Thailand

12. What instrument did Anders Celsius invent in 1742 that later became a standard for measuring temperature?

- A) The bimetallic thermometer
- B) The centigrade thermometer
- C) The infrared radiometer
- D) The electrical resistance thermometer

13. The first formal weather bureau in the United States was established by Congress in 1870 under the supervision of which government department?

- A) Department of Agriculture
- B) Department of the Interior
- C) Department of War
- D) Department of Commerce

14. In 1902, Léon Teisserenc de Bort and Richard Assmann independently discovered which layer of the atmosphere?

- A) The Ionosphere
- B) The Stratosphere
- C) The Thermosphere
- D) The Exosphere

15. The 'Tri-State Tornado' of 1925 holds the record for the longest path length of a single tornado in U.S. history. Which three states did it traverse?

- A) Missouri, Illinois, Indiana
- B) Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas
- C) Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee
- D) Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri