

Conspiracy Theories and Scientific Debunking

History And Science · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which report, released in 1964, concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy?

- A) The Church Committee Report
- B) The Warren Commission Report**
- C) The Rockefeller Commission Report
- D) The HSCA Report

2. What is the primary scientific explanation for the 'Moon Landing hoax' claim that the American flag appeared to wave in the lunar vacuum?

- A) The flagpole had a horizontal rod to hold the flag open**
- B) Atmospheric pressure in the lunar module
- C) A hidden fan device
- D) The flag was being pulled by static electricity

3. The 1947 Roswell incident, often cited by conspiracy theorists as evidence of extraterrestrial contact, was officially declassified by the U.S. Air Force as part of which secret project?

- A) Project Blue Book
- B) Project Mogul**
- C) Project Sign
- D) Project Grudge

4. What is the scientific consensus regarding the 'chemtrail' conspiracy theory, which alleges that contrails are chemical agents?

- A) They are high-altitude biological surfactants
- B) They are standard water vapor and ice crystals**
- C) They are concentrated particulate lead
- D) They are artificial cloud-seeding aerosols

5. The 'Great Replacement' theory has roots in which 20th-century French writer's work?

- A) Albert Camus
- B) Renaud Camus**
- C) Jean-Paul Sartre
- D) Michel Foucault

6. Which psychological phenomenon is frequently used by researchers to explain the tendency of conspiracy theorists to perceive patterns in random data?

- A) Dunning-Kruger effect
- B) Apophenia**
- C) Cognitive dissonance
- D) Fundamental attribution error

7. In the context of the 9/11 'controlled demolition' conspiracy theories, what material is primarily responsible for the structural failure of the towers according to the NIST report?

- A) Thermite
- B) Weakened steel due to jet fuel-fed fires**
- C) Explosive charges
- D) Structural design flaws

8. Which hoax, originally published in the 1900s, was debunked by The Times of London as a fabricated anti-Semitic pamphlet?

- A) The Protocols of the Elders of Zion**
- B) The Zinoviev Letter
- C) The Silent Brotherhood
- D) The Venona Papers

9. What phenomenon explains the supposed 'bendy' appearance of the Earth's horizon in high-altitude amateur balloon photography?

- A) Fisheye lens distortion**
- B) Atmospheric refraction
- C) Geodesic curvature
- D) Parallax error

10. The 'Pizzagate' conspiracy theory emerged during the 2016 U.S. election cycle from the hacking of which individual's emails?

- A) Hillary Clinton
- B) John Podesta**
- C) Donna Brazile
- D) Debbie Wasserman Schultz

11. Which historical 'phantom' entity was proven to be a total fabrication by the French secret police to justify political repression?

- A) The Order of the Solar Temple
- B) The Illuminati of Bavaria
- C) The Knights Templar of modern times
- D) The Priory of Sion**

12. What is the 'Flat Earth' theory's specific claim about the Antarctic continent?

- A) It is an ice wall surrounding the disc**
- B) It is a myth created by governments
- C) It is a massive mountain range at the center
- D) It is a gateway to another dimension

13. The 'Fluoridation of water' conspiracy theory gained significant traction in the U.S. during which era?

- A) The Great Depression
- B) The Cold War**
- C) The Space Race
- D) The Information Age

14. What common debunking argument is used against the 'Paul McCartney is dead' theory?

- A) Biometric analysis of photographs
- B) Authentic witness testimony
- C) Consistent vocal patterns across discography**
- D) DNA analysis of the bassist

15. What is the primary motive historically attributed to individuals who promote false-flag operations theories regarding mass shootings?

- A) Gun control legislation**
- B) Political destabilization
- C) Economic collapse
- D) Religious persecution