

American Space Exploration History

American Space History · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Which American spacecraft was the first to successfully complete a flyby of the planet Mercury in 1974?

- A) Mariner 10
- B) Pioneer 10
- C) Voyager 1
- D) Messenger

2. In 1962, the Mariner 2 mission became the first human-made object to successfully perform a flyby of which planet?

- A) Mars
- B) Venus
- C) Jupiter
- D) Saturn

3. What was the name of the first American satellite to achieve orbit around the Moon, launched in 1966 to survey potential landing sites?

- A) Lunar Orbiter 1
- B) Surveyor 1
- C) Ranger 7
- D) Explorer 33

4. Which U.S. space probe, launched in 1977, was the first human-made object to cross the heliopause and enter interstellar space?

- A) Voyager 2
- B) Pioneer 11
- C) Voyager 1
- D) New Horizons

5. The 'Viking 1' mission, which successfully landed on Mars in 1976, was launched by which NASA center?

- A) Johnson Space Center
- B) Kennedy Space Center
- C) Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- D) Goddard Space Flight Center

6. Before the Apollo Moon landings, which American program was specifically designed to test rendezvous, docking, and long-duration flight capabilities?

- A) Project Gemini
- B) Project Mercury
- C) Project Constellation
- D) Project Skylab

7. In 1989, the Magellan spacecraft was launched to perform high-resolution radar mapping of the surface of which planet?

- A) Mars
- B) Mercury
- C) Venus
- D) Jupiter

8. Which American space telescope, launched in 2003, is known for its specialized focus on observing the universe in infrared wavelengths to see through cosmic dust?

- A) Hubble Space Telescope
- B) Chandra X-ray Observatory
- C) Spitzer Space Telescope
- D) Compton Gamma Ray Observatory