

Historical Milestones in Pollution Science

Environmental Science · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. What was the primary cause of the 'Great Smog of London' in 1952?

- A) Volcanic activity
- B) Coal smoke emissions**
- C) Automobile exhaust
- D) Industrial nuclear waste

2. In which city did a major mercury poisoning incident occur in the 1950s due to industrial wastewater discharge?

- A) Minamata, Japan**
- B) London, UK
- C) New York, USA
- D) Paris, France

3. The 1984 Bhopal disaster was caused by the accidental release of which toxic gas?

- A) Carbon dioxide
- B) Methyl isocyanate**
- C) Oxygen
- D) Helium

4. Which international agreement was signed in 1987 to protect the ozone layer by phasing out CFCs?

- A) Kyoto Protocol
- B) Paris Agreement
- C) Montreal Protocol**
- D) Geneva Convention

5. The Love Canal environmental disaster, which led to the creation of the Superfund program, occurred in which country?

- A) Canada
- B) United States**
- C) Australia
- D) Germany

6. What substance was banned in petrol globally due to its harmful health effects discovered in the 20th century?

- A) Lead**
- B) Iron
- C) Copper
- D) Zinc

7. The Exxon Valdez oil spill occurred in 1989 off the coast of which U.S. state?

- A) Florida
- B) Texas
- C) Alaska**
- D) California

8. Rachel Carson's 1962 book 'Silent Spring' primarily helped to raise awareness about the dangers of which type of pollution?

- A) Noise pollution
- B) Pesticides**
- C) Light pollution
- D) Radioactive waste

9. The Cuyahoga River in Ohio became famous in 1969 for which environmental event?

- A) Freezing over
- B) Catching fire**
- C) Turning bright pink
- D) Drying up completely

10. Which chemical pesticide was famously banned in the United States in 1972 due to its environmental impact?

- A) DDT**
- B) Glyphosate
- C) Atrazine
- D) Malathion

11. The Chernobyl nuclear disaster, which caused widespread radioactive contamination, took place in what year?

- A) 1976
- B) 1986**
- C) 1996
- D) 2006

12. Which layer of the Earth's atmosphere was found to be thinning due to man-made chemicals in the 1980s?

- A) Troposphere
- B) Exosphere
- C) Ozone layer**
- D) Ionosphere