

Maritime Technology Milestones

Maritime Technology · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. What device did ancient mariners use to determine their latitude by measuring the angle of the sun or stars?

- A) The Astrolabe**
- B) The Periscope
- C) The Sonar
- D) The Radar

2. Which material was primarily used to build ships before the invention of iron and steel hulls?

- A) Plastic
- B) Wood**
- C) Rubber
- D) Glass

3. Who is credited with inventing the marine chronometer, which solved the problem of determining longitude at sea?

- A) John Harrison**
- B) James Cook
- C) Ferdinand Magellan
- D) Vasco da Gama

4. What is the primary function of a ship's rudder?

- A) To store cargo
- B) To provide steam power
- C) To steer the vessel**
- D) To detect icebergs

5. What type of engine replaced wind-powered sails as the primary propulsion for major ocean vessels in the 19th century?

- A) Nuclear engine
- B) Steam engine**
- C) Solar engine
- D) Electric engine

6. Which invention allows submarines to see objects on the water's surface while remaining submerged?

- A) Compass
- B) Periscope**
- C) Anchor
- D) Sextant

7. What was the first metal used on a large scale to construct the hull of an ocean-going ship?

- A) Gold
- B) Iron**
- C) Titanium
- D) Copper

8. What technology uses sound waves to map the ocean floor or detect underwater objects?

- A) Radar
- B) Sonar**
- C) GPS
- D) Radio

9. Which tool was traditionally used by sailors to find North using the Earth's magnetic field?

- A) The Compass**
- B) The Telescope
- C) The Gyroscope
- D) The Barometer

10. What did the invention of the 'screw propeller' replace in early steamships?

- A) The rudder
- B) The paddle wheel**
- C) The anchor
- D) The sail

11. Which maritime technology was developed to help ships communicate over long distances using light flashes?

- A) Morse Code/Signal Lamp**
- B) Satellite Phone
- C) Smoke Signals
- D) Carrier Pigeons

12. What is the purpose of a ballast tank in a submarine?

- A) To carry drinking water
- B) To control buoyancy by taking in or pumping out water**
- C) To store extra fuel
- D) To house the engine

13. Before modern GPS, what handheld instrument was used to navigate by measuring the altitude of celestial bodies?

- A) Sextant**
- B) Thermometer
- C) Anemometer
- D) Microscope

14. What invention allows a ship to remain stationary in a specific location by gripping the seabed?

- A) Propeller
- B) Anchor**
- C) Fender
- D) Piston

15. Which 19th-century innovation allowed ships to travel through canals, such as the Suez Canal, without needing to sail around continents?

- A) Steam power**
- B) The radio
- C) The life raft
- D) The jet ski

16. What maritime system was introduced to help prevent collisions by allowing ships to track each other's position and speed?

- A) Radar**
- B) The internet
- C) Telegrams
- D) Flares

17. Which part of a ship is specifically designed to provide stability and prevent it from capsizing?

- A) The Keel**
- B) The Mast
- C) The Porthole
- D) The Deck

18. What is a 'dry dock' primarily used for in maritime technology?

A) Storing grain

B) Building or repairing the hull of a ship

C) Training sailors

D) Holding passengers