

World History of Science

World History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with the invention of the sexagesimal (base-60) number system used to measure time?

- A) Ancient Sumerians**
- B) Ancient Romans
- C) Ancient Greeks
- D) Ancient Egyptians

2. Who is historically recognized for formulating the theory of gravity after observing an apple fall?

- A) Galileo Galilei
- B) Isaac Newton**
- C) Albert Einstein
- D) Nicolaus Copernicus

3. Which scientist is known for proposing the heliocentric model, placing the Sun at the center of the solar system?

- A) Johannes Kepler
- B) Claudius Ptolemy
- C) Nicolaus Copernicus**
- D) Aristotle

4. What substance did Marie Curie famously discover through her research on radioactivity?

- A) Gold
- B) Radium**
- C) Oxygen
- D) Iron

5. Which ancient medical practitioner is often called the 'Father of Medicine' and established ethical standards for physicians?

- A) Hippocrates**
- B) Galen
- C) Avicenna
- D) Louis Pasteur

6. What tool did Hans Lippershey invent in 1608 that revolutionized the study of astronomy?

- A) Microscope
- B) Thermometer
- C) Telescope**
- D) Compass

7. Which Enlightenment thinker is associated with the discovery of oxygen?

- A) Joseph Priestley**
- B) Charles Darwin
- C) Gregor Mendel
- D) Robert Hooke

8. The study of genetics was pioneered by which 19th-century monk who experimented with pea plants?

- A) Alfred Wallace
- B) Gregor Mendel**
- C) Thomas Edison
- D) Nikola Tesla

9. Which historical figure is credited with the invention of the printing press in Europe around 1440?

- A) Leonardo da Vinci
- B) Johannes Gutenberg**
- C) Benjamin Franklin
- D) Isaac Newton

10. Charles Darwin is most famous for his scientific theory regarding what process?

- A) Electromagnetism
- B) Biological evolution**
- C) Plate tectonics
- D) Atomic theory

11. What did Alexander Fleming discover in 1928, marking a major milestone in medical history?

- A) Insulin
- B) Penicillin**
- C) Vaccination
- D) X-rays

12. Which civilization developed the earliest known form of writing called cuneiform?

A) Mesopotamia

B) China

C) Indus Valley

D) Mesoamerica

13. What did James Watt improve in the 18th century, acting as a catalyst for the Industrial Revolution?

A) The lightbulb

B) The steam engine

C) The telephone

D) The windmill

14. Who developed the periodic table of elements, organizing them by atomic weight?

A) Dmitri Mendeleev

B) John Dalton

C) Antoine Lavoisier

D) Ernest Rutherford

15. Which explorer led the first expedition to circumnavigate the Earth, proving it was spherical?

A) Christopher Columbus

B) Ferdinand Magellan

C) James Cook

D) Vasco da Gama

16. The ancient Egyptians used which writing system for their formal religious and monumental inscriptions?

A) Hieroglyphics

B) Cuneiform

C) Alphabet

D) Sanskrit

17. Which scientist discovered the principles of electromagnetism and invented the first electric motor?

A) Michael Faraday

B) Alessandro Volta

C) James Clerk Maxwell

D) Andre-Marie Ampere

18. What did Galileo Galilei use to discover the moons of Jupiter?

- A) A microscope
- B) A telescope**
- C) Mathematical calculation
- D) A compass

19. Which Italian polymath sketched designs for flying machines and tanks long before they were built?

- A) Michelangelo
- B) Leonardo da Vinci**
- C) Donatello
- D) Raphael

20. Who identified the structure of DNA as a double helix alongside Francis Crick?

- A) Rosalind Franklin
- B) James Watson**
- C) Linus Pauling
- D) Richard Feynman