

Milestones of Modern History

Modern History · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which chemist is credited with the first successful synthesis of urea in 1828, effectively dismantling the theory of vitalism?

- A) Friedrich Wöhler**
- B) Justus von Liebig
- C) Dmitri Mendeleev
- D) August Kekulé

2. In 1903, the Wright brothers achieved the first controlled, powered flight. What was the name of the airfield where this occurred?

- A) Kitty Hawk
- B) Kill Devil Hills**
- C) Huffman Prairie
- D) Dayton Airfield

3. Who was the first person to successfully transmit a radio signal across the Atlantic Ocean in 1901?

- A) Nikola Tesla
- B) Guglielmo Marconi**
- C) Reginald Fessenden
- D) Alexander Graham Bell

4. What was the first artificial satellite to successfully orbit the Earth, launched by the Soviet Union in 1957?

- A) Sputnik 2
- B) Explorer 1
- C) Sputnik 1**
- D) Vostok 1

5. Which scientist is credited with the discovery of the structure of DNA via X-ray diffraction in 1952, a discovery often overshadowed by her colleagues?

- A) Rosalind Franklin**
- B) Barbara McClintock
- C) Dorothy Hodgkin
- D) Gerty Cori

6. The first programmable, electronic, general-purpose digital computer was completed in 1945. What was its name?

- A) UNIVAC
- B) EDVAC
- C) ENIAC**
- D) Colossus

7. In 1967, Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first successful human-to-human heart transplant. In which city did this procedure take place?

- A) Cape Town**
- B) London
- C) Houston
- D) Paris

8. The first successful polio vaccine, developed by Jonas Salk, was declared safe and effective in what year?

- A) 1952
- B) 1953
- C) 1955**
- D) 1957

9. Which company released the first commercially available portable cellular phone, the DynaTAC 8000X, in 1983?

- A) Nokia
- B) Motorola**
- C) Ericsson
- D) Siemens

10. What was the first feature-length motion picture to incorporate synchronized sound, released in 1927?

- A) The Jazz Singer**
- B) Metropolis
- C) Wings
- D) Steamboat Willie

11. Who was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean in 1932?

- A) Beryl Markham
- B) Amy Johnson
- C) Amelia Earhart**
- D) Jacqueline Cochran

12. In 1942, Enrico Fermi led the team that created the first controlled nuclear chain reaction. What was the name of the reactor?

A) Chicago Pile-1

B) Hanford B

C) X-10 Graphite Reactor

D) Trinity

13. What was the first photograph of the Earth taken from the Moon's orbit, captured during the Lunar Orbiter 1 mission in 1966?

A) Earthrise

B) Blue Marble

C) Pale Blue Dot

D) The Whole Earth

14. The first web browser, originally called WorldWideWeb, was created by Tim Berners-Lee in what year?

A) 1989

B) 1990

C) 1991

D) 1993

15. Which vessel was the first nuclear-powered submarine, commissioned by the United States Navy in 1954?

A) USS Nautilus

B) USS Skate

C) USS Triton

D) USS George Washington

16. The first Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded in 1901 to which scientist for his discovery of X-rays?

A) Henri Becquerel

B) Marie Curie

C) Wilhelm Röntgen

D) Max Planck

17. What was the first synthetic plastic, invented by Alexander Parkes in 1856?

A) Bakelite

B) Parkesine

C) Celluloid

D) Polyethylene

18. In 1971, the first microprocessor, the 4004, was released by which company?

A) Intel

B) AMD

C) Texas Instruments

D) IBM