

# Milestones of Modern History

Modern History · Practice Test · 18 Questions

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**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