

Pioneers of Urban Planning: Firsts, Inventions, and Discoveries

Urban Planning · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with one of the earliest known examples of grid-planned cities, notably with the city of Mohenjo-daro?

- A) Ancient Rome
- B) Ancient Greece
- C) Indus Valley Civilization
- D) Mesopotamia

2. The concept of the 'City Beautiful' movement, aiming to beautify cities with neoclassical architecture and grand boulevards, found early and influential expression in which major US city's redevelopment plan following a major disaster?

- A) New York City
- B) Chicago
- C) San Francisco
- D) Boston

3. Who is widely considered the father of modern urban planning for his visionary redesign of Paris in the mid-19th century, introducing wide avenues and public spaces?

- A) Le Corbusier
- B) Robert Moses
- C) Baron Haussmann
- D) Ildefonso Cerdà

4. The Garden City movement, proposing self-contained communities surrounded by greenbelts, was pioneered by which English urban planner?

- A) Patrick Geddes
- B) Ebenezer Howard
- C) Raymond Unwin
- D) Frederick Law Olmsted

5. Which groundbreaking 19th-century legislation in Britain mandated the creation of sanitary authorities and laid the foundation for public health infrastructure in urban areas?

- A) The Town and Country Planning Act 1947
- B) The Public Health Act 1848
- C) The Housing Act 1930
- D) The Local Government Act 1888

6. The earliest known comprehensive urban plan for a planned capital city, featuring a central acropolis and a regular street layout, is attributed to which ancient Greek city?

- A) Athens
- B) Miletus
- C) Sparta
- D) Corinth

7. Which visionary architect and urban planner proposed the 'Radiant City' concept, a dense, high-rise urban model focused on functionality and separation of uses?

- A) Frank Lloyd Wright
- B) Walter Gropius
- C) Le Corbusier
- D) Mies van der Rohe

8. The development of the first subway system in London in the mid-19th century, known as the Metropolitan Railway, was a significant invention that profoundly impacted urban transportation and development. Who was the chief engineer of this project?

- A) Isambard Kingdom Brunel
- B) Joseph Bazalgette
- C) Charles Pearson
- D) John Fowler

9. The concept of 'New Urbanism,' which advocates for walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods, drew inspiration from traditional urban design principles and was formally articulated in a charter in which decade?

- A) 1970s
- B) 1980s
- C) 1990s
- D) 2000s

10. Which ancient Roman engineer and writer is credited with the seminal work 'De Architectura,' which extensively detailed principles of urban design, public works, and architecture, influencing urban development for centuries?

- A) Plato
- B) Aristotle
- C) Vitruvius
- D) Seneca

11. The first large-scale zoning ordinance in the United States, which regulated land use and building heights, was enacted in which city in 1916?

- A) Chicago
- B) Los Angeles
- C) New York City
- D) Philadelphia

12. Who is considered the designer of the first modern city park system in the United States, exemplified by Central Park in New York City?

- A) Daniel Burnham
- B) Olmsted and Vaux
- C) Lawrence Halprin
- D) Ian McHarg

13. The 'Tenement House Act of 1901' in New York City was a landmark piece of legislation that mandated improvements to living conditions in low-income housing. What was a key provision of this act?

- A) Required elevators in all new tenements
- B) Mandated minimum room sizes and fire escapes
- C) Prohibited the construction of walk-up buildings
- D) Established rent control for all housing

14. The concept of 'Sprawl,' characterized by low-density, dispersed development, became a prominent subject of study and critique in urban planning primarily after which major historical period?

- A) World War I
- B) The Great Depression
- C) World War II
- D) The Cold War

15. Which Renaissance urban theorist, in his treatise 'The Art of Building,' advocated for ideal city designs with rational street layouts and harmonious proportions, influencing subsequent urban planning thought?

- A) Leonardo da Vinci
- B) Leon Battista Alberti
- C) Michelangelo
- D) Donatello