

Pioneers and Innovations in Interior Design

Interior Design History · Practice Test · 10 Questions

1. Who is widely credited as the first professional interior decorator in the United States, publishing 'The Decoration of Houses' in 1897?

- A) Elsie de Wolfe
- B) Edith Wharton
- C) Dorothy Draper
- D) Sister Parish

2. Which invention patented in 1860 by Frederick Walton revolutionized interior surfacing by using oxidized linseed oil and wood flour?

- A) Wallpaper
- B) Linoleum
- C) Formica
- D) Drywall

3. In 1904, what material was invented by the Formica Insulation Company as a substitute for the mineral mica in electrical components before becoming a furniture surfacing staple?

- A) High-pressure laminate
- B) Polyurethane foam
- C) Polyester resin
- D) Acrylic plastic

4. Which 1920s designer is recognized for pioneering the 'modern' interior design profession by using trellised wallpapers and animal print upholstery in her work?

- A) Billy Baldwin
- B) Albert Hadley
- C) Elsie de Wolfe
- D) Kelly Wearstler

5. What type of lightweight, prefabricated wall panel made of gypsum plaster was first introduced in 1916 as an alternative to traditional plaster walls?

- A) Masonite
- B) Sheetrock
- C) Plywood
- D) Hardboard

6. Which company introduced the first mass-produced modular office furniture system, known as 'Action Office,' in 1964?

- A) Steelcase
- B) Herman Miller
- C) Knoll
- D) Haworth

7. The Eames Lounge Chair, released in 1956, was the first chair designed by Charles and Ray Eames specifically for which target market?

- A) Commercial airports
- B) High-end residential
- C) Public libraries
- D) Luxury hotels

8. Which chemical material, developed in the late 1930s, allowed for the invention of the first flexible, mass-produced plastic furniture, such as the Panton Chair?

- A) Polypropylene
- B) Polyethylene
- C) Polystyrene
- D) Polyvinyl Chloride

9. The Bauhaus school, which profoundly influenced modern interior design, was founded in 1919 in which German city?

- A) Berlin
- B) Munich
- C) Weimar
- D) Frankfurt

10. In 1931, what new interior lighting technology was unveiled in Paris, significantly changing how designers illuminated spaces?

- A) Neon tubes
- B) Incandescent bulb
- C) Fluorescent lamp
- D) Halogen lamp