

Waste Through the Ages

Waste Management History · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which famous ancient Roman structure was primarily built to manage drainage and remove waste from the city?

- A) The Colosseum
- B) The Pantheon
- C) The Cloaca Maxima**
- D) The Roman Forum

2. In 19th-century European cities, what was a common term for individuals who collected rubbish and useful items from streets?

- A) Street Sweepers
- B) Dustmen**
- C) Garbage Pickers
- D) Sanitation Workers

3. Which city is often credited with building one of the world's first municipal waste incinerators in 1874?

- A) London, UK
- B) Nottingham, UK**
- C) Paris, France
- D) New York, USA

4. In 1858, London experienced "The Great Stink." What was the primary cause of this event, which led to major sanitation reforms?

- A) Overflowing public landfills
- B) Untreated sewage in the River Thames**
- C) Accumulation of industrial waste
- D) Rotting food waste on the streets

5. The widespread adoption of what type of product after World War II significantly increased household waste volumes?

- A) Wooden furniture
- B) Glass containers
- C) Disposable plastic items**
- D) Metal tools

6. The first celebration of Earth Day in 1970 is often seen as a catalyst for what global movement, including improved waste policies?

A) Economic recession

B) The modern environmental movement

C) Space exploration

D) Industrial expansion

7. Before modern landfills, a common method for ancient civilizations to deal with household waste was to simply:

A) Compost it all in designated areas

B) Bury it in pits outside settlements

C) Recycle all materials for reuse

D) Burn it openly in large communal fires

8. Recycling of materials like paper has historical roots. For how many centuries has paper, for instance, been recycled to some extent before modern municipal programs?

A) Less than 1 century

B) About 1 century

C) Several centuries

D) Only since the 1970s