

Sports History Basics

Sports History · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with developing the earliest forms of organized sport, including events like running and wrestling?

- A) Ancient Rome
- B) Ancient Greece**
- C) Ancient Egypt
- D) Mesopotamia

2. The modern Olympic Games were revived in 1896 by which French nobleman?

- A) Pierre de Coubertin**
- B) Baron Haussmann
- C) Napoleon Bonaparte
- D) Victor Hugo

3. What sport is often called 'The Great Game' and was invented in England in the late 19th century?

- A) Rugby
- B) Soccer (Football)
- C) Cricket**
- D) Tennis

4. Babe Ruth, a legendary figure, is most famously associated with which American professional sports league?

- A) NFL (American Football)
- B) NBA (Basketball)
- C) MLB (Baseball)**
- D) NHL (Ice Hockey)

5. Which country is widely recognized as the birthplace of basketball, invented by James Naismith in 1891?

- A) Canada
- B) United States**
- C) England
- D) France

6. Muhammad Ali was a world-famous champion in which sport?

- A) Track and Field
- B) Boxing**
- C) Swimming
- D) Gymnastics

7. The first FIFA World Cup, a global soccer tournament, was held in which country in 1930?

- A) Brazil
- B) Italy
- C) Argentina

D) Uruguay

8. Which iconic athlete is known for breaking the 4-minute mile barrier for the first time in history?

- A) Jesse Owens
- B) Carl Lewis

C) Roger Bannister

- D) Usain Bolt

9. The sport of surfing, with its roots in Polynesian culture, is most strongly associated with which island chain?

A) Hawaii

- B) Fiji
- C) Maldives
- D) Bahamas

10. Which country is the undisputed historical powerhouse in the sport of cricket, having won the most World Cups?

- A) England

B) Australia

- C) India
- D) South Africa

11. The sport of golf originated in which country?

- A) Ireland

B) Scotland

- C) Wales
- D) England

12. Who is widely considered the 'King of Pop' in the world of music and also a significant figure in the history of American football as a former quarterback?

- A) Michael Jackson

B) Tom Brady

- C) Pele
- D) Wayne Gretzky

13. The first professional baseball team in the United States was the Cincinnati Red Stockings, founded in what year?

A) 1869

B) 1885

C) 1901

D) 1920

14. Which city hosted the first modern Olympic Games in 1896?

A) Paris

B) London

C) Rome

D) Athens

15. The iconic Wimbledon tennis tournament is most famous for being played on what type of surface?

A) Clay courts

B) Hard courts

C) Grass courts

D) Carpet courts

16. Which legendary swimmer, often called 'The Baltimore Bullet', holds numerous Olympic gold medals and world records?

A) Mark Spitz

B) Ian Thorpe

C) Michael Phelps

D) Caeleb Dressel

17. The sport of volleyball was invented by William G. Morgan in 1895 in which U.S. state?

A) New York

B) California

C) Massachusetts

D) Illinois

18. Which country has won the most gold medals in the history of the Winter Olympics?

A) United States

B) Norway

C) Germany

D) Russia

19. The 'Dream Team' in basketball, which dominated the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, featured many legendary NBA players, including which one?

- A) Kobe Bryant
- B) LeBron James
- C) Michael Jordan**
- D) Shaquille O'Neal

20. The oldest continuously existing professional sports team in the world is widely considered to be which English football club?

- A) Manchester United
- B) Liverpool
- C) Nottingham Forest
- D) Sheffield FC**