

Historical Milestones in Algebra

Mathematics · Answer Key · 5 Questions

1. From which ancient language does the word "algebra" originate, derived from the title of a mathematical treatise?

- A) A) Latin
- B) B) Greek
- C) C) Arabic**
- D) D) Sanskrit

2. Which mathematician, active in the 9th century, is often credited with coining the term "algebra" and writing a foundational text on the subject?

- A) A) Pythagoras
- B) B) Euclid
- C) C) al-Khwarizmi**
- D) D) Isaac Newton

3. Which ancient civilization used clay tablets to record advanced mathematical problems, including methods to solve what we now call quadratic equations?

- A) A) Ancient Greeks
- B) B) Ancient Romans
- C) C) Babylonians**
- D) D) Egyptians

4. Which Greek mathematician, known for his work "Arithmetica," is sometimes referred to as the "Father of Algebra" for his contributions to solving algebraic equations?

- A) A) Archimedes
- B) B) Ptolemy
- C) C) Diophantus**
- D) D) Plato

5. Which French mathematician is credited with a crucial step in the development of symbolic algebra by systematically using letters for both known and unknown quantities in equations?

- A) A) René Descartes
- B) B) Pierre de Fermat
- C) C) Blaise Pascal
- D) D) François Viète**