

Pioneering Discoveries in Archaeology

Archaeology · Practice Test · 18 Questions

1. Who is credited with the first systematic archaeological excavation in the modern sense, employing stratigraphic principles at Pompeii in the 1760s?

- A) Howard Carter
- B) Giovanni Battista Piranesi
- C) Karl Weber
- D) Arthur Evans

2. What groundbreaking invention by George Smith in the 19th century significantly aided in the translation of cuneiform inscriptions?

- A) The Rosetta Stone
- B) The decipherment of the Behistun Inscription
- C) The invention of the trowel
- D) The development of carbon dating

3. The discovery of the 'Mona Lisa' of prehistoric art, the Venus of Willendorf, is attributed to which Austrian archaeologist in 1908?

- A) Josef Szombathy
- B) Christian Jürgensen Thomsen
- C) Sir Flinders Petrie
- D) Jacquetta Hawkes

4. Which archaeological site provided the first conclusive evidence for the existence of Troy, famously excavated by Heinrich Schliemann?

- A) Knossos
- B) Mycenae
- C) Hissarlik (Hisarlik)
- D) Gordion

5. The 'stratified sampling' technique, a crucial method for understanding site formation processes, was first systematically applied in archaeology by whom?

- A) Lewis Binford
- B) James Deetz
- C) Kent Flannery
- D) Albert Spaulding

6. The identification and naming of the 'Neolithic Revolution' as a pivotal period of human history is primarily credited to which archaeologist?

- A) V. Gordon Childe
- B) Grahame Clark
- C) Stuart Piggott
- D) Renfrew

7. Which early archaeologist is considered the 'father of Egyptian archaeology' for his extensive excavations and systematic classification of Egyptian artifacts in the 19th century?

- A) Jean-François Champollion
- B) Auguste Mariette
- C) Sir Flinders Petrie
- D) Howard Carter

8. The discovery of the first well-preserved Neanderthal skeletons, leading to significant debates about human evolution, occurred in which European valley in 1856?

- A) Rhine Valley
- B) Neander Valley
- C) Ache Valley
- D) Dordogne Valley

9. The invention of the radiocarbon dating method, revolutionizing the chronological understanding of archaeological sites, was pioneered by whom?

- A) Willard Libby
- B) Frederick Soddy
- C) Hans Suess
- D) Alex Melaerts

10. Which excavation in the early 20th century, led by Arthur Evans, revealed the extensive palace complex of the Minoan civilization on Crete?

- A) Thera
- B) Mycenae
- C) Knossos
- D) Pylos

11. The development of 'processual archaeology' (New Archaeology), emphasizing scientific methods and anthropological theory, is strongly associated with which group of archaeologists?

- A) British archaeologists of the early 20th century
- B) American archaeologists of the 1960s
- C) French archaeologists of the interwar period
- D) German archaeologists of the late 19th century

12. What significant discovery, made in 1799, provided the key to deciphering ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs?

- A) The Dead Sea Scrolls
- B) The Rosetta Stone
- C) The Cyrus Cylinder
- D) The Code of Hammurabi

13. The first systematic study of Mesoamerican civilizations, including the Maya, was significantly advanced by the work of whom in the late 19th and early 20th centuries?

- A) Alfonso Caso
- B) Edward Herbert Thompson
- C) Miguel Covarrubias
- D) Felipe Fernández-Armesto

14. The identification of the 'Indus Valley Civilization' as a major Bronze Age culture was a result of excavations in the 1920s led by whom?

- A) John Marshall
- B) R. D. Banerji
- C) Mortimer Wheeler
- D) V. S. Agrawala

15. What technological innovation, widely adopted in the mid-20th century, allows archaeologists to 'see' subsurface features without excavation?

- A) Satellite imagery
- B) Ground-penetrating radar (GPR)
- C) Drones with LiDAR
- D) Magnetometry

16. The discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun by Howard Carter in 1922 is considered one of the most famous archaeological finds due to its remarkable preservation and wealth of artifacts. Which pharaoh's tomb was it?

- A) Ramesses II
- B) Akhenaten
- C) Tutankhamun
- D) Hatshepsut

17. The concept of 'lithic reduction analysis,' a method for understanding Stone Age tool production, was significantly developed and popularized by which archaeologist?

- A) Don E. Crabtree
- B) François Bordes
- C) K. R. D. Miller
- D) Seminoe

18. The first archaeological evidence for the domestication of the horse, a crucial turning point in human history, was identified at which archaeological site?

- A) Çatalhöyük
- B) Spondylus Cave
- C) Dmanisi
- D) Botai culture sites