

Milestones in Architectural History

Architecture · Practice Test · 8 Questions

1. Which ancient civilization is credited with the invention of the true arch, which allowed for the construction of larger openings and more stable structures?

- A) The Sumerians
- B) The Egyptians
- C) The Etruscans
- D) The Minoans

2. What was the primary structural innovation used in the Pantheon in Rome to reduce the weight of its massive unreinforced concrete dome?

- A) Coffering
- B) Flying buttresses
- C) Steel reinforcement
- D) Geodesic framing

3. The Crystal Palace, designed by Joseph Paxton for the 1851 Great Exhibition, is considered the first major building to utilize which construction material system?

- A) Pre-stressed concrete
- B) Cast-iron and plate glass
- C) Load-bearing timber frame
- D) Wrought iron suspension

4. Which architectural style, emerging in the 12th century, introduced the pointed arch and the rib vault, allowing cathedrals to reach unprecedented heights?

- A) Romanesque
- B) Byzantine
- C) Gothic
- D) Neoclassical

5. In 1885, the Home Insurance Building in Chicago became the first structure to successfully feature which key architectural development?

- A) A skeleton steel frame
- B) The first hydraulic elevator
- C) Air conditioning systems
- D) A central heating boiler

6. The Wainwright Building, designed by Louis Sullivan, is historically significant for being one of the first buildings to effectively express which architectural concept?

- A) Brutalism
- B) The tripartite division of skyscraper facades
- C) The use of cantilevered balconies
- D) Passive solar design

7. What structural element was first developed during the Renaissance by Filippo Brunelleschi to successfully complete the dome of the Florence Cathedral without traditional centering?

- A) The double-shell dome
- B) The geodesic sphere
- C) The tensile cable system
- D) The cantilevered truss

8. Which 1920s architectural movement is credited with introducing the 'Curtain Wall' concept, where the exterior skin is non-structural and independent of the building frame?

- A) Art Deco
- B) Bauhaus
- C) Baroque
- D) Mid-Century Modern