

Biology Basics: Dates, Names, and Numbers

Biology · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. In what year did Gregor Mendel publish his seminal work on inheritance in pea plants?

- A) 1859
- B) 1866**
- C) 1871
- D) 1882

2. Who is credited with coining the term "cell" after observing cork under a microscope?

- A) Isaac Newton
- B) Galileo Galilei
- C) Robert Hooke**
- D) Antonie van Leeuwenhoek

3. Approximately how many bones are in the adult human skeleton?

- A) 150
- B) 206**
- C) 250
- D) 300

4. The discovery of the structure of DNA is often attributed to James Watson and Francis Crick in what year?

- A) 1947
- B) 1953**
- C) 1961
- D) 1968

5. What is the approximate normal human body temperature in degrees Celsius?

- A) 35.5°C
- B) 36.5°C
- C) 37.5°C**
- D) 38.5°C

6. Who developed the first widely successful vaccine for smallpox in 1796?

- A) Louis Pasteur
- B) Edward Jenner**
- C) Alexander Fleming
- D) Robert Koch

7. Approximately how many species of insects are estimated to exist on Earth?

A) 1 million

B) 5 million

C) 10 million

D) 50 million

8. In what year was the first successful organ transplant (kidney) performed?

A) 1945

B) 1954

C) 1962

D) 1970

9. What is the scientific name for the common housefly?

A) Apis mellifera

B) Drosophila melanogaster

C) Musca domestica

D) Anopheles gambiae

10. The theory of evolution by natural selection was famously outlined by Charles Darwin in his book "On the Origin of Species," published in what year?

A) 1831

B) 1844

C) 1859

D) 1872

11. Approximately what percentage of the human body is composed of water?

A) 45%

B) 55%

C) 60%

D) 70%

12. Who discovered penicillin in 1928?

A) Marie Curie

B) Rosalind Franklin

C) Alexander Fleming

D) Jonas Salk

13. How many chambers does the human heart have?

A) Two

B) Three

C) Four

D) Five

14. Which scientist is known for his work on fermentation and pasteurization, leading to the development of vaccines for rabies and anthrax?

- A) Gregor Mendel
- B) Louis Pasteur**
- C) Robert Koch
- D) Charles Darwin

15. What is the approximate number of neurons in the human brain?

- A) 10 million
- B) 100 million
- C) 86 billion**
- D) 1 trillion

16. In what year was the Human Genome Project officially completed, mapping the entire human genetic code?

- A) 1990
- B) 2003**
- C) 2008
- D) 2015

17. What is the common name for the scientific study of fungi?

- A) Botany
- B) Zoology
- C) Mycology**
- D) Ecology

18. Approximately how many chromosomes are found in a typical human somatic cell?

- A) 23
- B) 44
- C) 46**
- D) 48