

Biology Basics: Dates, Names, and Numbers

Biology · Practice Test · 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