

Foundational Philosophy Facts

Philosophy · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. Which ancient Greek philosopher is often referred to as the 'father of Western philosophy' and lived approximately from 470 to 399 BCE?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Plato
- C) Socrates**
- D) Pythagoras

2. The famous philosopher René Descartes, known for his statement 'Cogito, ergo sum' ('I think, therefore I am'), was born in what year?

- A) 1596**
- B) 1637
- C) 1789
- D) 1848

3. Immanuel Kant, a central figure in modern philosophy, published his seminal work 'Critique of Pure Reason' in which year?

- A) 1781**
- B) 1790
- C) 1800
- D) 1811

4. Which philosopher, known for his theory of Forms, was a student of Socrates and founded the Academy in Athens around 387 BCE?

- A) Aristotle
- B) Plato**
- C) Epicurus
- D) Heraclitus

5. Friedrich Nietzsche, a prominent philosopher of the 19th century, died in what year?

- A) 1899
- B) 1900**
- C) 1910
- D) 1925

6. The philosopher John Locke, an influential figure of the Enlightenment, was born in the year:

A) 1600

B) 1632

C) 1648

D) 1666

7. Niccolò Machiavelli, author of 'The Prince', published this influential work in which year?

A) 1513

B) 1532

C) 1550

D) 1570

8. Which philosopher developed the concept of the 'categorical imperative' and lived from 1724 to 1804?

A) Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel

B) Arthur Schopenhauer

C) Immanuel Kant

D) John Stuart Mill

9. Søren Kierkegaard, often regarded as the first existentialist philosopher, was born in which year?

A) 1805

B) 1813

C) 1820

D) 1831

10. The renowned philosopher and mathematician Bertrand Russell was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in which year?

A) 1945

B) 1950

C) 1955

D) 1960

11. Which philosopher, considered a key figure in phenomenology, was born in 1859 and died in 1938?

A) Jean-Paul Sartre

B) Martin Heidegger

C) Edmund Husserl

D) Albert Camus

12. Karl Marx, whose theories profoundly influenced politics and economics, co-authored 'The Communist Manifesto' in which year?

A) 1845

B) 1848

C) 1864

D) 1872