

Computer Science Firsts and Inventions

Computer Science · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Who is widely considered the 'father of the computer' for his design of the Analytical Engine?

- A) Alan Turing
- B) Charles Babbage**
- C) Ada Lovelace
- D) John von Neumann

2. What was the name of the first electronic digital computer, completed in 1945?

- A) ENIAC**
- B) Colossus
- C) UNIVAC I
- D) Z1

3. Which programming language, developed in the 1950s, is often considered the first high-level programming language?

- A) COBOL
- B) BASIC
- C) FORTRAN**
- D) LISP

4. Who is credited with inventing the World Wide Web in 1989?

- A) Bill Gates
- B) Steve Jobs
- C) Tim Berners-Lee**
- D) Mark Zuckerberg

5. What invention by Jack Kilby and Robert Noyce in 1958 revolutionized electronics by integrating multiple transistors on a single chip?

- A) The Transistor
- B) The Microprocessor
- C) The Integrated Circuit**
- D) The Hard Drive

6. The first widely used graphical user interface (GUI) was developed at which research laboratory?

- A) Bell Labs
- B) MIT
- C) Xerox PARC**
- D) IBM Research

7. What was the name of the first commercially successful personal computer, released in 1977?

- A) IBM PC
- B) Apple II**
- C) Commodore PET
- D) Altair 8800

8. Who is often referred to as the first computer programmer for her work on Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine?

- A) Grace Hopper
- B) Ada Lovelace**
- C) Dorothy Vaughan
- D) Katherine Johnson

9. What groundbreaking concept, theorized by Alan Turing, describes a hypothetical machine capable of performing any computation?

- A) The Logic Gate
- B) The Neural Network
- C) The Turing Machine**
- D) The Algorithm

10. The invention of the transistor in 1947 at Bell Labs was a major breakthrough for what field?

- A) Telecommunications
- B) Solid-state electronics**
- C) Cryptography
- D) Artificial Intelligence

11. What was the primary purpose of the Colossus computer, developed in Britain during WWII?

- A) Ballistics calculations
- B) Code-breaking**
- C) Weather forecasting
- D) Inventory management

12. The concept of 'time-sharing' for computers, allowing multiple users to use a single computer simultaneously, originated in the:

- A) 1940s
- B) 1950s
- C) 1960s**
- D) 1970s

13. Which early programming language, created by John Backus and IBM, was designed for scientific and engineering calculations?

- A) Pascal
- B) C
- C) FORTRAN**
- D) Assembly

14. The invention of the mouse as a computer input device is largely attributed to:

- A) Douglas Engelbart**
- B) Vint Cerf
- C) Bob Kahn
- D) Linus Torvalds

15. What was the first message transmitted over ARPANET, the precursor to the internet?

- A) "Hello, World!"
- B) "Login"**
- C) "Testing..."
- D) "Computer Science is Fun!"

16. The first commercially successful graphical web browser was called:

- A) Internet Explorer
- B) Mosaic**
- C) Netscape Navigator
- D) Opera

17. What fundamental data structure, invented by John Tukey, is crucial for signal processing and fast Fourier transforms?

- A) Hash Table
- B) Linked List
- C) Queue
- D) Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) algorithm**

18. The concept of a 'general-purpose' programmable machine was first articulated by:

- A) Alan Turing
- B) John von Neumann
- C) Charles Babbage**
- D) Konrad Zuse

19. The development of the first semiconductor transistor was a joint effort by John Bardeen, Walter Brattain, and whom?

A) William Shockley

B) Robert Noyce

C) Jack Kilby

D) Gordon Moore

20. What early programming language, developed by Dennis Ritchie at Bell Labs, became highly influential for system programming?

A) Java

B) Python

C) C

D) Ada