

Computer Science Firsts and Inventions

Computer Science · Practice Test · 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