

Milestones in Tattoo History

Tattoo History · Practice Test · 25 Questions

1. In what year was the first electric tattoo machine, based on Thomas Edison's autographic printer, patented by Samuel O'Reilly?

- A) 1888
- B) 1891
- C) 1895
- D) 1902

2. Ötzi the Iceman, discovered in 1991, features how many distinct groups of tattoo marks on his body?

- A) 25
- B) 48
- C) 61
- D) 72

3. Who is credited with opening the first professional tattoo shop in New York City in 1870?

- A) Martin Hildebrandt
- B) Samuel O'Reilly
- C) Charlie Wagner
- D) Percy Waters

4. In which century did the Japanese government officially ban tattooing as part of the Meiji Restoration, a law that remained until 1948?

- A) 17th
- B) 18th
- C) 19th
- D) 20th

5. How many needles are typically used in a standard 'magnum' tattoo needle configuration?

- A) 1 to 3
- B) 5 to 13
- C) 20 to 30
- D) 50 to 100

6. The oldest known evidence of tattooing, dating back to approximately 3370-3100 BCE, was found on a mummy from which culture?

- A) Ancient Egyptian
- B) Chinchorro
- C) Ancient Nubian
- D) Egyptian-Sudanese

7. In 1970, which famous tattoo artist published the influential book 'Tattooing A to Z'?

- A) Ed Hardy
- B) Sailor Jerry Collins
- C) Cliff Raven
- D) Lyle Tuttle

8. What number of tattoos did the 'Great Omi' (Horace Ridler), a famous tattooed sideshow performer, claim to have covering his body?

- A) Over 100
- B) Over 500
- C) Over 1,000
- D) Over 150

9. Which US state finally legalized tattooing in 2006, ending a long-standing total ban?

- A) South Carolina
- B) Massachusetts
- C) Oklahoma
- D) Arkansas

10. The word 'tattoo' was introduced into the English language by Captain James Cook following his 1769 voyage to which location?

- A) Tahiti
- B) Hawaii
- C) New Zealand
- D) Fiji

11. How many ink-filled containers were found in the 1991 grave of a woman from the Pazyryk culture, providing early evidence of tattoo tools?

- A) One
- B) Two
- C) Six
- D) Ten

12. In 1933, which tattoo artist became the first to use an autoclave for sterilizing needles in his shop?

- A) Herbert Hoffmann
- B) Percy Waters
- C) Milton Zeis
- D) George Burchett

13. During the 19th century, how much would a high-society client typically pay 'Professor' George Burchett for a complex tattoo session?

- A) 5 shillings
- B) 1 pound
- C) 5 to 10 guineas
- D) 100 pounds

14. Which famous tattooist was known as the 'King of Tattooists' and claimed to have tattooed King George V?

- A) George Burchett
- B) Samuel O'Reilly
- C) Charlie Wagner
- D) Ben Corday

15. The first color-changing tattoo ink, which reacts to pH levels, was developed by researchers at which institution in 2017?

- A) MIT
- B) Harvard
- C) Oxford
- D) Stanford

16. Approximately what percentage of the US population aged 18-29 was estimated to have at least one tattoo in the 2010 Pew Research study?

- A) 12%
- B) 25%
- C) 38%
- D) 50%

17. Which specific ink pigment, often used for red tattoos, is most frequently associated with allergic reactions in dermatological studies?

- A) Carbon Black
- B) Titanium Dioxide
- C) Mercuric Sulfide
- D) Iron Oxide

18. In 1904, Charlie Wagner received a patent for what specific tattoo-related invention?

- A) Tattoo stencil paper
- B) Electric tattoo machine
- C) Tattoo ink mixer
- D) Tattoo needle holder

19. How many years did Sailor Jerry (Norman Collins) serve in the US Navy before opening his famous shop in Honolulu?

- A) 5 years
- B) 10 years
- C) 15 years
- D) 20 years

20. The 'Tattooing and Body Piercing Act' of 2002 was implemented in which country to set strict health standards?

- A) United Kingdom
- B) Australia
- C) Canada
- D) Germany

21. Which tattoo artist, active in the 1950s, is widely credited with inventing the 'tattoo flash' sheet format still used today?

- A) Sailor Jerry
- B) Doc Webb
- C) Paul Rogers
- D) Owen Jensen

22. How deep, in millimeters, does a tattoo needle typically penetrate the epidermis into the dermis?

- A) 0.5 to 1.5 mm
- B) 2.0 to 3.0 mm
- C) 4.0 to 5.0 mm
- D) 0.1 to 0.2 mm

23. In 1996, the first professional tattoo association, the APT, was formed in which country?

- A) USA
- B) Japan
- C) France
- D) Netherlands

24. The 'Maori' people of New Zealand traditionally used what tool to create the 'Moko' facial tattoos?

- A) Bone chisels
- B) Metal needles
- C) Obsidian shards
- D) Copper pins

25. Which pigment is the primary component used in 'Carbon Black' tattoo ink?

- A) Graphite
- B) Soot
- C) Iron
- D) Lead