

Milestones in Pre-Calculus History

Pre-Calculus · Answer Key · 6 Questions

1. Who published the first table and description of logarithms in the 1614 work 'Mirifici Logarithmorum Canonis Descriptio'?

- A) John Napier**
- B) Henry Briggs
- C) Joost Bürgi
- D) William Oughtred

2. Which 5th-century Indian mathematician constructed one of the earliest known surviving tables of sines in his text 'Aryabhatiya'?

- A) Brahmagupta
- B) Aryabhata**
- C) Bhaskara II
- D) Varahamihira

3. Which 1637 work by René Descartes introduced analytic geometry, bridging algebra and Euclidean geometry?

- A) La Géométrie**
- B) Principia Mathematica
- C) Geometria Indivisibilibus
- D) Regulae ad Directionem Ingenii

4. Which mathematician published the first systematic derivation of polar coordinates in the journal 'Acta Eruditorum' in 1691?

- A) Bonaventura Cavalieri
- B) Jakob Bernoulli**
- C) Pierre de Fermat
- D) Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz

5. Who discovered the general algebraic expansion for binomials with rational and negative exponents in 1665?

- A) Blaise Pascal
- B) Isaac Newton**
- C) Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz
- D) Colin Maclaurin

6. Who introduced the symbol 'i' to denote the imaginary unit square root of -1 in a 1777 paper published in 1794?

A) Carl Friedrich Gauss

B) Leonhard Euler

C) Rafael Bombelli

D) Jean-Robert Argand