

Historical Milestones in Statistics

Statistics · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Who is often referred to as the 'father of modern statistics' for his work in the 19th century, including the development of the term 'regression'?

A) Francis Galton

B) Ronald Fisher

C) Karl Pearson

D) John Graunt

2. In 1662, which English merchant published 'Natural and Political Observations Made upon the Bills of Mortality', laying the foundation for demography?

A) William Petty

B) John Graunt

C) Edmond Halley

D) Thomas Bayes

3. What is the name of the 18th-century English statistician and philosopher who formulated a theorem that describes the probability of an event based on prior knowledge?

A) Pierre-Simon Laplace

B) Thomas Bayes

C) Abraham de Moivre

D) Carl Friedrich Gauss

4. Which famous mathematician and astronomer developed the 'Normal Distribution' curve, often called the 'Gaussian distribution'?

A) Carl Friedrich Gauss

B) Isaac Newton

C) Leonhard Euler

D) Gottfried Leibniz

5. Florence Nightingale is historically recognized for pioneering which statistical visual tool to illustrate causes of mortality during the Crimean War?

A) Bar chart

B) Pie chart

C) Rose diagram

D) Scatter plot

6. Who published 'The Grammar of Science' in 1892 and introduced the term 'standard deviation'?

- A) Karl Pearson**
- B) Francis Galton
- C) Charles Spearman
- D) Ronald Fisher

7. Which statistician and biologist is known for his fundamental work in 'Analysis of Variance' (ANOVA) and experimental design in the early 20th century?

- A) Ronald Fisher**
- B) William Gosset
- C) Egon Pearson
- D) Jerzy Neyman

8. What pseudonym did William Sealy Gosset use when publishing his discovery of the Student's t-distribution in 1908?

- A) Scholar
- B) Student**
- C) Professor
- D) Analyst

9. Adolphe Quetelet, a 19th-century Belgian statistician, is credited with introducing the concept of which statistical average to social science?

- A) The arithmetic mean**
- B) The median
- C) The mode
- D) The geometric mean

10. In 1718, who published 'The Doctrine of Chances', a seminal book on probability theory?

- A) Abraham de Moivre**
- B) Blaise Pascal
- C) Pierre de Fermat
- D) Daniel Bernoulli

11. Which 19th-century British statistician founded the first university department of statistics at University College London in 1911?

- A) Karl Pearson**
- B) Francis Galton
- C) Ronald Fisher
- D) George Yule

12. The term 'statistics' originally derived from the German word 'Statistik', which refers to what area of study?

- A) State affairs**
- B) Mathematical chance
- C) Numerical analysis
- D) Data collection

13. Which astronomer and mathematician published the first life expectancy table in 1693, based on death records from Breslau?

- A) Edmond Halley**
- B) Isaac Newton
- C) Robert Hooke
- D) John Flamsteed

14. What is the name of the statistical measure of the strength of a linear relationship between two variables, named after the man who popularized it in the 1880s?

- A) Pearson correlation coefficient**
- B) Spearman rank correlation
- C) Kendall tau
- D) Fisher information

15. In the 1800s, who was the first person to use the 'method of least squares' to analyze astronomical data?

- A) Adrien-Marie Legendre**
- B) Carl Friedrich Gauss
- C) Pierre-Simon Laplace
- D) Joseph Fourier