

Historical Milestones in Statistics

Statistics · Practice Test · 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