

Pioneers and Milestones in Statistics

Statistics · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Who is often credited with inventing the pie chart in 1801?

- A) Florence Nightingale
- B) William Playfair**
- C) John Graunt
- D) Francis Galton

2. Which English mathematician introduced the term 'standard deviation' in 1894?

- A) Karl Pearson**
- B) Ronald Fisher
- C) Thomas Bayes
- D) Blaise Pascal

3. Who wrote the 1662 book 'Natural and Political Observations Made upon the Bills of Mortality', laying the foundation for demography?

- A) Adolphe Quetelet
- B) John Graunt**
- C) Abraham de Moivre
- D) Carl Friedrich Gauss

4. Which scientist is credited with developing the concept of 'regression to the mean' in the 1870s?

- A) Francis Galton**
- B) Isaac Newton
- C) Pierre-Simon Laplace
- D) Daniel Bernoulli

5. The first known use of the word 'statistics' in a book title is attributed to which German scholar in 1749?

- A) Gottfried Achenwall**
- B) Johann Lambert
- C) Leonhard Euler
- D) Jacob Bernoulli

6. Who formulated the Law of Large Numbers, first published in his work 'Ars Conjectandi'?

- A) Blaise Pascal
- B) Jacob Bernoulli**
- C) Pierre de Fermat
- D) René Descartes

7. Which mathematician is famous for introducing the normal distribution curve, sometimes called the Gaussian distribution?

- A) Carl Friedrich Gauss**
- B) Siméon Denis Poisson
- C) George Boole
- D) Augustin-Louis Cauchy

8. In 1858, who used a 'coxcomb' diagram to visually demonstrate that sanitary conditions reduced hospital deaths?

- A) Florence Nightingale**
- B) Ada Lovelace
- C) Marie Curie
- D) Clara Barton

9. Which mathematician is known for the 1718 text 'The Doctrine of Chances', a foundational work on probability?

- A) Abraham de Moivre**
- B) John Venn
- C) Brook Taylor
- D) Colin Maclaurin

10. Who is considered the 'father of modern statistics' for his development of methods like analysis of variance (ANOVA)?

- A) Ronald Fisher**
- B) Charles Babbage
- C) Alan Turing
- D) John von Neumann

11. Which 17th-century French mathematician exchanged famous letters with Pierre de Fermat that helped birth probability theory?

- A) Blaise Pascal**
- B) Joseph-Louis Lagrange
- C) Jean le Rond d'Alembert
- D) Henri Poincaré

12. Who developed the 'Chi-squared test' in 1900 to determine the goodness of fit of a distribution?

- A) Karl Pearson**
- B) William Sealy Gosset
- C) Egon Pearson
- D) Jerzy Neyman

13. The 'Student's t-test' was invented in 1908 by which chemist working for the Guinness Brewery?

A) William Sealy Gosset

- B) Arthur Guinness
- C) James Clerk Maxwell
- D) Lord Kelvin

14. Who published 'An Essay towards solving a Problem in the Doctrine of Chances' in 1763, introducing the base of Bayesian statistics?

A) Thomas Bayes

- B) Richard Price
- C) Nicolas Bernoulli
- D) David Hume

15. Which 19th-century Belgian statistician was the first to apply statistical methods to human social data, such as crime rates?

A) Adolphe Quetelet

- B) Henri Bergson
- C) Auguste Comte
- D) Émile Durkheim

16. Who is credited with creating the first Venn diagram, used to represent sets and logical relationships?

A) John Venn

- B) Lewis Carroll
- C) George Boole
- D) Augustus De Morgan

17. What term was coined by Francis Galton in 1889 to describe the relationship between two variables?

A) Correlation

- B) Variance
- C) Mean
- D) Probability

18. Who introduced the 'histogram' in 1891 to represent frequency distributions?

A) Karl Pearson

- B) John Tukey
- C) Frank Wilcoxon
- D) John Graunt