

Historical Milestones in Basic Science

History Of Science · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which scientist is credited with the 1928 discovery of penicillin, the world's first widely used antibiotic?

- A) Alexander Fleming**
- B) Louis Pasteur
- C) Robert Koch
- D) Joseph Lister

2. In which year did Dmitri Mendeleev publish the first widely recognized version of the Periodic Table of Elements?

- A) 1859
- B) 1869**
- C) 1879
- D) 1889

3. Who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, receiving the award for Physics in 1903?

- A) Rosalind Franklin
- B) Ada Lovelace
- C) Marie Curie**
- D) Lise Meitner

4. What celestial body did Galileo Galilei observe in 1610 that provided strong evidence for the heliocentric model?

- A) The moons of Jupiter**
- B) The rings of Saturn
- C) The phases of Venus
- D) The craters of the Moon

5. Which English scientist published 'Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica' in 1687, outlining the laws of motion and universal gravitation?

- A) Robert Hooke
- B) Isaac Newton**
- C) Michael Faraday
- D) James Clerk Maxwell

6. What was the primary focus of the experiments conducted by Gregor Mendel in his monastery garden during the 1850s and 1860s?

- A) Plant photosynthesis
- B) Pea plant inheritance**
- C) Soil mineral composition
- D) Tree growth rates

7. Which invention by Eli Whitney in 1793 revolutionized the processing of raw cotton and significantly impacted the agricultural economy?

- A) Steam engine
- B) Cotton gin**
- C) Mechanical reaper
- D) Spinning jenny

8. Charles Darwin's seminal work 'On the Origin of Species', which introduced the theory of evolution by natural selection, was published in which year?

- A) 1849
- B) 1859**
- C) 1869
- D) 1879

9. What medical procedure did Edward Jenner pioneer in 1796 to provide immunity against smallpox?

- A) Antibiotic therapy
- B) Vaccination**
- C) Blood transfusion
- D) Anesthesia

10. Which physicist proposed the theory of special relativity in 1905, famously establishing the mass-energy equivalence formula $E=mc^2$?

- A) Niels Bohr
- B) Max Planck
- C) Albert Einstein**
- D) Werner Heisenberg