

Pioneers of Discovery and Invention

History Of Science · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Who was the first person to observe microorganisms, such as bacteria and protozoa, using a single-lens microscope of his own design?

- A) Robert Hooke
- B) Antonie van Leeuwenhoek**
- C) Louis Pasteur
- D) Joseph Lister

2. Which scientist is credited with the discovery of the neutron in 1932?

- A) Ernest Rutherford
- B) Enrico Fermi
- C) James Chadwick**
- D) Niels Bohr

3. In 1796, which English physician performed the first successful vaccination against smallpox?

- A) Edward Jenner**
- B) Joseph Priestley
- C) William Harvey
- D) Alexander Fleming

4. Who is recognized for the discovery of the first antibiotic, penicillin, in 1928?

- A) Howard Florey
- B) Ernst Chain
- C) Alexander Fleming**
- D) Selman Waksman

5. Which element was the first to be discovered using a spectroscope, identified by Robert Bunsen and Gustav Kirchhoff in 1860?

- A) Helium
- B) Cesium**
- C) Neon
- D) Argon

6. Who constructed the first artificial nuclear reactor, the Chicago Pile-1, in 1942?

- A) J. Robert Oppenheimer
- B) Leo Szilard
- C) Enrico Fermi**
- D) Arthur Compton

7. The first successful synthesis of an organic compound from inorganic precursors, specifically urea, was achieved by whom in 1828?

A) Friedrich Wöhler

B) Justus von Liebig

C) August Kekulé

D) Dmitri Mendeleev

8. Who was the first woman to be awarded a Nobel Prize, receiving the honor in 1903 for her research on radioactivity?

A) Lise Meitner

B) Rosalind Franklin

C) Marie Curie

D) Irène Joliot-Curie

9. Which 17th-century scientist was the first to publish a detailed account of the cellular structure of cork, coining the term 'cell'?

A) Marcello Malpighi

B) Robert Hooke

C) Nehemiah Grew

D) Antonie van Leeuwenhoek

10. Who is credited with the invention of the mercury thermometer in 1714?

A) Anders Celsius

B) Gabriel Fahrenheit

C) Lord Kelvin

D) René Réaumur

11. The first photograph was taken in 1826 or 1827 by which French inventor?

A) Louis Daguerre

B) Joseph Nicéphore Niépce

C) William Henry Fox Talbot

D) George Eastman

12. Who identified the planet Uranus in 1781, marking the first discovery of a planet using a telescope?

A) William Herschel

B) Giovanni Cassini

C) Edmond Halley

D) Urbain Le Verrier

13. In 1902, which scientist was the first to successfully demonstrate the existence of the stratosphere?

A) Léon Teisserenc de Bort

B) Richard Assmann

C) Gustave Hermite

D) Auguste Piccard

14. Which physician first demonstrated the circulation of blood in the human body in his 1628 work 'Exercitatio Anatomica de Motu Cordis et Sanguinis in Animalibus'?

A) Andreas Vesalius

B) William Harvey

C) Galen

D) Paracelsus

15. Who developed the first practical incandescent light bulb with a carbon filament in 1879?

A) Joseph Swan

B) Thomas Edison

C) Nikola Tesla

D) Hiram Maxim

16. The first successful isolation of an enzyme in crystalline form was achieved in 1926 by whom, proving that enzymes are proteins?

A) John Northrop

B) James B. Sumner

C) Wendell Stanley

D) Arthur Harden

17. Who discovered the phenomenon of X-rays in 1895 while experimenting with cathode rays?

A) Henri Becquerel

B) Wilhelm Röntgen

C) J.J. Thomson

D) Ernest Lawrence

18. Who was the first person to synthesize vitamin C (ascorbic acid) in a laboratory setting in 1933?

A) Linus Pauling

B) Tadeus Reichstein

C) Albert Szent-Györgyi

D) Walter Norman Haworth