

Historical Trivia Milestones

History Of Trivia · Practice Test · 20 Questions

1. The word 'trivia' is derived from the Latin 'trivium', which translates to what?

- A) Three roads
- B) Public square
- C) Market stall
- D) Ancient scroll

2. In which decade did the modern board game 'Trivial Pursuit' first debut in Canada?

- A) 1960s
- B) 1970s
- C) 1980s
- D) 1990s

3. Which English author popularized the term 'trivia' in his 1902 work 'Trivia', referring to commonplace occurrences?

- A) Logan Pearsall Smith
- B) H.G. Wells
- C) Oscar Wilde
- D) Joseph Conrad

4. The radio quiz show 'Information Please', which popularized the trivia format, first aired in which year?

- A) 1928
- B) 1938
- C) 1948
- D) 1958

5. Which 1950s American television quiz show was involved in a major scandal due to the rigging of answers?

- A) The Price Is Right
- B) Twenty-One
- C) Jeopardy!
- D) Wheel of Fortune

6. The first known university-level 'College Bowl' quiz competition was held in what country?

- A) United Kingdom
- B) United States
- C) Australia
- D) Canada

7. Who is credited with inventing the 'Trivial Pursuit' board game in 1979?

- A) Scott Abbott and Chris Haney
- B) Parker Brothers
- C) Milton Bradley
- D) Richard Garfield

8. What is the name of the oldest continuously running quiz show in the United Kingdom, debuting in 1962?

- A) University Challenge
- B) Mastermind
- C) Top of the Form
- D) General Knowledge Quiz

9. The 'pub quiz' format became a cultural phenomenon in the UK starting in which decade?

- A) 1950s
- B) 1960s
- C) 1970s
- D) 1980s

10. Before 'Jeopardy!' became a hit in the 1960s, what was the primary source of 'trivia' entertainment for the general public?

- A) Radio quiz programs
- B) Newspaper puzzles
- C) Encyclopedia sets
- D) Mail-order card games

11. In the 1960s, what was the name of the first televised trivia show to offer cash prizes exceeding \$100,000?

- A) The \$64,000 Question
- B) High Stakes
- C) Cash Dash
- D) Millionaire's Row

12. Which ancient Roman location was often called a 'trivium' because it was where three roads met?

- A) Forum Romanum
- B) Colosseum
- C) The Appian Way
- D) Circus Maximus

13. What was the original name of the game 'Trivial Pursuit' during its prototype phase?

- A) Question Quest
- B) Trivia Challenge
- C) Genus
- D) Brain Teasers

14. Which professional organization was formed in 1980 to oversee competitive trivia leagues in the United States?

- A) National Trivia Association
- B) Quiz Bowl League
- C) Academic Competition Federation
- D) Trivia Society

15. The game show 'Mastermind', known for its intense atmosphere and spotlight, premiered on the BBC in what year?

- A) 1962
- B) 1972
- C) 1982
- D) 1992

16. What is the standard number of categories in the original edition of 'Trivial Pursuit'?

- A) 4
- B) 6
- C) 8
- D) 10

17. Which 19th-century educational practice focused on rote memorization of 'trivia' or minor facts?

- A) Classical trivium
- B) Grammar school recitation
- C) Scientific method
- D) Dialectic training

18. The longest-running syndicated version of 'Jeopardy!' hosted by Alex Trebek premiered in what year?

- A) 1974
- B) 1984
- C) 1994
- D) 2004

19. What type of venue is credited with hosting the first organized 'Pub Quizzes' in the 1970s?

- A) British public houses
- B) American diners
- C) French cafes
- D) Australian surf clubs

20. What term refers to the collection of obscure or unimportant facts that became popular in the 'trivia craze' of the 1980s?

- A) Ephemera
- B) Dross
- C) Curiosities
- D) Frivolities