

World History Quiz

Questions with the answers

4 rounds · 39 questions

ROUND 1

Ancient Civilizations

1. Which ancient wonder, built as a tomb for Pharaoh Khufu, is the only Wonder of the Ancient World still largely intact?

| ANSWER Great Pyramid of Giza

NOTE It was the tallest man-made structure on Earth for over 3,800 years.

2. Which Babylonian king created one of the earliest known written legal codes, famous for 'an eye for an eye' style justice?

| ANSWER Hammurabi

3. Which Chinese emperor was buried with thousands of life-sized clay soldiers meant to protect him in the afterlife?

| ANSWER Qin Shi Huang

4. Which trilingual inscribed stone allowed scholars to finally decode ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs?

| ANSWER Rosetta Stone

5. Which ancient Egyptian city was home to a legendary library said to have held the largest collection of scrolls in the ancient world?

| ANSWER Alexandria

6. Which massive amphitheater in Rome hosted gladiator contests and could hold tens of thousands of spectators?

| ANSWER Colosseum

7. Which stone-walled ancient city in southern Africa gave its name to the modern nation built near its ruins?

| ANSWER Great Zimbabwe

8. Which ancient civilization, centered on cities like Mohenjo-daro and Harappa, thrived along a major South Asian river system?

| ANSWER Indus Valley Civilization

9. Which mysterious circular arrangement of massive standing stones sits on Salisbury Plain in England?

| ANSWER Stonehenge

10. Which ancient Mesopotamian epic, one of the oldest known works of literature, follows a Sumerian king's quest for immortality?

| ANSWER Epic of Gilgamesh

The World Wars

11. Whose assassination in Sarajevo in June 1914 triggered the chain of events leading to World War I?



| ANSWER Archduke Franz Ferdinand

NOTE Princip only got his chance because the Archduke's driver took a wrong turn — an earlier bomb thrown by a fellow conspirator had already missed the car that morning.

12. Which 1916 battle on the Western Front is infamous for causing over 57,000 British casualties on its first day alone?

| ANSWER Battle of the Somme

13. Which 1919 treaty formally ended World War I and imposed harsh reparations on Germany?

| ANSWER Treaty of Versailles

14. Which German cipher device, cracked by Allied codebreakers at Bletchley Park, gave the Allies vital intelligence in World War II?

| ANSWER Enigma machine

15. Which British Prime Minister rallied the nation with speeches like 'We shall fight on the beaches' during World War II?

| ANSWER Winston Churchill

16. What is the common name for the massive Allied invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944?

| ANSWER D-Day

17. Which brutal 1942-43 battle marked a major turning point on the Eastern Front, resulting in a catastrophic German defeat?

| ANSWER Battle of Stalingrad

18. Which young Jewish diarist hid with her family in an Amsterdam annex before being captured and later dying in a concentration camp?

| ANSWER Anne Frank

19. Which Japanese city became the first target of an atomic bomb, dropped by the United States in August 1945?

| ANSWER Hiroshima

20. Which 1940 air campaign saw the RAF successfully defend the United Kingdom against a sustained bombing offensive by the Luftwaffe?

| ANSWER Battle of Britain

Revolutions and Empires

21. Which Parisian fortress-prison was stormed by revolutionaries on 14 July 1789, becoming the symbol of the French Revolution?

| ANSWER The Bastille

NOTE The fortress held only seven prisoners at the time it fell.

22. Which formerly enslaved general led the Haitian Revolution before being captured by the French and dying in a Jura mountain prison in 1803?

| ANSWER Toussaint Louverture

23. Which decisive 1815 battle in present-day Belgium ended Napoleon's rule for good?

| ANSWER Battle of Waterloo

24. Which Bolshevik leader returned to Russia in a sealed train and led the October 1917 revolution?

| ANSWER Vladimir Lenin

25. Which future U.S. president led the Continental Army to victory over the British and became the nation's first president?

| ANSWER George Washington

26. Which 13th-century conqueror united the Mongol tribes and built the largest contiguous land empire in history?

| ANSWER Genghis Khan

27. Which Chinese Communist leader proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 from Tiananmen Square?

| ANSWER Mao Zedong

28. Which Argentine-born guerrilla fighter helped Fidel Castro overthrow Batista before being executed in Bolivia in 1967?

| ANSWER Che Guevara

29. Which Roman general and statesman crossed the Rubicon in 49 BC, triggering civil war and paving the way for empire?

| ANSWER Julius Caesar

20th Century Milestones

30. Which two American brothers achieved the first powered airplane flight at Kitty Hawk in 1903?



| **ANSWER** The Wright Brothers

NOTE Their first flight covered only 120 feet, shorter than the wingspan of a modern jumbo jet.

31. Which 'unsinkable' ocean liner struck an iceberg and sank on its maiden voyage in 1912?

| **ANSWER** The Titanic

32. Which stock market crash in October 1929 triggered the Great Depression?

| **ANSWER** The Wall Street Crash

33. Which international organization was founded in San Francisco in 1945 to promote peace between nations?

| **ANSWER** United Nations

34. In 1947, which South Asian country gained independence from Britain under the leadership of figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru?

| **ANSWER** India

35. Which Cold War barrier dividing a European capital fell in 1989, symbolizing the end of communist rule in Eastern Europe?

| **ANSWER** The Berlin Wall

36. Which 1969 NASA mission first landed humans on the Moon, with Neil Armstrong taking the famous first steps?

| **ANSWER** Apollo 11

37. Which South African leader walked free from prison in 1990 after 27 years, later becoming president and ending apartheid?

| **ANSWER** Nelson Mandela

38. Which 1986 nuclear power plant disaster in Soviet Ukraine became the worst of its kind in history?

| **ANSWER** Chernobyl disaster

39. Which 1962 standoff brought the US and Soviet Union to the brink of nuclear war over missiles stationed 90 miles from Florida?

| **ANSWER** Cuban Missile Crisis

NOTE The crisis led to the creation of the Moscow-Washington 'hotline' to prevent future miscommunications.