

HISTORY TRIVIA QUESTIONS XX



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1> A Canadian, Arthur Brown, is often credited with what aviation feat?

- a. Being the first to fly across the Pacific
- b. Inventing jet aviation
- c. Shooting down the Red Baron
- d. Creating the bush-pilot system

2> What form of writing, developed by the Sumerians, was named for "wedge-shaped" impressions that the styluses made in clay?

- a. Cuneiform
- b. Roman letters
- c. Hieroglyphics
- d. Braille

3> What king had a summer palace at Potsdam called Sans Souci?

- a. Frederick the Great
- b. Peter the Great
- c. William the Conqueror
- d. Charles the Merely Adequate

4> Like Cher, Madonna and Elvis, Sukarno and Suharto went by just one name. What country did they rule? (This being Sukarno and Suharto, not Cher or Elvis.)

- a. Indonesia
- b. Burma
- c. Nepal
- d. Japan

5> Founded by Vikings, what Ukrainian city on the Dnieper River was once the

Russian capital?

- a. Moscow
- b. Kiev
- c. Minsk
- d. St Petersburg

6> This country became the heart of Livonia, and sometimes these people are still called Letts. Which one?

- a. Latvia
- b. Poland
- c. Lithuania
- d. Hungary

7> Who put his older brother Joseph on the throne of Naples (then Spain), his younger brother Louis on the throne of Holland, and a third brother Jerome on the throne of Westphalia?

- a. Napoleon
- b. Adolf Hitler
- c. Charlemagne
- d. Frederic Barbarossa

8> Nearly a quarter of the prisoners of war in Andersonville died. Where is Andersonville?

- a. Illinois
- b. Ohio
- c. Georgia
- d. Florida

9> Born in 1757, what famous Frenchman's name was Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier?

- a. Robespierre
- b. Marquis de Lafayette
- c. Marquis de Sade
- d. Napoleon

10> When the 1824 election was thrown to the House, the Speaker, Henry Clay

agreed to a "corrupt bargain" that put who in the White House?

- a. Andrew Jackson
- b. John Quincy Adams
- c. Grover Cleveland
- d. William Henry Harrison

11> Who was the last Catholic king of Britain?

- a. James II
- b. Richard III
- c. William I
- d. George III

12> Inspired by the French Revolution, what country was transformed into the Batavian Republic from 1795 to 1806?

- a. Netherlands
- b. Poland
- c. Sweden
- d. Ireland

13> In the late 1600s, what ruler tried touring Europe incognito, despite being a rather conspicuous six-foot-six?

- a. Charlemagne
- b. Peter the Great
- c. Richard the Lionhearted
- d. Erik the Red

14> The Flavian Amphitheatre was nicknamed the Coliseum for whose colossus, which once stood next door?

- a. Nero
- b. Augustus
- c. Zeus
- d. Jupiter

Answers:

- 1> Shooting down the Red Baron - However, an Australian ground crew may have fired the fatal shots.
- 2> Cuneiform - Cuneiform was adapted to the Akkadian language (of which Babylonian and Assyrian are dialects). Since Akkadian was a lingua franca, cuneiform spread throughout the Middle East.
- 3> Frederick the Great - From there, hard-working 'Old Fritz' relentlessly expanded Prussian military and economic power, doubling his nation's territory.
- 4> Indonesia - After WWII, Sukarno pushed the Dutch out, and was in turn shown the door in 1966 by the similarly named Suharto.
- 5> Kiev - It was on the main trade route between the Black and Baltic seas, which connected the Swedish Varangians with the Byzantines.
- 6> Latvia - It was known as such after being invaded by the Livonian Order of the Teutonic Knights.
- 7> Napoleon - Another child was Elisa, the grand duchess of Tuscany.
- 8> Georgia - It was a notorious prison camp in the Confederacy during the Civil War.
- 9> Marquis de Lafayette - He left the French court to help the American Revolution as a major general, without pay.
- 10> John Quincy Adams - John Quincy Adams had finished second to Andrew Jackson and Henry Clay was fourth.
- 11> James II - His predecessor, Charles II, converted to Catholicism on his deathbed. James was ousted by William and Mary.
- 12> Netherlands - It was also a Napoleonic puppet state, named for an ancient Dutch tribe.
- 13> Peter the Great - Some sources have him at 6'8". He traveled as Peter Mikhailov, through England and Amsterdam, posing as a lowly worker and learned shipbuilding. He also thrashed the homes of his hosts.
- 14> Nero - After Vespasian succeeded Nero, he built the amphitheatre on the ruins of Nero's palace. He also had built a 120-foot colossus, or statue, of Nero as a sun god.