

HISTORY TRIVIA QUESTIONS XIII



(www.TriviaChamp.com)

1> After 14 appearances and \$129,000, Columbia history professor Charles Van Doren finally lost on "Twenty-One" when he couldn't answer this. "Who is the King of Belgium?" What was the right answer?

- a. Baudouin
- b. Leopold
- c. Albert
- d. Elvis

2> In terms of percentage of the popular vote, who was the most successful third-party presidential candidate?

- a. Theodore Roosevelt
- b. Ross Perot
- c. Ralph Nader
- d. George Wallace

3> What hockey playing presidential candidate strummed his bass for a rock band called the Electras?

- a. John Kerry
- b. Bill Clinton
- c. Al Gore
- d. George W Bush

4> Just 49 when he became president, what workaholic sliced Mexico in half and died in Nashville, just 103 days after leaving office?

- a. Zachary Taylor
- b. James Polk
- c. Millard Fillmore
- d. John Tyler

5> Of Iraq, who said this? "There are known unknowns. That is to say, we know there are some things we do not know. But there also unknown unknowns, the ones we don't know we don't know."

- a. George W Bush
- b. Donald Rumsfeld
- c. Condoleeza Rice
- d. Dick Cheney

6> Despite admitting to having fathered an illegitimate son, I became president anyway, largely because my Republican opponent, Maine's James Blaine, had taken \$100,000 in railway bribes. Who am I?

- a. Grover Cleveland
- b. Ulysses Grant
- c. Benjamin Harrison
- d. Rutherford Hayes

7> The first sitting president to visit Canada may have contracted the food poisoning that later killed him in Vancouver, while en route from Alaska on a whistle-stop tour to salvage his scandal-plagued presidency. Who?

- a. John Taylor
- b. Franklin Roosevelt
- c. Warren Harding
- d. WH Harrison

8> What future world leader once led a terrorist/freedom fighter group called Irgun Zvai Leumi?

- a. Menachem Begin
- b. VI Lenin
- c. Jawaharlal Nehru
- d. Nelson Mandela

9> Once a mighty capital, Babylon was on the Euphrates, just 55 miles south of what less mighty modern capital on the Tigris?

- a. Istanbul
- b. Tehran

- c. Baghdad
- d. Jerusalem

10> Until the 1940s, what Asian nation had gone since the 1270s without being invaded?

- a. Japan
- b. Thailand
- c. Philippines
- d. China

11> According to tradition, Marinus, a Christian stonecutter, founded the world's oldest republic in AD 301. What is it?

- a. San Marino
- b. Monaco
- c. Luxembourg
- d. Liechtenstein

12> Which of these was not an NHL star, but was a president of Croatia?

- a. Milan Hedjuk
- b. Franjo Tujman
- c. Pavol Demitra
- d. Zigmund Palffy

13> Conspiracy theorists claim that Jesus faked the crucifixion, married Mary Magdalene and was the ancestor of which country's Merovingian kings?

- a. Scotland
- b. Spain
- c. France
- d. Sweden

14> Talk about marrying well! Who is the only woman to marry men who became kings of both France and England?

- a. Catherine of Aragon
- b. Eleanor of Aquitaine
- c. Catherine de Medici
- d. Mary, Queen of Scots

15> The rather crazy Russian nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy once vowed to recover which formerly Russian territory, which it sold off in 1867?

- a. Iran
- b. Finland
- c. Alaska
- d. Sakhalin

Answers:

1> Baudouin - On November 2, 1959, Charles admitted to a United States Congress subcommittee that he had been given questions and answers in advance of the show.

2> Theodore Roosevelt - In 1901, Roosevelt became President at the age of 42 when President William McKinley was assassinated.

3> John Kerry - Although not well known, The Electras put out about half a dozen singles from 1965-67.

4> James Polk - John Polk was the 11th President of the United States.

5> Donald Rumsfeld - Rumsfeld was vital in planning the United States' response to the September 11, 2001 attacks, which included the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

6> Grover Cleveland - Grover Cleveland is the only president to serve two non-consecutive terms (1885-1889 and 1893-1897).

7> Warren Harding - Warren Harding was the 29th President of the United States.

8> Menachem Begin - Menachem's most noteworthy achievement as Prime Minister of Israel was the signing of a peace treaty with Egypt in 1979.

9> Baghdad - Baghdad has often faced severe infrastructural damage and civilian deaths, most recently due to the American-led foreign occupation in March 2003 that lasted until December 2011.

10> Japan - Japan is an archipelago of 6,852 islands.

11> San Marino - San Marino is also known as the Most Serene Republic of San Marino.

12> Franjo Tujman - During his youth, Franjo fought during World War II as a member of the Yugoslav partisans.

13> France - According to the bible, Mary Magdalene was the first person to see Jesus after his Resurrection.

14> Eleanor of Aquitaine - Eleanor has been featured in a number of screen versions of the Robin Hood story and Ivanhoe.

15> Alaska - Zhirinovskiy once said he was dreaming of a day 'when Russian soldiers can wash their boots in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean and switch to year-round summer uniforms'.

