

# HISTORY TRIVIA QUESTIONS XVIII



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1> Prince Charles may have had matrimonial problems, but Henry VIII created his own church so he could divorce which wife?

- a. Catherine Parr
- b. Catherine Howard
- c. Catherine of Aragon
- d. Catherine de' Medici

2> Long after overrunning the Alamo, this Mexican ended up exiled to Staten Island, where he is credited with introducing chewing gum to the US. Who is he?

- a. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna
- b. Sancho Panza
- c. Simon Bolivar
- d. Che Guevara

3> Yuri Andropov was put in charge of the USSR. And dropped off. Who replaced him?

- a. Constantin Chernenko
- b. Mikhail Gorbachev
- c. Boris Yeltsin
- d. Vladimir Putin

4> When told that saying, "Half the Cabinet are asses" was unparliamentary, what UK politician recanted and instead said, "Half the Cabinet are not asses"?

- a. John Howard
- b. Benjamin Disraeli
- c. Paul Martin
- d. Edward Seaga

5> What ship landed at Plymouth Rock rather than Virginia, in large part because their supplies were "much spent, especially our beer"?

- a. Constitution
- b. Santa Maria
- c. Mayflower
- d. Pinta

6> What state did the Green Mountain Boys break off from New York and then declare to be an independent republic?

- a. New Hampshire
- b. Vermont
- c. Maine
- d. Connecticut

7> Francisco Pizarro captured Atahualpa, the leader of these people, had him pay a ransom of \$100 million, then killed him anyway. Whom did Atahualpa lead?

- a. Mayas
- b. Aztecs
- c. Incas
- d. Apaches

8> Named for the local word for "mountainous", what was the world's first black republic?

- a. Jamaica
- b. Haiti
- c. Ethiopia
- d. Ghana

9> What was the last European power to leave Africa, when it finally gave independence to such colonies as Angola and Mozambique in the mid-1970s?

- a. Germany
- b. Spain
- c. Portugal
- d. France

10> Blaise Pascal once speculated that if Cleopatra had not been so pretty, what Roman general might not have lost the Battle of Actium?

- a. Julius Caesar
- b. Mark Antony
- c. Pompey
- d. Ptolemy

11> In the first US census, in 1790, what was the only US state to record zero slaves?

- a. Rhode Island
- b. Massachusetts
- c. Vermont
- d. Connecticut

12> Known as the Rubber People, what Mexican civilization venerated the were-jaguar?

- a. Aztecs
- b. Toltecs
- c. Olmecs
- d. Mixtecs

13> A minor "war" erupted in 1859 between Britain and the United States on disputed San Juan Island. What set the war off?

- a. A sliced-off ear
- b. An unpaid tavern bill
- c. A dead pig
- d. A Fenian fugitive

## Answers:

- 1> Catherine of Aragon - He wanted a son, but she only bore Mary.
- 2> Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna - Santa Anna met rubber scientist Thomas Adams. He suggested sapodilla, which made lousy rubber, but great gum, so in 1871 Adams went into the gum biz.
- 3> Constantin Chernenko - He died of renal failure in 1983.
- 4> Benjamin Disraeli - Cuban Americans, as refugees from Communism, have tended to be among the wealthiest and best educated Latinos.
- 5> Mayflower - The Mayflower may have been hijacked along the way by the Pilgrim minority onboard.
- 6> Vermont - Vermont nearly sided with the British during the Revolution, but it instead became the 14th state.
- 7> Incas - The ransom a 23-by-16 foot cell with gold, piled 9 feet high, plus a smaller room twice over with silver.
- 8> Haiti - Inspired by the French Revolution, it had launched the modern world's first successful slave rebellion.
- 9> Portugal - It didn't give up until 1975, when Portugal had tossed its own dictatorship.
- 10> Mark Antony - Judging from her images on coins, she was actually quite plain, but had great charisma.
- 11> Massachusetts - There were 16 slaves in Vermont, although it didn't become a state until 1791.
- 12> Olmecs - The Olmec were at their height between about 1500 and 600 BC.
- 13> A dead pig - Lyman Cutlar, an American farmer, shot a pig belonging to British subject Charles Griffin. The resulting Pig War arose from a gray area in the Oregon Treaty. Kaiser Wilhelm I ruled in America's favor in 1872.