

Famous People and Firsts

Grade 3-5 · Ages 8-11 · History · World History · ★★

Circle the correct answer for each question about famous people and firsts.

1. Who founded the Red Cross?
 (A) Clara Barton
 (B) Florence Nightingale
 (C) Louis Pasteur
 (D) Henry Dunant
2. Who was the first European explorer to reach the Mississippi River?
 (A) Henry Hudson
 (B) Christopher Columbus
 (C) Hernando de Soto
 (D) Lewis and Clark
3. Who was the first American woman to travel into space?
 (A) Sally Ride
 (B) Amelia Earhart
 (C) Valentina Tereshkova
 (D) Mae Jemison
4. Who was the first American to orbit the Earth?
 (A) Neil Armstrong
 (B) John Glenn
 (C) Buzz Aldrin
 (D) Alan Shepard
5. Who was the first woman to travel around the world by bicycle?
 (A) Annie Londonderry
 (B) Nellie Bly
 (C) Amelia Earhart
 (D) Junko Tabei
6. Who was the first astronomer to study the night sky with a telescope?
 (A) Nicolaus Copernicus
 (B) Galileo Galilei
 (C) Edwin Hubble
 (D) Isaac Newton
7. Who was the first woman to climb Mount Everest?
 (A) Mary Kingsley
 (B) Sally Ride
 (C) Junko Tabei
 (D) Amelia Earhart
8. Who was the first woman to earn a medical degree in the United States?
 (A) Florence Nightingale
 (B) Clara Barton
 (C) Marie Curie
 (D) Elizabeth Blackwell
9. Who wrote the first known novel, The Tale of Genji?
 (A) Jane Austen
 (B) Murasaki Shikibu
 (C) William Shakespeare
 (D) Homer
10. Who was the first European explorer to sail around Africa's southern tip?
 (A) Marco Polo
 (B) Christopher Columbus
 (C) Vasco da Gama
 (D) Bartolomeu Dias
11. Who was the first woman to receive a Nobel Prize in Physics?
 (A) Chien-Shiung Wu
 (B) Lise Meitner
 (C) Marie Curie
 (D) Rosalind Franklin
12. Who first described how blood circulates around the body?
 (A) William Harvey
 (B) Edward Jenner
 (C) Louis Pasteur
 (D) Hippocrates

13. Who composed The Four Seasons?

- (A) Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- (B) Antonio Vivaldi
- (C) Johann Sebastian Bach
- (D) Ludwig van Beethoven

14. Who was the first person to swim across the English Channel?

- (A) Roger Bannister
- (B) Michael Phelps
- (C) James Cook
- (D) Matthew Webb

15. Who was a famous nurse who improved hospitals in the 1800s?

- (A) Amelia Earhart
- (B) Marie Curie
- (C) Florence Nightingale
- (D) Rosa Parks

16. Which country launched the first artificial satellite?

- (A) the Soviet Union
- (B) China
- (C) France
- (D) the United States

17. Who was the first person to print books with movable metal type, in Korea?

- (A) Johannes Gutenberg
- (B) Marco Polo
- (C) Confucius
- (D) Choe Yun-ui

18. Who was the first pilot to fly faster than the speed of sound?

- (A) Chuck Yeager
- (B) Amelia Earhart
- (C) Neil Armstrong
- (D) Charles Lindbergh

19. Who published the theory in 1543 that the Earth orbits the Sun?

- (A) Johannes Kepler
- (B) Nicolaus Copernicus
- (C) Isaac Newton
- (D) Galileo Galilei

20. Who was the first woman to fly an airplane across the English Channel?

- (A) Bessie Coleman
- (B) Sally Ride
- (C) Harriet Quimby
- (D) Amelia Earhart

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