



**Modern History Trivia**

1. **QUESTION: What year was the first iPhone released?**
  - a. **2007** - The iPhone was released in the United States on June 29, 2007, at the price of \$499 for the 4 GB model and \$599 for the 8 GB model, both requiring a 2-year contract.
2. **QUESTION: What was the acronym commonly used for the 2000 software problem that many thought would cause computers to become inoperable?**
  - a. **Y2K** - (The letter K, which stands for kilo, used to represent the number 1,000. So, Y2K stands for Year 2000)
3. **QUESTION: Which country hosted the 2016 Olympics?**
  - a. **Brazil** - Rio de Janeiro was the host city for the 2016 Summer Olympic Games, also known as "Rio 2016"
4. **QUESTION: The U.S. rover Curiosity landed on which planet in August 2012?**
  - a. **Mars** - The Mars Science Laboratory Mission's Curiosity rover landed in Mars' Gale Crater the evening of August 5, 2012, PDT (morning of August 6 EDT), using a series of complicated landing manoeuvres never before attempted.
5. **QUESTION: Who became the youngest person to win a Nobel Peace Prize at age 17 in 2014?**
  - a. **Malala Yousafzai** - For her work in drawing global attention to the threat to girls' education in Pakistan, in 2014 at age 17 Malala Yousafzai became the youngest Nobel Prize laureate up to that time.
6. **QUESTION: What year did the Berlin Wall fall?**
  - a. **1989** - The Berlin Wall fell on 9 November 1989. East and West Berliners came together in celebration. The fall of the Berlin Wall was the first step towards German reunification.
7. **QUESTION: What was the name of the Category 5 hurricane that hit New Orleans and its surrounding areas in 2005?**
  - a. **Hurricane Katrina** - On August 29, 2005, Katrina's storm surge caused 53 breaches to various flood protection structures in and around the greater New Orleans area, submerging 80% of the city.
8. **QUESTION: Which two royal family members were divorced in 1996?**
  - a. **Prince Charles and Princess Diana** - Charles and Diana's marriage broke down and the pair were leading separate lives by 1992, with their divorce finalised in 1996.
9. **QUESTION: What year was Facebook created?**
  - a. **2004** - Facebook, initially titled as thefacebook.com and limited to Harvard students, launched on Feb. 4, 2004. In 2006, Facebook became open to general public. Mark Zuckerberg along with fellow Harvard mates, Eduardo Saverin, Andrew McCollum, Dustin Moskovitz and Chris Hughes founded Facebook.
10. **QUESTION: The U.S. hosted the FIFA World Cup in 1994. Which country won the game?**
  - a. **Brazil** - Brazil was crowned the winner after defeating Italy 3–2 in a penalty shoot-out at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, near Los Angeles, after the game had ended 0–0 after extra time. It was the first World Cup final to be decided on penalties. The victory made Brazil the first nation to win four World Cup titles.
11. **QUESTION: Which planet was downgraded to a dwarf planet in 2006?**
  - a. **Pluto** - On Aug. 24, 2006, the International Astronomical Union voted to strictly define a planet, which ultimately downgraded Pluto from the ninth planet from the sun to a dwarf planet.
12. **QUESTION: What year did Google launch?**
  - a. **1998** - Google was officially launched on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1998 by Larry Page and Sergey Brin to market Google Search, which has become the most used web-based search engine
13. **QUESTION: Who won the 2008 U.S. Presidential election?**
  - a. **Barack Obama** - Obama won a decisive victory over McCain, winning the Electoral College and the popular vote by a sizable margin, including states that had not voted for the Democratic presidential candidate since 1976 (North Carolina) and 1964 (Indiana, Virginia, and Nebraska's 2nd congressional district)
14. **QUESTION: Which two countries signed the Good Friday Agreement in 1997?**
  - a. **Britain and Ireland** - The agreement acknowledged: that the majority of the people of Northern Ireland wished to remain a part of the United Kingdom; that a substantial section of the people of Northern Ireland, and the majority of the people of the island of Ireland, wished to bring about a united Ireland.
15. **QUESTION: In 1996, a sheep became the first mammal cloned from an adult somatic cell. What was the name of that sheep?**
  - a. **Dolly** - On July 5, 1996, Dolly was a female Finn Dorset sheep, born at the Roslin Institute in Scotland, that lived from 1996 to 2003. She was the first mammal to have been successfully cloned from an adult cell. She was produced by British developmental biologist Ian Wilmut and colleagues of the Roslin Institute, near Edinburgh, Scotland. Originally code-named "6LL3," the cloned lamb was named after singer and actress Dolly Parton.
16. **QUESTION: Brexit refers to which country leaving the European Union?**
  - a. **The United Kingdom** - Brexit is an abbreviation of two English words: 'Britain' and 'exit' and refers to the withdrawal process of the United Kingdom (UK) from the European Union (EU). Article 50 of the Treaty of the European Union regulates the withdrawal process of any Member State.
17. **QUESTION: Who became the most decorated gymnast in history during the 2010s?**
  - a. **Simone Biles** - Simone won four gold medals, including the individual all-around and team titles, at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, setting a U.S. record for most gold medals in women's gymnastics at a single Games. To close out the decade, Biles won five gold medals at the World Championships held in October 2019, bringing her total to 25 world medals and 19 gold—the most of any gymnast, male or female, in history.



## **Friday Trivia 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023**



### **Modern History Trivia cont...**

**18. QUESTION: What year did the Internet become available to the public?**

- a. **1993** - On April 30, 1993, something called the World Wide Web launched into the public domain. The web made it simple for anyone to navigate the internet. All users had to do was launch a new program called a "browser," type in a URL and hit return.

**19. QUESTION: What was the global recession that lasted from 2007 to 2009 called?**

- a. **The Great Recession** - The Great Recession was a period of marked general decline observed in national economies globally, i.e. a recession, that occurred from late 2007 to 2009. The scale and timing of the recession varied from country to country. The financial crisis that followed during the later years of the recession began with cheap credit and lax lending standards that fuelled a housing bubble. When the bubble burst, the banks were left holding trillions of dollars of worthless investments in subprime mortgages.

**20. QUESTION: Which U.S. city hosted the Summer Olympics in 1996?**

- a. **Atlanta** - Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games, athletic festival held in Atlanta that took place July 19–August 4, 1996. The Atlanta Games were the 23rd occurrence of the modern Olympic Games. Selected over Athens to host the Centennial Summer Games, Atlanta staged one of the most extravagant Games in Olympic history.

**21. QUESTION: What is the name of the whistleblower who leaked classified information from the National Security Agency (NSA) in 2013?**

- a. **Edward Snowden** - Edward Joseph Snowden (born June 21, 1983) is an American and naturalized Russian former computer intelligence consultant and whistleblower who leaked highly classified information from the National Security Agency (NSA) in 2013, when he was an employee and subcontractor.

**22. QUESTION: What year was the Paris Agreement signed?**

- a. **2015** - The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris, France, on 12 December 2015. It entered into force on 4 November 2016.

**23. QUESTION: What U.S. government department was created in the wake of the September 11 attacks?**

- a. **The Department of Homeland Security** - It began operations on March 1, 2003 after being formed as a result of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, enacted in response to the September 11 attacks. The Department of Homeland Security works to improve the security of the United States. The Department's work includes customs, border, and immigration enforcement, emergency response to natural and manmade disasters, antiterrorism work, and cybersecurity.

**24. QUESTION: What year was Nelson Mandela freed from prison?**

- a. **1990** - Mandela served 27 years in prison, split between Robben Island, Pollsmoor Prison and Victor Verster Prison. Amid growing domestic and international pressure and fears of racial civil war, President F. W. de Klerk released him in 1990.

**25. QUESTION: Who was the first woman to be elected Vice President of the United States in 2020?**

- a. **Kamala Harris** - Ms. Harris, the daughter of an Indian mother and Jamaican father, is the 49th and current (as at 2023) vice president of the United States.