

10/19/25

Put the List in Order

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Printed copy of this document. Scissors to cut the answers into strips. Sticky tape and white board or large paper pad on an easel.

May be suitable for visually impaired players.

Overview:

Rearrange a list of historical events in the order of when they occurred, starting with the earliest. To get you started, here's one event with the year it occurred:

1875 B&M introduced canned baked beans in Portland, Maine

You will need to place each of the other events either before or after that one.

Instructions:

Note: We find this game is most fun when all players participate in a non-scoring format.

1. Print the large-type list of answers for each question. Cut them into strips.
2. Using scotch tape or masking tape, put up the answers in random order in a column, with each answer below another.
3. Read the list aloud.
4. Tell your players to find what they think is the earliest event, and then work through the years from there, one historical event at a time.
5. As the players shout out how the answers should be ordered, rearrange the strips of paper according to their instructions.
6. When they reach a final order, check it against the answers. You can choose to tell them: 1) how many answers are in the incorrect position; or 2) which specific answers are in the incorrect position (which may be a bit easier for them).
7. Have them try again to put the answers in the correct order.
8. Again, tell them either how many answers are incorrect, or which specific answers are incorrect.
9. Continue instructions 7. and 8. until they succeed in putting all answers in the right order.

**Construction of the Empire State Building
was completed**

**Bartolomeo Cristofori invented the piano in
Florence, Italy.**

**Beatle John Lennon was murdered outside
his New York City apartment building.**

**The first modern novel, Don Quixote by
Miguel de Cervantes, was published in Spain.**

Construction began on the Colosseum in Rome

Written by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*, an exploration of wealth, class, and the American dream was published.

The development of the smallpox vaccine by Edward Jenner was a major breakthrough in medicine.

The first trial of four women accused of witchcraft was held in Salem, Massachusetts

Thomas Edison invented the first commercially viable incandescent light bulb, ushering in the age of electricity.

The Thirteenth Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, abolishing slavery and involuntary servitude.

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ANSWERS

- 70 AD Construction began on the Colosseum in Rome
- 1605 The first modern novel, *Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes, was published in Spain.
- 1692 The first trial of four women accused of witchcraft was held in Salem, Massachusetts
- 1709 Bartolomeo Cristofori invented the piano in Florence, Italy.
- 1796 The development of the smallpox vaccine by Edward Jenner was a major breakthrough in medicine.
- 1865 The Thirteenth Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, abolishing slavery and involuntary servitude.
- 1875 B&M introduced canned baked beans in Portland, Maine**
- 1879 Thomas Edison invented the first commercially viable incandescent light bulb, ushering in the age of electricity.
- 1931 Construction of the Empire State Building was completed
- 1925 Written by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*, an exploration of wealth, class, and the American dream was published.
- 1980 Beatle John Lennon was murdered outside his New York City apartment building.