

8/24/25

# This Week in History

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Estimated play time: Varies

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad

Suitable for visually impaired players.

## Overview:

This weekly quiz looks at historical events for each day of this coming week – just a question or two per day. You can choose to make this a standard group game ... or you might think about posting the questions for each day – perhaps in the dining room or the elevator – to inspire participation even from those residents who don't join in on the group game activities.

## Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first clue. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a player/team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the others may 'buzz' in and answer.
4. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

8/24/25

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## AUGUST 24

1. 1909. Workers began pouring concrete for this manmade shortcut between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.
2. 2006. The International Astronomical Union redefined the term “planet,” and in so doing, demoted this most distant celestial body to a “dwarf planet.”

## AUGUST 25

3. On this date in 1984, this diminutive author of *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *In Cold Blood* died at age 59 in the home of his friend Joanne Carson (ex-wife of Johnny Carson).
4. 2009. This Democratic “Lion of the Senate,” who was first elected in 1962, died of brain cancer at age 77.

## AUGUST 26

5. 1952. This future editor of the *New York Times* crossword puzzle and on-air quizmaster on National Public Radio was born in Crawfordsville, Indiana.
6. 2018. This American playwright and screenwriter, author of *The Odd Couple* and *Biloxi Blues*, died at age 91.

## AUGUST 27

7. 1883. The eruption of this volcano, the most powerful in recorded history, occurred in Indonesia. The explosion could be heard 3,000 miles away. It created 120-foot-high tsunamis and threw a cloud of ash and dust seven miles into the atmosphere.
8. 1912. Edgar Rice Burroughs' famous novel was first published in serial installments in a magazine. What was the name of his title character, who was an instant cultural sensation and remains one of the most famous fictional characters in the world?

## AUGUST 28

9. 1903. Frederick Law Olmstead, considered the father of landscape architecture, died at age 87. Perhaps his most notable work was this prominent Manhattan location, which he designed in the mid 1800's.
10. 1963. More than 200,000 people participated in a peaceful civil rights rally in this city and heard Dr. Martin Luther King's “I Have a Dream” speech.

## AUGUST 29

11. 2005. Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Louisiana. Can you remember the name of the mayor of New Orleans at the time?
12. 2008. Presidential candidate John McCain named this former governor as his running mate.

## AUGUST 30

13. 1967. He became the first African American confirmed as a Supreme Court Justice.
14. 2021. The last remaining American troops left this country, ending US involvement in a war that began 20 years earlier in October of 2001.

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## ANSWERS

### AUGUST 24

1. The Panama Canal
2. Pluto

### AUGUST 25

3. Truman Capote
4. Senator Edward “Ted” Kennedy, who died at his home in Hyannis, MA

### AUGUST 26

5. Will Shortz
6. Neil Simon

### AUGUST 27

7. Mt. Krakatoa
8. Tarzan

### AUGUST 28

9. Central Park
10. Washington, DC. Dr. King gave the iconic speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial.

### AUGUST 29

11. Mayor Ray Nagin
12. Sarah Palin of Alaska. It was the first time a woman appeared on the Republican presidential ticket.

### AUGUST 30

13. Thurgood Marshall
14. Afghanistan