

10/26/25

This Week in History

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.

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This Week in History

OCTOBER 26

1. 1970. This daily comic strip by cartoonist Garry Trudeau debuted. It featured political satire from a liberal perspective, and introduced an array of characters that included Zonker Harris, Joanie Caucus, and many others.
2. 1984. Baby Fae of Loma Linda, CA, who was born with a severe heart defect, underwent an experimental transplant. She lived for 21 days with the heart of this type animal.

OCTOBER 27

3. 1955. This groundbreaking film, in which James Dean, Natalie Wood, and Sal Mineo starred as troubled teenagers, debuted just three weeks after 24-year-old Dean died in a car crash.
4. 2016. In an act of domestic terror, an antisemitic gunman opened fire on the Tree of Life synagogue in this Pennsylvania city, killing 11 and injuring 6 including 4 police officers. It was the deadliest attack on the Jewish community in the United States.

OCTOBER 28

5. 1922. Fascism came to Italy when this leader ordered the paramilitary Blackshirts to take control of Rome.
6. 1980. During a presidential debate with incumbent Jimmy Carter, candidate Ronald Reagan asked voters this memorable question about their economic status.

OCTOBER 29

7. 1929. Millions of Americans were financially wiped out when the stock market crashed, eventually giving rise to The Great Depression. By what name do we often refer to this day?
8. 2015. This country announced the end of a 35-year-old population control policy that restricted parents to having only one child.

OCTOBER 30

9. 1928. *The War of the Worlds*, a radio play which employed fake news reports as a dramatic technique, was broadcast live on CBS radio. The next day, this director and narrator discovered that many panicked listeners thought the news reports were true.
10. 1945. Jackie Robinson of the Kansas City Monarchs (the longest-running franchise in baseball's Negro Leagues) signed a contract to play with this Major League team, breaking the baseball color line.

OCTOBER 31

11. 1941. The sculpting of Mt. Rushmore was declared complete after 14 years. Can you name all four faces that sculptor Gotzon Borglum carved out of the mountainside?
12. 1984. This 66-year-old Prime Minister of India was assassinated near her residence by two of her own security guards.

NOVEMBER 1

13. 1512. The painted ceiling of this Vatican chapel was first exhibited to the public.
14. 1800. This second US president became the first president to live in the newly finished White House.

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This Week in History

ANSWERS

OCTOBER 26

1. Doonesbury
2. A baboon

OCTOBER 27

3. *Rebel Without a Cause*
4. Pittsburgh

OCTOBER 28

5. Benito Mussolini
6. "Are you better off than you were four years ago?"

OCTOBER 29

7. Black Tuesday
8. China

OCTOBER 30

9. Orson Welles
10. The Brooklyn Dodgers

OCTOBER 31

11. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln
12. Indira Gandhi

NOVEMBER 1

13. The Sistine Chapel, painted by Michelangelo between 1508 and 1512
14. President John Adams—but he didn't live there long. Adams was in the last year of his only term as president.