

12/7/25

# 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.

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## DECEMBER 7

1. 1990. This media mogul and then-owner of the Atlanta Braves announced his engagement to this actress and fitness advocate. (We're looking for both names.)
2. 2001. The remake of the film *Ocean's Eleven* debuted in theaters. In this version, George Clooney played the role of Danny Ocean, which was originated by this actor in 1960.

## DECEMBER 8

3. 1952. After securing approval from several religious leaders, CBS allowed a pregnancy storyline to be featured on this popular comedy program — although the scriptwriters had to use the word “expecting” rather than “pregnant.”
4. 2019. The first confirmed case of COVID-19 was identified in this Chinese city.

## DECEMBER 9

5. 1990. This former head of the labor union Solidarity was elected President of Poland.
6. 1979. The eradication of this virus was certified, making it the first disease (of only two diseases) that have been driven to extinction.

## DECEMBER 10

7. 1953. This British Prime Minister won the Nobel Prize in Literature for his lifetime of writing and speeches.
8. 2005. This groundbreaking standup comedian and actor, who gained acclaim for his collaborations with Gene Wilder, died of a heart attack and complications due to multiple sclerosis at age 65.

## DECEMBER 11

9. 1934. Bill W, co-founder of this organization, took his last drink and entered treatment for the last time.
10. 2008. This Wall Street billionaire was arrested for masterminding a long-running Ponzi scheme that was later estimated to involve roughly \$65 billion.

## DECEMBER 12

11. 1917. Father Edward Flanagan founded this orphanage in Omaha, Nebraska.
12. 1901. This pioneer in long-distance radio transmission sent the first radio signal across the Atlantic Ocean from Cornwall in England to Newfoundland, Canada.

## DECEMBER 13

13. On this day in 2000, George W. Bush claimed the presidency over this rival, after the US Supreme Court halted the Florida recount of votes.
14. 2003. This ousted Iraqi leader was captured by US forces. He was discovered hiding in a hole under a farmhouse near his hometown of Tikrit.

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## ANSWERS

### DECEMBER 7

1. Ted Turner and Jane Fonda. (They divorced ten years later.)
2. Frank Sinatra

### DECEMBER 8

3. *I Love Lucy*. (CBS had initially insisted that a pregnant woman could not be shown on television.)
4. Wuhan

### DECEMBER 9

5. Lech Walesa
6. Smallpox. The second disease, called rinderpest, affected buffalo, cattle, and other large ungulates, but was eradicated in 2011, thirty-two years after smallpox.

### DECEMBER 10

7. Winston Churchill
8. Richard Pryor

### DECEMBER 11

9. Alcoholics Anonymous
10. Bernie Madoff

### DECEMBER 12

11. Boys Town
12. Guglielmo Marconi. When Marconi died in 1937, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) stations went silent for two minutes in tribute to Marconi's contributions to the development of radio.

### DECEMBER 13

13. Al Gore
14. Saddam Hussein