

4/5/26

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:

1847 Thomas Edison was born in Milan Ohio.

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.

Vincent van Gogh, 37, died of an infection resulting from a self-imposed gunshot wound.

Harvard University was founded in Cambridge, Massachusetts

George Orwell's futuristic novel, *1984*, was published.

Russia launched Sputnik, the first orbiting space probe.

L. Frank Baum published *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

Thomas Edison was born in Milan Ohio

Virginia Dare became the first English child born in the New World (on Roanoke Island)

The United States purchased Alaska from Russia

***I Love Lucy* premiered on television**

Leonardo da Vinci completed painting *Mona Lisa*

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ANSWERS

- 1506 Leonardo da Vinci completed painting *Mona Lisa*
- 1587 Virginia Dare became the first English child born in the New World (on Roanoke Island)
- 1636 Harvard University was founded in Cambridge, Massachusetts
- 1847 Thomas Edison was born in Milan Ohio**
- 1867 The United States purchased Alaska from Russia
- 1890 Vincent van Gogh, 37, died of an infection resulting from a self-imposed gunshot wound.
- 1900 L. Frank Baum published *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*
- 1949 George Orwell's futuristic novel, *1984*, was published.
- 1951 *I Love Lucy* premiered on television
- 1957 Russia launched *Sputnik*, the first orbiting space probe.