

3/8/26

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

MARCH 8

1. 1965. 3500 official US land combat units were deployed to Vietnam, and the war subsequently escalated to include heavy bombing of these two neighboring countries.
2. 1983. While speaking to the National Association of Evangelicals, President Reagan first used this phrase to describe the Soviet Union.

MARCH 9

3. 1981. This reporter replaced the recently retired Walter Cronkite as anchorman for *The CBS Evening News*, a post he then held for the next twenty-four years.
4. 1996. This legendary cigar-smoking comedian, who was born Nathan Birnbaum in New York City, died just weeks after celebrating his 100th birthday.

MARCH 10

5. 1804. In a formal ceremony in St. Louis, the ownership of the Louisiana Territory was officially transferred to the United States from this country.
6. 1957. This future terrorist leader and founder of al-Qaeda was born to a wealthy family in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

MARCH 11

7. 1942. General Douglas MacArthur left this besieged Western Pacific nation. A few days later, he uttered his famous vow, "I shall return." More than two years later, he did.
8. 1997. This former Beatle was the first to be knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

MARCH 12

9. 1947. The Truman Doctrine was proclaimed to help contain the spread of communism. Its main tenet was that if one country in a region fell under the influence of communism, then the surrounding countries would follow. By what less formal name did this foreign policy theory come to be known?
10. 2008. This New York governor resigned after reports surfaced that he regularly paid for call girls in Washington, DC.

MARCH 13

11. 1943. The final "liquidation" of the Jewish ghetto in Krakow, Poland began. This German businessman worked furiously to save as many Jews as possible by taking them in as workers in his enamelware factory.
12. 2014. Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of this country was elected the 266th Pope of the Roman Catholic Church. He took the name Pope Francis.

MARCH 14

13. 1964. A jury in Dallas, Texas convicted this local nightclub owner for the "murder with malice" of Lee Harvey Oswald.
14. 1958. The Recording Industry Association of America awarded the first Gold Record to this crooner for the song "Catch A Falling Star."

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This Week in History

ANSWERS

MARCH 8

1. Cambodia and Laos
2. “The Evil Empire.” In that speech, Reagan argued to increase military capabilities in Eastern Europe.

MARCH 9

3. Dan Rather
4. George Burns

MARCH 10

5. France. This land purchase cost \$15 million and added 828,000 square miles to the United States.
6. Osama bin Laden, the mastermind of the September 11, 2001 attacks on America

MARCH 11

7. The Philippines (Corregidor Island)
8. Paul McCartney. Many believe that John Lennon would also have been so honored, had he not been killed 17 years earlier in 1980.

MARCH 12

9. The Domino Theory
10. Eliot Spitzer

MARCH 13

11. Oskar Schindler
12. Argentina

MARCH 14

13. Jack Ruby
14. Perry Como