

5/10/26

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

MAY 10

1. 1940. After the resignation of Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, this Member of Parliament was summoned to Buckingham Palace and instructed to form a government.
2. 1962. Marvel Comics published the first issue of a comic book featuring this green superhero.

MAY 11

3. 1949. The country of Siam officially changed its name to this.
4. 1989. With its elephant population reduced from 167,000 in 1973 to just 16,000 by 1989, Kenya announced that it would seek a worldwide ban in the trade of this commodity.

MAY 12

5. 1820. This founder of modern nursing was born to a wealthy British family in the Tuscany region of Italy.
6. 1993. The gang at *Cheers* said goodbye to the TV watching public after eleven seasons. Can you name four of the eight main characters from the show's last year?

MAY 13

7. 1787. Captain Arthur Phillip left Portsmouth, England with eleven ships full of convicts (the "First Fleet") to establish a penal colony on this continent.
8. 1958. A trademark for this "zipperless zipper" was registered in the USA. Its Swiss inventor came up with the idea when he noticed how burrs would hook onto his dog's hide when they took their walks.

MAY 14

9. 1796. English physician Edward Jenner, a pioneer in the practice of inoculation, administered the first vaccination against this infectious disease that would be entirely eradicated roughly 175 years later.
10. 1998. The last episode of this situation comedy about "nothing" aired. Commercials for the final program cost advertisers \$2 million per 30-second spot (which would be roughly \$4 million in today's dollar).

MAY 15

11. 1941. This iconic New York Yankees center fielder began his 56-game long hitting streak. – a record that still holds today.
12. 2008. California became the second US state to legalize same-sex marriage after the state's Supreme Court ruled a previous ban unconstitutional. What state was the first, having legalized it four years previously?

MAY 16

13. 1866. The US Congress authorized the minting of a new five-cent coin. Because of the shortage of silver, it was made of copper and this hard metal.
14. 1866. Charles Elmer Hires invented the soft drink that would make him a millionaire.

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ANSWERS

MAY 10

1. Winston Churchill
2. *The Incredible Hulk*

MAY 11

3. Thailand
4. Ivory

MAY 12

5. Florence Nightingale
6. Sam Malone, Rebecca Howe, Carla Tortelli, Woody Boyd, Norm Peterson, Cliff Clavin, Frasier Crane, Lillith Sternin

MAY 13

7. Australia
8. Velcro

MAY 14

9. Smallpox
10. *Seinfeld*

MAY 15

11. Joe DiMaggio
12. Massachusetts

MAY 16

13. Nickel
14. Root Beer. Hires was originally going to call his drink Root Tea, but he thought “beer” would be more appealing to the working class.