

7/12/26

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.

7/12/26

This Week in History

JULY 12

1. 1817. This future author of *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* was born in Concord, MA.
2. 1962. In London, the Rolling Stones led by this vocalist performed publicly for the first time.

JULY 13

3. 1897. Guglielmo Marconi was issued a US patent for this invention, which “transmitted electrical signals.”
4. 2024. Former president of the US Donald Trump was the victim of an assassination attempt while speaking at an election campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. Where was Trump injured?

JULY 14

5. 1912. This American folk singer, whose hits included “This Land is Your Land,” was born in Okemah, Oklahoma.
6. 1960. Jane Goodall arrived at the Gombe Stream Reserve in present-day Tanzania to begin her famous decades-long study of this animal in the wild.

JULY 15

7. 1971. Richard Nixon stunned the nation by announcing in a live television broadcast that he would visit this communist country within a year.
8. 2006. This social media platform, which limited messages to 140 characters, was launched on the internet by Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams, and Biz Stone. In ten years it would become a critical communications vehicle for candidate and later president Donald Trump.

JULY 16

9. 1790. Washington, DC was formally established as the capital of the United States. Which two states gave up land to form the District of Colombia?
10. 1951. This coming-of-age novel by J.D. Salinger, which centered on the sensitive, rebellious adolescent Holden Caulfield, was published; it went on to become an American classic.

JULY 17

11. 1945. These three allied leaders began meeting at Potsdam, Germany to decide how to administer punishment to the defeated Nazi Germany and to establish post-war order.
12. 1955. Disneyland was opened by Walt Disney in this California city.

JULY 18

13. 1969. US Senator Edward Kennedy’s Oldsmobile plunged off the Chappaquiddick Bridge on this resort island, killing 28-year-old female passenger, Mary Jo Kopechne.
14. 1976. For her performance on the uneven parallel bars, this 15-year-old Romanian became the first person in Olympic history to score a perfect 10 in gymnastics.

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ANSWERS

JULY 12

1. Henry David Thoreau. *Walden*, still a best-selling book, is a reflection on simple living in natural surroundings.
2. Mick Jagger

JULY 13

3. The radio
4. On his upper right ear

JULY 14

5. Woody Guthrie
6. Chimpanzees

JULY 15

7. China
8. Twitter. Trump was given a lifetime ban from Twitter after he incited violence at the January 6, 2021 insurrection. One year later, he started his own social medial platform called Truth Social.

JULY 16

9. Virginia and Maryland
10. *The Catcher in the Rye*

JULY 17

11. Communist Party General Secretary Joseph Stalin of the USSR, Prime Minister Winston Churchill of the UK, and President Harry S. Truman of the USA. Note: Prime Minister Clement Attlee of the UK can also be considered a correct answer, since he attended the meetings after the electoral defeat of Winston Churchill.
12. Anaheim

JULY 18

13. Martha's Vineyard
14. Nadia Comaneci