10/25/26

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.

©2026 Never2Old4Games

10/25/26

This Week in History

OCTOBER 25

1. 1400. This "Father of English Literature," best remembered for writing *The Canterbury Tales*, died, and became the first poet to be buried in Westminster Abbey.
2. 1944. This lawyer and political consultant, famous for the 1992 Clinton campaign catchphrase "It's the economy, stupid," was born in the US Army hospital at Fort Benning, GA, where his father was stationed during WWII.

OCTOBER 26

3. 1825. This waterway built across New York state, which connected the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean, was opened for commercial traffic.
4. 1970. This daily comic strip by cartoonist Garry Trudeau debuted. It featured political satire from a liberal perspective, and introduced an array of characters that included Zonker Harris, Joanie Caucus, and many others.

OCTOBER 27

5. 1988. President Ronald Reagan abruptly ordered the construction of the new US Embassy in Moscow to stop before it was completed. Why?
6. 2004. This baseball team "reversed the curse" and won the World Series for the first time since 1918.

OCTOBER 28

7. 1962. A global crisis eased when this Soviet leader announced that he had ordered the dismantling of Soviet missile bases in Cuba.
8. 1980. During a presidential debate with incumbent Jimmy Carter, candidate Ronald Reagan asked voters this memorable question about their economic status.

OCTOBER 29

9. 1891. This future entertainer was born New York City. More than 70 years later, the Tony Award-nominated play and Oscar-Winning movie called *Funny Girl* told the story of her life.
10. 1998. This former astronaut returned to space at the age of 77, thirty-six years after he became the first American to orbit the Earth.

OCTOBER 30

11. 1974. Muhammad Ali won "The Rumble in the Jungle," knocking out this 25-year-old heavyweight … and future indoor grill salesman.
12. 1991. The Gloucester, MA fishing vessel *Andrea Gail* and its six-member crew were lost at sea. Six years later, this disaster was featured in a best-selling book by author Sebastian Junger and later in a blockbuster movie of the same name.

OCTOBER 31

13. 1962. *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane?*, a late career triumph for these two actresses, was released in American theaters.
14. 1984. This 66-year-old Prime Minister of India was assassinated near her residence by two of her own security guards.

©2026 Never2Old4Games

10/25/26

This Week in History

ANSWERS

OCTOBER 25

1. Geoffrey Chaucer. Chaucer is credited by some scholars as the first author to demonstrate the artistic legitimacy of the Middle English language. Before that, most books were written in French or Latin.
2. James Carville

OCTOBER 26

3. The Erie Canal
4. *Doonesbury*

OCTOBER 27

5. It was discovered that the building was riddled with listening devises and other surveillance technologies, planted there by Russian agents.
6. The Boston Red Sox. The "curse" refers to the Curse of the Bambino, a superstition that when the very successful Red Sox sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees, they went without a championship title for nearly a century.

OCTOBER 28

7. Nikita Krushchev
8. "Are you better off than you were four years ago?"

OCTOBER 29

9. Fanny Brice
10. John Glenn

OCTOBER 30

11. George Foreman
12. *The Perfect Storm*

OCTOBER 31

13. Bette Davis and Joan Crawford
14. Indira Gandhi

©2026 Never2Old4Games