

Fourth of July Quiz

1. How many original copies of the Declaration of Independence exist today?
 - a. 2
 - b. 14
 - c. 26
 - d. 77

Answer: C. [26](#). The first printed copies of the Declaration of Independence, known as the Dunlap broadsides, do not include the signatures of the delegates. Hundreds of copies were made, but only twenty-six exist today.

2. What happened when news of the Declaration of Independence first reached New York City?
 - a. The British governor of New York fled the city.
 - b. Pro-independence residents tore down a statue of King George III.
 - c. The New York city council voted to reject independence.
 - d. Pro-English residents tarred and feathered the messenger who brought the news.

Answer: B. [Pro-independence residents tore down a statue of King George III](#). When news of the Declaration of Independence reached New York City, George Washington, the commander of the Continental Army in New York, read the document to an assembled crowd. It cheered the news and then tore down the statue.

3. How many American flags have been planted on the moon?
 - a. 1
 - b. 2
 - c. 5
 - d. 6

Answer: D. [Six](#). The Apollo 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17 missions all left flags on the moon. Apollo 13's lunar mission was aborted after an oxygen leak, so its crew did not get to plant a flag on the moon.

4. Children who are descendants of the signers of the Declaration of Independence tap the Liberty Bell how many times every Fourth of July?
 - a. 4
 - b. 13
 - c. 50
 - d. 56

Answer: [13](#). The bell is tapped annually at 2:00 p.m. EDT.

5. The patent for the ideas underlying which revolutionary technology was filed on July 4, 1934?
 - a. Air conditioning
 - b. Atomic bomb
 - c. Electric light bulb
 - d. Semiconductor

Answer: B. [The atomic bomb](#). Leo Szilard, a Hungarian-American physicist, filed a patent on July 4, 1934, for the basic concepts underlying the atomic bomb.

6. How are the signatures on the Declaration of Independence arranged?
- Alphabetically by state
 - Alphabetically by signer
 - Geographically by state
 - Randomly

Answer: C. [Geographically by state](#). The signatures are arranged from north, starting with New Hampshire, to south, ending with Georgia.

7. Which famous gift was offered to the American people on July 4, 1884?
- Cherry Blossom trees
 - Liberty Bell
 - Resolute Desk
 - Statue of Liberty

Answer: D. [The Statue of Liberty](#). France gave it to commemorate its alliance with the United States during the American Revolution. President Grover Cleveland dedicated the Statue of Liberty on October 28, 1886.

8. Which famous American singer was born on July 4?
- Beyoncé
 - Johnny Cash
 - Post Malone
 - Bruce Springsteen

Answer: C. [Post Malone](#). He was born on July 4, 1995.

9. How many of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence went on to become president?
- One
 - Two
 - Three
 - Four

Answer: B. Two. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson.

10. How many of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence went on to become vice president?
- One
 - Two
 - Three
 - Four

Answer: B. Three. John Adams (under George Washington), Thomas Jefferson (under John Adams), and Elbridge Gerry (under James Madison)

11. Who was the first signer of the Declaration of Independence to die?

- a. Alexander Hamilton
- b. John Hancock
- c. John Morton
- d. George Washington

Answer: C. [John Morton](#). A member of the Pennsylvania delegation, Morton died of a fever in April 1777, just nine months after signing the Declaration of Independence.

12. Who was the last signer of the Declaration of Independence to die?

- a. John Adams
- b. Thomas Jefferson
- c. Roger Sherman
- d. George Washington

Answer: A. [John Adams](#). He died on July 4, 1826, fifty years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. He was ninety. Thomas Jefferson died earlier that same day at the age of eighty-three.

13. Which president likely died because he ate tainted fruit during a Fourth of July celebration?

- a. Warren Harding
- b. William Henry Harrison
- c. William McKinley
- d. Zachary Taylor

Answer: D. [Zachary Taylor](#). He became violently ill shortly after consuming large amounts of raw fruit and ice milk during a fundraising event on July 4 for the Washington Monument. He died five days later. The exact cause of Taylor's death is unknown. He likely died of a foodborne illness, possibly cholera.