

1980s Trivia Questions

1. Which music television channel launched in the United States in August 1981?

- A. VH1
- B. MTV
- C. Nickelodeon
- D. CNN

2. Which yellow video game character became an arcade sensation in 1980?

- A. Mario
- B. Sonic the Hedgehog
- C. Donkey Kong
- D. Pac-Man

3. Which 1982 sci-fi movie tells the story of a boy who befriends an alien?

- A. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial
- B. Close Encounters of the Third Kind
- C. Alien
- D. The Terminator

4. What type of car serves as the time machine in Back to the Future?

- A. Ford Mustang
- B. Chevrolet Corvette
- C. DeLorean
- D. Volkswagen Beetle

5. Which company released the Nintendo in the United States in 1985?

- A. Atari
- B. Nintendo
- C. Sega
- D. Sony

6. Which operating system did Microsoft release in 1985 with a graphical user interface?

- A. Windows 95
- B. MS-DOS 6
- C. Macintosh System Software
- D. Windows 1.0

7. Which colorful twisty puzzle became a worldwide craze during the 1980s?

- A. Rubik's Cube
- B. Jigsaw Cube
- C. Magic 8 Ball
- D. Simon

8. Which American space shuttle broke apart shortly after launch in January 1986?

- A. Columbia
- B. Discovery
- C. Challenger
- D. Atlantis

9. Which singer released the album Thriller in 1982?

- A. Prince
- B. Lionel Richie
- C. Bruce Springsteen
- D. Michael Jackson

10. Who sang the hit song "Girls Just Want to Have Fun"?

- A. Madonna
- B. Cyndi Lauper
- C. Whitney Houston
- D. Tina Turner

11. Which 1985 movie features a teenager named Marty McFly traveling through time?

- A. Ghostbusters
 - B. The Goonies
- Do you remember the groovy 1970s? From disco music and bell-bottom jeans to unforgettable television shows and blockbuster movies, the decade gave us plenty of memories worth revisiting.

This 1970s trivia quiz for seniors features 15 multiple-choice questions about music, movies, television, history, and everyday life. Choose the answer you think is correct, then check the separate answer key at the end for fun facts about the decade.

Ready to find out how much you remember? Let's travel back to the 1970s!

C. Back to the Future

D. Ferris Bueller's Day Off

12. Which major charity concert event took place in 1985 to raise funds for famine relief in Africa?

A. Live Aid

B. Farm Aid

C. Woodstock

D. Live Earth

13. In what year did the Berlin Wall fall?

A. 1985

B. 1987

C. 1991

D. 1989

14. Which American president served from January 1981 to January 1989?

A. George H. W. Bush

B. Ronald Reagan

C. Jimmy Carter

D. Bill Clinton

15. What was the name of the first reusable American space shuttle to reach orbit in April 1981?

A. Challenger

B. Discovery

C. Columbia

D. Endeavour

1980s Trivia Answer Key and Fun Facts

Ready to see how well you did? Here are the correct answers, along with a little extra eighties history!

1. B — MTV.

Fun fact: MTV launched on August 1, 1981. Its first music video was "Video Killed the Radio Star" by the Buggles.

2. D — Pac-Man.

Fun fact: The game was originally released in Japan in 1980 and became one of the most recognizable arcade games in history.

3. A — E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial.

Fun fact: Directed by Steven Spielberg, the film became one of the biggest box-office hits of the decade.

4. C — DeLorean.

Fun fact: The car became famous as a time machine in the Back to the Future trilogy, which began in 1985.

5. B — Nintendo.

Fun fact: The Nintendo Entertainment System helped revive the American home video game market during the mid-1980s.

6. D — Windows 1.0.

Fun fact: Microsoft released the first version of Windows in November 1985, introducing a graphical interface that ran on top of MS-DOS.

7. A — Rubik's Cube.

Fun fact: Although invented in 1974, the puzzle became an international sensation in the early 1980s, with speed-solving competitions emerging later.

8. C — Challenger.

Fun fact: The shuttle disaster occurred on January 28, 1986, and resulted in the deaths of all seven crew members.

9. D — Michael Jackson.

Fun fact: Thriller became the best-selling album of all time according to widely cited industry estimates and helped transform music-video production.

10. B — Cyndi Lauper.

Fun fact: The song was released in 1983 and became an enduring anthem of independence and youthful expression.

11. C — Back to the Future.

Fun fact: The film starred Michael J. Fox as Marty McFly and Christopher Lloyd as Doc Brown.

12. A — Live Aid.

Fun fact: The concerts were held on July 13, 1985, at Wembley Stadium in London and John F. Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia.

13. D — 1989.

Fun fact: The fall of the Berlin Wall on November 9, 1989, became a defining moment in the end of the Cold War.

14. B — Ronald Reagan.

Fun fact: Reagan served two presidential terms, from 1981 to 1989, during a period of major political and economic changes.

15. C — Columbia.

Fun fact: Space Shuttle Columbia launched on April 12, 1981, beginning the first orbital flight of NASA's Space Shuttle program.

How Did You Score?

- **13–15 correct:** You're an eighties trivia superstar!
- **10–12 correct:** You remember the decade brilliantly.
- **7–9 correct:** You know plenty about eighties pop culture.
- **4–6 correct:** Keep those memories coming!
- **0–3 correct:** Time to revisit some classic eighties favorites.

Ready to test your memories of the good old days? [*Timeless Memories: Baby Boomer Trivia Book for Seniors and Adults*](#) is filled with entertaining, easy-to-read trivia from the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. Revisit your favorite songs, movies, television shows, and trends. **Get your copy on Amazon and let the memories begin!**