1960s Trivia

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Which city hosted the 1968 Summer Olympics, the first Summer Games held in Latin America?
   - A. Mexico City
   - B. Buenos Aires
   - C. Rio de Janeiro
   - D. Lima

   Correct answer: A. Mexico City

   Mexico City hosted the 1968 Games. The International Olympic Committee identifies them as the first Olympics held in Latin America.

2. Which musical won Best Picture at the Academy Awards in April 1966, honoring movies released in 1965?
   - A. Oliver!
   - B. Mary Poppins
   - C. The Sound of Music
   - D. My Fair Lady

   Correct answer: C. The Sound of Music

   The Academy lists The Sound of Music as Best Picture at its 38th awards ceremony.

3. A toy popular at Christmas in 1960 had knobs for drawing and a picture you could erase by turning it over and shaking it. What was it?
   - A. Lite-Brite
   - B. Etch A Sketch
   - C. Spirograph
   - D. View-Master

   Correct answer: B. Etch A Sketch

   The knobs on an Etch A Sketch move the drawing point. Turning over and shaking the toy clears the screen.

4. What did the crew of Apollo 8 achieve in December 1968?
   - A. The first spacewalk
   - B. The first crewed landing on the Moon
   - C. The first crewed flight to a space station
   - D. The first crewed orbit of the Moon

   Correct answer: D. The first crewed orbit of the Moon

   Apollo 8 took Frank Borman, Jim Lovell, and Bill Anders around the Moon. They were the first humans to orbit it.

5. The Victoria and Albert Museum credits London designer Mary Quant with popularizing which 1960s look?

A. The 1950s poodle skirt
B. The miniskirt
C. The 1970s disco jumpsuit
D. The Victorian bustle

Correct answer: B. The miniskirt
Mary Quant helped popularize the miniskirt, a defining look of 1960s fashion.

6. Who scored three goals for England in the 1966 men’s World Cup final at Wembley?

A. Geoff Hurst
B. Bobby Charlton
C. Gordon Banks
D. Bobby Moore

Correct answer: A. Geoff Hurst
Geoff Hurst scored the first hat-trick in a men’s World Cup final. England won the match against West Germany 4–2.

7. A guide lists Habitat 67 and the Biosphere as surviving landmarks from Expo 67. Which city’s exhibition does it describe?

A. Ottawa
B. Toronto
C. Vancouver
D. Montréal

Correct answer: D. Montréal
Expo 67 took place in Montréal. Parks Canada lists Habitat 67 and the Biosphere among its lasting landmarks.

8. In which city did independent African states meet to establish the Organisation of African Unity in May 1963?

A. Dakar
B. Accra
C. Addis Ababa
D. Cairo

Correct answer: C. Addis Ababa
The founding charter was adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on May 25, 1963.

9. Canada’s Alouette I began operating in orbit in 1962. What was it designed to study from above?

A. The ionosphere
B. The deep ocean floor
C. The surface of Mars
D. The rings of Saturn

Correct answer: A. The ionosphere
Canadian researchers designed the satellite to study the ionosphere, an electrically charged region of Earth’s upper atmosphere.

10. Three large rings encircle the Unisphere in New York, built for the 1964–65 World’s Fair. What do the rings represent?

A. Three steamship routes across the Atlantic
B. Three merged New York boroughs
C. The Arctic and Antarctic Circles and the equator
D. The paths of early satellites

Correct answer: D. The paths of early satellites
NYC Parks describes the rings as paths of early satellites. They link the globe to the space age.

11. A 1966 dress by Scott Paper came by mail with coupons for disposable tableware. What was the dress originally meant to do?

A. Demonstrate a new kind of washing machine
B. Introduce a permanent school uniform
C. Promote the company’s new tableware range
D. Identify employees at a department store

Correct answer: C. Promote the company’s new tableware range
The dress was designed as a short-term promotion. Customer demand helped turn paper dresses into a fashion trend.

12. Australia’s 1967 referendum led to the repeal of Section 127. What did that section concern?

A. Choosing the design of decimal coins
B. Excluding Aboriginal people from constitutional population calculations
C. Creating a national Olympic team
D. Setting the term of the prime minister

Correct answer: B. Excluding Aboriginal people from constitutional population calculations
Section 127 excluded Aboriginal people when calculating population for constitutional purposes. The referendum led to its repeal.

13. In April 1964, Tanganyika and Zanzibar began to be represented at the United Nations as one member. Which name did their union adopt that November?

A. United Republic of Uganda
B. Republic of Kenya
C. Republic of Zambia
D. United Republic of Tanzania

Correct answer: D. United Republic of Tanzania
The United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar adopted the name United Republic of Tanzania on November 1, 1964.

14. Australia introduced its decimal 50-cent coin in 1966. Which detail distinguishes the 1969 replacement?

A. It has twelve sides
B. It has a square hole
C. It has six sides
D. It has a scalloped edge

Correct answer: A. It has twelve sides
The original 1966 coin was round. The Royal Australian Mint records the switch to a twelve-sided coin in 1969.

15. A July 1962 broadcast showed audiences across the Atlantic pictures of the Statue of Liberty and the Eiffel Tower. Which satellite relayed that public broadcast?

A. Sputnik 1
B. Alouette I
C. Telstar I
D. Explorer 1

Correct answer: C. Telstar I
Telstar I relayed the first publicly available transatlantic television signal. Its July 23 program included images from both sides of the Atlantic.