2024 Year in Review

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Which river hosted the athletes’ boat parade during the 2024 Summer Olympics opening ceremony?

A. Seine
B. Thames
C. Rhine
D. Danube

Correct answer: A. Seine
The Paris opening ceremony sent the national delegations along the Seine in boats.

2. Which movie won Best Picture at the Academy Awards ceremony held in March 2024?

A. Poor Things
B. Barbie
C. Oppenheimer
D. The Holdovers

Correct answer: C. Oppenheimer
Oppenheimer won the Academy Award for Best Picture at the 96th Oscars.

3. People in a narrow path across Mexico, the United States, and Canada saw what kind of event on April 8, 2024?

A. A total lunar eclipse
B. A total solar eclipse
C. A transit of Venus
D. An annular solar eclipse

Correct answer: B. A total solar eclipse
The Moon completely covered the Sun as viewed from the path of totality on April 8.

4. Which team defeated the New York Yankees to win the 2024 World Series?

A. Atlanta Braves
B. Houston Astros
C. Philadelphia Phillies
D. Los Angeles Dodgers

Correct answer: D. Los Angeles Dodgers
The Dodgers won the series four games to one.

5. Which film won the animated feature award at the Oscars held in 2024?

A. Elemental
B. The Boy and the Heron
C. Nimona
D. Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse

Correct answer: B. The Boy and the Heron
The Boy and the Heron, directed by Hayao Miyazaki, won Animated Feature Film at the 96th Oscars.

6. Metal from which landmark was incorporated into the medals awarded at the 2024 Paris Games?

A. Eiffel Tower
B. Arc de Triomphe
C. Louvre Pyramid
D. Tower of London

Correct answer: A. Eiffel Tower
The medals contain original iron from the Eiffel Tower in a hexagonal piece at the center.

7. Europa Clipper launched in 2024 to study a moon of which planet?

A. Mars
B. Saturn
C. Neptune
D. Jupiter

Correct answer: D. Jupiter
Europa orbits Jupiter. NASA’s Europa Clipper mission investigates whether the moon could have conditions suitable for life.

8. Which NASA helicopter ended its flight mission on Mars in 2024 after a total of 72 flights?

A. Curiosity
B. Perseverance
C. Ingenuity
D. Dragonfly

Correct answer: C. Ingenuity
Ingenuity, which reached Mars with the Perseverance rover, flew 72 times before its flight mission ended in 2024.

9. Who was awarded the 2024 Nobel Prize in Literature?

A. Han Kang
B. Annie Ernaux
C. Jon Fosse
D. Abdulrazak Gurnah

Correct answer: A. Han Kang
The Swedish Academy awarded the 2024 literature prize to South Korean author Han Kang.

10. Which song from Barbie won Best Original Song at the Oscars held in 2024?

A. Pink
B. I'm Just Ken
C. Dance the Night
D. What Was I Made For?

Correct answer: D. What Was I Made For?
What Was I Made For?, written by Billie Eilish and Finneas O’Connell, won the award. I’m Just Ken was also nominated.

11. Which NASA spacecraft made its record-setting closest pass to the Sun on December 24, 2024?

A. New Horizons
B. James Webb Space Telescope
C. Parker Solar Probe
D. OSIRIS-REx

Correct answer: C. Parker Solar Probe
Parker Solar Probe passed about 3.8 million miles above the Sun’s surface, closer than any previous spacecraft.

12. Samantha Harvey’s Orbital won the 2024 Booker Prize. Where does the novel take place?

A. A lunar base
B. The International Space Station
C. The surface of Mars
D. An Antarctic research station

Correct answer: B. The International Space Station
Orbital follows six people spending a day aboard the International Space Station.

13. Nihon Hidankyo, the group awarded the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize, was founded by survivors of the atomic bombings in which country?

A. France
B. South Korea
C. Germany
D. Japan

Correct answer: D. Japan
Nihon Hidankyo represents Japanese survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

14. The 2024 Nobel Prize in Physics recognized foundational work that enabled machine learning with artificial neural networks. Who shared it?

A. John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton
B. Pierre Agostini and Anne L’Huillier
C. Alain Aspect and Anton Zeilinger
D. Roger Penrose and Reinhard Genzel

Correct answer: A. John Hopfield and Geoffrey Hinton
Hopfield and Hinton received the prize for foundational discoveries and inventions that enable machine learning with artificial neural networks.

15. Which island hosted surfing for the Paris 2024 Olympics?

A. Madeira
B. Corsica
C. Tahiti
D. Bora Bora

Correct answer: C. Tahiti
The surfing competition was held at Teahupoʻo in Tahiti, part of French Polynesia.