April Trivia

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Which gemstone does the Gemological Institute of America list as April’s birthstone?
   A. Diamond
   B. Ruby
   C. Sapphire
   D. Emerald
   Correct answer: A. Diamond
   The institute lists diamond as the birthstone for April.

2. UNESCO set aside April 30 to celebrate which kind of music internationally?
   A. Bluegrass
   B. Opera
   C. Jazz
   D. Reggae
   Correct answer: C. Jazz
   April 30 is International Jazz Day. UNESCO proclaimed the observance in 2011.

3. World Health Day falls on April 7, the founding anniversary of which organization?
   A. UNICEF
   B. World Health Organization
   C. UNESCO
   D. World Meteorological Organization
   Correct answer: B. World Health Organization
   The World Health Organization dates its founding to April 7, 1948. World Health Day marks that anniversary.

4. Anzac Day is observed on April 25. Which two countries are named in the initials ANZAC?
   A. Australia and Papua New Guinea
   B. Australia and Fiji
   C. New Zealand and Samoa
   D. Australia and New Zealand
   Correct answer: D. Australia and New Zealand
   ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. The date is observed as a day of remembrance.

5. In the Netherlands, what color do many people wear for the late-April King’s Day celebrations?

A. Purple
B. Orange
C. Green
D. Blue

Correct answer: B. Orange
Orange clothing is customary on King’s Day. The color is associated with the royal House of Orange.

6. On April 23, Barcelona fills with stalls for Catalonia’s Sant Jordi celebration. Which two gifts are associated with the day?

A. Books and roses
B. Candles and lanterns
C. Painted eggs and ribbons
D. Kites and paper fans

Correct answer: A. Books and roses
Exchanging books and roses is a Sant Jordi tradition. In Barcelona, stalls sell both along the streets.

7. Which celebration does Sri Lanka’s government name in its April 14, 2026 New Year greeting?

A. Persian New Year
B. Chinese New Year
C. Thai New Year
D. Sinhala and Tamil New Year

Correct answer: D. Sinhala and Tamil New Year
The April 14 greeting names the Sinhala and Tamil New Year, a celebration in Sri Lanka.

8. NASA’s first orbital Space Shuttle mission launched on April 12, 1981. Which shuttle was on that flight?

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

Correct answer: C. Columbia
Columbia flew the mission called STS-1. It was the first Space Shuttle mission to reach orbit.

9. When Brasília was inaugurated as Brazil’s new federal capital on April 21, 1960, which city had held that role immediately before it?

A. Rio de Janeiro
B. São Paulo
C. Salvador
D. Belo Horizonte

Correct answer: A. Rio de Janeiro
Rio de Janeiro was the federal capital until Brasília was inaugurated in April 1960. Salvador had held the role earlier.

10. Which flower became the symbol that gives Portugal’s April 25, 1974 revolution its common name?

A. Poppy
B. Tulip
C. Daffodil
D. Carnation

Correct answer: D. Carnation
Red carnations became an emblem of the events of April 25. The event is known as the Carnation Revolution.

11. A museum draft calls April 21, 753 BCE a precisely documented founding date for Rome. Which label better reflects how Rome’s city guide presents the date?

A. The exact date an ancient inscription records as the city’s founding.
B. The date of the first documented election in the Roman Republic.
C. The traditional date of Rome’s founding, associated with the legend of Romulus.
D. The anniversary of the opening of the Colosseum, linked to Romulus.

Correct answer: C. The traditional date of Rome’s founding, associated with the legend of Romulus.
Rome marks April 21 as its traditional birthday. The city’s guide attributes the founding date and the role of Romulus to legend.

12. The first Boston Marathon on April 19, 1897 covered 24.5 miles. The course was lengthened to about 26.2 miles in 1924. Using these figures, how much longer was the new route?

A. About 0.7 miles
B. About 1.7 miles
C. About 2.2 miles
D. About 2.7 miles

Correct answer: B. About 1.7 miles
Subtract 24.5 from 26.2 to get about 1.7 miles. The longer course brought the race to the Olympic marathon distance.

13. Which two events does the U.S. Office of the Historian record for Zimbabwe on April 18, 1980?

A. Zimbabwe adopted a new flag, and the United States opened a consulate in a second city.
B. Zimbabwe gained independence, and the United States closed its embassy there.
C. Zimbabwe joined the United Nations, and the United States moved its embassy to another city.
D. Zimbabwe gained independence, and the United States established its embassy there.

Correct answer: D. Zimbabwe gained independence, and the United States established its embassy there.

Zimbabwe gained independence on April 18, 1980. That same day the United States recognized it and established an embassy in the city now called Harare.

14. An April history exhibit has cards for the District of Columbia Emancipation Act and the final Emancipation Proclamation. Which dates belong on the cards, in that order?

A. April 16, 1862 and January 1, 1863
B. January 1, 1863 and April 16, 1862
C. April 16, 1862 for both
D. January 1, 1863 for both

Correct answer: A. April 16, 1862 and January 1, 1863

The District act ended slavery in Washington, D.C., on April 16, 1862. The final Emancipation Proclamation was issued on January 1, 1863.

15. The United Nations observes Chinese Language Day on April 20. Which program note correctly connects its date with a traditional calendar term and a figure from legend?

A. The date is linked to a solstice and honors Cangjie for mapping rivers.
B. The date is linked to a lunar eclipse and honors Cangjie for an early moon calendar.
C. The date is linked to the solar term Guyu and honors Cangjie, a figure associated with the origin of Chinese characters.
D. The date is linked to a leap day and honors Cangjie for recording the seasons.

Correct answer: C. The date is linked to the solar term Guyu and honors Cangjie, a figure associated with the origin of Chinese characters.

The UN links its April 20 date to Guyu, a solar term that usually begins around that date. The observance honors Cangjie, who is credited in legend with inventing Chinese characters.