

Black History Month Trivia Questions to Help You Learn Something New



Trivia Questions From Movies & TV

1. Which famous author — known just as well for his Civil Rights and gay liberation activism as his literary works — wrote the book-turned-movie *If Beale Street Could Talk*?
2. Which famous film brought the (at the time) controversial subject of interracial relationships to the big screen?
3. Who was the first Black person to receive Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony awards?
4. Who is credited with being the first African American to direct a feature-length film?
5. Which Disney film is the first to feature a Black princess?
6. Which actress was the first Black woman to win an Academy Award for her role in *Gone With the Wind*?
7. Which TV, music, and film global superstar rose to fame in the 90s and became a millionaire before the age of 20?
8. Who was first Black performer seen on TV?
9. Frank Braxton, Floyd Norman, Brenda Banks, and Ayoko Chenzira are known for being some of the first Black people in what artistic industry?

TV & Movie Trivia Answers

1. James Baldwin
2. *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*
3. Whoopi Goldberg
4. Oscar Micheaux
5. *The Princess and the Frog*, Tiana
6. Hattie McDaniel, Best Supporting Actress (1940)
7. Will Smith
8. Ethel Waters, *The Ethel Waters Show* (NBC 1939)
9. Animation

Trivia Questions Inspired by Books & Literature

1. Who is believed to be the first Black female novelist?
2. Who was the first Black author to win the Pulitzer Prize for her work *Annie Allen*?
3. What genre did Octavia E. Butler, recipient of the MacArthur "Genius" Grant, PEN West Lifetime Achievement, and Nebula Award, write in?
4. What was the first published children's book in the US to feature a Black main character (Peter)?
5. Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man* beat what other famous author for the National Book Award in 1953?
6. What work did Maya Angelou read at the 1993 Presidential inauguration?
7. Phillis Wheatley was what age when she wrote her first poem?

Books & Literature Answers

1. Harriet E. Wilson, *Sketches from the Life of a Free Black* (1859)
2. Gwendolyn Brooks, poet (1950)
3. Science fiction
4. *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats (1962)
5. Ernest Hemingway, *The Old Man and the Sea*
6. "On the Pulse of Morning"
7. 12-13

Black Sports History Trivia Questions

1. Which athlete broke the American Major League baseball color barrier in 1947?
2. How many major titles has Serena Williams won during her tennis career?
3. Tommie Smith and John Carlos are two Olympic medalists who became famous for what protest act at the 1968 Olympics?
4. Which basketball team did Michael Jordan win six NBA championships with?
5. Jesse Owens won four Olympic gold medals in 1936 which were hosted in which Fascist country?
6. Who was the first Black man to join the PGA Tour?
7. Considered by many to be the GOAT, which gymnast currently has the most wins to their name?
8. Who was the first Black person to win a gold medal in the Olympics?

Black Sports History Trivia Answers

1. Jackie Robinson
2. 39
3. They bowed their heads and raised their gloved fists during "The Star-Spangled Banner."
4. The Chicago Bulls
5. Nazi Germany
6. Charles Luther Sufford
7. Simone Biles
8. John Taylor

Music Trivia Questions

1. Which artist first performed "Hound Dog" three years before Elvis Presley put his own spin on it?
2. Which famous record producer brought us hits like "Billie Jean" and "It's My Party"?
3. What's the name of Prince's legendary Minnesota estate?
4. What is the name of Sam Cooke's first protest song, released as a single 10 days after his murder?
5. Before Michael Jackson was the King of Pop, he was bopping along with his siblings in what musical act?
6. What nickname was Motown's first recording studio given?
7. Which blues vocalist had a slew of hits in the 1930s-1950s, including the anti-lynching protest song called "Strange Fruit"?
8. Marilyn Monroe helped which legendary jazz singer get a slot at a prominent Hollywood nightclub?

Black Music Trivia Answers

1. Willie Mae "Big Mama" Thornton
2. Quincy Jones
3. Paisley Park
4. "A Change is Gonna Come"
5. The Jackson Five
6. Hitsville U.S.A.
7. James Baldwin
8. Billie Holiday
9. Ella Fitzgerald

Iconic Black Figures Who Made History Trivia Questions

1. Which scholar graduated from Harvard and created Black History Month?
2. Who was the first Black woman to be a licensed pilot?
3. Who designed Jacqueline Bouvier's wedding dress and many other prominent American socialites' wardrobes?
4. President Ulysses S. Grant commissioned a portrait bust from which bi-racial artist?
5. Which 15-year-old boycotted racist bus riding laws in Montgomery, Alabama nine months before Rosa Parks?
6. Julian Bond was a founding leader of which important 60s activist organization?
7. Shirley Chisholm was the first Black woman to run for which governmental office in 1972?
8. Who was the first Black person elected to the American Supreme Court?
9. Ida B. Wells was an investigative journalist and founding member of which organization that still operates today?
10. Which Black activist was at the heart of the Stonewall Uprising of 1969?
11. Who was the first Black pilot in the United States Navy?
12. Who is considered the first Black supermodel?

Iconic Black Figures Who Made History Trivia Answers

1. Carter G. Woodson
2. Bessie Coleman
3. Ann Lowe
4. Edmonia Lewis
5. Claudette Colvin
6. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)
7. President of the United States
8. Thurgood Marshall
9. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
10. Marsha P. Johnson
11. Jesse L. Brown
12. Naomi Sims

More Challenging Black History Trivia Questions

1. What year was interracial marriage federally protected?
2. What is the name of the foundation that helps families today impacted by scientific experiments done without consent, such as the Tuskegee Experiment and the harvesting of a woman's cells in 1951?
3. What year were Jim Crow laws struck down?
4. How many states recognize Juneteenth as a government holiday?
5. Prior to Black History Month, where did Carter G. Woodson first start a Black literature and history appreciation week?
6. What year was Black History Month first celebrated?
7. "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere" is a quote from which well-known Black activist?
8. The phrase Black Girls Are Magic and the hashtag #BlackGirlMagic was introduced by what social media influencer in 2013?

Lesser-Known Black History Trivia Answers

1. 1967
2. The Henrietta Lacks Foundation
3. 1964/65
4. 27
5. His fraternity, Omega Psi Phi
6. 1970
7. Martin Luther King Jr.
8. Cashawn Thompson