

## Fourth of July Quiz

1. Which one of the thirteen colonial delegations abstained on the vote at the Continental Congress on July 2, 1776, that called for the independence of the colonies from Britain?

- a) Delaware
- b) Georgia
- c) New York
- d) Vermont

**Answer: C. [New York](#).** The New York delegation abstained because its members were unsure how New Yorkers wanted them to vote.

2. Who was the oldest person to sign the Declaration of Independence?

- a) John Adams
- b) Samuel Adams
- c) Charles Carroll
- d) Benjamin Franklin

**Answer: D. [Benjamin Franklin](#).** He was seventy years old when he signed the Declaration of Independence. Franklin was also the oldest person to sign the Constitution – he was eighty-one years old.

3. How many people signed both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution?

- a) Two
- b) Six
- c) Seven
- d) Twelve

**Answer: B. [Six](#).** George Clymer, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, George Read, Roger Sherman, and James Wilson.

4. What is the only U.S. state flag that contains a British Union Jack?

- a) Alaska
- b) Hawaii
- c) Idaho
- d) Wyoming

**Answer: B. [Hawaii](#).** Hawaiians flew the Union Jack as their flag from 1790 to 1816, when red, white, and blue stripes were added. The gesture was a sign of friendship with Britain, which never ruled Hawaii.

5. Which of the following locations is not required to fly the stars and stripes twenty-four hours a day?
- a) Fort McHenry
  - b) The Town Green in Lexington, Massachusetts
  - c) Mount Vernon
  - d) White House

**Answer: C. [Mount Vernon](#).** Other locations where the flag must fly twenty-four hours a day include the Washington Monument, U.S. customs ports of entry, and the United States Marine Corps Memorial (Iwo Jima Memorial).

6. How much do Americans spend on fireworks each year?
- a) \$10 million
  - b) \$50 million
  - c) \$100 million
  - d) \$1 billion

**Answer: D. [\\$1 billion](#).** Put differently, Americans purchase 268 million pounds of fireworks each year.

7. Which president was born on the Fourth of July?
- a) Calvin Coolidge
  - b) Gerald R. Ford
  - c) Ulysses S. Grant
  - d) William McKinley

**Answer: A. [Calvin Coolidge](#).** He was the 30th president of the United States and the only president so far to be born on the Fourth of July.

8. The Statue of Liberty's crown was closed to the public immediately after 9/11 and was not reopened until July 4 of what year?
- a) 2006
  - b) 2009
  - c) 2011
  - d) 2013

**Answer: B. [2009](#).** Ken Salazar, then secretary of interior, said the re-opening would be a "great birthday present for the American people."

9. Which dying former president declined his doctor's suggestion that he take stimulants to increase the chances he would live to see one more Fourth of July?
- a) James Buchanan
  - b) Rutherford B. Hayes
  - c) James Madison
  - d) Franklin Roosevelt

**Answer: C. [James Madison](#).** Madison died on June 28, 1836, six days before the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

10. What was the name of the NASA rover onboard the Mars Pathfinder lander that touched down on the surface of Mars on July 4, 1997?
- a) Curiosity
  - b) Perseverance
  - c) Sojourner
  - d) Spirit

**Answer: C. [Sojourner](#).** The Mars Pathfinder mission [provided](#) 2.3 billion bits of information that helped to uncover the history of liquid water on Mars's surface.

11. Which United States military academy officially opened on July 4, 1802?
- a) United States Air Force Academy
  - b) United States Coast Guard Academy
  - c) United States Military Academy
  - d) United States Naval Academy

**Answer: C. [United States Military Academy](#).** Established by an act of Congress on March 16, 1802, it was the [first military academy](#) in the United States.

12. Which president announced the ratification of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo on July 4, 1848?
- a) William Henry Harrison
  - b) James K. Polk
  - c) Zachary Taylor
  - d) John Tyler

**Answer: B. [James K. Polk](#).** The treaty [ended the Mexican-American War](#). It was signed in Mexico on February 2, 1848, and was approved by the U.S. Senate on March 10.

13. What color were the fireworks used during the first Fourth of July celebration in 1777?

- a) Blue
- b) Orange
- c) Red
- d) White

**Answer: B. Orange.** It was the only fireworks color available until the 1830s when modern multi-color fireworks were invented.