

Chemistry Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Chemistry trivia opens the door to the science of matter, from the origins of alchemy to the modern understanding of atoms, elements, and reactions. Along the way, it highlights the discoveries, laboratory surprises, and everyday phenomena that have shaped how people explain the physical world. Whether lighthearted or challenging, it offers a factual, accessible way to test what you know about one of science's central disciplines.

HARD CHEMISTRY TRIVIA

1. Who won the 1911 Nobel Prize in Chemistry?

Answer: Marie Curie

2. Which scientist discovered radioactivity in 1896?

Answer: Henri Becquerel

3. The gold foil experiments led which physicist to identify the atomic nucleus?

Answer: Ernest Rutherford

4. Who received the 1954 Nobel Prize in Chemistry?

Answer: Linus Pauling

5. Which chemist won the 1964 Nobel Prize in Chemistry?

Answer: Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin

6. Who developed the process for synthesizing ammonia from nitrogen and hydrogen?

Answer: Fritz Haber

7. What process had large-scale ammonia production established before World War I?

Answer: Haber-Bosch process

8. Benzene was discovered in 1825 by whom?

Answer: Michael Faraday

9. Who published The Sceptical Chymist in 1661?

Answer: Robert Boyle

10. Which organization administers the finances and overall framework of the Nobel Prizes?

Answer: Nobel Foundation

11. The Nobel Prizes were established through whose will?

Answer: Alfred Nobel

12. In what year were the original Nobel Prize categories, including Chemistry, first awarded?

Answer: 1901

13. Where is the Cavendish Laboratory located?

Answer: Cambridge, England

14. CERN sits near which city and border region?

Answer: near Geneva on the Swiss-French border

FUNNY CHEMISTRY TRIVIA

1. Which gas has the everyday nickname 'laughing gas'?

Answer: nitrous oxide

2. Tungsten kept things extra mysterious by choosing which symbol?

Answer: W

3. What sulfur-containing odorants are commonly added to many fuel gases so noses can notice leaks?

Answer: mercaptans

4. What compound gives chili peppers their heat?

Answer: capsaicin

5. Which kitchen staple can make you cry because cutting it releases irritating sulfur compounds?

Answer: onions

6. Skunk spray owes its unforgettable style to compounds called what?

Answer: thiols

7. What kind of molecules help give many soaps their slippery feel?

Answer: surfactant

8. What candy crackles by releasing carbon dioxide gas when it dissolves?

Answer: Pop Rocks

9. Which minty compound can feel cool because it activates cold-sensitive receptors?

Answer: menthol

10. A rotten-fish smell is often linked to what class of compounds?

Answer: amines

11. Why does superglue grab skin so quickly?

Answer: moisture helps start its polymerization

12. Soap bubbles show rainbow colors because of what optical effect in thin films?

Answer: light interference

13. Yeast fermentation produces ethanol and what gas?

Answer: carbon dioxide

FUN CHEMISTRY TRIVIA

1. In many fireworks, which element's compounds help make a red color?

Answer: strontium

2. Blue-green flames are often produced by compounds of which element?

Answer: copper compounds

3. Why do neon signs glow?

Answer: electricity excites gas atoms inside tubes

4. About what temperature does liquid nitrogen boil at?

Answer: -196°C

5. Glow sticks make light through what process?

Answer: chemiluminescence

6. The core of a standard pencil contains graphite, which is a form of what element?

Answer: carbon

7. What gas is commonly linked to the smell of rotten eggs?

Answer: hydrogen sulfide

8. Many computer chips are mainly made using which element?

Answer: silicon

9. What is the common name for polytetrafluoroethylene?

Answer: Teflon

10. True or false: The bright yellow color of many bananas comes from sulfur.?

Answer: False

11. Which alloy contains iron and chromium?

Answer: stainless steel

12. The sky looks blue mainly because of what happening to shorter wavelengths of sunlight?

Answer: scattering

13. What material is used to adsorb some impurities?

Answer: activated charcoal

CHEMISTRY FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Who is known for an early modern atomic theory?

Answer: John Dalton

2. Which scientist is widely credited with creating the first widely recognized periodic table?

Answer: Dmitri Mendeleev

3. Who is often called the father of modern chemistry?

Answer: Antoine Lavoisier

4. Avogadro's number is named after which scientist?

Answer: Amedeo Avogadro

5. What counting unit corresponds to Avogadro's number of entities?

Answer: mole

6. The Bunsen burner is named for what scientist?

Answer: Robert Bunsen

7. Which piece of lab glassware has a conical body and a narrow neck?

Answer: Erlenmeyer flask

8. Who introduced many modern chemical symbols?

Answer: Jacob Berzelius

9. Fe stands for which element?

Answer: iron

10. If you see Cu on the periodic table, which metal is it?

Answer: copper

11. Baking soda is another name for what compound?

Answer: sodium bicarbonate

12. What is the attraction that holds atoms together in compounds called?

Answer: chemical bond

EASY CHEMISTRY TRIVIA

1. What is the chemical formula for water?

Answer: H₂O

2. Which symbol represents gold on the periodic table?

Answer: Au

3. Table salt is primarily what compound?

Answer: sodium chloride

4. What is the basic unit of a chemical element?

Answer: atom

5. At 25 °C, a neutral solution has what pH?

Answer: 7

6. True or false: Helium is a noble gas.?

Answer: True

7. What one-letter chemical symbol stands for oxygen?

Answer: O

8. What is found at the center of an atom?

Answer: nucleus

9. Electrons carry what kind of electric charge?

Answer: negative

10. Which molecule has one carbon atom and two oxygen atoms?

Answer: carbon dioxide

11. The periodic table is ordered by increasing what?

Answer: atomic number

12. Which element is the lightest?

Answer: hydrogen

13. Na is the symbol for which element?

Answer: sodium

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