

Internet History Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts

Printable Trivia Pack

Internet History trivia explores how a research network evolved into a global system that transformed communication, commerce, and culture. From early milestones like ARPANET and the birth of the World Wide Web to the rise of browsers, social platforms, and smartphones, it offers a lively way to test what you know about life online. Expect a mix of easy, funny, family-friendly, and hard questions grounded in real milestones from the digital age.

HARD INTERNET HISTORY TRIVIA

1. Which institution formed the other end of the first permanent ARPANET link from UCLA?

Answer: Stanford Research Institute

2. Who led the UCLA team that sent the first ARPANET message?

Answer: Leonard Kleinrock

3. The first ARPANET message was received by whose lab at SRI?

Answer: Douglas Engelbart

4. Before TCP/IP took over ARPANET, what was the name of the network control program in use?

Answer: NCP

5. On what exact date did ARPANET officially switch from NCP to TCP/IP?

Answer: January 1, 1983

6. Which French networking pioneer designed the CYCLADES network?

Answer: Louis Pouzin

7. What packet-switching concept is specifically credited to Louis Pouzin in this fact set?

Answer: datagram

8. Many early Requests for Comments were edited by which internet figure?

Answer: Jon Postel

9. At SRI, who helped manage early internet directories and naming records?

Answer: Elisabeth Feinler

10. Which computer scientist invented the spanning tree protocol used in network bridges?

Answer: Radia Perlman

11. The first transatlantic ARPANET connection in 1973 linked the U.S. to which institution?

Answer: University College London

12. In what year was the web's first proposal at CERN written?

Answer: 1989

13. What phrase was scribbled onto Tim Berners-Lee's 1989 web proposal?

Answer: vague but exciting

14. CERN made web technology available royalty-free in what year?

Answer: 1993

FUNNY INTERNET HISTORY TRIVIA

1. What two-letter message accidentally became internet history when ARPANET crashed before finishing the word "LOGIN"?

Answer: LO

2. The online term "spam" for unwanted messages got its comic inspiration from what British sketch troupe?

Answer: Monty Python

3. Which wobbling 1990s animation was one of the internet's earliest viral stars: Dancing Baby, Nyan Cat, or Keyboard Cat?

Answer: Dancing Baby

4. What company made "You've got mail" so iconic that hearing it still summons dial-up ghosts?

Answer: AOL

5. Which browser game launched in 1999 and convinced countless people that caring for virtual pets was serious business?

Answer: Neopets

6. What 1998 viral novelty site turned rows of tiny rodents into peak web entertainment?

Answer: Hamster Dance

7. Finish the legendary meme phrase: "All Your Base ___"?

Answer: Are Belong to Us

8. A classic rickroll sends you to Rick Astley's 1987 song with what title?

Answer: Never Gonna Give You Up

9. Which delightfully ungrammatical phrase is most strongly associated with LOLcat captions?

Answer: I Can Has Cheezburger?

10. What phrase became popular in the 1990s for casually roaming around online, as if the modem were a surfboard?

Answer: surfing the Internet

11. Before Firefox had sleek branding, Mozilla's original mascot was what prehistoric-sounding creature?

Answer: a green dinosaur

12. The Doge meme is based on photos of a Shiba Inu with what very good name?

Answer: Kabosu

13. Who created the Ctrl+Alt+Delete keyboard shortcut, otherwise known as the three-key panic button?

Answer: David Bradley

FUN INTERNET HISTORY TRIVIA

1. Before live streams and reaction videos, an early webcam had a very relatable mission. What was the first webcam watching at the University of Cambridge?

Answer: A coffee pot

2. What is the title of the very first video uploaded to YouTube?

Answer: Me at the zoo

3. Which exact phrase made history as the first public tweet?

Answer: just setting up my twttr

4. Before it became Twitter, what stylized name did the service use?

Answer: twttr

5. Amazon nearly sounded a lot more like a magic trick. What was its original name?

Answer: Cadabra

6. Google once had a name that sounded more like a back massage than a search tool. What was it?

Answer: Backrub

7. The name Google comes from which mathematical term?

Answer: googol

8. The web's first posted photo wasn't a landscape or a lab shot. Which parody band did it feature?

Answer: Les Horribles Cernettes

9. Where was the very first website hosted?

Answer: CERN

10. If you could hop into an internet time machine and type in the first website's address, what would you enter?

Answer: info.cern.ch

11. What was the name of Tim Berners-Lee's first web browser?

Answer: WorldWideWeb

12. True or false: Tim Berners-Lee's browser WorldWideWeb was later renamed Nexus.?

Answer: True

13. Before search became a daily reflex, what was the first search engine for the web called?

Answer: Wandex

INTERNET HISTORY FAMILY TRIVIA

1. Who co-designed the TCP/IP protocols with Vint Cerf?

Answer: Bob Kahn

2. Which Internet pioneer is widely called one of the fathers of the Internet?

Answer: Vint Cerf

3. What document defines the Internet Protocol known as IPv4?

Answer: RFC 791

4. In what year was Internet Relay Chat created?

Answer: 1988

5. Who created Internet Relay Chat, often shortened to IRC?

Answer: Jarkko Oikarinen

6. Who proposed the smiley emoticon :-) in 1982?

Answer: Scott Fahlman

7. Who announced the GNU Project in 1983?

Answer: Richard Stallman

8. Which person announced Linux in 1991?

Answer: Linus Torvalds

9. Who created the first wiki in 1995?

Answer: Ward Cunningham

10. What was the name of the first wiki?

Answer: WikiWikiWeb

11. Which browser had Marc Andreessen as a key developer?

Answer: Mosaic

12. Netscape Navigator was released in which year?

Answer: 1994

EASY INTERNET HISTORY TRIVIA

1. What does ARPANET stand for?

Answer: Advanced Research Projects Agency Network

2. In what year was the first ARPANET message sent?

Answer: 1969

3. Who is credited with sending the first network email?

Answer: Ray Tomlinson

4. Which symbol became standard in email addresses thanks to Ray Tomlinson's usage?

Answer: The @ symbol

5. Who invented the World Wide Web?

Answer: Tim Berners-Lee

6. What is the standard markup language for web pages?

Answer: HTML

7. Which protocol is mainly used for transferring web pages?

Answer: HTTP

8. What does URL stand for?

Answer: Uniform Resource Locator

9. Which Google co-founder worked alongside Sergey Brin?

Answer: Larry Page

10. Google's headquarters are located in which California city?

Answer: Mountain View

11. Which person was one of Wikipedia's co-founders?

Answer: Jimmy Wales

12. Who sent the first public tweet?

Answer: Jack Dorsey

13. Who appeared in the first video uploaded to YouTube?

Answer: Jawed Karim

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