

The New York Times Best Seller list Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

The New York Times Best Seller list trivia explores the history, quirks, and cultural impact of the weekly ranking long regarded as the leading measure of book sales in the United States. Published by The New York Times Book Review since October 12, 1931, the list has helped define literary success for generations of readers and authors alike.

HARD THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER LIST TRIVIA

1. Before readers came to think of one nationwide pecking order, what kind of best-seller lists appeared first in The New York Times ecosystem?

Answer: Regional lists appeared first rather than a single national ranking.

2. For much of its history, the rankings were assembled from reports coming from which two main reporting sources?

Answer: Selected bookstores and wholesalers supplied the reports.

3. What specific part of the ranking process has The New York Times kept undisclosed, fueling debate about how titles are placed?

Answer: The full exact weighting formula is not disclosed.

4. The list has long said it reflects sales at what kind of sample of sellers?

Answer: A statistically weighted sample of sellers.

5. Not every large purchase spree gets equal treatment: which type of orders have been excluded from calculations at times?

Answer: Some bulk orders have been excluded.

6. On the printed list, what does the little dagger symbol warn readers about in a title's sales pattern?

Answer: It indicates the book's sales include a significant number of bulk purchases.

7. In what year did The New York Times divide fiction and nonfiction into separate hardcover and paperback lists?

Answer: 1983.

8. When nonfiction categories were broadened, the Advice, How-To & Miscellaneous list was created during which decade?

Answer: The 1980s.

9. Before the rankings became chiefly identified with the Book Review, which Times publication had once carried best-seller lists?

Answer: The New York Times Magazine.

10. A recurring complaint from some booksellers and publishers has centered on what about the list's system?

Answer: Its opaque methodology.

11. When defending how the rankings are made, The New York Times has argued the list should be understood as what, rather than a raw-sales ledger?

Answer: An editorial product.

12. Which author was at the center of the 1985 federal court decision that said the list is protected as editorial opinion?

Answer: William Peter Blatty.

13. Which William Peter Blatty novel was omitted from the list and became central to his lawsuit against The New York Times?

Answer: Legion.

14. The Times has periodically overhauled category structures; one such revision introduced lists for what sales format combination?

Answer: Combined print and e-book sales.

FUNNY THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER LIST TRIVIA

1. Which bluntly titled bedtime book somehow tucked itself onto the New York Times best-seller list?

Answer: Go the F**k to Sleep

2. Modern Manners brought etiquette jokes to the New York Times list. Who wrote it?

Answer: P.J. O'Rourke

3. What Tina Fey book marched onto the New York Times best-seller list sounding like it was ready to run the meeting?

Answer: Bossypants

4. Whose question-heavy memoir, *Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?*, hit the New York Times list?

Answer: Mindy Kaling

5. Which politely enthusiastic title by Amy Poehler appeared on the New York Times Best Seller list?

Answer: Yes Please

6. Which humor writer has repeatedly made New York Times best-seller lists, basically turning recurring laughs into a habit?

Answer: David Sedaris

7. Nora Ephron had a New York Times best seller with what neck-focused title?

Answer: I Feel Bad About My Neck

8. Which David Sedaris book, despite its title, spoke clearly enough to land on the New York Times list?

Answer: Me Talk Pretty One Day

9. The Daily Show and Jon Stewart teamed up for which book that made the New York Times

list?

Answer: America (The Book)

10. Which Justin Halpern title turned family one-liners into a New York Times best seller?

Answer: Sh*t My Dad Says

11. If romance advice takes a catastrophic bathroom turn, which title are you probably holding if it appeared in New York Times advice-related best-seller coverage in the 2000s?

Answer: How to Poo on a Date

12. Which illustrated, internet-born-sounding title by Allie Brosh reached the New York Times Best Seller list?

Answer: Hyperbole and a Half

13. Who wrote Let's Pretend This Never Happened, a title that definitely happened on the New York Times best-seller list?

Answer: Jenny Lawson

FUN THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER LIST TRIVIA

1. Which separate New York Times best-seller list gives graphic storytelling its own spotlight, including manga?

Answer: The separate list is for Graphic Books and Manga.

2. If your kitchen notebook suddenly becomes wildly popular, what kind of book can make the New York Times best-seller lists through nonfiction-related categories?

Answer: Cookbooks can land on the New York Times best-seller lists in nonfiction-related categories.

3. On the Hardcover Nonfiction list, what kind of star-powered books show up again and again?

Answer: Celebrity memoirs frequently appear on Hardcover Nonfiction lists.

4. When campaign ads are everywhere, what kind of books often surge onto the New York Times list too?

Answer: Political books often surge onto the list during election years.

5. Where are New York Times best sellers especially likely to greet travelers between a gate announcement and a coffee stop?

Answer: They are prominently featured in airport bookstores.

6. After an author hits the list, what famous phrase often starts showing up on later book covers?

Answer: The phrase is 'New York Times bestselling author.'

7. True or false: The New York Times list is only a playground for already famous writers, never first-timers.?

Answer: False

8. Which format is not the basis of the traditional print best-seller categories?

Answer: Audiobook sales are not the basis of the traditional print best-seller categories.

9. Which celebrity reading pick has gotten an extra visibility boost thanks to the New York Times best-seller list?

Answer: Reese's Book Club selections have had their visibility boosted by the list.

10. Long before BookTok, which famous book club was already a frequent New York Times best-seller companion?

Answer: Oprah's Book Club selections have often appeared on New York Times best-seller lists.

11. What time of year can turn the best-seller list into a giant hint sheet for gift shoppers?

Answer: The holiday gift season often brings spikes in sales for books on the list.

12. When a best-selling book heads to the big screen, what kind of edition can ride that wave too?

Answer: Movie tie-in editions can benefit when the original book is already a best seller.

13. Which social platform has famously launched some older books back onto New York Times best-seller charts?

Answer: BookTok has sent some older titles back onto best-seller charts, including New York Times lists.

THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER LIST FAMILY TRIVIA

1. In what year did The New York Times introduce a separate Children's Chapter Books list?

Answer: 2004

2. Which book series was a major reason The New York Times created a separate children's list?

Answer: Harry Potter

3. True or false: Dr. Seuss has had books ranked on New York Times children's best-seller lists.?

Answer: True

4. Who wrote the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books that became New York Times best sellers?

Answer: Jeff Kinney

5. Which canine comic-book hero reached New York Times best-seller lists in Dav Pilkey's series?

Answer: Dog Man

6. Which graphic novelist has appeared on New York Times children's lists with her books?

Answer: Raina Telgemeier

7. Which author of myth-filled adventures has had titles ranked on New York Times

best-seller lists?

Answer: Rick Riordan

8. Which author has had multiple books on New York Times best-seller lists: J.K. Rowling, Beverly Cleary, or Kate DiCamillo?

Answer: J.K. Rowling

9. The age-focused categories include middle-grade and what other group of titles?

Answer: Young adult

10. On New York Times children's lists, which type is tracked separately from chapter books?

Answer: Picture Books

11. Which of these is an actual New York Times best-seller category for teen readers?

Answer: Young Adult Hardcover

12. What is the name of the New York Times category made for grouped book sagas instead of single titles?

Answer: Children's Series

EASY THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER LIST TRIVIA

1. Which newspaper publishes The New York Times Best Seller list?

Answer: The New York Times publishes the list.

2. The New York Times Best Seller list tracks best-selling books in which country?

Answer: It tracks best-selling books in the United States.

3. In what year did the list begin appearing weekly?

Answer: It began appearing weekly in 1931.

4. What was the date of the first weekly New York Times Best Seller list?

Answer: The first weekly list was published on October 12, 1931.

5. The best-seller list is associated with what New York Times section or publication?

Answer: It is associated with The New York Times Book Review.

6. What common shortened name is often used for this list?

Answer: A common abbreviation is the NYT Best Seller list.

7. Which of these is one of the list's core categories: Hardcover Fiction, Movie Tie-Ins, or Cookbooks Only?

Answer: Hardcover Fiction is one of the core categories.

8. If a bestselling book is nonfiction and in hard covers, which core category fits it?

Answer: Hardcover Nonfiction.

9. Which standard category covers many paperback fiction titles on the list?

Answer: Paperback Trade Fiction.

10. True or false: Do children's titles have their own New York Times best-seller rankings?

Answer: True

11. What is the name of the long-running nonfiction category that includes practical topics and miscellany?

Answer: Advice, How-To & Miscellaneous.

12. How often are rankings on the list updated?

Answer: They are updated weekly.

13. On the list, what position marks the top-ranked title in a category?

Answer: The No. 1 position marks the top-ranked title.

Source: <https://quizhoot.com/trivia/the-new-york-times-best-seller-list-trivia>