

## QUIZZ ON JEWS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

(Based on "The Jews in America's Struggle for Democracy" by Dr. P. Foner, published in "OUR PEOPLE - THE JEW IN AMERICA".)

NOTE: A chairman or quizzmaster is required to conduct this quizz. He should thoroughly acquaint himself with the questions. Don't give it to somebody at the last moment to do.

We are sure you will find the quizz entertaining and educational. Let us know what the response was in your lodge.

### DIRECTIONS

1. In a small lodge, divide your audience into two groups or teams. In bigger lodges, select two teams of 4 or 5 each on any basis you desire (one team of men, one team of women, etc.).
2. These two teams will compete against each other. If a person answers a question correctly, he remains on the team. If he does not know the correct answer, he returns to the audience.
3. If a person cannot answer the question correctly, the chairman or quizzmaster will give the correct answer.
4. The team who has the most people at the end of the quizz wins.

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TRUE & FALSE

1. Q. Although Spanish Jews helped to finance the voyage of Christopher Columbus, and Jewish scientists and geographers helped him with navigation problems, no Jews were members of his crew.  
A. FALSE: Six of the 120 men of his crew were Jews. These were the first to come to America.
2. Q. In 1654, a petition was sent to the Directors of the Dutch West Indies Co. which demanded that Jews be prevented from settling in this country. This petition was granted, and for many years to come, Jews were not allowed to come to America.  
A. FALSE: The petition was rejected on the grounds that the request was "inconsistent with reason and justice." Thus the Jewish people won their first fight against discrimination.
3. Q. Freedom of religion was extended to all minorities in the early pioneer days excepting the Jews in the colonies of Georgia, Rhode Island and Pennsylvania.  
A. FALSE: All 13 of the states extended freedom of religion.
4. Q. History records hundreds of brave deeds and untold heroism and loyalty of the Jewish soldiers in the Revolutionary War. This is all the more surprising since only about 100 Jews were in the army.  
A. TRUE: Only about 100 were young enough to serve in military duty. Despite this, they accomplished great deeds.
5. Q. The Constitution of the United States was hailed by the Jews throughout the world. The first amendment of the Constitution guarantees freedom of worship. This first amendment is part of the Bill of Rights.  
A. TRUE: The first ten amendments of the Constitution are called the BILL OF RIGHTS.
6. Q. In the years following the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, many Jews pioneered west. Because of the strict land laws, Jews were not permitted to become farmers.  
A. FALSE: There are records of many Jewish farmers. Henry Meyer was the first. He had 160 acres of land. He belonged to the organization JEWISH COLONIZATION SOCIETY which had as its purpose the placing of Jews on farms in the west.
7. Q. The history of the Jewish struggle in the labor movement is recorded as starting in 1860, with the great shoemaker strike.  
A. TRUE: Many Jews took leading roles in organizing the workers in their demands.

8. Q. Prior and during the Civil War, synagogues did not play a big part in arousing public sentiment against slavery. This was due to the strict religious laws of those times.
- A. FALSE: The synagogues were in the leadership among the American religious groups in the anti-slavery struggle. One noted example is HAR SINAI CONGREGATION, whose Rabbi, Dr. Felsenthal, was in constant danger of his life because of his outspoken sermons against slavery.
9. Q. Although Jewish men were taking their rightful place in the army in the Civil War, women were not mobilized to do homefront work. This was due to the strict laws for women's conduct which affected all the women of those days.
- A. FALSE: Jewish as well as non-Jewish women were mobilized in organizations to do war work. One such organization was THE LADIES HEBREW ASSOCIATION FOR RELIEF OF SICK AND WOUNDED UNION SOLDIERS. They rolled bandages, sewed clothing and did war work similar to the homefront war work that women are doing today.
10. Q. The Jewish press during the time of the slavery question was mobilized against the slave-holders.
- A. TRUE: The most outstanding was the JEWISH MESSENGER, whose editorials were reprinted in many non-Jewish papers.

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PICK THE RIGHT ONE

11. Q. The history of the JEWISH COMMUNITY in America begins with the arrival of the ship THE ST. CHARLES at the harbor of New Amsterdam (now New York). This was in the year: 1492, 1588, or 1654.
- A. 1654.
12. Q. In 1654 the first anti-Semitic campaign was started by: Peter Stuyvesant, William Penn, or Lord Baltimore.
- A. PETER STUYVESANT.
13. Q. The first Jew to become a citizen of the 13 states was: Benjamin Nones, Haym Salomon, or Asser Levy.
- A. ASSER LEVY.
14. Q. On the eve of the American Revolution the Jewish population in America numbers: 1000, 2000, or 3000.
- A. 3000.

15. Q. The first Jew to give up his life in the American Revolution was: Francis Salvador, Moses Levy, or Isaac Hart.
- A. FRANCIS SALVADOR.
16. Q. Navy Commodore Uriah P. Levy is famous for: abolishing corporal punishment in the Navy; writing the official Navy song; or breaking the enemy ship blockade.
- A. ABOLISHING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN THE NAVY.
17. Q. August Bondi is noted for: publishing a tory newspaper; his many inventions for farmers; his deep loyalty and activity for the anti-slavery cause.
- A. HIS DEEP LOYALTY AND ACTIVITY FOR THE ANTI-SLAVERY CAUSE.
18. Q. The name of a famous Jewish woman who was one leader in the great shoemaker strike in 1860 is: Mrs. Esther Greenleaf, Emma Lazarus; or Ernestine Rose.
- A. MRS. ESTHER GREENLEAF.
19. Q. Many Jewish names are recorded in the anti-slavery struggle. Noted among them is a famous woman born in Poland. Her name is: Mrs. Chalkstone, Emma Lazarus, or Ernestine L. Rose.
- A. ERNESTINE L. ROSE.
20. Q. When Rev. Dr. Arnold Fischel was denied the right to become a Chaplain in the Army in the Civil War, what famous person acted in his behalf: Frederick Douglas, Mark Twain, or A. Lincoln.
- A. A. LINCOLN.

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SHORT ANSWERS

21. Q. What did the Pilgrims who landed on Plymouth Rock and the Jewish pilgrims who came to this country 35 years later have in common?
- A. Both were lovers of freedom. Both came to this country to escape religious persecution in the old world.
22. Q. In Chicago, on December 15, 1941, (8 days after Pearl Harbor), a statue was unveiled which was dedicated to three great men. Two were: Haym Salomon and Robert Morris. Can you name the third?
- A. GEORGE WASHINGTON.
23. Q. What do these names mean to you: Occident, Israelite, Weekly Gleaner, Sinai, Jewish Messenger?
- A. All were newspapers published by the Jewish press at the time of the Civil War.

24. Q. In 1859 a BOARD OF DELEGATES OF AMERICAN ISRAELITES was organized. This was the first national organization which had as its purpose the uniting of all of the Jews in America. Can you name one such organization which exists today?

A. AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE.

25. Q. The BOARD OF DELEGATES OF AMERICAN ISRAELITES, organized for the purpose of uniting the Jews in America, adopted a program. Can you name one point of that program?

A. The five points were: (1) Collection and arrangement of statistical information respecting the Israelites in America; (2) Promotion of education; (3) The adoption of methods of handling grievances of Israelites at home and abroad; (4) Maintenance of friendly relations with Hebrew organizations throughout the world; (5) Establishment of a union of all Israelites in the United States.

26. Q. The Jews in America took their stand in the struggle to abolish slavery. Three of them were members of the famous Kansas Regulars, which fought to keep slavery out of Kansas. What famous abolitionist was the leader of this group?

A. The famous JOHN BROWN.

27. Q. In 1861 there was a famous debate of letters between Michael Heilprin and Rabbi Raphall. What was it over?

A. It was over the SLAVERY QUESTION AND THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES.

28. Q. Rabbi Lilienthal said in his famous sermon on Abe Lincoln: "HE WAS THE FIRST LABORER-PRESIDENT." What was the occasion for this sermon?

A. THE ASSASSINATION OF ABE LINCOLN.

29. Q. During the Civil War seven Jews were known to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for displaying unusual courage while under fire. Can you name one Jewish hero of this war?

A. Meyer Levin, Schiller Cohen, Ira Weif Jeffery, etc.

30. Q. During the Civil War, women founded an organization known as the WOMEN'S NATIONAL LOYAL LEAGUE, whose purpose was to demand the freedom of the Negro, and to defeat the Copperheads. Can you name one Jewish women's organization that is doing similar work in today's struggle against fascism?

A. IWO EMMA LAZARUS DIVISION. AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS. NATIONAL COUNCIL JEWISH WOMEN. HADASSAH.

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WHO AM I QUESTIONS

31. Q. I was the first Jew to defy the reactionary leaders of New Amsterdam. I insisted on my right as an American to perform military duty as any other citizen of the New World. This I did, and thus won the first battle for the rights of my people. WHO AM I?
- A. ASSER LEVY.
32. Q. I was born in Poland of Jewish-Portuguese ancestry. At the age of 30 I came to America and joined the Sons of Liberty. I was arrested and imprisoned many times by the British in the fight for American freedom, but always managed to escape. I am known as the financier of the American Revolution. WHO AM I?
- A. HAYM SALOMON.
33. Q. I was born in New York on July 22, 1849. I started writing at an early age and published my first book of poems and translations at the age of 18. I was soon to attract the attention of many great authors, among them Emerson. In my writings I have always expressed my sympathy and understanding of the oppressed peoples. I wrote the poem on the Statue of Liberty. WHO AM I?
- A. EMMA LAZARUS.
34. Q. I come from Brooklyn. I took part in more than 60 combat missions in this war. I come from a family of working people who have always fought for the rights of the common man. I was the bombardier in Colin Kelly's plane. WHO AM I?
- A. MEYER LEVIN.
35. Q. I was born in Poland in 1851. I became the first Yiddish dramatist. I introduced two new elements in Yiddish literature: (1) love of the workers, (2) revolutionary nationalism. My works are studied in the Schules. WHAT IS MY NAME?
- A. I. L. PERETZ.
36. Q. I am known as the outstanding Jewish minister in the anti-slavery movement. In 1861, in Baltimore, my life was threatened by pro-slavery factions. I had to flee the city, and went to Philadelphia. After order was restored in Baltimore, I tried to go back to my synagogue, but my Congregation wanted me only if I would give up my work in behalf of the Negro. I refused to do this. As a result, I had to look for a new synagogue. I did not have to look far. The Keneseth Israel in Philadelphia asked me to join them. I did this and continued my work in the abolitionist movement. WHO AM I?
- A. DR. DAVID EINHORN.
37. Q. I live in the Soviet Union. I am known as the greatest Russian interpreter of Shakespeare. I am also president of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee

in the Soviet Union. Last year I came to the United States with the great Yiddish poet, Itzik Feffer. WHO AM I?

A. PROF. SOLOMON MICHOELS.

38. Q. I was born in 1879 in Ulm, Wurttemberg. From my early childhood I was interested in science. I am best known for my THEORY OF RELATIVITY, or the fourth dimension. I had to leave Germany because of Nazi persecution. Today I live in the United States. WHO AM I?

A. PROF. ALBERT EINSTEIN.

39. Q. I was born in Brooklyn in 1898. At an early age I started to study music. I am credited with writing true American jazz. Among my many compositions are PORGY AND BESS, CONCERTO IN F. My song RHAPSODY IN BLUE is the theme song for Paul Whiteman's Band. WHO AM I?

A. GEORGE GERSHWIN.

40. Q. I was born in Poland, a daughter of a distinguished Rabbi. At the age of 16 I left home and started traveling throughout Europe working for the cause of the oppressed. As soon as I came to America, I started to work in the anti-slavery movement. Because I was a woman, I was constantly being attacked by the reactionary leaders of the times. But I never stopped working for the cause I believed in. I became famous as one of the outstanding women of the abolitionist movement. WHO AM I?

A. ERNESTINE L. ROSE.