

## What is Your Research IQ?

**1. A letter written from Paris to a correspondent in London bears the date "Paris 9 juil. 1672." By fast post and packet, letters could reach London from Paris in two days. Yet the reply to this letter, written the day it was received, is dated, "London, July the first, 1672." How do you account for this?**

Until 1751, England and its colonies used a different calendar than most countries in continental Europe. England and its possessions used the Julian calendar rather than the Gregorian calendar.

**2. Give the important historical meanings of the words "enthusiastic," "awful," and "blue stocking."**

**Enthusiastic:** Today, the word means "intensely ardent"; in the past it meant "pertaining to, or of the nature of, possession by a deity."

**Awful:** Today, the word generally means "frightful, very ugly, monstrous." Earlier in history, it meant "filled with awe; profoundly respectful or reverential; or terror-stricken."

**Blue-stocking:** According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, this term "originated in connexion with re-unions held in London about 1750, at the houses of Mrs. Montague, Mrs. Vesey, and Mrs. Ord, who exerted themselves to substitute for the card-playing, which then formed the chief recreation at evening parties, more intellectual modes spending the time, including conversation on literary subjects, in which eminent men of letters often took part. Many of those who attended eschewed 'full dress'; one of these was Mr. Benjamin Stillingfleet, who habitually wore grey or 'blue' worsted, instead of black silk stockings." Thus the term was used to refer to women having or affecting literary tastes. The term was often used in the nineteenth century in a pejorative sense. It was sneeringly applied to any woman showing a taste for learning, a literary lady.

**3. By 1902 how many articles or reviews dealing with Karl Marx could be found in British and American English-language periodicals?**

According to the *Nineteenth Century Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature* and *Poole's Index to Periodical Literature*, there were just seven articles or reviews dealing with Karl Marx in British and American periodicals.

**4. Where would you look for the U.S. Congressional debates of 1850?**

*Congressional Globe*. It was preceded by the *Annals of Congress* and the *Register of Debates* and succeeded by the *Congressional Record*.

**5. How many telephones were there per 1,000 Americans in 1910?**  
Telephones per 1,000 Americans in 1910: 82 Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States*



Columbia University  
Graduate School of Arts &  
Sciences Teaching Center

### Advancing teaching and learning

The Teaching Center is the go-to place for practical advice about teaching. We can help you:

- Successfully market your teaching
- Deal with anxiety, challenges to your authority, and other classroom issues
- Design innovative courses, deliver scintillating, substantive lectures, and lead stimulating discussions and labs.
- Respond appropriately to shy, withdrawn, or disruptive students.
- Use technology more effectively.

### The Teaching Center offers:

- Weekly workshops
- Individual consultations
- Certification in pedagogy
- Observations on your teaching
- A library of teaching, job search, and publishing resources

### A catalyst for innovation, The Teaching Center

- Promotes interdisciplinary
- Sponsors research in the science of learning
- Supports improvements in the assessment of learning outcomes
- Works collaboratively to improve public education through community and school partnerships

### To arrange a one-on-one consultation, contact:

Steven Mintz  
smintz@columbia.edu  
212-854-1066

**6. What happened in Philadelphia between September 2 and September 13, 1752?**

Nothing. Britain and its possessions adopted the Gregorian calendar in an Act of Parliament in 1751 which required 11 days to be dropped. Thus in Britain and its colonies 2 September 1752 was followed by 14 September 1752.

**7. Briefly describe the nature, purpose, and scope of the following publications:**

*America: History and Life*

*Poole's Index to Periodical Literature*

*Joseph Sabin, Bibliotheca Americana*

*Writings on American History*

*Library of Congress Author Catalogue*

*America: History and Life* (AHL) contains abstracts of articles in U.S. and Canadian history, area studies, and current affairs literature.

*Poole's Index*: An index to 479 British and American periodicals from 1802 to 1906.

*Bibliotheca Americana*: A 29-volume guide to works, arranged in alphabetical order, relating to the Americas into the 19th century.

*Writings on American History*: A guide to books and articles on American history arranged by general works, chronology, broad subject, geographic region, and biography.

*Library of Congress Author Catalogue*: Reference information (including which libraries hold specific volumes) on books held by the Library of Congress.

**8. Briefly identify the following:**

Duncan Upshaw Fletcher

Patrick Colquhoun

Elmina Castle

Ely Moore

Duncan Upshaw Fletcher: b. January 6, 1859. d. June 17, 1936. U.S. Senator for Florida. Years of Service 1909-1936, Democrat.

Patrick Colquhoun: In 1792, British Prime Minister William Pitt established seven police courts. Three stipendiary magistrates sat at each court. Patrick Colquhoun was appointed as one of the stipendiary magistrates. "A friend of the early criminologist, Jeremy Bentham, Colquhoun adopted Bentham's philosophy of preventive policing. He opened kitchens to feed the poor and maintained a fund to help workers retrieve the tools of their trade from pawnbrokers." Source: <http://www.cmsu.edu/CJ/patrick.htm>.

Elmina Castle: "Forty years after Prince Henry's expeditions first acquired gold dust and twenty-one years after the Prince's death, Portugal began constructing a trading outpost on Africa's Guinea coast, near a region that had been mined by natives for many years.

Permission to build the outpost had been reluctantly given by the chief of a nearby village, on the condition that peace and trust be maintained. Called "São Jorge da Mina" (Saint George's of the mine), or simply "Elmina" (the mine), it was the first permanent structure south of the Sahara built by Europeans -- and for centuries it was the largest. It also had the distinction of being the first of many permanent "slave factories" (trading posts that dealt in slaves) that would be built along Africa's western coast." Source: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aia/part1/1p260.html>.

Ely Moore: Early 19th century labor leader. In 1832, Ely Moore was elected as the first President of the Typographers' Union President of the New York General Trades' Union and became the first union official elected to the Congress in 1834. He was the author of an "Address Delivered Before the General Trades' Union of the City of New-York," December 2, 1833.

**9. Who was the anonymous author of A RADICAL INDICTMENT! THE ADMINISTRATION-ITS**

***CORRUPTIONS AND SHORTCOMINGS, 1872?***

Henry Adams

***10. Where can one find the full text of Marbury v. Madison?***

5 U.S. 137 (Volume 5, U.S. Reporter, page 137)

***11. In British and colonial American manuscripts one sometimes encounters such dates as 3 February, 1689-90.***

***How do you account for this?***

In early western history, the new year was celebrated on March 25. Julius Caesar established January 1 as the new year. However, the Christian Church condemned the celebration of new year on January 1 as paganism. The British did not change the year number until March 25. Before Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar, dates between January 1 and March 24 were identified as taking place in between two years (thus 1689-90). George Washington's was born on February 11, 1731 under the Julian calendar. But under the Gregorian calendar, he was born on February 22, 1732, which is why we now commemorate his birthday on February 22.

***12. Where could you find the text of the agreement of February 11, 1945 between the United States and the U.S.S.R. respecting the treatment of prisoners of war and civilians liberated by the armies of the two countries?***

Treaties and Other International Agreements of the United States of America, 1776-1949. (Bevans) 13 vols.

Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1968-1976. An online guide to U.S. treaties

is <http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/godc/resguide/ustreat.htm#imp>

***13. For the United States as a whole give the number of children under the age of 5 per 1,000 women aged 20 to 44, for the years 1840 and 1940.***

Source: Historical Statistics of the United States. Number of children under the age of 5 per 1,000 women aged 20