History, Geography and Government Quiz Answers

1. Louis Jolliet, age 27, and Father Jacques Marquette, a Jesuit priest, age 35, traveled down the Mississippi and then up the Illinois and Des Plaines rivers to Lake Michigan in the summer of 1673.

2. In February 1779, George Rogers Clark and about 170 men slugged through mud and flooded rivers for 140 miles from Kaskaskia to Vincennes to capture Fort Sackville from the British.

3. On Dec. 3, 1818 (Statehood Day), President James Monroe signed the joint House and Senate Resolution admitting Illinois as the 21st state in the Union. However, Aug. 26, 1818 — the date on the official State Seal — commemorates the date that Illinois’ first Constitution was approved by convention in Kaskaskia.

4. Jean Baptiste Point du Sable established the first permanent settlement at the Chicago portage in about 1779. Probably a black descendant of French Caribbean slaves, du Sable and his Potawatomi wife established a trading center for 20 years at the present site of Pioneer Court on N. Michigan Ave.

5. In February 1779, George Rogers Clark and about 170 men slugged through mud and flooded rivers for 140 miles from Kaskaskia to Vincennes to capture Fort Sackville from the British.

6. The Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

7. Work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal started in the community of Bridgeport. The canal was completed in 1848 and heavily used until the 1880s. Officially closed in 1931, it has now become the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor.

8. By 1874, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) built Nauvoo the largest city in Illinois. However, after its founder Joseph Smith was killed, most members migrated to Utah with Brigham Young.


10. In 1865, the remains of Abraham Lincoln were placed in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield. The 16th President, Lincoln was born in Kentucky on Feb. 12, 1809. He spent much of his youth in Indiana and came to Illinois with his family when he was 21.

11. Stephen Arnold Douglas (1813-1861) came to Illinois in 1833 and became a leading Democratic politician and Abraham Lincoln’s main rival. His height (5'4”), great intelligence and powerful speaking ability combined to earn him the nickname “Little Giant.”

12. Illinois furnished the Union more than 170 generals during the Civil War. Of the nine generals from Galena, which one later became a U.S. President?

13. Illinois’ 12 public universities enrolled more than 200,000 students in the 2002-2003 school year.


15. Carl Sandburg (1878-1967), Pulitzer Prize-winning poet from Galesburg.

16. In 1865, the remains of Abraham Lincoln were placed in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield. The 16th President, Lincoln was born in Kentucky on Feb. 12, 1809. He spent much of his youth in Indiana and came to Illinois with his family when he was 21.

17. John Deere and Cyrus McCormick were responsible for improvements in what field?

18. What religious group founded the Western Illinois town of Nauvoo in 1839?

19. What massive public works project was started near Chicago on July 4, 1836?

20. Who referred to Chicago as the “Hog Butcher for the World?”

Jesse White • Secretary of State and State Archivist
Illinois

**History, Geography and Government Quiz**

1. Who were the two Frenchmen who explored Illinois in 1673? **Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette**
2. During the American Revolution, who Virginian marched across Illinois in winter to defeat the British at Vincennes? **George Rogers Clark**
3. What year did Illinois become a state? **1818**
4. What are the three towns that have served as Illinois capitals? **Vandalia (1818-1820), Vincennes (1820-1820), and Springfield (1820 to the present)**
5. For what is Jean Baptiste Point du Sable famous? **Established the first permanent settlement at the Chicago portage in about 1779.**
6. What five states border Illinois? **Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin.**
7. Which U.S. President was born in Illinois? **Ronald Wilson Reagan**
8. What religious group founded the Western Illinois town of Nauvoo in 1839? **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons)**
9. Which U.S. President is buried in Illinois? **Ulysses Simpson Grant**
10. What massive public works project was started near Chicago on July 4, 1836? **Illinois and Michigan Canal**
11. What is Illinois' nickname? **Land of Lincoln.**
12. Illinois furnished the Union more than 170 generals during the Civil War. Of the nine generals from Galena, which one later became a U.S. President? **John deere and Cyrus McCormick were responsible for improvements in what field? **Farm implements.**
13. In what Illinois towns are the main campuses of the following state universities found: Eastern, Northern, Southern? **Charleston, DeKalb, Carbondale, Macomb.**
14. What events do the four stars on the flag of Chicago represent? **Chicago Fire (1878-1967), Pulitzer Prize-winning poet from Galesburg.**
15. What is the official state slogan? **The official state slogan was adopted in 1955. What is it?**
16. What religious group founded the Western Illinois town of Nauvoo in 1839? **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons)**
17. Which massive public works project was started near Chicago on July 4, 1836? **Illinois and Michigan Canal**
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5. The Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi rivers.
6. Work on the Illinois and Michigan Canal started in the community at Bridgeport. The canal was completed in 1848 and heavily used until the 1880s. Officially closed in 1933, it has now become the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Corridor.
7. By 1845, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) had made Nauvoo the largest city in Illinois. However, after its founder Joseph Smith was killed, most members migrated to Utah with Brigham Young.
8. The 40th President of the United States, Ronald Wilson Reagan was born Feb. 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois. In 1932, he graduated from Eureka College.
9. In 1860, the remains of Abraham Lincoln were placed in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield. The 16th President, Lincoln was born in Kentucky on Feb. 12, 1809. He spent much of his youth in Indiana and came to Illinois with his family when he was 21.
10. Stephen Arnold Douglas (1813-1896) came to Illinois in 1833 and became a leading Democratic politician and Abraham Lincoln’s main rival. His height (5’4’’), great intelligence and powerful speaking ability combined to earn him the nickname “Little Giant.”
11. Ulysses Simpson Grant’s (originally Hiram Ulysses) was born in Ohio in 1822. A West Pointer, he first led Illinois troops into battle and eventually commanded all the Union Armies during the Civil War. He served two terms as 18th U.S. President, beginning March 4, 1869.
12. Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin.
13. Four implements. There invented the steel plow, which helped break the rich prairie soil, while McCormick aggressively mass produced and marketed the reaper, which made the harvesting of large crops possible.
14. The General Assembly, which consists of the 59-member Senate and the 118-member House of Representatives. They are responsible for making laws in Illinois.
15. The official blue and white striped flag only contained two six-pointed red stars when it was adopted April 4, 1917. These stars represented the Chicago Fire and the World’s Columbian Exposition. Added later were stars for the Century of Progress Exposition (1933) and Fort Dearborn (1843).
16. Jesse White • Secretary of State and State Archivist