

# 1950s Trivia Questions

## History

1. Which president of the United States was in office from Jan. 20, 1953 to Jan. 20, 1961?
2. Which disease did Dr. Jonas Salk successfully create a vaccine for in 1952?
3. What was the name of the first satellite launched into orbit by Russia in 1957?
4. Who overthrew Fulgencio Batista in 1959 and became dictator of Cuba?
5. What year did Disneyland open?
6. What famous explorer first climbed Mount Everest in 1953?
7. Who became Premier of the Soviet Union in 1958?
8. Senator Joseph McCarthy, who conducted a nationally televised hearing in 1954 to root out Communists in the government, represented what state?
9. What is the name of the woman who refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955?
10. Which member of the royal family became head of state in Great Britain in 1953?

## Music

1. Which famous song sung by Doris Day was introduced in the 1956 Hitchcock thriller, The Man Who Knew Too Much?
2. What singer had a hit with Sixteen Tons in 1955?
3. Which group had a hit with Twilight Time in 1958?
4. Which smoky-voiced singer sang Too Young in 1951?
5. What Cleveland disc jockey first used the term "Rock N Roll" in 1951?
6. Tony and Maria were the lead characters in what Broadway musical that premiered in 1957?
7. Who recorded Rock Around the Clock in 1955?
8. Who originally sang That'll Be the Day? in 1957?
9. The Coasters recorded a song in 1959 with the line "You're gonna need an ocean of Calamine lotion." What is the name of the song?
10. B.J. Thomas sang "I Can't Help It If I'm Still In Love With You" in 1967. Who first recorded it in 1951?

## Pop Culture

1. Which aspiring rock and roll singer appeared on the Ed Sullivan show in 1956, but could only be shown from the waist up?
2. Which rising young star from the movie Rebel Without a Cause died in an automobile accident in 1955?
3. Which television game show first aired in 1956 and is still running today?
4. What famous baseball player married Marilyn Monroe in 1954?
5. What piece of women's clothing, named after a dog, became popular in the 1950s?
6. What teen idol sang, "Kookie, Kookie, Lend Me Your Comb?"
7. What type of hat/cap did both Davy Crockett and Daniel Boone wear on TV in the 50s?
8. Eating what type of live fish became popular in the 1950s?
9. What famous cowboy of the 1950s was really named Leonard Slye?
10. What was the name of the circular plastic 1950s toy that was placed around the waist and operated by gyrating the hips?

# 1950s Trivia Answers

## History

1. Which president of the United States was in office from Jan. 20, 1953 to Jan. 20, 1961? **Dwight D. Eisenhower**
2. Which disease did Dr. Jonas Salk successfully create a vaccine for in 1952? **Polio**
3. What was the name of the first satellite launched into orbit by Russia in 1957? **Sputnik**
4. Who overthrew Fulgencio Batista in 1959 and became dictator of Cuba? **Fidel Castro**
5. What year did Disneyland open? **1955**
6. What famous explorer first climbed Mount Everest in 1953? **Sir Edmund Hillary**
7. Who became Premier of the Soviet Union in 1958? **Nikita Khrushchev**
8. Senator Joseph McCarthy, who conducted a nationally televised hearing in 1954 to root out Communists in the government, represented what state? **Wisconsin**
9. What is the name of the woman who refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955? **Rosa Parks**
10. Which member of the royal family became head of state in Great Britain in 1953? **Queen Elizabeth II**

## Music

1. Which famous song sung by Doris Day was introduced in the 1956 Hitchcock thriller, *The Man Who Knew Too Much*? **Que Sera Sera**
2. What singer had a hit with *Sixteen Tons* in 1955? **Tennessee Ernie Ford**
3. Which group had a hit with *Twilight Time* in 1958? **The Platters**
4. Which smoky-voiced singer sang *Too Young* in 1951? **Nat King Cole**
5. What Cleveland disc jockey first used the term "Rock N Roll" in 1951? **Alan Freed**
6. Tony and Maria were the lead characters in what Broadway musical that premiered in 1957? **West Side Story**
7. Who recorded *Rock Around the Clock* in 1955? **Bill Haley and the Comets**
8. Who originally sang *That'll Be the Day*? in 1957? **Buddy Holly and the Crickets**
9. The Coasters recorded a song in 1959 with the line "You're gonna need an ocean of Calamine lotion." What is the name of the song? **Poison Ivy**
10. B.J. Thomas sang "I Can't Help It If I'm Still In Love With You" in 1967. Who first recorded it in 1951? **Hank Williams Senior**

## Pop Culture

1. Which aspiring rock and roll singer appeared on the Ed Sullivan show in 1956, but could only be shown from the waist up? **Elvis Presley**
2. Which rising young star from the movie *Rebel Without a Cause* died in an automobile accident in 1955? **James Dean**
3. Which television game show first aired in 1956 and is still running today? **The Price Is Right**
4. What famous baseball player married Marilyn Monroe in 1954? **Joe DiMaggio**
5. What piece of women's clothing, named after a dog, became popular in the 1950s? **Poodle skirt**
6. What teen idol sang, "Kookie, Kookie, Lend Me Your Comb?" **Edd "Kookie" Burns**
7. What type of hat/cap did both Davy Crockett and Daniel Boone wear on TV in the 50s? **Coonskin**
8. Eating what type of live fish became popular in the 1950s? **Goldfish**
9. What famous cowboy of the 1950s was really named Leonard Slye? **Roy Rogers**
10. What was the name of the circular plastic 1950s toy that was placed around the waist and operated by gyrating the hips? **Hula hoop**