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50 Nostalgia Trivia Questions

TV Shows • Songs & Music • Daily Life Memories

The 1950s & 1960s — All New Questions!

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Large Print Books for Seniors & Baby Boomers

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Welcome!

These 50 questions cover the TV shows, songs, and everyday memories that made the 1950s and 1960s unforgettable.

Whether you're enjoying this yourself or sharing it with someone you love, every question is a little trip back in time.

No pressure. No score to beat. Just good memories — and a few satisfying "*Oh, I remember that!*" moments.

All questions are printed in large, easy-to-read type. The answer key is in the back.

*Loved these questions? The full **The Ultimate Nostalgic Trivia Book for Seniors — Vol. 1** is [available on Amazon](#) — 500 large print questions across 10 chapters.*

SECTION 1 — TV SHOWS OF THE 1950s & 1960s

1.

Joe Friday's by-the-book police work made which 1950s crime drama one of television's most imitated shows?

- A. The Untouchables
 - B. Peter Gunn
 - C. Dragnet
 - D. 77 Sunset Strip
-

2.

Dick Clark hosted which long-running Philadelphia-based teen dance show that launched music careers for over 30 years?

- A. Shindig!
 - B. Hullabaloo
 - C. American Bandstand
 - D. The Lloyd Thaxton Show
-

3.

Bedrock's most famous family drove a foot-powered stone car and worked at a gravel pit on which cartoon?

- A. The Jetsons
 - B. Top Cat
 - C. Deputy Dawg
 - D. The Flintstones
-

4.

Which futuristic cartoon family lived in Orbit City, flew saucer cars, and had a robot maid named Rosie?

- A. The Flintstones
 - B. Space Ghost
 - C. The Jetsons
 - D. Jonny Quest
-

5.

A loyal collie repeatedly rescued her young owner from danger in which beloved family drama?

- A. Rin Tin Tin
 - B. Fury
 - C. Lassie
 - D. Flipper
-

6.

A bottle-nosed dolphin helped his young friends out of trouble in the Florida Keys on which family series?

- A. Gentle Ben
 - B. Flipper
 - C. Sea Hunt
 - D. Lassie
-

7.

Maxwell Smart, the bumbling Agent 86, famously answered calls on a telephone hidden in what unlikely object?

- A. A briefcase
 - B. A hat
 - C. His shoe
 - D. An umbrella
-

8.

Phil Silvers played a scheming Army sergeant constantly hatching money-making plots on which sitcom?

- A. McHale's Navy
 - B. Gomer Pyle U.S.M.C.
 - C. No Time for Sergeants
 - D. The Phil Silvers Show
-

9.

Bill Cosby and Robert Culp played undercover spies posing as a tennis pro and his coach on which drama?

- A. The Man from U.N.C.L.E.
 - B. Mission: Impossible
 - C. I Spy
 - D. Secret Agent
-

10.

Walt Disney's Sunday night showcase brought nature films, Davy Crockett adventures, and cartoons to American homes. What was it called?

- A. Family Classics
 - B. The Wonderful World of Disney
 - C. The Disney Hour
 - D. Sunday Showcase
-

11.

Walter Brennan played feisty Grandpa Amos in which rural sitcom about a family that moved from West Virginia to California?

- A. Petticoat Junction
 - B. Mayberry R.F.D.
 - C. The Real McCoys
 - D. Green Acres
-

12.

Gomer Pyle left Andy's garage to become a Marine recruit on which spinoff series?

- A. McHale's Navy
 - B. No Time for Sergeants
 - C. Gomer Pyle U.S.M.C.
 - D. Hogan's Heroes
-

13.

Celebrity contestants gave one-word clues to help a teammate guess a secret word on which popular game show?

- A. What's My Line?
 - B. To Tell the Truth
 - C. Password
 - D. I've Got a Secret
-

14.

Efrem Zimbalist Jr. played a suave private detective working glamorous cases out of a Hollywood office on which show?

- A. Peter Gunn
 - B. Hawaiian Eye
 - C. Bourbon Street Beat
 - D. 77 Sunset Strip
-

15.

Sid Caesar and Imogene Coca performed elaborate live comedy sketches on which groundbreaking 1950s variety show?

- A. The Colgate Comedy Hour
 - B. Your Show of Shows
 - C. The Red Skelton Show
 - D. Caesar's Hour
-

16.

Young Mouseketeers sang, danced, and starred in adventure serials on which popular afternoon children's show?

- A. Romper Room
 - B. The Mickey Mouse Club
 - C. Sky King
 - D. Captain Midnight
-

17.

Shirley Booth played a strong-willed live-in housekeeper who constantly outsmarted her employer on which 1960s sitcom?

- A. December Bride
 - B. The Donna Reed Show
 - C. Hazel
 - D. The Ann Sothern Show
-

SECTION 2 — SONGS & MUSIC OF THE 1950s & 1960s

1.

Elvis Presley recorded "Heartbreak Hotel" as his first RCA single in which year, launching him to superstardom?

- A. 1954
 - B. 1956
 - C. 1958
 - D. 1960
-

2.

Sam Cooke's gentle, optimistic hit about not knowing much history — but knowing one thing — became a pop standard. Name it.

- A. Chain Gang
 - B. Another Saturday Night
 - C. Wonderful World
 - D. Twistin' the Night Away
-

3.

The Platters hit #1 with a soaring ballad that opened, "Oh yes, I'm the great _____."

- A. Pretender
 - B. Lover
 - C. Believer
 - D. Dreamer
-

4.

Bobby Darin swung his way to #1 in 1959 with this jazzy hit based on a Brecht-Weill song about a villain.

- A. Splish Splash
 - B. Dream Lover
 - C. Beyond the Sea
 - D. Mack the Knife
-

5.

Patti Page asked a charming question about a spotted pet in a store window on which 1953 novelty hit?

- A. Tennessee Waltz
 - B. How Much Is That Doggie in the Window
 - C. Mockin' Bird Hill
 - D. The Old Lamplighter
-

6.

The Beach Boys' 1963 hit borrowed Chuck Berry's melody and captured the California surf craze. Name it.

- A. Fun, Fun, Fun
 - B. Surfer Girl
 - C. Surfin' U.S.A.
 - D. Surfin' Safari
-

7.

Lesley Gore turned sweet sixteen heartbreak into a hit by crying at her own party. Name the song.

- A. You Don't Own Me
 - B. Judy's Turn to Cry
 - C. She's a Fool
 - D. It's My Party
-

8.

The Ronettes' wall-of-sound classic begged a lover to "be my _____."

- A. Darling
 - B. Angel
 - C. Baby
 - D. Sweetheart
-

9.

Dionne Warwick made this 1964 Burt Bacharach hit famous by urging someone to keep on walking past her.

- A. Anyone Who Had a Heart
 - B. Message to Michael
 - C. I Say a Little Prayer
 - D. Walk On By
-

10.

The Shangri-Las told a tragic tale of a motorcycle gang leader who met a fatal end in which 1964 hit?

- A. Give Him a Great Big Kiss
 - B. Remember (Walkin' in the Sand)
 - C. Out in the Streets
 - D. Leader of the Pack
-

11.

Connie Francis revived a 1923 tune about regret and turned it into her first major hit in 1958. Name it.

- A. Stupid Cupid
 - B. Who's Sorry Now
 - C. Lipstick on Your Collar
 - D. Everybody's Somebody's Fool
-

12.

Frankie Lymon and the Teenagers asked a timeless question about young love in which pioneering doo-wop hit?

- A. I'm Not a Juvenile Delinquent
 - B. Goody Goody
 - C. Baby Baby
 - D. Why Do Fools Fall in Love
-

13.

Perry Como's relaxed baritone produced which 1958 hit about saving a celestial object that earned the first official RIAA Gold Record?

- A. Magic Moments
 - B. Hot Diggity
 - C. Papa Loves Mambo
 - D. Catch a Falling Star
-

14.

Danny and the Juniors insisted this dance style would never die in their 1957 rock and roll classic.

- A. The Stroll
 - B. The Hand Jive
 - C. At the Hop
 - D. The Bop
-

15.

Johnny Mathis scored his biggest early hit in 1957 with this song about the odds of finding true love.

- A. Misty
 - B. The Twelfth of Never
 - C. It's Not for Me to Say
 - D. Chances Are
-

16.

Nat King Cole's velvet voice made this 1951 classic about a person impossible to forget one of pop's most enduring songs.

- A. Mona Lisa
 - B. Too Young
 - C. Unforgettable
 - D. Nature Boy
-

17.

The Everly Brothers introduced their signature close harmonies on which 1957 debut smash about a heartbroken farewell?

- A. Bird Dog
 - B. Problems
 - C. Bye Bye Love
 - D. Till I Kissed You
-

SECTION 3 — DAILY LIFE & MEMORIES

1.

Which trading stamp program let shoppers save booklets of stamps from grocery stores to exchange for household prizes?

- A. Blue Chip Stamps
 - B. Gold Bond Stamps
 - C. S&H; Green Stamps
 - D. Eagle Stamps
-

2.

Burma-Shave was famous for placing clever rhyming messages on a series of small signs posted where?

- A. City sidewalks
 - B. Grocery store windows
 - C. Highway roadsides
 - D. Telephone poles
-

3.

School children across America practiced "duck and cover" drills in the 1950s to prepare for what threat?

- A. Tornadoes
 - B. Fires
 - C. Nuclear attacks
 - D. Earthquakes
-

4.

What convenient frozen meal, introduced by Swanson in 1953, changed how families ate dinner while watching TV?

- A. The Quick Meal
 - B. The Frozen Plate
 - C. The Screen Supper
 - D. The TV Dinner
-

5.

The hula hoop became a nationwide craze in 1958. Which toy company introduced it?

- A. Hasbro
 - B. Wham-O
 - C. Mattel
 - D. Milton Bradley
-

6.

Tupperware parties were a popular 1950s shopping tradition. Where were they typically held?

- A. At the local church
 - B. At the five-and-dime
 - C. In a neighbor's home
 - D. At the community center
-

7.

Many 1950s families shared a single telephone line with their neighbors. What was this arrangement called?

- A. A shared line
 - B. A double line
 - C. A community phone
 - D. A party line
-

8.

Before supermarkets took over, many households received fresh dairy products delivered to their doorstep by whom?

- A. The grocery boy
 - B. The dairy wagon
 - C. The milkman
 - D. The corner store
-

9.

Which device, hung on the car window at drive-in theaters, let you hear the movie's sound?

- A. A portable radio
 - B. An in-car speaker on a pole
 - C. A headset
 - D. A window amplifier
-

10.

Sock hops were popular teen dances in the 1950s. Why did dancers remove their shoes before dancing?

- A. It was a dance tradition
 - B. The dance required bare feet
 - C. Shoes were too noisy
 - D. To protect the gymnasium floor
-

11.

Which popular 1950s fashion item — a full circle skirt often decorated with appliqués — was standard at teen dances?

- A. A swing skirt
 - B. A pencil skirt
 - C. A poodle skirt
 - D. A petticoat skirt
-

12.

With lay-away plans popular in the 1950s and 60s, how did this shopping method work?

- A. You took the item home and paid weekly
 - B. A neighbor guaranteed your purchase
 - C. You borrowed money from the bank
 - D. The store held the item until you paid it off
-

13.

Sputnik's launch in October 1957 shocked Americans because it meant the Soviet Union had achieved what first?

- A. Built a nuclear bomb
 - B. Broken the sound barrier
 - C. Put a satellite in orbit
 - D. Landed on the moon
-

14.

The Fuller Brush Man was a familiar sight on suburban streets. What did he sell door-to-door?

- A. Encyclopedias
 - B. Cosmetics and perfume
 - C. Vacuum cleaners
 - D. Brushes and cleaning products
-

15.

Where was the popular 1950s teen hangout where you could order milkshakes, burgers, and play the jukebox?

- A. The five-and-dime
 - B. The soda fountain or malt shop
 - C. The lunch counter
 - D. The candy store
-

16.

Which beloved Sunday family ritual of the 1950s required no destination — and often ended with ice cream?

- A. The family picnic
 - B. Visiting the drive-in
 - C. The afternoon matinee
 - D. The Sunday drive
-

Answer Key

Section 1 — TV Shows

1. C. Dragnet
2. C. American Bandstand
3. D. The Flintstones
4. C. The Jetsons
5. C. Lassie
6. B. Flipper
7. C. His shoe
8. D. The Phil Silvers Show
9. C. I Spy
10. B. The Wonderful World of Disney
11. C. The Real McCoys
12. C. Gomer Pyle U.S.M.C.
13. C. Password
14. D. 77 Sunset Strip
15. B. Your Show of Shows
16. B. The Mickey Mouse Club
17. C. Hazel

Section 2 — Songs & Music

1. B. 1956
2. C. Wonderful World
3. A. Pretender
4. D. Mack the Knife
5. B. How Much Is That Doggie in the Window
6. C. Surfin' U.S.A.
7. D. It's My Party
8. C. Baby
9. D. Walk On By
10. D. Leader of the Pack
11. B. Who's Sorry Now
12. D. Why Do Fools Fall in Love
13. D. Catch a Falling Star
14. C. At the Hop
15. D. Chances Are
16. C. Unforgettable
17. C. Bye Bye Love

Section 3 — Daily Life & Memories

1. C. S&H; Green Stamps
2. C. Highway roadsides
9. B. An in-car speaker on a pole
10. D. To protect the gymnasium floor

3. C. Nuclear attacks
4. D. The TV Dinner
5. B. Wham-O
6. C. In a neighbor's home
7. D. A party line
8. C. The milkman
11. C. A poodle skirt
12. D. The store held the item until you paid it off
13. C. Put a satellite in orbit
14. D. Brushes and cleaning products
15. B. The soda fountain or malt shop
16. D. The Sunday drive

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