

2003 Canada Day History

A Canada Day poll conducted by Ipsos-Reid for the Dominion Institute shows that only 50% of Canadians passed the test. The survey explored Canadians' knowledge of the country's participation in world organizations and events since the Second World War. Following are the 10 questions and answers with national average percentages for correct answers.

1. During the 1990's, Canada along with celebrities such as Diana, Princess of Wales, rallied much of the international community to ban what military weapon? Was it...

 - a) Land mines
 - b) Nuclear bombs
 - c) Chemical weapons

Correct Answer: A) Land mines, 77%
2. From 1950 to 1953, over 25,000 Canadian service men and women took part in the Cold War's first major conflict. Was it...

 - a) The Korean War
 - b) The Vietnam War
 - c) Cuban missile crisis

Correct Answer: A) The Korean War, 65%
3. In June, 1944, Canadians played a major role in a military operation called D-Day. Which of the following best describes D-Day:

 - a) The Invasion of France
 - b) The bombing of Pearl Harbour
 - c) The Battle of Vimy Ridge

Correct Answer: A) The Invasion of France, 53%
4. Canadian prime ministers, culminating with Brian Mulroney, led international opposition to what South African government policy?

Correct Answer: Apartheid/racial segregation, 50%
5. After the First World War, Canada helped create the League of Nations. What similar body did Canada help found to promote international peace and security in the aftermath of the Second World War?

Correct Answer: United Nations, 49%
6. Since 1949, Canada, the U.S. and the democracies of Western Europe have belonged to a transatlantic military alliance. What is the name of this organization?

Correct Answer: North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), 45%
7. To resolve the 1956 Suez Crisis, Lester Pearson proposed the creation of a new type of UN-mandated military force. Used in conflict zones ever since, what are these forces usually called?

Correct Answer: Peacekeepers, 44%
8. Please name two international military operations or peacekeeping missions Canada has participated in since 1990.

Correct Answer: Any two of the following – The 1991 Persian Gulf War, Afghanistan, Haiti, Somalia, Rwanda, Bosnia/Yugoslavia, Kosovo, Congo, Ethiopia, Angola, Sierra Leone, Central African Republic, Guatemala, Mozambique, Namibia and East Timor. 41%
9. Canada was instrumental in drafting the famous United Nations declaration that sets forth the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons. What is its name?

Correct Answer: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 21%
10. Recently, Canada has played a major role in the establishment of what new international body for investigating genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes?

Correct Answer: International Criminal Court, 10%