

Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918

The deadliest virus in modern history, perhaps of all time, was the 1918 Spanish Flu. It killed about 20 to 50 million people worldwide, perhaps more. The total death toll is unknown because medical records were not kept in many areas.

The pandemic hit during World War I and devastated military troops. In the United States, for instance, more servicemen were killed from the flu than from the war itself. The Spanish flu was fatal to a higher proportion of young adults than most flu viruses.

The pandemic started mildly, in the spring of 1918, but was followed by a much more severe wave in the fall of 1918. The war likely contributed to the devastating mortality numbers, as large outbreaks occurred in military forces living in close quarters. Poor nutrition and the unsanitary conditions of war camps had an effect.

A third wave occurred in the winter and spring of 1919, and a fourth, smaller wave occurred in a few areas in spring 1920. Initial symptoms of the flu were typical: sore throat, headache, and fever. The flu often progressed rapidly to cause severe pneumonia and sometimes hemorrhage in the lungs and mucus membranes. A characteristic feature of severe cases of the Spanish Flu was heliotrope cyanosis, where the patient's face turned blue from lack of oxygen in the cells. Death usually followed within hours or days.

Modern medicine such as vaccines, antivirals, and antibiotics for secondary infections were not available at that time, so medical personnel couldn't do much more than try to relieve symptoms.

The flu ended when it had infected enough people that those who were susceptible had either died or developed immunity.

Pregunta 1:

Which pandemic is the deadliest in modern history?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ a The Spanish Flu in 1918 | ☐ b The Philadelphia yellow fever epidemic in 1793 |
| ☐ c The bubonic plague in the 14th century | ☐ d The Covid-19 coronavirus in 2020 |

Pregunta 2:

The Spanish Flu pandemic occurred during which war?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ a World War I | ☐ b The Spanish-American War |
| ☐ c The French Revolution | ☐ d World War II |

Pregunta 3:

Where did the Spanish flu originate?

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|-------------------------------|--|
| ☐ a Italy | ☐ b United States |
| ☐ c Spain | ☐ d That information is not provided |

Pregunta 4:

Why are total deaths for the Spanish Flu not known?

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ a No one cared because of the war | ☐ b Many areas did not keep medical records |
| ☐ c Most medical records were destroyed in the war | ☐ d No one wants to know how bad it was |

Pregunta 5:

When was the first wave of the Spanish Flu pandemic?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ☐ a Fall 1918 | ☐ b Winter 1918 |
| ☐ c Summer 1918 | ☐ d Spring 1918 |

Pregunta 6:

What contributed to deaths from the flu in military personnel?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ a Close quarters | ☐ b All of the above |
| ☐ c Unsanitary conditions | ☐ d Poor nutrition |

Pregunta 7:

What is a characteristic feature of serious cases of the Spanish Flu?

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ a Coma | ☐ b Liver failure |
| ☐ c Extremely high fever | ☐ d Face turning blue |

Pregunta 8:

What caused the Spanish Flu pandemic to end?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ a The end of the war caused better conditions | ☐ b Improved medical care |
| ☐ c They created a vaccine for it | ☐ d Those who were susceptible had either died or were immune |

Armenian Culture

The Armenians became active in literature and many art forms at a very early point in their civilization. Metalworking and architecture have been traced back to about 1000 B.C. The beginning of truly national art is usually fixed at the onset of the Christian era. The three great artistic periods coincided with times of independence or semi-independence: from the fifth to the seventh century; the Bagratid golden age of the ninth and tenth centuries; and the era of the kingdom of Lesser Armenia in the twelfth to fourteenth centuries.

Of especially high quality in the earlier periods were works in gold and bronze, as well as temples, military fortifications, and aqueducts. In the early Christian era, classical church architecture was adapted in a series of cathedrals. The circular domes typical of Armenian churches were copied in Western Europe and in Ottoman Turkey. The best example of the distinctive architectural sculpture used to adorn such churches is the early tenth-century Church of the Holy Cross on an island in Lake Van. The architecture of contemporary Erevan is distinguished by the use of pinkish tufa stone and a combination of traditional Armenian and Russian styles.

Armenian painting is generally considered to have originated with the illumination of religious manuscripts that thrived from the ninth to the seventeenth century. Armenian painters in Cilicia and elsewhere enriched Byzantine and Western formulas with their unique use of color and their inclusion of Oriental themes acquired from the Mongols. Many unique Armenian illuminated manuscripts remain in museums in the West.

The nineteenth century saw a blooming of Armenian painting. Artists from that period, such as the portrait painter Hacop Hovnatanian and the seascape artist Ivan Aivazovsky, continue to enjoy international reputations. Notable figures of the twentieth century include the unorthodox Alexander Bazhbeuk-Melikian, who lived a persecuted existence in Tbilisi, and the émigré surrealist Arshile Gorky (pseudonym of Vosdanik Adoian), who greatly influenced a generation of young American artists in New York. Other émigré painters in various countries have continued the tradition as well.

The Armenian literary tradition began early in the fifth century A.D. with religious tracts and histories of the Armenians. The most important of these were written by Agathangelos, Egishe, Movses Khorenatsi, and Pavstos Buzand. A secular literature developed in the early modern period, and in the eighteenth century Armenian Catholic monks of the Mekhitarist order began publishing ancient texts, modern histories, grammars, and literature. In the nineteenth century, Armenians developed their own journalism and public theater. Khachatur Abovian wrote the first Armenian novel, *Verk Haiastani* (The Wounds of Armenia), in the early 1840s. Armenian literature and drama often depict struggles against religious and ethnic oppression and the aspirations of Armenians for security and self-expression.

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Choose the best answer to each question

1. What is the passage about?

- ☐ religion and culture in Armenia
- ☐ Christianity and church architecture in Armenia
- ☐ the history of metal working, architecture, painting, and literature in Armenia

2. What does the passage imply?

- ☐ Armenian art and literature were copied from Ottoman Turkey.
- ☐ Armenian painting and literature originated with the adoption of Christianity.
- ☐ Without Christianity, there would have been no art and literature in Armenia.

3. In the last paragraph, what is NOT the meaning of the word "secular"?

- ☐ sacred
- ☐ not religious
- ☐ civil

4. In the fourth paragraph, what do the words "that period" refer to?

- ☐ the ninth century
- ☐ the seventeenth century
- ☐ the nineteenth century

5. In the third paragraph, what is NOT the meaning of the word "illumination."?

- ☐ illustration
- ☐ decoration
- ☐ copying

6. What did the three great artistic periods coincide with?

- ☐ times of Armenian independence or semi-independence
- ☐ the illumination of religious manuscripts
- ☐ classical church architecture

7. Where does the sentence -- "Armenia accepted Christianity as its state religion in A.D. 306." -- best belong?

- ☐ at the end of the first paragraph
- ☐ at the end of the second paragraph
- ☐ in the first paragraph, after the third sentence

8. What is an example of the influence Armenian art?

- ☐ Byzantine artists used Armenian paint colors.
- ☐ Ottoman Turkey and Europe copied the circular domes typical of Armenian churches.
- ☐ Armenian artists had international reputations.

9. In the fourth paragraph, what is NOT the meaning of the word "blooming"?

- ☐ flourishing
- ☐ withering
- ☐ thriving

10. In the last paragraph, what is the meaning of the word "depict" mean?

- ☐ describe
- ☐ distort
- ☐ suppress