

Market House Museum's Russian History Quiz: The Romanovs

(Answers are found on the bottom of page three!)



1. Tsar Nicholas II (the autocratic ruler of Russia) was the last tsar of Russia. He, his wife, children, and four servants were ruthlessly shot and killed by the Bolsheviks during the Russian Revolution in 1918 in Ekaterinburg, Russia, after a year's confinement. Can you correctly name how many children he had? A) 4 daughters and a son, B) three daughters and a son, C) 4 sons and a daughter



2. Nicholas and his wife, Alexandra (also called Alix) were very much in love, having met for the first time when she was only twelve. She was from Hesse-Darmstadt, in Germany. They married in the 1890's, shortly after his father, Alexander III had died. What was notable about Alix's heritage? A) her father spoke seven languages, B) her maternal grandmother was Queen Victoria, C) her family was very rich and influential



3. Nicholas had several younger siblings. Olga and Xenia were his sisters, and George and Misha (Michael) were his brothers. George was the brother closest to Nicholas in age and temperament, but unfortunately he contracted a disease while serving in the Russian Navy, and had to move to a town in the Caucasus, called Abbas Tuman, for the betterment of his health. The palace later burned. What was the name of the mortal illness which resulted in his untimely death in 1899? A) tuberculosis, B) cancer, C) hepatitis



4. Nicholas had a relationship before marrying Alix. The lady was a 17 year old ballerina Mathilde Kschessinska. He had always wished to marry Alix, but his parents resisted allowing him to do so for several years. They finally gave their approval to the match when his father became mortally ill. Nicholas said goodbye to his ballerina and proposed to his long time love, Alix. Mathilde went on to have relationships with two of Nicholas's close relatives! How old did Mathilde live to be? A) 42, B) 67, C) 99



5. Russia winters are extremely cold, especially in northern Siberia, where many political 'undesireables' were sent to keep them 'out of mischief.' Summers were not quite so bad, and many of the Russian nobility had large estates and palaces located there. One of the most well known of the many revolutionary figures sent to Siberia in the early 1900's was later to become head of Russia's Revolution. His brother had already been put to death. Who was he? A) Feodor, B) Godolsky, C) Lenin



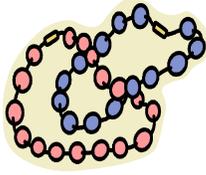
6. One of the Imperial family's favorite palaces was called Gatchina. It had lakes and canals that Nicholas and his siblings could row upon. Set in a beautiful parkland, the palace was a fine one, but the family lived instead, not in the state rooms but in the low ceilinged first floor, in quite simple rooms. The children often times helped set the table for meals and Tsar Alexander III played in the house band! The last sibling to live here as an unmarried adult member of the family was who? A) Xenia, B) Olga, C) Misha (Michael)



7. The Imperial family were fervent believers in the Russian religion of Orthodoxy. Nicholas and Alexandra slept in bedrooms whose walls were covered with costly and often antique icons (images of the holy family and saints done in gold and enamels.) Many of their homes had an iconostasis set up (an altar) for private family worship. Nicholas and Alexandra prayed every day till 1905 for one particular wish to be granted. What was that wish? A) a male heir would be born, B) their children would be healthy, C) long life for the family



8. Almost 80 years after the death of the Imperial family by firing squad, human remains were discovered in a shallow unmarked gravesite, exhumed and compared for DNA with Queen Elizabeth's husband Prince Phillip (who is a blood relative to the Romanovs.) They were found to be remains of the Tsar and his family. Where were the skeletons found? A) Koptiaki Forest, B) Four Brothers mineshaft, C) White Birch Forest



9. Tsarina Alexandra and her Danish-Russian mother-in-law Dowager Tsarina Marie did not get along well after Alix's first year of marriage. The Tsar began listening to the advice of his young and inexperienced (but well meaning) wife more than his mother! The two women had a famous quarrel over what? A) right to possess the crown jewels, B) a wedding gift of Alix's pearls, C) the name that was given to the first Imperial baby



10. Another Imperial palace, much enjoyed by Nicholas and Alexandra, was Livadia in the Crimea. Here the climate was warm, and grapes and flowers grew in abundance. There were several hospitals in the area, said to be curative to patients with tuberculosis and consumption. What did Alexandra do to support the hospitals there? A) gave theatrical performances, B) held a yearly bazaar to raise money, C) brought in orchestras to play in the hospitals



11. The Imperial family much enjoyed cruising during the fall of each year upon their royal yacht, the Standart. Another yacht, used mainly by Dowager Tsarina Marie, was called the Polar Star. Certain 'sailor-nannies' were assigned to stand watch to protect the small Imperial children from falling overboard. Deck games like roller skating and tag were often played upon the Standart's decks, and film reels still attest to this! Where did she cruise for the most part? A) Finnish fjords, B) English waters, C) German waters



12. One of Tsar Nicholas's cousins was George V of England, whom he liked and trusted. Another was Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, of whom he wasn't so trusting, after initial experiences! During WWI, (1914-1918) Russia and England were Allies with each other, and Germany was in opposition to them. Of the three royal cousins, which retained their original status at the end of the war? A) Kaiser Wilhelm, B) King George V, C) Tsar Nicholas

Answers: 1-A, 2-B, 3-A, 4-C, 5-C, 6-C, 7-A, 8-A, 9-A, 10-B, 11-A, 12- B