

Trivia Questions

from UU Identity and History

1. How many principles do UUs have? How many sources do UUs have? *Seven (eighth proposed); six*
2. Which religious tradition did both Unitarianism and Universalism belong to before the merging of modern Unitarian Universalism? *Christianity*
3. What three parts make up the Trinity or Triune God, which historically Unitarians reject in favor of emphasizing one united God? *the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (or Mother, Sophia, Wisdom or Creator, Messiah, Holy Spirit)*
4. Which European country proclaimed a declaration of religious tolerance under the only Unitarian monarch in history and happens to be home to Unity's sister church? *Transylvania*
5. Who preached a famous sermon in 1819 putting forth the following three claims (1) that Jesus might solely be human, not God; (2) the Bible might not be the inerrant (mistake-free) word of God; (3) the Trinity is NOT biblical as there is no mention of the "trinity" anywhere in the Bible? (Hint: And is known as the father of Unitarianism?) *William Ellery Channing*
6. What is the belief, associated with Calvinism, that asserts some people from birth are saved while others from birth are damned, in other words, salvation is not dependent on moral or ethical living? *Predestination*
7. In rejection of Calvinism, what message did Universalist John Murray preach that got him banned from preaching in England and led him to sail to America? *Salvation for everyone/God is a source of infinite love for all people*
8. Who is the person who delivered his 1838 speech to the graduating class of Harvard Divinity School, and got into trouble for saying that Jesus is NOT God, resulting in a ban from Harvard for over 30 years? (Hint: And is a famous writer.) *Ralph Waldo Emerson*
9. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Louisa May Alcott, Henry David Thoreau, Elizabeth Peabody, and others – writers and activists – were part of what philosophical movement in the late 1800s that significantly shaped UUism and American culture at large? *Transcendentalism*

10. What is the non-theistic movement, which began to emerge after the Civil War and published an official manifesto before World War II, that is also one of the six UU sources of wisdom? *Humanism*
11. What broad religious tradition, from which UUism comes, seeks to find a positive balance between the individual and the collective and mediate between secular culture and religious orthodoxy? *Liberal Religion*
12. What is purpose of the proposed eighth principle? *To explicitly name the need to dismantle racism and other forms of oppression*
13. What term does “speaking truth to power” and “being visionary” define? *Prophetic*
14. Who is the prophetic Unitarian woman who changed the way people with mental illness are viewed and treated? *Dorothea Dix*

BONUS (if time)

15. What are the first and seventh of the UU Principles, in seeming tension between the individual and the collective? *“Inherent worth and dignity of every person” and “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part”*
16. Which Unitarian founding father wrote “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...”? *Thomas Jefferson*
17. Who was a cousin of the poet T. S. Eliot, met with youth in the spire/tower of Unity Church (so the name “Tower Club”), and served as Unity’s minister for 20 years before going on to become president of the American Unitarian Association? *Frederick May Eliot*