

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Dartmouth Conference of 1956

In the summer of 1956, a group of researchers gathered at Dartmouth College for a workshop that would later be considered the official “birth of Artificial Intelligence.” Organized by John McCarthy, Marvin Minsky, Nathaniel Rochester, and Claude Shannon, the conference brought together experts from mathematics, engineering, psychology, and computer science.



The central proposal of the conference was bold: the belief that “every aspect of learning or any other feature of intelligence can in principle be so precisely described that a machine can be made to simulate it.” This statement set the foundation for AI as a distinct field of study.

Although the conference did not result in immediate breakthroughs, it created a shared vision. It introduced the term “**Artificial Intelligence**” and established a research agenda focused on problem-solving, reasoning, and symbolic processing. Many of the participants went on to become pioneers in AI research.

The Dartmouth Conference remains significant not because of its immediate results, but because it marked the moment when artificial intelligence was formally defined and pursued as a scientific discipline.

### Multiple-Choice Questions

**1. Where was the 1956 conference that marked the “birth of AI” held?**

- A) MIT    B) Harvard University    C) Dartmouth College    D) Stanford University

**2. Who was *not* one of the main organizers of the conference?**

- A) John McCarthy    B) Marvin Minsky    C) Nathaniel Rochester    D) Alan Turing

**3. What was the central claim made in the conference proposal?**

- A) Computers could only perform mathematical calculations.  
B) Machines could potentially simulate every aspect of human intelligence.  
C) Human intelligence could never be replicated by machines.  
D) The conference would focus only on hardware design.

**4. Why is the Dartmouth Conference considered historically significant?**

- A) It immediately produced fully functioning AI programs.  
B) It introduced the term “Artificial Intelligence” and established a long-term research agenda.  
C) It led to the invention of the internet.  
D) It ended the first AI Winter.