

# The History of Dentistry

Name \_\_\_\_\_



Learn about the history of dentistry by reading the Historical Overview at <http://www.sadanet.co.za/dhw/history/overview.html>. Then read each statement below. Color the circle next to the letter T if the statement is true. Color the circle next to F if the statement is false.

- T    F   1. Oral disease has been a problem for humans since the beginning of history.
- T    F   2. The earliest written reference to tooth decay dates back 25,000 years.
- T    F   3. Ancient Egyptians used dates and onions to cure diseases of the teeth.
- T    F   4. Herodotus, an ancient Greek historian, wrote of physicians who specialized in treating diseases of the teeth.
- T    F   5. Hippocrates, a Greek physician, was the first to extract diseased teeth.
- T    F   6. Some of the earliest mentions of "scraping" teeth, mouthwashes, and "toothbrushes" were recorded by Arabian physicians.
- T    F   7. Dental "drills" were introduced in Europe during the Middle Ages.
- T    F   8. During the Middle Ages, "surgeons" extracted teeth and cut hair.
- T    F   9. In the 1400s, Italian dentists used gold to fill tooth cavities.
- T    F   10. An English surgeon, John Hunter, is called the "father of modern dentistry."
- T    F   11. Paul Revere -- famous for his "midnight ride" that warned of a British invasion of Boston -- made replacement teeth called *dentures*.
- T    F   12. George Washington had dentures made of wood.
- T    F   13. In the 1700s, dentures were available only to the very wealthy.
- T    F   14. In the 1840s, a Connecticut dentist, Dr. Horace Wells, introduced the use of anesthesia before surgery.
- T    F   15. In the late 1800s, scientists proved that bacteria caused some dental diseases.