

Irish Quiz League questions

Season 6 Round 2 — 16th February 2026

Questions by Dan O'Malley

All questions correct as of the above date



Individual questions

Round 1

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Magdeburg, Dresden, and Hamburg are three of the major cities on what river , that rises in the Czech Republic and flows through Germany into the North Sea?	<u>Elbe</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Name the Democratic representative from New York (and current House minority leader) who on July 3rd last year delivered the longest recorded speech in US House of Representatives history? His almost 9-hour speech was in protest against Donald Trump's so-called "One Big Beautiful Bill" giving tax breaks to the wealthy while cutting health and social welfare programmes such as Medicaid.	Hakeem <u>Jeffries</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	What actor has been cast as Ringo Starr in the Sam Mendes-directed quartet of Beatles biopics, due for simultaneous release in 2028? This man was the youngest of the four Irish performers Oscar-nominated for 2022's <i>The Banshees of Inisherin</i> .	Barry <u>Keoghan</u> ["kyoh-gun"]
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	Despite the club sitting at 5th in the English Premier League table, what Italian football manager was sacked by Chelsea in early January after his relationship with the club's executives had irretrievably broken down?	Enzo <u>Maresca</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	A rule change introduced to Gaelic football in 2020 saw what colour card now used to banish a player to the "sin bin" for 10 minutes? This is distinct from the classic yellow and red cards used for a caution and sending off respectively.	<u>Black</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	In existence from 1880 until shortly before achieving full independence in 1960, the former African colony of French Sudan corresponds to what modern-day country? (Note: the answer is NOT Sudan or South Sudan)	<u>Mali</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	Taken from a series of medieval European fables about an anthropomorphic trickster with this name, the word "reynard" can be used to refer to what everyday mammal , native to Ireland?	Red <u>fox</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	Born in in Waterford in 1764, name the Irish Gothic novelist who was one of the best-selling authors of the 1790s? Her two best-known novels <i>The Children of the Abbey</i> (1796) and <i>Clermont</i> (1798) were both later name-checked in Jane Austen novels (<i>Emma</i> and <i>Northanger Abbey</i> respectively).	Regina Maria <u>Roche</u> ["roach"] (born Regina Maria <u>Dalton</u>)

Round 3

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	Electric Picnic isn't the only music & arts festival held in County Laois ["leesh"] every year. What festival , aimed at an older demographic, has been held every July since 2022 in the Laois village of Emo? Headliners this year include Echo & the Bunnymen, Madness and The Wonder Stuff.	Forest Fest
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	Chaka Khan's worldwide 1984 hit <i>I Feel For You</i> was written by what iconic musician? <i>Nothing Compares 2 U</i> by Sinéad O'Connor and <i>Manic Monday</i> by The Bangles are among the other classic songs written by this man.	Prince (accept Prince Rogers Nelson)
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	First performed in 1895, the second symphony by what German composer is often nicknamed the "Resurrection Symphony"?	Gustav Mahler
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	The Scottish monarchy was abolished and the Kingdom of Great Britain was created via the Act of Union which took effect on May 1st of what year of the early 18th century, during the reign of Queen Anne?	1707
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	What prefix in the SI system denotes 1 quadrillion or 10 to the power of 15? In bytes, this is the rough order of magnitude of all the material stored by the US Library of Congress.	Peta
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	A one-off 50th anniversary episode of <i>The Muppet Show</i> was released on Disney+ earlier this month to warmly positive reviews. The main human guest star on the episode was what American singer , capping a highly successful 12 months for her, after she won two Grammys in February 2025 for her hit song <i>Espresso</i> and her album <i>Short n' Sweet</i> ?	Sabrina Carpenter
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	Name the Irish amateur jockey from County Carlow who rode Nick Rockett to victory in the 2025 Aintree Grand National?	Patrick Mullins / accept P.W. Mullins
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Snickers, Skittles and Twix are among the many treats produced by what confectionery brand , named after the American businessman who founded the company in the early 20th century?	Mars (after Franklin Clarence Mars)

Round 5

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Name the Democratic senator from New Jersey who beginning on March 31st last year delivered the longest recorded speech in United States Senate history? His 25-hour speech was in protest against the policies of Donald Trump's second presidency and in particular Elon Musk's highly controversial Department of Government Efficiency.	Cory <u>Booker</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Taken from the ancient Celtic name for this animal, the word "brock" can be used to refer to what nocturnal mammal , native to Ireland?	European <u>badger</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	Despite the club sitting at 6th in the English Premier League table, what Portuguese football manager was sacked by Manchester United in early January after his relationship with the club's executives had irretrievably broken down?	Ruben <u>Amorim</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	What actor has been cast as Paul McCartney in the four upcoming Beatles biopics? This Irishman received his only Oscar nomination to date for the 2022 film <i>Aftersun</i> .	Paul <u>Mescal</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	In existence from 1884 until a decade before achieving full independence in 1977, the former African colony of French Somaliland corresponds to what modern-day country? (Note: the answer is NOT Somalia)	<u>Djibouti</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	KitKat, Smarties and Aero are among the many confectionery treats produced by what food brand , named after the Swiss confectioner who founded the company in the mid 19th century?	<u>Nestlé</u> (after Henri Nestlé)
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	Name the National Hunt jockey from County Cork who rode I Am Maximus to victory in the 2024 Aintree Grand National?	Paul <u>Townend</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	A rule change introduced to Gaelic football in 2025 saw what colour flag now raised by an umpire to signify a two-point score, awarded when the ball is kicked over the bar from a distance of 40 metres or more? This is distinct from the classic white and green flags used for a single point and a goal respectively.	<u>Orange</u>

Round 7

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	<i>The Muppet Show's</i> 50th anniversary episode was co-produced by what Canadian actor and comedian , who also makes a cameo appearance in the episode? This man also had a highly successful 2025, winning four Emmys for writing, producing, directing and starring in the acclaimed Apple TV show <i>The Studio</i> .	Seth <u>Rogen</u>
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	What prefix in the SI system denotes 1 quintillion or 10 to the power of 18? In bytes, this is the rough order of magnitude of data handled in one day by Google and all of its associated services (Google Maps, Gmail, YouTube, etc).	<u>Exa</u>
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	Geneva, Avignon and Lyon are three of the major cities on what river , that rises in Switzerland and flows through France into the Mediterranean Sea?	<u>Rhône</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	First performed in 1832, the fifth symphony by what German composer is often nicknamed the "Reformation Symphony"?	Felix <u>Mendelssohn</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	The Irish Parliament was abolished and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland was created via the Act of Union which took effect on January 1st of what year of the early 19th century, during the reign of King George III?	<u>1801</u>
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	Another reason for music fans to visit Laois is which festival , being held in Ballykilcavan Estate on the May bank holiday weekend, with headliners including The Human League, Level 42 and Vengaboys? Also established in 2022, previous editions of this festival were held in Athy, County Kildare before moving to Laois this year.	The <u>Greenfields</u> Festival
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	Chaka Khan's worldwide 1984 hit <i>I Feel For You</i> prominently featured a harmonica solo by what iconic musician? <i>There Must Be an Angel</i> by Eurythmics and <i>I Guess That's Why They Call It the Blues</i> by Elton John are among the other classic songs to feature harmonica playing by this man.	Stevie <u>Wonder</u> (accept Stevland Hardaway <u>Morris</u>)
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	In an 1814 letter to her niece, Jane Austen wrote " <i>I have made up my mind to like no novels really, but (BLANK)'s, yours and my own.</i> " The name of which Anglo-Irish novelist fills the blank? Born in Oxfordshire in 1768 but moving permanently to her family's County Longford estate as a teenager, this woman's bestselling novels included <i>Castle Rackrent</i> (1800) and <i>Belinda</i> (1801).	Maria ["mar-eye-a"] <u>Edgeworth</u>

Team questions

Hope You've Been Watching The Olympics

Q1	On Saturday, skier Lucas Pinheiro Braathen made history by winning gold in the men's giant slalom – the first ever Winter Olympic medal for what country ? It was also the first winter medal ever won by any South American country.	<u>Brazil</u>
Q2	What winter sport made its Olympic debut at the current Games? It involves competitors making their way both uphill and downhill through challenging alpine terrain while passing through a series of checkpoints. You may answer with its two-word name or its five-letter abbreviation.	<u>Ski mountaineering / Skimo</u>
Q3	Last week, Claudia Riegler of Austria became the oldest-ever female Winter Olympic competitor when she appeared in her fifth Games at the age of 52. In what sport does she compete?	<u>Snowboarding</u>
Q4	Name the 21-year old American figure skater and reigning world champion who had been the heavy favourite to win the men's free skate, but on Friday finished 8th after an error-strewn performance which one journalist described as "among the biggest shocks in figure skating history"?	Ilia <u>Malinin</u>

Budget Airlines

Q1	What compass direction is also the name of the world's largest budget airline by number of aircraft? Founded in Texas in 1967, the vast majority of this airline's routes are within the US, but also includes destinations in Mexico, the Caribbean and Central America.	<u>Southwest</u> Airlines
Q2	Along with Ryanair and EasyJet, what Hungarian airline is also one of Europe's largest budget airlines? Founded in 2003 and flying to over 200 destinations around Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, this airline sounds like they'd get you where you're going in a hurry.	<u>Wizz</u> Air
Q3	Ryanair's large fleet of over 600 aircraft is nearly all Boeing 737s – however it also includes 26 Airbus A320s since acquiring which Austrian low-cost airline in 2018? Named after its famous former owner, this airline's HQ was moved to Malta in 2020 but Ryanair still operates it as a separate brand, serving scheduled and charter flights to multiple European destinations.	<u>Lauda</u> Europe (previously owned by Niki Lauda)
Q4	Founded in 2007 and operating out of Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang, Firefly is one of the main low-cost airlines in what Asian country ?	<u>Malaysia</u>

Belfast Rocks

Q1	The mid-60s singles <i>Gloria</i> and <i>Baby Please Don't Go</i> were hits for the Northern Irish band Them, fronted by what Belfast-born musician , who quit the band in 1966 and went on to a hugely successful solo career?	Van <u>Morrison</u> (birth name George Ivan Morrison)
Q2	Born in Belfast in 1965, singer Briana Corrigan achieved her greatest chart success as a member of what band ? Along with fellow band-member Dave Hemingway, she shared lead vocals on this band's highest-charting hit, 1990's <i>A Little Time</i> .	The <u>Beautiful South</u>
Q3	<i>Parisienne Walkways</i> (1979) and <i>Out in the Fields</i> (1985) were Irish & UK Top 10 hits for what Belfast-born guitarist , in collaboration with his former Thin Lizzy bandmate Phil Lynott?	Gary <u>Moore</u> (birth name Robert William Gary Moore)
Q4	A song on the 1977 debut album by London punk band The Vibrators inspired the name of what Belfast band , formed later that same year around frontman and main songwriter Jake Burns?	<u>Stiff Little Fingers</u>

Please Consume in Moderation

Q1	Prior to being reformulated in 2018 due to the so-called "sugar tax", what soft drink brand was the most sugar-laden drink available in Ireland or the UK, with a 500 ml bottle of its Original flavour containing a whopping 62 grams of sugar? Ironically, the drink was invented by an English pharmacist in the 1920s as a health product to "replace lost energy".	<u>Lucozade</u>
Q2	Invented in 1920s Arizona and said to take its name from a Spanish word meaning "thingamajig", what popular but unhealthy dish in Tex-Mex cuisine is a deep-fried burrito containing fillings like shredded chicken, beef, beans, and cheese?	<u>Chimichanga</u>
Q3	What class of chemical compounds are frequently used as preservatives in cured meats (such as bacon, ham or sausages) to prevent botulism, maintain a pink colour, and enhance flavour – despite the World Health Organisation having classified these compounds as carcinogens since 2015?	<u>Nitrites</u> / <u>Nitrates</u>
Q4	Available in various strengths up to 95%, what American brand of distilled grain alcohol has been notorious for decades due to its role in countless cases of both alcohol poisoning and burn injuries (due to its high flammability)? An American rock band formed in Oregon in 1992 named themselves after this alcohol brand.	<u>Everclear</u>

It Makes the World Go Round

(4 questions about money)

Q1	The rarest US banknote currently produced is the 2 dollar bill, with "only" 1.5 billion of them in circulation. Its design depicts which man – the 3rd President of the United States? A much larger depiction of this man can be seen next to George Washington on Mount Rushmore.	Thomas <u>Jefferson</u>
Q2	Launching later this year, what instant payment service developed by the 3 main Irish banks (AIB, Bank of Ireland and PTSB) will allow customers to send and receive in-app payments using only a phone number – no IBAN required – in an attempt to compete with "digital banks" such as Revolut?	<u>Zippay</u> .
Q3	Not to be confused with bonds, which are usually secured against assets or other collateral, what name is given to unsecured medium- to long-term debt instruments often used by large companies to borrow money at a fixed rate of interest?	<u>Debentures</u>
Q4	Dating to the 7th century BCE, the oldest known coins in existence were produced by what kingdom situated in western Anatolia (modern-day Turkey)? Appropriately, the legendarily wealthy king Croesus ["kree-sus"] was a ruler of this kingdom.	<u>Lydia</u>

Two Colours

(All of these questions require you to give the names of two colours as the answer. Both must be correct for the points)

Q1	Present in an estimated 9% of men, deuteranopia and protanopia are the two most common inherited forms of colour-blindness, both affecting the ability to distinguish between what two primary colours?	<u>Red</u> and <u>Green</u> (need both)
Q2	American author Piper Kerman wrote a bestselling 2010 memoir recounting the year she spent in prison on money-laundering charges. The title of this book (and its successful media adaptation) contains two colours – please name both colours?	<u>Orange</u> and <u>Black</u> (need both) - the book was <i>Orange is the New Black</i>
Q3	The flags of Romania, Gabon and Barbados all consist of three colours: however only two of those colours are common across all three flags. Which two colours?	<u>Blue</u> and <u>Yellow</u> (or <u>gold</u>) - need both
Q4	Released in 1971 and listed on Rolling Stone's "50 Greatest Prog Rock Albums of All Time", the most critically-acclaimed album by British progressive rock band Caravan is titled <i>In the Land of...</i> what two colours? To help you figure it out, neither colour has been mentioned in any of the previous three answers.	<u>Grey</u> and <u>Pink</u> (need both)

Divided Islands

Q1	Other than Ireland, what is the only other large European island whose territory is divided between two UN member countries? This state of affairs has persisted since 1974, when Turkish forces invaded and occupied the northern portion of this island country.	<u>Cyprus</u>
Q2	What large island in Southeast Asia (population 21 million) has its area divided among three sovereign countries as follows: 1% Brunei, 26% Malaysia and 73% Indonesia?	<u>Borneo</u>
Q3	Constructed in the 1980s, Passport Island is an artificial island shared between which two Middle Eastern countries? It is part of the King Fahd Causeway, a 25 km long series of bridges and causeways that connects these two countries.	<u>Bahrain</u> and <u>Saudi Arabia</u> (need both)
Q4	What bird names the small uninhabited island on the French/Spanish border which uniquely swaps ownership between the two countries every 6 months? This unusual setup was established in the 1659 Treaty of the Pyrenees, signed on this island, that ended the decades-long Franco-Spanish conflict which had begun during the Thirty Years' War.	<u>Pheasant</u> Island (accept the French/Spanish names île des <u>Faisans</u> / île de la <u>Conférence</u> , or Isla de los <u>Faisanes</u>)

Cousin Couples

Q1	Born in 1935 in the Iraqi city of Tikrit, Sajida Talfah was the first wife – and also the first cousin – of what infamous Middle Eastern ruler (1937-2006)?	<u>Saddam Hussein</u> (accept first OR last name)
Q2	What English naturalist and biologist married his first cousin Emma Wedgwood in 1839? One of their mutual grandparents was Josiah Wedgwood, founder of the famous pottery company that bears his name.	Charles <u>Darwin</u>
Q3	Familiar to 80s & 90s movie viewers from her film roles such as <i>White Mischief</i> , <i>Presumed Innocent</i> and <i>The Player</i> , what Italian-born British/Australian actress married her first cousin Carlo Mantegazza in 1997, to the apparent disapproval of many members of her family?	Greta <u>Scacchi</u> ["ska-kee"]
Q4	The 1960s novels <i>The Time of the Hero</i> , <i>The Green House</i> and <i>Conversation in The Cathedral</i> are among the notable works of which Peruvian author , winner of the 2010 Nobel Prize for Literature? In 1965 he married his first cousin Patricia, a marriage which lasted half a century until they separated in 2015.	Mario <u>Vargas Llosa</u> ["yosa"] - accept either surname