

Irish Quiz League questions

Season 6 Round 4 — 9th March 2026

Questions by Dan O'Malley

All questions correct as of the above date



Individual questions

Round 1

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Premiering simultaneously on Netflix and in cinemas in 2019, the movie <i>El Camino</i> was a sequel to what TV series , frequently ranked among the best shows of all time?	<u>Breaking Bad</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Which familiar German car brand is making its entry into Formula 1 for the first time in the 2026 season, after purchasing the former Sauber team and enlisting Gabriel Bortoleto and Nico Hülkenberg as drivers?	<u>Audi</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	The city of Chichen Itza on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula is the most famous site associated with what Mesoamerican civilisation , noted among other things for their prowess in mathematics, using a base-20 numbering system and developing an extremely precise 365-day calendar based on astronomical observations?	<u>Mayan</u> civilisation / <u>Mayans</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	According to a recent Switcher.ie study widely reported in the Irish media, which Leinster town was ranked the best town in Ireland for work-life balance, due to its property prices, local amenities and connectivity for hybrid working? This coastal town with a population of over 13,000 is the third-largest in its county.	<u>Arklow</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	The French men's football team that won the UEFA Euro 2000 tournament contained no less than 6 players from the English Premier League: the highest number of EPL players in any Euros-winning men's squad. 3 of those 6 were Arsenal players: please name any TWO of them?	Patrick <u>Vieira</u> , Thierry <u>Henry</u> , Emmanuel <u>Petit</u> (accept any two)
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	Name the Derry-born actress and singer whose breakthrough role was as Bernie, one of the titular band's three backing singers in the 1991 movie <i>The Commitments</i> ? Since then, her eclectic CV has included film roles in <i>Pulp Fiction</i> , <i>Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace</i> and Guy Ritchie's 2009 <i>Sherlock Holmes</i> movie.	Bronagh <u>Gallagher</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	What word connects the Circle line on the London Underground, the second-longest river in China and a 2000 song by Coldplay that was their first Top Ten single in both the UK and Ireland?	<u>Yellow</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	Passing away in 1967 a few weeks shy of his 99th birthday, who was the longest-lived US Vice President in history? He had served as VP during the first two of Franklin D. Roosevelt's terms in office, from 1933 to 1941.	John Nance <u>Garner</u>

Round 3

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	One of the best-selling video games of 2025 was a remastered version of what action/role-playing game , the fourth in <i>The Elder Scrolls</i> series, which had originally been released in 2006?	<u>Oblivion</u>
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	Last October, which American fast food chain opened its first Irish outlet since the 1980s in Cork's Mahon Point shopping centre? Established in 1969 in Ohio, the chain was named after founder Dave Thomas's 8-year-old daughter, who is also depicted on the company's logo.	<u>Wendy's</u>
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	Syd and Eddie were the given names of what British comedy duo , who got their big break on <i>Opportunity Knocks</i> in the 1970s, had their own prime-time show on the BBC in the 1980s and whose partnership lasted until the younger of the two passed away in 2020 after contracting COVID-19?	<u>Little & Large</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	Name the 18th century English writer and lexicographer who single-handedly wrote the groundbreaking 1775 reference work <i>A Dictionary of the English Language</i> ? He was memorably played by Robbie Coltrane in an episode of <i>Blackadder the Third</i> in which Baldrick seemingly destroys the only copy of the work-in-progress dictionary.	Dr. Samuel <u>Johnson</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	Located to the rear of the uppermost part of the brain, what region of the cerebral cortex in mammals is responsible for spatial awareness and for processing sensory information from around the body: in particular the senses of touch, pain and temperature?	<u>Parietal</u> lobe
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	The 1944 film <i>To Have and Have Not</i> starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall is unique as the only film in which two Nobel Literature laureates were involved in the screenplay. The first was which American author , who wrote the 1937 novel of the same name on which the film was based?	Ernest <u>Hemingway</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	In Japanese cuisine, maki (a.k.a. makizushi) is a cylindrical sushi roll consisting of fish and rice surrounded with nori, i.e. dried edible seaweed. What variant of maki , whose name means "hand roll", is instead a cone-shaped roll with the ingredients spilling out of the wide end of the cone?	<u>Temaki</u>
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	The smallest mammal native to Ireland is the pygmy species of what insectivorous mammal ? Easily recognisable due to its long snout, this tiny creature weighs an average of 6 grams (about the same as a 50 cent coin) but its fast metabolism means it must eat almost constantly to survive.	<u>Shrew</u>

Round 5

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Which familiar American car brand is making its entry into Formula 1 for the first time in the 2026 season, after setting up a brand new team and enlisting Sergio Pérez and Valtteri Bottas as drivers?	<u>Cadillac</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	What word connects the Central line on the London Underground, Morgan Freeman's character in <i>The Shawshank Redemption</i> and a 2012 album by Taylor Swift that was her first chart-topping LP in both the UK and Ireland?	<u>Red</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	According to the same recent Switcher.ie study, which Connacht town was ranked the most affordable location in Ireland to live and work, with a median house price of €196,000? This coastal town with a population of over 10,000 is the second-largest in its county.	<u>Ballina</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	What year of the 21st century was particularly notable in the Mayan calendar, as it marked the end of the so-called "Long Count", a 5,126-year-long cycle? From this, an urban myth developed that the Mayans had "predicted the end of the world" to occur in this year – which in fact they (thankfully) had not.	<u>2012</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	Name the Dublin-born actress and singer whose breakthrough role was as Natalie, one of the titular band's three backing singers in the 1991 movie <i>The Commitments</i> ? Since then, her eclectic CV has included TV roles in <i>Father Ted</i> , <i>Dexter</i> and <i>Downton Abbey</i> .	Maria <u>Doyle Kennedy</u> (accept either surname)
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	The largest mammal native to Ireland is the red species of what animal ? Present in Ireland for over 5,000 years, the most substantial native herd of these creatures can be found in the Killarney National Park in County Kerry.	<u>Deer</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	What variant of maki , whose name means "inside-out roll", is a type of sushi roll which rather than having nori/seaweed as the outer layer, instead has rice on the outside and nori inside?	<u>Uramaki</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	The other three English Premier League players in France's Euro 2000-winning men's squad all played for Chelsea at the time: please name any TWO of them?	Didier <u>Deschamps</u> , Marcel <u>Desailly</u> , Frank <u>Leboeuf</u> (accept any two)

Round 7

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	The bulk of the screenplay of <i>To Have and Have Not</i> was written by what other Nobel Literature laureate , a close friend of director Howard Hawks, with whom he would also collaborate on the screenplay of <i>The Big Sleep</i> two years later? (Although this American writer was not yet a Nobel laureate: he didn't receive his Prize for Literature until 1949)	William <u>Faulkner</u>
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	Located at the rearmost part of the brain, what region of the cerebral cortex in mammals is the brain's visual processing centre, responsible for (among other things) colour and depth perception, and object recognition?	<u>Occipital</u> lobe
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	Premiering simultaneously on HBO Max and in cinemas in 2021, the movie <i>The Many Saints of Newark</i> was a prequel to what TV series , frequently ranked among the best shows of all time?	The <u>Sopranos</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	Tommy & Bobby were the given names of what British comedy duo , who got their big break on <i>Opportunity Knocks</i> in the 1970s, had their own prime-time show on ITV in the 1980s and whose partnership lasted until the younger of the two passed away in 2020 after contracting COVID-19?	<u>Cannon & Ball</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	Name the early 19th century American writer and lexicographer who single-handedly wrote the groundbreaking 1828 reference work <i>American Dictionary of the English Language</i> ? His work popularised the American spelling of words such as "color" and "favorite" which persist to this day.	Noah <u>Webster</u>
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	Released in 2002, four years before <i>Oblivion</i> , what was the title of the third in <i>The Elder Scrolls</i> series of action/role-playing games? It won several Game of the Year awards at the time and has since featured on multiple lists of the best videogames of all time.	<u>Morrowind</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	Which American fast food chain is due to open its first ever Republic of Ireland outlet this spring in Dublin's Blanchardstown Centre? Established in 1972 in New Orleans, this fried chicken chain was named after a movie character which had earned Gene Hackman an Oscar earlier that year – not as many might assume, named after a classic cartoon character.	<u>Popeyes</u> (named after Popeye Doyle, Hackman's character in <i>The French Connection</i>)
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Passing away in 1920 on his 96th birthday, who was the second-longest-lived US Vice President in history? He had served as VP during Benjamin Harrison's sole term in office, from 1889 to 1893.	Levi P. <u>Morton</u>

Team questions

Player-Managers

Q1	Born in 1951, name the Scotsman who is arguably the most successful player-manager in English football history? Taking over as Liverpool manager in 1985 near the end of his playing career, he led the club to a League and FA Cup double a year later.	Kenny <u>Dalglish</u>
Q2	Player-coaches are nowadays extremely rare in US sport but were once commonplace, such as what basketball legend , winner of 11 NBA championships with the Boston Celtics between 1957 and 1969 – the first 9 as a player but the last 2 as player-coach?	Bill <u>Russell</u>
Q3	When Donegal won their first ever Ulster Senior Football Championship in 1972, they did so under what man , appointed as player-manager only a few months prior? After retiring as a player, this man returned to manage Donegal on several more occasions, most successfully in 1992 when he guided the county to their first senior All-Ireland title.	Brian <u>McEniff</u>
Q4	Both playing for and coaching the Cincinnati Reds in the mid-1980s, who was the most recent player-coach in Major League Baseball? This man holds the all-time record for most MLB games played (3,562), but ended his career in disgrace in 1989 when he was banned for life after a betting scandal.	Pete <u>Rose</u>

Vwls Nt Rqrd

(None of these answers contain the conventional vowels A, E, I, O or U)

Q1	The Irish actor who won a Golden Globe in 2006 for playing Elvis Presley in a TV miniseries and the Olympic gold medallist who won the 2025 series of RTÉ's <i>Dancing with the Stars</i> both share what name of Welsh origin as their middle and first names respectively?	<u>Rhys</u> (Jonathan Rhys Meyers and Rhys McClenaghan)
Q2	Best described as a smaller-scale version of IKEA, what Nordic retail chain selling furniture and household goods was founded in Denmark in 1979 and currently operates over 3,000 stores worldwide, including 25 in Ireland?	<u>Jysk</u> ["yusk"] or ["jisk"]
Q3	Nowadays headquartered in London, what is Europe's largest bank by total assets, with just shy of US\$3 trillion according to April 2025 S&P data? Although founded by Scotsman Thomas Sutherland in 1865, it had no substantial presence in UK retail banking until 1992, when it took over Midland Bank.	<u>HSBC</u>
Q4	Usually depicted as a black-robed goddess who rides through the sky in a horse-drawn chariot, what goddess is the personification of night in Greek mythology?	<u>Nyx</u>

Only a Hit in Ireland

Q1	American country singer Nanci Griffith had her first pop hit in 1988 when which song from her album <i>Lone Star State of Mind</i> reached No. 9 in the Irish charts? The song failed to chart in any other country and is nowadays best known via a highly successful cover version by Bette Midler which won the 1991 Grammy for Song of the Year.	<u>From a Distance</u>
Q2	Reaching a peak of No. 17 in May 1979, Ireland was the only country where which Elton John song reached the Top 40 upon its original release? This Philadelphia soul-style track became a much bigger hit decades later, reaching the top of the UK charts following its use on a 2003 Sky Sports commercial.	<u>Are You Ready For Love</u>
Q3	Featuring a then-13-year-old Sarah Jessica Parker and her siblings as uncredited background singers, <i>Flowers are Red</i> was an Irish Top 20 hit in 1979 for what American singer/songwriter? Failing to chart in any other countries, the song did not match the success of his signature song, the 1974 US chart-topper <i>Cat's in the Hat</i> .	Harry <u>Chapin</u> ["chay-pin"]
Q4	Which English singer and actress (1946-2025) reached Number 1 in the Irish charts in 1976 with <i>Dreamin' My Dreams</i> , a cover of a Waylon Jennings track? The song only charted in Ireland – perhaps not surprising as this woman's music career was in a lull at the time and would remain so until her comeback album <i>Broken English</i> three years later.	Marianne <u>Faithfull</u>

Just A Load of Hot Air

Q1	What name is given to the warm, dry and gusty winds that blow down the eastern slopes of North America's Rocky Mountains? The name comes from a Native American people of the Pacific Northwest – and in turn was the name given to a Boeing twin-rotor heavy-lift helicopter used by the US Air Force since the 1960s.	<u>Chinook</u>
Q2	A 1951 Humphrey Bogart film, a 1927 Noël Coward play and a model of Volkswagen car produced between 1974 and 2018 are all items named after what warm Mediterranean wind that blows northwards from the Sahara during the summer months?	<u>Scirocco</u> / <u>Sirocco</u>
Q3	The world's largest hot air balloon festival takes place every October in what US city? With a population of over 750,000, this is the largest city in its state but is not the state capital.	<u>Albuquerque</u>
Q4	What is the single-syllable name of the infamous hot and dry wind that blows eastwards over North India and Pakistan in the months of May and June? Often reaching temperatures of 50 °C (120 °F), it is recommended to avoid exposing children, the elderly and pets to this wind, due to the risk of potentially fatal heatstroke.	<u>Loo</u>

Fantastic Beasts

Q1	The so-called "Patterson-Gimlin film" is a famous 1967 film clip shot in a forest in northern California which supposedly depicts which tall, hairy ape-like creature , said to inhabit the forests of the Pacific Northwest according to a widespread urban myth?	<u>Bigfoot / Sasquatch</u>
Q2	In Greek myth, Karkínos was a giant example of what creature , which the goddess Hera used to attack Hercules while he was attempting to complete his twelve labours? After Hercules killed the creature, Hera memorialised it by placing it among the stars as one of the constellations of the Zodiac.	<u>Crab</u>
Q3	Mentioned in both Shakespeare's <i>Richard III</i> and <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , what mythical creature is usually depicted as having the body of a dragon and the head of a rooster?	<u>Cockatrice</u>
Q4	Native to the forests of northern Pennsylvania, what mythical creature is said to spend most of its time crying due to its ugly appearance – and when captured, has the ability to dissolve completely into a puddle of tears? Fans of Genesis will have an advantage here as the band titled a song after this creature on their 1976 album <i>A Trick of the Tail</i> .	<u>Squonk</u>

Died in 1969

Q1	Passing away in September 1969 aged 79, what Asian revolutionary and statesman was the first president of North Vietnam after it declared its independence in 1945? Considered the father of modern Vietnam, the city of Saigon was renamed in his honour several years after his death.	<u>Ho</u> Chi Minh
Q2	In June 1969, what Hollywood icon died aged 47 of an accidental overdose of barbiturates in London, where she had been performing a series of concerts: a sequence of events depicted in an Oscar-winning 2019 film?	Judy <u>Garland</u>
Q3	Another American icon who died in 1969 aged 47 was what novelist and poet who died in October of that year from complications brought about by years of alcohol abuse? Among the dozen novels he published during his lifetime were <i>The Dharma Bums</i> (1958) and <i>Big Sur</i> (1962).	Jack <u>Kerouac</u>
Q4	The British physicist C.F. Powell, who died in August 1969 aged 65, had received the 1950 Nobel Prize for Physics for his study of what category of subatomic particle , composed of an equal number of quarks and antiquarks?	<u>Mesons</u> (accept <u>pi-mesons</u> or <u>pions</u>)

Unsung Heroines

(A round to mark International Women's Day (March 8th) by shining a light on some underappreciated female pioneers)

Q1	In 1967, American athlete Kathrine Switzer became the first woman to officially take part in what famous annual race , first run in 1897? The rules at the time technically did not allow women to compete, so she registered using her initials, to the displeasure of officials who chased after her in an attempt to eject her from the race (she escaped and finished anyway).	<u>Boston Marathon</u>
Q2	Alice Ball (1892-1916) was a groundbreaking African-American chemist who produced the first effective treatment for what disease , the subject of a deep-rooted social stigma going back centuries? After her unexpected death aged just 24, others claimed credit for her work, so her true contributions remained relatively unknown until the 1970s.	<u>Leprosy</u> / <u>Hansen's</u> disease
Q3	Passing away in January 2026 at the age of 86, what American civil rights pioneer was arrested in March 1955 when she was a 15-year-old high school student, for refusing to give up her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama? This happened 9 months before the more famous case of Rosa Parks performing a similar action.	Claudette <u>Colvin</u>
Q4	"A bold and determined woman who challenged tradition and prevailed" – these words are inscribed on a memorial to what Irishwoman , unveiled in her hometown of Skerries, County Dublin shortly before her death in October 2025? Her victory in a landmark 1973 Supreme Court case allowed married couples to legally use contraception for the first time and paved the way for the liberalisation of birth control in Ireland.	Mary "May" <u>McGee</u> (birth name Mary <u>Grimes</u>)

One-Series Wonders

(4 questions on TV shows that despite a positive reception from critics and/or audiences, only lasted one season)

Q1	Zoë Kravitz starred as a record store owner with a history of failed relationships in what American TV series , a gender-flipped adaptation of a 1995 Nick Hornby novel and its 2000 movie version, which starred John Cusack? Debuting on Hulu in February 2020, it received positive critical reviews but was not renewed for a second season.	<u>High Fidelity</u>
Q2	Often topping lists of "shows cancelled too soon" is what 1999 teen comedy/drama set in a Detroit high school in the early 1980s? Although it only lasted one series of 15 episodes, it launched the careers of several of its young cast, including James Franco, Seth Rogen and Linda Cardellini.	<u>Freaks and Geeks</u>
Q3	Premiering later this month in the Dundee Repertory Theatre is a stage musical adaptation of what 1994 BBC sitcom which follows the cabin crew of a fictional Scottish airline? This short-lived but fondly-remembered series starred Alan Cumming, who is also returning for the stage version.	The <u>High Life</u>
Q4	Co-created by Barry Murphy of <i>Après Match</i> fame, what 2007 RTÉ series was a comedic re-dubbing of the Polish soap opera <i>First Love</i> ? Despite only running for a single series of 8 episodes, the show's surreal humour saw it gather a cult following online.	<u>Soupy Norman</u>