

Irish Quiz League questions

Season 6 Round 7 — 27th April 2026

Questions by John Nolan

All questions correct as of the above date



Individual questions

Round 1

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Stretching over a 1,600 km long strip of land west of the Andes Mountains, which plateau in the north of Chile is the driest non-polar desert in the world? Rather than the intense heat of many other deserts, a lack of precipitation is the most prominent characteristic of this region.	<u>Atacama</u> desert
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Originally called mantou, what type of yeast-leavened filled bun is popular in various Chinese cuisines? While there are many variations in fillings (meat or vegetarian), the buns are most often made from wheat flour and steamed.	<u>Bao</u> buns / <u>Baozi</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	Several football managers in this season's English Premier League have been sacked after very short, disastrous terms. Which manager was employed by Nottingham Forest for just 39 days earlier this season? Between September 9th and October 18th, he presided over six defeats and two draws from his eight matches in charge.	Ange <u>Postecoglou</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	The earliest known example of which type of roof is credited to Pierre Lescot, used on a section of the Louvre built around 1550? This gambrel-style hip roof, characterised by two slopes on each of its sides, became especially fashionable in the mid-19th century during the Second French Empire of Napoleon III.	<u>Mansard</u> roof
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	In existence since January 2025, which two comedians (one American-born, the other British) collaborate on the weekly podcast <i>The Bishop Exchange</i> ? Both of their first names are required.	<u>Des Bishop</u> and <u>John Bishop</u> (need both)
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	Which modern musical mode is a strictly diatonic scale corresponding to the white keys of the piano from D to D? Named after one of the four major ethnic groups of Ancient Greece, this mode can heard in tunes such as <i>Scarborough Fair</i> through to <i>Get Lucky</i> by Daft Punk.	<u>Dorian</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	Last week, President Catherine Connolly called her first meeting of which body , established by the Constitution of Ireland to advise the President in the exercise of many of her reserve powers? This body consists of a number of current government officials, some former office holders and up to seven individuals of the president's own choosing.	<u>Council of State</u> / <u>An Chomhairle Stáit</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	Composed by Henry Mancini, the theme tune to which American private eye TV show (1958-61) was later used as background music in several scenes of the 1980 film <i>The Blues Brothers</i> ?	<u>Peter Gunn</u>

Round 3

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	Due to its status as a common benchmark, the computer model 3DBenchy is believed to be the world's most frequently 3D printed object. Released in 2015 by its creators, Daniel Norée and Paulo Kiefe, 3DBenchy is a model (albeit a cartoonish one) of what item ?	<u>Tugboat</u>
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	In 2026, in which sport did married couple Evan Bates and Madison Chock earn two Olympic medals alongside each other? These American competitors won gold in the team event before capturing a silver medal together four days later.	<u>Ice Dance</u> / <u>Ice Skating</u>
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	In Greek myth, which figure , half-woman and half-snake, was the mother of many of the most famous monsters in that pantheon, including Cerberus and Chimera? Her name is today used for the four extant species of <i>Tachyglossidae</i> , mammals native to Australia and New Guinea.	<u>Echidna</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	Comoros is the only country in which regional organisation to be located entirely in the Southern Hemisphere? Formed in Cairo in 1945 with seven member nations, this organisation has since grown to include 22 countries.	<u>Arab League</u> / <u>League of Arab States</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	After meeting with Irish Taoiseach Eamon de Valera in 1947, fisherman Edward Maddrell was subsequently recorded the following year by the Irish Folklore Commission. At the time of his death in 1974, at the age of 97, Maddrell was the last surviving native speaker of which language ?	<u>Manx</u>
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	Fat Les were a British band consisting of Blur bassist Alex James, actor Keith Allen, and artist Damien Hirst. Their biggest hit was which football-themed 1998 single , named after a curry dish?	<u>Vindaloo</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	First described in a 1956 paper by mathematician Edward Friend, which simple sorting algorithm repeatedly steps through a list, comparing the current element with the one after it and swapping their values if needed? Ignored at the time, this algorithm was rediscovered in the 1960s by computer scientist Kenneth Iverson, who coined its most commonly-used name.	<u>Bubble</u> sort / <u>Sinking</u> sort / <u>Sorting exchange</u> algorithm
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Wormholes are the principal means of space travel in which 1994 sci-fi movie and its subsequent spin-off TV series? The central plot device of this franchise is an ancient transportation network consisting of ring-shaped devices, which generate artificial wormholes to allow transport and communication.	<u>Stargate</u>

Round 5

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Composed by Ron Grainer, the theme tune to which British private eye TV show (1967-68) was later re-used as the theme tune to 90s entertainment show <i>TFI Friday</i> ?	<u>Man in a Suitcase</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Streetband were a British rock group of the late 1970s who are nowadays only known for two things: the subsequent successful solo career of their lead singer Paul Young, and their sole hit record: a novelty 1978 track about which everyday foodstuff , commonly eaten for breakfast?	<u>Toast</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	Often featuring on buildings with a mansard roof, what is the name for a structure, often containing a window, that projects vertically above the plane of a pitched roof? Such structures are quite common throughout Ireland today, especially if a building has undergone an attic conversion.	<u>Dormer</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	President Catherine Connolly convened the meeting of the Council of State last week to discuss the constitutionality of which government bill ? While the President expressed significant concerns with the bill, she signed it without referral to the Supreme Court, to allow future court challenges.	<u>International Protection</u> Bill
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	Also called the natural minor scale, which modern musical mode is a diatonic scale corresponding to the white keys of a piano from A to A? Named after one of the four major ethnic groups of Ancient Greece, this mode can heard in tunes such as <i>God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen</i> through to <i>Losing my Religion</i> by R.E.M.	<u>Aeolian</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	In 2026, in which sport did married couple Clíodhna ["clee-nah"] and Claudia Moloney-MacDonald become the first married couple to be on opposite sides in an international match?	<u>Rugby</u> Union (England v Ireland in Women's Six Nations)
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	At the time of her death in 1777 aged 85, Dolly Pentreath was claimed to be the last native speaker of which language ? This theory was promoted by Daines Barrington, then Vice President of the Royal Society in London, who had met her in 1768.	<u>Cornish</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	The Upside Down is a fictional interdimensional wormhole that featured in which sci-fi/horror series , that debuted on Netflix in 2016?	<u>Stranger Things</u>

Round 7

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	Since 1977, Comoros has been a member of which international organisation , formed in Niger in 1970 by the representatives of 21 states, all current or former members of the French colonial empire?	International Organisation of La Francophonie / Organisation internationale de la Francophonie
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	A mathematical model created in 1975 by early computer graphics researcher Martin Newell at the University of Utah is today considered the 3D equivalent of a "Hello, World!" program. What everyday object does this computer graphics model depict?	Utah teapot / Newell teapot
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	In existence since September 2024, name either of the two hosts (one Irish, one British) of the comedy podcast <i>What Did You Do Yesterday?</i>	Max Rushden or David O'Doherty (accept either)
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	What type of Chinese dumpling , also popular in Japan, typically consists of a filling wrapped into a thinly rolled piece of dough, which is then sealed by pressing the edges together? Traditionally served with a black vinegar and soy sauce dip, they can also be served in a soup.	Gyoza / Jiaozi
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	Several football managers in this season's English Premier League have been sacked after very short, disastrous terms. Which manager was employed by Tottenham Hotspur for just 43 days earlier this year? Between February 13th and March 29th, he presided over one win, five defeats and one draw from his seven matches in charge.	Igor Tudor
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	Which sorting algorithm was first published by British computer scientist Tony Hoare in 1961? This algorithm works by selecting a "pivot" element from an array and partitioning the other elements into two sub-arrays, which are then sorted recursively.	Quick sort
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	A significant cause of the aridity of the Atacama desert is the constant temperature inversion caused by which cool north-flowing ocean current off the western coast of South America? This current is named after a German naturalist, even though it was actually discovered 250 years before him.	Humboldt current
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	In Greek myth, which figures were half-human and half-bird creatures, often believed to be a personification of storm winds? In the modern day, a large neotropical species of eagle, native to Central America and the northern half of South America, is named after these figures.	Harpy / Harpies (bird is the Harpy Eagle)

Team questions

Cry Babies

Q1	Name either of the men who have had top 10 hits in Ireland with the song <i>Crying</i> ? The song's author didn't chart with its original release in 1961, but he did reach No. 9 with it in 1992 as a duet with k.d. lang. The other man's cover of the song was a No. 1 hit in 1980.	Roy <u>Orbison</u> / Don <u>McLean</u> (accept either)
Q2	What word immediately precedes the word "cry" in the titles of hit songs by The Cure (1979), Guns N' Roses (1991) and Madonna (1996)?	<u>Don't</u> (<i>Boys Don't Cry, Don't Cry, Don't Cry for me Argentina</i>)
Q3	Mari Wilson (1983), Justin Timberlake (2003) and Michael Buble (2009) all reached the top 10 of the Irish charts with songs bearing what four word title?	<u>Cry Me a River</u>
Q4	While the most famous song called <i>Big Girls Don't Cry</i> was released by The Four Seasons in 1962, the only single to top the Irish charts with that title was a completely different piece. This 2007 song was the first number one on the Irish charts for which singer, born in California in 1975?	<u>Fergie</u> / Stacy <u>Ferguson</u>

20 Years of the IBA

(To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Irish Book Awards, the organisers conducted a survey to pick the public's 20 favourite books from 20 years of IBA award-winners)

Q1	Which 2018 novel by Mayo writer Sally Rooney made the IBA's top 20 list? This book was the subject of a highly successful TV adaptation in 2020.	<u>Normal People</u>
Q2	Also included in the top 20 list is <i>Ninety-Nine Words for Rain (and One for Sun)</i> , the final book by which Irish writer and broadcaster, who passed away in October 2025 at the age of 55, a few weeks after the book was published?	Manchán <u>Magan</u>
Q3	The 2022 book <i>Trespases</i> made the top 20. It was the debut novel by which writer, born in County Down in 1967? This book was also subsequently adapted for TV, airing on the UK's Channel 4 in 2025.	Louise <u>Kennedy</u>
Q4	Which 2023 book by Eilish Fisher made the final 20? One of the few children's books included, this work tells the tale of its two title characters in snowy prehistoric Ireland.	<u>Fia and the Last Snow Deer</u>

Famous Streets

Q1	Which street in the Marylebone district of the City of Westminster plays a central role in both the works of Arthur Conan Doyle and in a 1978 hit by Gerry Rafferty?	<u>Baker</u> Street
Q2	Which famous tree-lined pedestrian street stretches for 1.2 kilometres through the centre of Barcelona, connecting the Plaça de Catalunya in its centre with the Christopher Columbus Monument at Port Vell?	La <u>Rambla</u> (accept Las <u>Ramblas</u>)
Q3	Even though it has been in operation since 1902, Train Street in which Asian city has become such a social media sensation in the last 20 years that authorities closed it to the public in 2019? However, it reopened in 2023.	<u>Hanoi</u>
Q4	Paseo de la Reforma, originally named Paseo de la Emperatriz, is one of the tourist attractions in which capital city ? Modelled after the great boulevards of Europe, it includes such sites as the Angel of Independence, Metro Garibaldi and the Monument to José de San Martín.	<u>Mexico</u> City

The Gaelic Revival

Q1	While there had been renewed interest in Irish language and customs throughout the 19th century, the so-called Gaelic Revival was spearheaded with the launch of which organisation in 1893? This organisation still exists today, with the aim of promoting the Irish language in Ireland and worldwide.	<u>Conradh na Gaeilge</u> ["kunn-ruh nah gail-guh"] / <u>Gaelic League</u>
Q2	Who was the first president of Conradh na Gaeilge ? Born in Castlerea, County Roscommon, this man's later standing in Irish society was so high that he was elected unopposed as the first President of Ireland in 1938.	Douglas <u>Hyde</u> / Dubhghlas <u>de hÍde</u>
Q3	The founding secretary of Conradh na Gaeilge was which academic , born in Glenarm, County Antrim? He wrote the 1913 article <i>The North Began</i> which prompted the foundation of the Irish Volunteers, and then served as Chief-of-Staff of its minority faction after it split in 1914 at the start of World War I.	Eoin <u>MacNeill</u>
Q4	Eoin MacNeill was also the founding editor of which Irish language newspaper , published from 1899 to 1931? From 1903-09 this paper was edited by Padraig Pearse, the teacher and barrister who later became a key figure in the 1916 Easter Rising.	An <u>Claidheamh Soluis</u> / An <u>Claíomh Solais</u> ["on clive sull-ish"] / <u>Sword of Light</u>

Oil Paintings?

Q1	The current record holder for the world's most expensive painting, <i>Salvator Mundi</i> , is presumed to be the work of Leonardo da Vinci. It was purchased at auction in 2017 for US\$450m by Badr bin Abdullah, a member of which royal family ? The purchase was allegedly on behalf of the state of Abu Dhabi, but this is also now disputed.	<u>Al Saud / Saudi Arabia</u>
Q2	The previous record holder for most expensive painting when it was purchased by the state of Qatar in 2011, and still the third most expensive painting ever sold, <i>The Card Players</i> was a work by which French Post-Impressionist artist (1839-1906)? Among this artist's other notable paintings are a series of depictions of Mont Sainte-Victoire in the south of France.	Paul <u>Cézanne</u>
Q3	The fourth most expensive painting, costing the state of Qatar US\$210m in 2014, is <i>When Will You Marry?</i> , painted in 1892 by which French Post-Impressionist ? The original name of this painting is <i>Nafea faa ipoipo?</i> , the same question in the language of Tahiti.	Paul <u>Gauguin</u>
Q4	Spanish artist Pablo Picasso created which series of 15 paintings and drawings in the mid-1950s, inspired by an 1834 painting by Eugène Delacroix? One of this series was purchased at auction in 2015 by the then Prime Minister of Qatar for US\$179m, which is still the ninth most expensive purchase price for a painting today.	<u>Les Femmes d'Alger / Women of Algiers</u> (after <i>The Women of Algiers in their Apartment</i> by Delacroix)

Arthur Mathews

Q1	Irish-born writer Arthur Mathews became famous in the early 1990s as a contributing writer to comedy shows such as <i>The Day Today</i> and <i>The Fast Show</i> . Which now-controversial man was Mathews' writing partner in these early days, most notably on their massive hit, <i>Father Ted</i> ?	Graham <u>Linehan</u>
Q2	Alongside Michael Nugent and Paul Woodfull, Mathews created which 2005 mock-epic melodrama about an ancient Roman legion preparing for war? However, as the title suggested, what was actually being portrayed were events that had taken place in Saipan in 2002.	<u>I, Keano</u>
Q3	Arthur Mathews and Paul Woodfull had collaborated previously in their youth, when they were both part of which U2 parody group ? This act's name was itself a parody of a U2 album.	The <u>Joshua Trio</u>
Q4	In 2024, Mathews published the book <i>Walled in by Hate</i> , a biography of which Irish politician who served as Minister for Justice from 1922 to 1927? This man was assassinated at the age of 35 in 1927.	Kevin <u>O'Higgins</u>

Irish Michelin Stars

Q1	Founded in 2017, The Oak Room restaurant has had a Michelin star since 2020. It is located in which Limerick town , to the south of the city? This restaurant will undoubtedly be frequented by many professional golfers in September 2027.	<u>Adare</u>
Q2	In 1996, which restaurant on Dublin's Upper Merrion Street became the first in Ireland to be awarded two Michelin stars? This restaurant is named after its founder, a French chef who moved to Ireland in 1981. (First and last name required)	<u>Patrick Guilbaud</u> (full name needed)
Q3	Which restaurant , located just outside the small Galway village of Bullaun, won Irish Restaurant of the Year in 2022 and received a Michelin star in 2025? This restaurant's name is the Latin word for "wood".	<u>Lignum</u>
Q4	Which Turkish restaurant located in Baltimore, County Cork, was awarded its first Michelin star in 2021 and a second in 2023? This establishment is named after its head chef, a native of Ankara, who was previously head chef at Mews, another Michelin-starred restaurant in Baltimore.	<u>Dede</u> @ Customs House (The chef is Ahmet Dede)

Take to the Boards

Q1	Designed by Alan R. Moon and sharing its name with a song by The Beatles, the first in which series of railway-themed turn-based strategy board games was released in 2004?	<u>Ticket to Ride</u>
Q2	In which board game , designed by Elizabeth Hargrave and first published in 2019, do players compete to attract birds to their wildlife preserves? An immediate success upon its release, it also won the Connoisseur award at the 2019 Spiel des Jahres.	<u>Wingspan</u>
Q3	Which game , designed by Susan McKinley Ross and first published in 2006, is played with 108 wooden tiles, each one painted with one of six shapes (clover, four-point star, eight-point star, square, circle and diamond) in one of six colours?	<u>Qwirkle</u>
Q4	Which abstract strategy board game was designed by Michael Kiesling and first released in 2017? In this game, players collect sets of similarly-coloured tiles which they use to fill up a 5x5 square board. The tiles used are based on traditional Iberian painted tin-glazed ceramics.	<u>Azul</u>