

Irish Quiz League questions

2026 Cup round 1 — 11th May 2026

Questions by Dan O'Malley

All questions correct as of the above date



Individual questions

Round 1

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	There is only one Irish county whose English name begins and ends with the same letter. Which Leinster county is this?	<u>Wicklow</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Prior to receiving its current name in 1976, what African capital city had been known as Lourenço Marques?	<u>Maputo</u> (capital of Mozambique)
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	Born in Switzerland in 1936, who was the highly controversial president of soccer's governing body FIFA between 1998 and 2015? His term in office ended in disgrace due to his implication in a wide-ranging corruption scandal.	Josef "Sepp" <u>Blatter</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	Born in Donegal in 2001, name the Irish actress who played the title role in the acclaimed 2017-19 Netflix series <i>Anne With an "E"</i> , based on the classic children's novel <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> ? More recently she played the recurring role of Vickie in the final two seasons of <i>Stranger Things</i> .	Amybeth <u>McNulty</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	What 4-letter word , also the name of an emotion, is used in tennis to refer to a score of zero points or games?	<u>Love</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	It's not Bram Stoker, but name the Irish author (1814-1873), known for his Gothic tales and mystery novels such as <i>Uncle Silas</i> and <i>The House by the Churchyard</i> , who is generally considered one of the greatest ghost story writers of the Victorian era?	Sheridan <u>Le Fanu</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	Estimated to affect over 300 million people worldwide, what is the most common type of arthritis, in which joint cartilage gradually deteriorates, causing pain as the underlying bones rub together?	<u>Osteo</u> arthritis
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	The daughter of Cronus and Rhea, who was considered the queen of the gods in Greek mythology? Both the sister and wife of Zeus, she was also venerated as the goddess of marriage and childbirth.	<u>Hera</u>

Round 3

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	One of the small handful of NFL teams to have lost their only Super Bowl appearance, what NFC West franchise made it to Super Bowl XLIII ["43"] in 2009 and were on course for victory before the Pittsburgh Steelers scored a game-winning touchdown with 35 seconds to go? (Franchise name required and sufficient)	Arizona <u>Cardinals</u>
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	With songwriting assistance from his brothers, Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees wrote and co-produced what 1980 album by Barbra Streisand, the biggest-selling of her long career? The title track, a duet between Streisand and Gibb, was a worldwide hit, as was the single <i>Woman in Love</i> .	<u>Guilty</u>
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	According to a 2020 study, what was identified as the scariest horror movie ever made, determined by measuring the average heart rate of viewers as they watched it? This 2012 film starred Ethan Hawke as a struggling true-crime writer who discovers a box of snuff films in his attic that unleashes a terrifying supernatural entity.	<u>Sinister</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	A fixture of Irish daytime TV in the 80s and 90s, what Australian soap opera (1981-1994) was set in a nursing hospital in the fictional rural town of Wandin Valley, New South Wales?	A <u>Country Practice</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	Sometimes informally called a "mileometer", what is the proper name of the instrument on a vehicle dashboard that measures the total distance travelled by the vehicle since it was manufactured?	<u>Odometer</u>
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	What London street in Mayfair is famous for its association with the fashion trade, specifically bespoke tailoring, a tradition dating back to the 19th century?	<u>Savile Row</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	What type of unleavened flatbread is an important part of Jewish cuisine, traditionally eaten during Passover? While it can be made as a soft bread resembling a pita, it is more often made as a thin, crispy cracker due to its long shelf life.	<u>Matzah</u> / <u>matzo</u> / <u>mazza</u> / <u>mazzah</u>
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Although the scandal-ridden Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor has been stripped of his royal titles and duties, he has not yet been removed from the royal line of succession. He is currently eighth in line to the British throne, one place ahead of who ? This royal was born in 1988 and has been married to millionaire property developer Edoardo Mapelli Mozzi since 2021. (First name required and sufficient)	Princess <u>Beatrice</u>

Round 5

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Another of the small handful of NFL teams to have lost their only Super Bowl appearance, what AFC South franchise made it to Super Bowl XXXIV ["34"] in 2000 but narrowly lost to the St. Louis Rams, missing out on a game-equalling touchdown in the dying seconds of the game when receiver Kevin Dyson was stopped one yard short of the end zone? (Franchise name required and sufficient)	Tennessee <u>Titans</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Barry Gibb of the Bee Gees also co-wrote and co-produced what 1982 album by Dionne Warwick, the biggest-selling of her long career? The title track, featuring backing vocals by Gibb, was a worldwide hit, as was the single <i>All the Love in the World</i> .	<u>Heartbreaker</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	What type of soft leavened bread is an important part of Jewish cuisine, traditionally served on the Sabbath and major Jewish holidays apart from Passover? Made of a sweetened egg-enriched dough similar to that used for brioche, it is usually braided into a distinctive shape before baking.	<u>Challah</u> ["hahl-ah"]
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	Who is currently seventh in line to the British throne, one place ahead of Andrew? This royal was born in 2021 and is the youngest of King Charles's five grandchildren. (First name required and sufficient)	Princess <u>Lilibet</u> of Sussex
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	According to the 2020 study referenced earlier, what was identified as the second-scariest horror movie ever made? This 2010 film starred Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne as a couple who experience terrifying supernatural occurrences after their son falls into a mysterious coma.	<u>Insidious</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	What London street in Soho is also famous for its association with the fashion trade, specifically the many trendsetting boutiques which flourished there in the 1960s, making this street the epicentre of "Swinging London"?	<u>Carnaby</u> Street
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	The daughter of Saturn and Ops, who was considered the queen of the gods in Roman mythology? Both the sister and wife of Jupiter, she was also venerated as the goddess of marriage and childbirth.	<u>Juno</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	A fixture of Irish daytime TV in the 80s and 90s, what Australian period drama series (1976-1983) followed the trials and tribulations of the titular middle-class Melbourne family during and after the Second World War?	The <u>Sullivans</u>

Round 7

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	Seemingly determined to be even more controversial than his predecessor Sepp Blatter, name the Swiss-born Italian official who has served as FIFA president since 2016? Among other things, he has faced criticism for his cosy relationship with authoritarian regimes in multiple countries, exemplified by his awarding of a spurious "FIFA Peace Prize" to Donald Trump.	Gianni <u>Infantino</u>
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	Prior to receiving its current name in 1973, what African capital city had been known as Fort-Lamy?	<u>N'Djamena</u> ["un-jah-may-nah"] (capital of Chad)
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	On Irish car registration plates, apart from Wicklow (whose code is "WW"), only one other county has a code that consists of the same letter repeated twice. Which Leinster county is this?	<u>Kilkenny</u> (their code is KK, not KY which is used for Kerry instead)
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	Sometimes informally called a "rev counter", what is the proper name of the instrument on a vehicle dashboard that displays the current revolutions per minute of the vehicle's engine?	<u>Tachometer</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	Estimated to affect roughly 20 million people worldwide, what is the second-most common type of arthritis, an autoimmune condition in which the body's defences attack otherwise healthy joint tissue?	<u>Rheumatoid</u> arthritis
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	Sheridan Le Fanu's single most notable work is what 1872 Gothic novella , in which the title character, a female vampire, pursues a young woman living in an Austrian castle? Considered a foundational work of vampire fiction, it heavily inspired Bram Stoker's <i>Dracula</i> , published 25 years later.	<u>Carmilla</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	What 4-letter word , also the name of a bird, is used in cricket to refer to a score of zero runs by a batsman?	<u>Duck</u>
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Born in Dublin in 2009, name the Irish actress who played the title role in the acclaimed 2022 movie musical version of Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda</i> ? More recently she received a Critic's Choice Award nomination for playing the title character in the 2024 vampire comedy <i>Abigail</i> .	Alisha <u>Weir</u>

Team questions

On This Day

(Four questions on notable historical events that happened on May 11th)

Q1	On 11th May 330, what Roman emperor declared the city of Byzantium (then known as New Rome) the new capital of the Roman Empire, in the process also renaming the city after himself?	<u>Constantine</u> the Great / <u>Constantine</u> the First (prompt on "Constantinople")
Q2	On 11th May 1812, John Bellingham, an English merchant with an obsessive grievance against the government, shot and killed what British Prime Minister as he walked into the lobby of the House of Commons? He remains the only British PM to have been assassinated.	Spencer <u>Perceval</u>
Q3	The first recorded coronation of an English monarch took place on 11th May 973, when what king was crowned at a ceremony in the town of Bath, although he had already reigned for almost 14 years at that stage? This king was the younger son of King Edmund I and was succeeded in 975 by his son Edward the Martyr.	<u>Edgar</u> the Peaceful
Q4	What battle , fought in present-day Belgium on 11th May 1745 during the War of the Austrian Succession, has been described as " <i>the pinnacle of Irish military prowess</i> " due to the actions of the Irish Brigade, fighting as part of the French Army, to help secure a victory against the British and their allies?	Battle of <u>Fontenoy</u>

Stolen Art

Q1	In one of the most famous art thefts of the 20th century, a retired bus driver broke into London's National Gallery in August 1961 and stole an early 19th century portrait by Francisco Goya. The portrait was of what significant figure in British history, born in Dublin in 1769?	The <u>Duke of Wellington</u> / Arthur <u>Wellesley</u>
Q2	Depicting a number of men on horseback, <i>The Just Judges</i> is the lower-left panel of what notable 15th century artwork by Jan van Eyck? The panel was stolen in 1934 from the Belgian cathedral where it was housed and has never been recovered – a copy was created in 1945 to replace it.	The <u>Ghent Altarpiece</u> / <u>Adoration of the Mystic Lamb</u>
Q3	The largest art theft in history occurred in March 1990, when thieves stole 13 artworks from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in what American city ? Still unrecovered, the stolen art is collectively estimated to be worth US\$500 million and includes paintings by Vermeer and Rembrandt.	<u>Boston</u>
Q4	In 2004, armed robbers stole two paintings by Edvard Munch [<i>"moonk"</i>] from his eponymous museum in Oslo. One was his iconic <i>The Scream</i> – what was the single-word title of the other painting, depicting a long-haired nude female figure with her eyes closed and her head tilted to one side?	<u>Madonna</u>

To Win Just Once

Q1	Since 2007, which English Premier League football team has featured a single star on their crest, symbolising the one and only time this team have been European champions – when they defeated Bayern Munich in the final of the 1982 European Cup?	Aston <u>Villa</u>
Q2	In men's Gaelic football, there is only one Irish county with just a single All-Ireland Senior Championship to their name: what Ulster county is this? Their sole victory came in 1993 when they defeated Cork by 3 points in the final.	<u>Derry</u>
Q3	Measuring by European Tour wins, who is the most successful European golfer only to have won a single major? This British golfer won 29 European events between 1982 and 1997 (6th on the all-time list) but only managed one major win, at the 1991 Masters.	Ian <u>Woosnam</u>
Q4	Defeating Serena Williams in the final, name the Canadian tennis player who won the 2019 ladies' singles title at the US Open, her only Grand Slam title to date? Remarkably, she is also the only Canadian player – of either gender – ever to win a Grand Slam singles title.	Bianca <u>Andreescu</u>

Dmitri's Table

Q1	What Russian chemist , with the first name Dmitri, is generally credited as the father of the periodic table of the elements, his first version of which was published in 1869?	Dmitri <u>Mendeleev</u> ["men-de-lay-ev"]
Q2	The modern layout of the periodic table was devised in the 1940s by which American scientist , who discovered that actinides were f-block rather than d-block elements and accordingly moved them to their own row beneath the lanthanides? Element 106 was later named after this Nobel-winning chemist.	Glenn <u>Seaborg</u>
Q3	Mendeleev correctly predicted that several "gaps" in his original periodic table would be filled by then-unknown elements with appropriate properties. Among the gaps filled in this way were the neighbouring elements 31 and 32, which were named after the neighbouring countries where each was discovered. Name both of these elements OR both of the countries?	<u>Gallium and Germanium</u> or <u>France and Germany</u> (Gallium comes from the Latin name for France)
Q4	The 118 known elements all fit into one of four "blocks" on the periodic table, designated by a letter of the alphabet representing their electron orbital structure: s (for sharp), p (for principal), d (for diffuse) and f (for fundamental). Future elements above no. 121 will be placed in a new block instead, to be designated by what letter of the alphabet?	g (doesn't stand for anything - only chosen because it follows f alphabetically)

Didn't Know They Were Irish

(Four questions on notable people you might not have realised were Irish-born)

Q1	Born in Dublin in 1845, name the Christian philanthropist who, after moving to England in his 20s, founded a free school to assist orphaned children living on the streets of London's East End? This school evolved into the modern-day children's charity that still bears his name.	Thomas John <u>Barnardo</u>
Q2	A Russian submarine officer in <i>The Hunt for Red October</i> , an American paleontologist in <i>Jurassic Park</i> and an English cardinal in <i>The Tudors</i> are among the many roles of what veteran actor whose nationality is usually listed as New Zealand but was actually born in Omagh, County Tyrone in 1947?	Sam <u>Neill</u>
Q3	Born in Dublin and living in Ireland until the age of 9, name the British dog breeder and trainer who became an unexpected TV star at the age of 70 thanks to an early 1980s BBC TV series that showcased her dog training methods?	Barbara <u>Woodhouse</u> (born Barbara <u>Blackburn</u>)
Q4	Name the Dublin-born actor (1912-1985), best remembered for starring as "dirty old man" Albert Steptoe in the classic BBC sitcom <i>Steptoe and Son</i> ? He also played Paul McCartney's fictional grandfather in the 1964 Beatles movie <i>A Hard Day's Night</i> .	Wilfrid <u>Brambell</u>

Look Ma, No U

(All of the answers involve the letter Q but without a following U)

Q1	One of the world's oldest continuously-operating companies, what Swedish conglomerate was founded in 1689 as a firearms manufacturer, although it is better known nowadays for making outdoor power tools such as lawnmowers and chainsaws?	<u>Husqvarna</u>
Q2	Ruling from the mid-17th century until 1912 when the Republic of China was established, what was the name of the final dynasty of Imperial China? Please spell your answer!	<u>Qing</u> ["ching"] dynasty (correct spelling required - do NOT accept or prompt on Qin)
Q3	What is the name of the sometimes-controversial garment worn by some Muslim women that covers their entire face, except for their eyes? Since the eyes are left uncovered, this garment is not to be confused with a burqa, which incorporates a veil for the eyes.	<u>Niqab</u>
Q4	Škoda has grown increasingly fond of using a Q without a U when naming their cars: no less than 5 of their 2026 models currently available in Ireland end in the letter Q. The best-selling Kodiaq is one – please name ANY of the other 4?	<u>Kamig</u> , <u>Karoq</u> , <u>Elroq</u> , <u>Enyaq</u> (accept any)

Live From New York...

(Four questions on *Saturday Night Live*, the long-running US comedy & variety TV show whose every episode begins with one of the cast announcing "Live from New York, it's Saturday night!")

Q1	Name the Canadian producer (born 1944) who created <i>Saturday Night Live</i> in 1975 and has been its producer ever since, apart from a 5-year break in the early 1980s? He has received 119 Primetime Emmy nominations during his career, making him by far the most Emmy-nominated person in history.	Lorne <u>Michaels</u>
Q2	In SNL's debut 1975 season, when it was simply known as <i>Saturday Night</i> , one of its recurring sketches was <i>The Land of Gorch</i> , featuring adult-themed puppet characters created by who ? The sketches were not well-received and were soon dropped, with this man going onto far greater success with a different puppet-based TV show the following year.	Jim <u>Henson</u> (his subsequent success being <i>The Muppet Show</i>)
Q3	From <i>The Blues Brothers</i> to <i>Wayne's World</i> , roughly a dozen spin-off movies have been based on characters from <i>Saturday Night Live</i> . Which 2010 film was the most recent of these? It starred Will Forte as the title character, a parody of 80s TV hero <i>MacGyver</i> .	<u>MacGruber</u>
Q4	A UK version of <i>Saturday Night Live</i> debuted in March 2026 to largely positive reviews. One breakout star of the UK cast so far has been what Englishman , who performed the viral sketch " <i>What kind of Irish is your grandad?</i> " on the show's first episode?	George <u>Fouracres</u>

Bridges of Ireland

Q1	Upon its opening in May 2025, what bridge connecting Killaloe, County Clare to Ballina, County Tipperary became the first new vehicular crossing of the River Shannon in over 30 years? It is named after a High King of Ireland who was born at the nearby Kincora fort in the mid-10th century.	Brian <u>Boru</u> Bridge
Q2	Opened in 1927, the pedestrian-only Daly's Bridge in Cork is known almost universally by what nickname , after the movement that can be felt underfoot when running across or jumping on the bridge?	<u>Shakey</u> Bridge
Q3	What pedestrian bridge across the River Liffey in Dublin's Docklands consists of two cantilevered sections which can rotate 90 degrees to let boats pass? Embarrassingly, in 2010 the remote control that operates the swing bridge was misplaced during an office move, hence the bridge was impassable by boats for 4 years until a new remote was purchased by officials.	Seán <u>O'Casey</u> Bridge
Q4	Completed in 1851 as part of the Belfast to Dublin railway line, MacNeill's Egyptian Arch is a distinctively-shaped bridge, so named because its central arch resembles the outline of a pharaoh's headdress. It can be found in what Ulster town or city , population 27,000?	<u>Newry</u>