

Irish Quiz League questions

2026 Cup round 2 / Plate round 1 — 25th May 2026

Questions by John Nolan

All questions correct as of the above date



Individual questions

Round 1

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	In an official game of darts, how many points is the bullseye (aka "inner bull") worth? This area is usually red in colour and is a circle with a diameter of 12.7mm/0.5 inches.	<u>50</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Which Pacific island is remarkable for being the only location where rocks from the Earth's mantle are actively exposed above sea level? This unique geological phenomenon occurs due to the island's position at the boundary between the Indo-Australian and Pacific tectonic plates.	<u>Macquarie</u> Island
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	<i>Operation Transformation</i> , <i>Big Brother</i> and <i>Survivor</i> are all examples of what broad style or genre of television show?	<u>Reality</u> TV
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	Having the colour of milk and a rather viscous consistency, which alcoholic beverage made from the sap of the agave plant is a traditional product of central Mexico? Unlike mezcal, which originated after the introduction of distillation post the Spanish conquest, this fermented drink is known to have been produced for millennia.	<u>Pulque</u> / <u>Octli</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	<i>Undressed</i> , <i>12 to 12</i> and <i>Homewrecker</i> have all been top five hits on the Irish charts during the past 12 months for which singer-songwriter ? This man was born Shane Boose in 2005 in New York.	<u>Sombr</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	Since July 2025, who has been the US ambassador to France and Monaco? This man, who is related by marriage to one of President Donald Trump's children, has since been in trouble with French authorities on two occasions: initially over an open letter published in the <i>Wall Street Journal</i> and later in relation to social media posts.	Charles <u>Kushner</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	"Big Toast", "Healthy Grain" and "Slimsters" are three of the brands sold by which Irish breadmaker , formed by a merger of several smaller bakeries in 1989? Headquartered in Taghmon, County Wexford, this company was purchased by rival Pat the Baker in 2015.	<u>Irish Pride</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	What word is used in Australia and New Zealand to describe vehicles with a cargo bed/tray integrated with the passenger body? While traditionally this term meant an adapted passenger car, its use has now expanded to include vehicles that would be called a "pickup truck" in other countries.	<u>Ute</u>

Round 3

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	Considered one of the first true English-language novels, which best-selling 1740 work by Samuel Richardson tells the tale of a fifteen-year-old maidservant who is pursued by and eventually marries her wealthy employer, Mr. B?	<u>Pamela</u> or, Virtue Rewarded
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	Which living museum , located in the south of County Clare, allows visitors to wander through a typical 19th-century village complete with a school, doctor's house, pub, drapery, grocery, and a post office?	<u>Bunratty</u> Folk Park
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	Which extinct group of marine jawless vertebrates, existing for over 300 million years from the Cambrian to the end of the Triassic period, are primarily known for their hard, mineralised tooth-like structures? Rare soft tissue remains suggest these creatures had eel-like bodies with large eyes.	<u>Conodont</u> / <u>Conodonta</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	Which professional footballer , born in Dublin in 1992, has represented Cape Verde in international football since 2019? In October 2025, this man was part of the Cape Verdean team that qualified for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, after a 3–0 win against Eswatini.	Roberto 'Pico' <u>Lopes</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	Launched in September 1998, which music player by Diamond Multimedia was the first commercially-successful portable MP3 player? This device was the subject of legal action by the Recording Industry Association of America, the failure of which encouraged other manufacturers to enter the market, most notably Apple.	Diamond <u>Rio</u>
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	Matthew Broderick plays the title character and Rupert Everett plays Dr. Claw in which 1999 film , based on an animated television series of the same name that was broadcast from 1983 to 1985?	<u>Inspector</u> <u>Gadget</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	In geometry, what name is given to the curve traced by a point on a circle as it rolls along a straight line without slipping?	<u>Cycloid</u>
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Which famous building in Paris, France, was closed for several years following a fire in April 2019? Following extensive repairs, this building was reopened in December 2024.	<u>Notre-Dame</u> de Paris

Round 5

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	What two-word term is used in Australia to describe what is officially called a long combination vehicle (LCV)? These cargo vehicles consist of two or more semi-trailers being pulled by one lorry tractor unit.	<u>Road Train</u> / <u>Land Train</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	John Goodman and Elizabeth Perkins played the title characters, while Rick Moranis and Rosie O'Donnell played their next door neighbours, in which 1994 movie ? This film was based on an animated television series of the same name, originally broadcast from 1960 to 1966.	The <u>Flintstones</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	Which distilled alcoholic drink , popular in India, Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia, is made from the fermented sap of coconut flowers or sugarcane? It is produced in two predominant varieties: Batavia and Sri Lankan.	<u>Arrack</u> / <u>Arak</u> / <u>Desi daru</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	Which Irish breadmaker was established via a merger of three existing bakeries in the mid-19th century? Today, referring to itself as Ireland's oldest bakery, it uses the slogan "History in the Baking".	<u>Johnston, Mooney & O'Brien</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	Since September 2025, who has been the first woman to serve as US ambassador to Greece? This lady, whose father was born in Ennis, County Clare, came quite close to being related by marriage to the current US President: she was engaged to his son Donald Jr. between 2020 and 2024.	Kimberly <u>Guilfoyle</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	Which living museum , located 10 km east of Quin, County Clare, allows visitors to explore reconstructions of ancient Irish architecture including a dolmen, a crannog and a ringfort?	<u>Craggaunowen</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	Released in 2014, following a successful crowdfunding campaign on the Kickstarter platform, the creation of which portable music player was spurred by Canadian singer-songwriter Neil Young? This device was aimed at the audiophile market, as it could play much higher-resolution files compared to the then-dominant iPod.	<u>Pono</u> Player
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	Commissioned to honour those who fought and died in the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, which famous Parisian monument is located at the western end of the Champs-Élysées, at the centre of the Place Charles de Gaulle?	<u>Arc de Triomphe</u>

Round 7

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	Which professional rugby player , born in Dublin in 1989, won nine caps for the Italian national team? In 2011, after playing six times for Leinster, this man was forced to retire after losing the sight in his left eye. However, protective goggles allowed for a second act to his career, including representing his adopted country between 2017 and 2019.	Ian <u>McKinley</u> .
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	Which satirical burlesque novella by English writer Henry Fielding was first published in April 1741 under the name of Mr. Conny Keyber? This work was a direct attack on the then-popular novel <i>Pamela</i> and its title echoes this fact.	An Apology for the Life of Mrs. <u>Shamela</u> Andrews
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	<i>Babydoll</i> and <i>White Keys</i> are two top 10 hits on the Irish charts in 2026 for which singer-songwriter , born in Florida in 1995? Neither of these sold quite as well as his debut single, <i>3 Nights</i> , which reached No. 2 in 2019.	Dominic <u>Fike</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	Which island in the Korea Strait is the location of an eponymous UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site, a national park based on the presence of over 13 km of lava tubes? These were formed by multiple ancient eruptions of basaltic lava between 100,000 and 300,000 years ago.	<u>Jeju</u> Island
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	<i>Planet Earth</i> , <i>The World at War</i> and <i>Cosmos</i> are all examples of what broad style or genre of television show?	<u>Documentary</u> .
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	In geometry, what name is given to the curve traced by a vertex of a regular polygon that rolls along a straight line without slipping? As the number of sides of the polygon increases to infinity, this type of curve eventually becomes a cycloid.	<u>Cyclogon</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	In an official game of darts, how many points is the segment known as the "outer bull" worth? This area is usually green in colour and is a circle with a diameter of 32mm/1.26 inches.	<u>25</u>
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Part of the same group as plesiosaurs, which order of marine reptiles that became extinct at the end of the Triassic period were superficially similar to the marine iguana of today, but larger? Unlike the iguana, these animals ate molluscs and so their teeth were flat and tough to crush shells.	<u>Placodonts</u> / <u>Placodontia</u>

Team questions

And the Oscar Does Not Go To...

Q1	Which English-born actor , who also held Irish citizenship, is one of two people who jointly hold the unwanted record for the most Oscar nominations for acting without a win? Two of this man's eight nominations were for playing King Henry II of England: in <i>Becket</i> (1964) and <i>The Lion in Winter</i> (1968).	Peter <u>O'Toole</u>
Q2	American-born Irish actor Saoirse Ronan has been nominated for four acting Academy Awards since 2008, without a win. Name any TWO of the films for which she has been shortlisted? Three of her nods were for Best Actress with the other being for Best Supporting Actress.	<u>Atonement</u> / <u>Brooklyn</u> / <u>Lady Bird</u> / <u>Little Women</u> (accept any TWO)
Q3	Bradley Cooper has been Oscar-nominated on 12 occasions in his career to date, without ever winning. As well as several acting nominations, he has also been shortlisted for Best Picture and for both of the screenplay awards. For which 2023 film did he receive three of those unsuccessful nominations?	<u>Maestro</u>
Q4	Which American songwriter is the current holder of the record for the most Academy Award nominations without a win? This lady has received 17 nominations, including nine consecutively from 2017 to 2025, but has yet to make an acceptance speech.	Diane <u>Warren</u>

Culture Shock

Q1	Since the launch of the programme in 1985, three Irish cities have been awarded the title of European Capital of Culture. The first of these was Dublin (1991) and the most recent was Galway (2020). Which other Irish city held the honour in 2005?	<u>Cork</u>
Q2	Which pop band was formed in London in 1981, featuring among others Roy Hay on guitar and Mikey Craig on bass? In their career, the group scored eight Top 10 records on the Irish charts, including three number ones.	<u>Culture Club</u>
Q3	Which term , that came into circulation in 2018 and has mostly negative connotations, is a cultural phenomenon where people criticise or disassociate from an individual who is thought to have acted or spoken in an unacceptable manner?	<u>Cancel</u> culture
Q4	What was the title of the first science-fiction novel by Scottish author Iain M. Banks to feature The Culture, a fictional interstellar post-scarcity society of humanoid aliens and advanced artificial intelligences? Published in 1987, this book takes its title from a line in T. S. Eliot's poem <i>The Waste Land</i> .	<u>Consider Phlebas</u>

Obscure Irish Sports

Q1	Which sport , one of the four official constituent sports of the Gaelic Athletic Association, is organised by Cluiche Corr na hEireann? [<i>"cli-ha core na hair-in"</i>] The sport's name in Irish translates roughly as "the circular game", although it's actually a square playing area that players circuit.	GAA <u>Rounders</u>
Q2	Which sport , that originated in Ireland and is mainly played in counties Armagh and Cork, features competitors propelling a solid iron ball (roughly 6cm / 2.25 inches in diameter) over a given outdoor course?	<u>Road Bowling / Road Bowls</u>
Q3	An organisation named for which controversial pastime controlled and administrated greyhound racing in Ireland until the creation of the Irish Greyhound Board in 1958? It still continues to do so in Northern Ireland where it controls three greyhound racing stadiums.	Hare <u>Coursing</u> (Irish Coursing Club)
Q4	The modern version of which sport is believed to have been invented in Ireland, with games documented in Louth and Galway as early as 1834? Whilst an earlier, similar game called Pall Mall existed, players in that sport used a golf-style stroke as opposed to the stroke this game is now known for.	<u>Croquet</u>

Eugene Lambert

Q1	Irish puppeteer Eugene Lambert created and starred in which children's television series , aired on RTÉ from 1967 until 1982? The titular mode of transport was capable of flying, travelling underwater and transporting its passengers to various magical lands.	<u>Wanderly Wagon</u>
Q2	Which famed Irish stage actor regularly appeared in <i>Wanderly Wagon</i> as its recurring villain, Dr. Astro? This man was very well-known in Ireland for his work on <i>Hall's Pictorial Weekly</i> and, later, in the UK for his role in <i>Father Ted</i> .	Frank <u>Kelly</u> .
Q3	Lambert did not approve a mid-1980s spin-off show broadcast by RTÉ, centred on which character from <i>Wanderly Wagon</i> ? In keeping with the time and space-bending powers of the wagon, this man wore a surely impossible amount of clothing. He also claimed the same items contained "50 pockets".	<u>Fortycoats</u>
Q4	One of Lambert's most popular puppets was which dog , who preceded the creation of <i>Wanderly Wagon</i> but became one of its main characters? The voice of reason in the show, he also regularly featured in road safety advertisements on Irish TV during the 1970s and 80s.	<u>Judge</u>

One Song to the Tune of Another

Q1	Which song by rapper Eminem, released in the year 2000, is based around an extended sample of Dido's 1998 song <i>Thank You</i> ?	<u>Stan</u>
Q2	<i>All Together Now</i> (1990), the biggest hit in the career of English indie group The Farm, had originally been written in 1983. It ultimately became a hit after the band re-recorded it using the chord progression of which piece of classical music , composed at an unknown date between 1680 and 1706?	Pachelbel's <u>Canon</u> / <u>Canon in D</u>
Q3	Which Christy Moore song is performed to the melody of the theme tune to the BBC's <i>Match of the Day</i> ? This song tells the tale of the title character and his journey to attend the 1988 European Football Championships.	<u>Joxer Goes to Stuttgart</u>
Q4	The 1995 song <i>Fairground</i> is the only UK No. 1 record in the career of Manchester band Simply Red. The song is built around a sample of the 1993 song <i>Give It Up</i> by which Dutch DJ duo ?	The <u>Good Men</u>

Latin Law Terms

Q1	Which two-word Latin term describes someone's working habits, particularly in the context of business or criminal investigations, but also more generally?	<u>Modus operandi</u>
Q2	Which Latin word , meaning "under penalty", is a writ issued by a government agency, most often a court, to compel testimony by a witness or production of evidence under a penalty for failure?	<u>Subpoena</u>
Q3	Which two-word term , translating as "to whom is it a benefit?", is a Latin phrase used when identifying crime suspects? It expresses the view that crimes are often committed to benefit their perpetrators, especially financially.	<u>Cui bono?</u>
Q4	Which two-word Latin term , meaning "guilty mind", is the mental element of a person's intention to commit a crime; or knowledge that one's action or lack of action would cause a crime to be committed? It is a necessary element of many crimes.	<u>Mens rea</u>

The Lightning Thief

Q1	What character is described as "the Lightning Thief" in the title of a best-selling book of 2005, published by American author Rick Riordan? This character would subsequently feature in a further 18 books and was portrayed on-screen by Logan Lerman in two film adaptations (2010 and 2013), and by Walker Scobell in an ongoing Disney+ TV adaptation.	Percy <u>Jackson</u>
Q2	Percy Jackson is a demigod, the son of the mortal Sally Jackson and which Greek god ? Some of the powers he inherits from his father include: the ability to breathe underwater; the ability to operate sailing ships with his mind; and mental communication with marine animals.	<u>Poseidon</u>
Q3	Introduced in the second book of the series, Percy's half-brother Tyson is what type of creature from Greek myth? Both boys must also be related to Polyphemus, a named example of these creatures who appears in Homer's <i>Odyssey</i> , as he was also a son of Poseidon.	<u>Cyclops</u>
Q4	On several occasions, Percy Jackson has to battle members of which tribe of man-eating giants who, according to Thucydides and Polybius, inhabited southeast Sicily? James Joyce used the name of this tribe for the title of Chapter 8 of <i>Ulysses</i> .	<u>Laestrygonians</u> / <u>Laestrygones</u>

Cocktail Nation

Q1	Although their origin has nothing to do with the country in their names, the white version of which drink is created by adding cream to the black version (a mixture of vodka and coffee liqueur)?	White <u>Russian</u> / Black <u>Russian</u>
Q2	The Mojito, the Daiquiri and the "rum and Coke" were all invented in which country ? Daiquirí is the name of a beach and an iron mine in the east of this country, while the official name of the rum and Coke includes the name of this country.	<u>Cuba</u> ("Cuba Libre")
Q3	Which cocktail , the "original recipe" for which is a mixture of two measures of gin with one of cherry brandy and one each of orange, pineapple, and lime juice, was created sometime between 1899 and 1915 at Raffles Hotel?	<u>Singapore Sling</u>
Q4	Invented in Calgary in 1969 and now regarded as the national cocktail of Canada, the Caesar is basically a modified version of a Bloody Mary. What unlikely extra ingredient differentiates the Caesar from the original recipe of that more famous cocktail?	<u>Clam</u> juice / <u>Clam</u> broth / <u>Clamato</u> (commercial drink made of tomato and clam juice)