



# Irish Quiz Organisation

## Irish Open Quiz 2025 – Part 2 (Sciences, Entertainment, Lifestyle, Culture)

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Set by Dan O'Malley

### Rules:

- **Please do not turn your paper over until instructed.**
- The overall quiz consists of eight written rounds, each of 30 questions, for a total of 240 questions.
- The quiz is split into two halves, four rounds per half and with **60 minutes** allowed per half.
- **All eight rounds** count towards a player's overall score.
- Where asked for a person's name, a **surname by itself** will suffice, unless specifically asked for given names. Remember that a correct surname with an incorrect given name is a wrong answer!
- This is **not** a spelling contest, so be reasonably lenient on spelling when marking other people's answers.

### *Part 1 topics:*

- *Media: Film, Language, Literature, Comic strips, Comic books, Graphic novels*
- *World: Cities, Human Geography, Physical Geography, Inventions, Space, Technology, Transport*
- *Sport & Games: Sports, Hobbies & Pastimes, Board games, Video games, Records & achievements*
- *History: Civilisations, Current Affairs, Exploration, Famous People, Ancient & Modern History*

### **Part 2 topics:**

- **Sciences:** Exact sciences (Chemistry, Physics etc.), Fauna, Flora, Social sciences
- **Entertainment:** Ballet, Classical music, Film Music, Jazz & World Music, Opera, Pop music, Radio, Television, Theatre
- **Lifestyle:** Costume, Design, Fashion, Food & Drink, Handicrafts, Health & Fitness, Human Body, New Age beliefs, Products & Brands, Tourism
- **Culture:** Architecture, Fine art, Museums, Mythology, Philosophy, Religion, World cultures

Player name: \_\_\_\_\_ Marker name: \_\_\_\_\_

| Scores: | Sciences             | Entertainment        | Lifestyle            | Culture              | Part 2 Total         |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|         | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

----- DETACH & RETURN -----

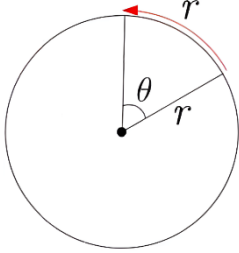
Player name: \_\_\_\_\_ Marker name: \_\_\_\_\_

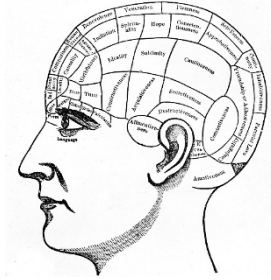
| Scores: | Sciences             | Entertainment        | Lifestyle            | Culture              | Part 2 Total         |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|         | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

This page has been intentionally left blank

*Fágadh an leathanach seo folamh d'aon ghnó*

# Sciences

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q1.</b> The superheated, ionised gas which is the main component of stars; and the straw-coloured fluid which is the main component of blood – although these are two very different substances, they are both known by <b>what name?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q2.</b> The anti-matter counterparts of the proton and neutron are called the antiproton and antineutron respectively. However, the equivalent particle for an electron is not known as an “antielectron” but by <b>what name instead?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q3.</b> Roughly equal to <math>57.3^\circ</math> (or <math>180^\circ \div \pi</math>), <b>what is the SI unit</b> for measuring angles?</p> <p>One of these units is defined as the angle formed at the centre of a circle by two radii joined by an arc whose length is also equal to the radius. (An example of such an angle is marked as <math>\theta</math> in the diagram)</p>                                                                          |    |
| <p><b>Q4. What word</b>, one that references another animal entirely, is used to name both this species of butterfly and this type of black-and-cream coat pattern on cats?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |   |
| <p><b>Q5.</b> The bonds between the hydrogen and oxygen atoms in a molecule of water are an example of <b>what type of chemical bond</b>, in which two atoms share a pair of electrons between them?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q6.</b> This distinctive “spangling”, caused by crystalline structures within the metal, is characteristic of <b>what process</b>, in which iron or steel is rendered corrosion-proof by the application of a thin layer of zinc?</p> <p>Named after the Italian scientist who invented the technique in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when used as a verb it has also taken on the meaning in English of shocking or exciting someone into taking action.</p> |  |
| <p><b>Q7.</b> For decades, Pluto held the record for having the largest satellite relative to its parent planet, as its primary moon Charon is 12% of the mass of Pluto.</p> <p>However, since Pluto’s demotion to dwarf planet status, <b>which planet</b> holds this record instead: albeit an order of magnitude smaller? (i.e. it has a satellite which is 1.2% the mass of the planet)</p>                                                                     |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q8.</b> In chemistry, a solution is most commonly defined as a homogeneous mixture of two substances: one being the “solvent” (the substance that does the dissolving) and the other being the substance which is dissolved – generically referred to by <b>what word?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                      |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q9.</b> Its symptoms including extreme thirst, weakness, nausea and loss of appetite, the condition hyponatremia is caused by a high concentration of <b>what chemical element</b> in the blood?</p>                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q10.</b> Born in Navan, County Meath in 1774; <b>name this Irish scientist</b>, a hydrographer who served as an officer in Britain's Royal Navy?</p> <p>His surname titles a well-known scale of measurement he devised in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century for the benefit of naval vessels, one which remains in use to this day.</p>                                 |    |
| <p><b>Q11.</b> The so-called “root” of ginger is not a root at all, but <b>what type of biological structure</b>: essentially an underground stem that usually runs in a horizontal direction and is used by certain plants to store starches, proteins and other nutrients?</p>                                                                                               |    |
| <p><b>Q12.</b> “Sternutation” is the scientific name for <b>what involuntary action</b> performed by humans and many other animals? It has been estimated that an average human performs this action roughly four times every day.</p>                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q13.</b> The four most abundant gases in Earth's atmosphere are (in order) nitrogen, oxygen, argon and carbon dioxide. Excluding water vapour, please <b>name any two of the next four most abundant gases</b>, which range in volume from 1 to 18 parts per million?</p>                                                                                                |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q14.</b> In physics, <b>what important quantity</b> is equal to <math>6.62607015 \times 10^{-34}</math> joules per hertz, and measures how much the energy of a photon increases when its electromagnetic frequency is increased?</p>                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q15.</b> This diagram from a 19<sup>th</sup> century textbook relates to <b>what discredited pseudoscience</b>, which claimed that a person's mental traits could be predicted by measuring the bumps and contours of their skull?</p>                                                                                                                                   |  |
| <p><b>Q16.</b> <b>What is the common name</b> of this shrub-like tree, native to New Zealand and south-east Australia and having the Latin name <i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>?</p> <p>A food indirectly produced from these trees (and named after them) has become internationally known in recent years due to its supposed health benefits.</p>                             |  |
| <p><b>Q17.</b> In most vertebrate skeletons, <b>which group of vertebrae</b> are located between the lumbar vertebrae and the coccyx?</p> <p>In land-dwelling animals (including adult humans) these vertebrae usually fuse together to form a single bone that forms the posterior wall of the pelvis – you may simply give the name of this bone as your answer instead.</p> |                                                                                      |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q18.</b> GLP-1 receptor agonists are a class of drugs which regulate blood sugar by mimicking GLP-1, a hormone released by the gut after eating. This has led to their widespread use as weight loss treatments, colloquially known as “skinny jabs”.</p> <p>The two most frequently-prescribed such medications are semaglutide (branded as Ozempic, Rybelsus or Wegovy) and tirzepatide, known by <b>what brand name?</b></p>                                    |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q19.</b> From an astronomical perspective, there are two primary methods of calculating the passage of time: solar time, which measures time via the position of the sun, and <b>which system of time</b>, which instead uses the position of background stars?</p> <p>Using this system gives slightly differing values for the length of a day or year: a difference of about 20 minutes in the length of a year, for example.</p>                               |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q20.</b> <b>What concept</b> did the 20<sup>th</sup> century economist and philosopher John Maynard Keynes describe as <i>“the extraordinary belief that the nastiest of men for the nastiest of motives will somehow work together for the benefit of all”</i>? A single-word answer will suffice.</p>                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q21.</b> Long considered a fundamental safeguard of individual liberty, <b>what two-word Latin phrase</b> is a legal procedure which invokes the jurisdiction of a court to review whether a prisoner or suspect is being detained lawfully?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q22.</b> Other than humans, the only primates living outside captivity in Europe are the so-called “Barbary apes”, of which a population of about 300 live on the Rock of Gibraltar. Despite their common name, they are in fact <u>not</u> apes but a tail-less species of <b>what genus of monkey</b>, usually native to Asia?</p>                                                                                                                               |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q23.</b> Perhaps surprisingly, the cause of death for roughly half of koalas in the wild is <b>what bacterial disease</b>, much better known as a (usually non-fatal) sexually transmitted disease in humans?</p> <p>Thought to have spread to koalas from livestock brought to Australia by European settlers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Australian government recently approved a single-dose vaccine specifically for koalas against this disease.</p> |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q24.</b> This 1913 passport photograph is one of only a handful of known images of <b>what groundbreaking Indian mathematician?</b></p> <p>Despite having almost no formal training, in his brief career he contributed countless novel solutions to mathematical problems then considered unsolvable, before his untimely death in 1920 aged 32.</p>                                                                                                              |  |
| <p><b>Q25.</b> A word coined by American geologist G. K. Gilbert in 1890 from the Ancient Greek words for “mountain” and “birth”, <b>name the process</b> by which mountains are usually formed?</p> <p>It typically occurs when tectonic plates collide or move towards each other, generating forces that uplift the Earth’s crust.</p>                                                                                                                                |                                                                                      |

**Q26.** Due to its presence in olive oil and sunflower oil, alpha-tocopherol is the most prevalent form in European diets of **what nutrient**, essential to human health?

By contrast, gamma-tocopherol is the most common form of this nutrient in American diets, due to being found in soybean and corn oils.

**Q27. What fruit is this?** Consisting of a thick inedible rind surrounding its tangy and juicy cream-coloured flesh, it is produced by a namesake tropical evergreen tree native to South-East Asia.



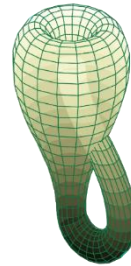
The first half of its English name is by coincidence the name of another (completely unrelated) fruit.

**Q28. Which American economist** (1911-1991) developed the theory of “regulatory capture” in the 1970s: a form of corruption where a regulatory agency ends up prioritising the special interests of the industry it regulates instead of the public interest it was created to serve?

Along with Milton Friedman, this 1982 Nobel laureate was considered a key leader of the Chicago school of economics.

**Q29.** Named after the German mathematician who first described it in 1882, pictured is a 3D representation of **what four-dimensional geometric figure?**

Like the related Möbius strip, it is a one-sided surface (known as a non-orientable surface) – however unlike the Möbius strip, this object has no boundary, much like a sphere.



**Q30. Name this pioneering American astronomer** (1928-2016) whose work on galaxy rotation rates in the late 1970s has been described as “*ushering in a Copernican-scale change in cosmological theory*” since it provided the first widely-accepted evidence for the existence of dark matter – nowadays believed to comprise 85% of the mass of the universe?



## Entertainment

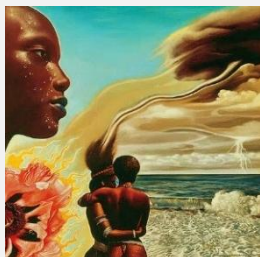
**Q1. What is the single-word name** of this Muppet character?

Making his first appearance on a 1977 episode of *The Muppet Show*, he is the shy, long-suffering assistant of Dr. Bunsen Honeydew, and like his employer is also named after an item of laboratory equipment.



**Q2.** A young man named Antonio is the title character of **which Shakespeare play?** The play’s plot is set in motion when he borrows money to help his friend Bassanio seek the hand of a wealthy heiress.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q3.</b> Launched in 2021, the Dutch reality TV show <i>De Verraders</i> features a group of contestants staying in a luxurious historical building while participating in a high-stakes social deduction and elimination game.</p> <p>Its popularity has spawned international spin-offs in over two dozen countries, including Ireland – whose version premiered in August 2025, under <b>what title?</b> (This is the same title used by the other English-speaking versions such as the UK, US and Australia.)</p> |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q4.</b> “The Miracle”, “The Clock” and “The Surprise” are nicknames given to three of the 100-plus symphonies written in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century by <b>what Austrian composer</b>, himself nicknamed “The Father of the Symphony”?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q5. Name this controversial hip-hop trio</b>, formed in Belfast in 2017 and notable as the first successful chart act to rap in the Irish language?</p> <p>They became much better known outside Ireland following the release of a critically-acclaimed 2024 movie named after the group, which contained a semi-fictionalised account of their early years and rise to fame.</p>                                                                                                                                    |  |
| <p><b>Q6. What popular type of ballroom dance</b> is named after the American vaudeville dancer and performer who popularised it in the 1910s – and <u>not</u> named, as many might assume, after an animal?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q7.</b> Premiering in London’s Savoy Theatre in March 1896, <i>The Grand Duke</i> was the 14<sup>th</sup> and final work written by <b>which notable musical partnership?</b></p> <p>It was the first financial failure of their decades-long collaboration: the two partners never again worked together before the younger of the two died four years later.</p>                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q8.</b> The Cuban musician and bandleader Pérez Prado (1916-1989) was known as the “King” of <b>what genre of Cuban dance music</b>, which he played a huge role in popularising in the late 1940s and early 1950s? A key example is his song <i>Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White</i>, a US and UK Number 1 hit in 1955.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q9. What famous opera</b>, first performed in Milan’s La Scala in 1904, tells the tragic tale of Cio-Cio-San, a young Japanese girl who falls in love with an American naval officer stationed in Nagasaki?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q10.</b> In November 1925, American radio station WSM (based in Nashville, Tennessee) began broadcasting the <i>WSM Barn Dance</i>, a regular series of live country-music performances.</p> <p>Still broadcast nearly a century later, making it one of the world’s longest-running radio shows, since 1927 it has been known by <b>what name instead?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q11.</b> South Korean rapper and performer Park Jae-sang is better known by <b>what stage name?</b> His biggest worldwide hit is a 2012 song whose title refers to the district of Seoul in which he was born in 1977.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                    |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                     |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Q12.</b> Considered a landmark of jazz fusion and listed at no. 87 on the most recent edition of <i>Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Albums of All Time</i>, this is the cover art of <i>Bitches Brew</i>, a 1970 album by <b>what American jazz trumpeter</b> and bandleader (1926-1991)?</p>                                                                                                                                               |   |  |
| <p><b>Q13.</b> The Tchaikovsky ballet <i>The Nutcracker</i> was ultimately inspired by the 1816 fairytale <i>The Nutcracker and the Mouse King</i> by <b>what Prussian author</b>?</p> <p>Opera lovers will be particularly familiar with this man's surname as it appears in the title of an 1880 Offenbach opera based on three of his short stories.</p>                                                                                    |                                                                                     |  |
| <p><b>Q14.</b> Not to be confused with Iron Maiden's famous mascot "Eddie the Head", this suit-wearing skeletal figure called "Vic Rattlehead" is the mascot of <b>what American thrash metal band</b>?</p> <p>He has appeared on the majority of the band's album covers, including their platinum-certified <i>Peace Sells... but Who's Buying?</i> (1986) and <i>Rust in Peace</i> (1990).</p>                                              |   |  |
| <p><b>Q15.</b> This is a promotional image for <b>what highly-acclaimed 2024 TV series</b>? It is an American production, mainly filmed in Canada and based on a 1975 novel by a British author – however it is set in feudal Japan and features a predominantly Japanese cast with the majority of the dialogue in Japanese.</p> <p>Winning a record 18 Emmy Awards last year, its second season is due to begin filming in January 2026.</p> |  |  |
| <p><b>Q16.</b> Famously, when the original American version of MTV launched in 1981, the first video ever played was <i>Video Killed The Radio Star</i> by The Buggles. However, <b>what was the first song</b> ever played on MTV <u>Europe</u> when it launched 6 years later?</p> <p>The choice was fitting, since this 1985 hit by a European act mentions "MTV" more than once in its lyrics. (Artist <u>and</u> song title required)</p> |                                                                                     |  |
| <p><b>Q17.</b> Literally meaning "folded" or "bent" in French, <b>what word</b> is used to describe a smooth and continuous bending of the knees by a ballet dancer, while keeping their upper body upright?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                     |  |
| <p><b>Q18.</b> The rock band Europe (known for <i>The Final Countdown</i>), the country/dance group Rednex (known for <i>Cotton Eye Joe</i>) and the singer/DJ/producer Basshunter (known for <i>Now You're Gone</i>) are three of the many successful musical acts to have originated in <b>which country</b>?</p>                                                                                                                            |                                                                                     |  |
| <p><b>Q19.</b> <b>What 20<sup>th</sup> century French composer</b> (1908-1992) was interned for nine months during World War II in the German prisoner-of-war camp Stalag VIII-A, where he composed his <i>Quartet for the End of Time</i> for the four instruments available in the prison camp: piano, violin, cello and clarinet?</p>                                                                                                       |                                                                                     |  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q20.</b> In a musical context, <b>what word</b> can be defined as “a one-movement work featuring a range of highly contrasted moods, colour, and tonality”?</p> <p>Well-known classical pieces by Liszt and Rachmaninoff feature this word in their title, as does a famous piece of music which premiered in New York in 1924, plus the first song from the 1970s to reach 2 billion streams on Spotify.</p>                                                                                                      |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q21. Who</b> is this prolific Indian music producer and film composer?</p> <p>Since the 1990s he has written the scores for almost 150 movies, mostly Hindi and Tamil-language productions, but with occasional forays into international cinema – most notably winning 2 Oscars and 2 Grammys for his score to the 2008 British film <i>Slumdog Millionaire</i>, including the worldwide hit <i>Jai Ho</i>.</p>                                                                                                   |    |
| <p><b>Q22.</b> The late 19<sup>th</sup> century composer/performer Francisco Tárrega and the 20<sup>th</sup> century virtuoso performer Andrés Segovia are both primarily associated with <b>what musical instrument</b>? (A single-word answer is <u>not</u> sufficient)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q23.</b> Two of the most successful musicians ever produced by New Zealand are this pair of brothers – <b>what is their shared surname</b>?</p> <p>The older brother Tim (born 1952) was the co-founder and co-lead vocalist of the 70s/80s band Split Enz, while the younger brother Neil (born 1958) was the co-founder and lead vocalist of the 80s/90s band Crowded House.</p>                                                                                                                                 |   |
| <p><b>Q24.</b> This scene from a 1996 episode of <i>The Simpsons</i> has become one of the most widely-quoted and parodied segments from the entire 36-year run of the show, despite not featuring any of the Simpsons family themselves.</p> <p>It involves Principal Skinner hosting a disastrous meal for his colleague Superintendent Chalmers, during which Skinner’s house catches fire. The scene is usually known by <b>what two-word title</b>, after the name Skinner gives the food he serves for dinner?</p> |  |
| <p><b>Q25. Name this Motown singer</b>, best known for the multiple classic duets she recorded with Marvin Gaye such as <i>Ain’t No Mountain High Enough</i> and <i>You’re All I Need To Get By</i>?</p> <p>Her career was tragically cut short when she was diagnosed with a brain tumour: she passed away in 1970 a month before her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.</p>                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| <p><b>Q26.</b> Traditionally, three puppeteers work together to control each character in <b>what form of Japanese puppet theatre</b>, which originated in 17<sup>th</sup> century Osaka? It shares close ties with kabuki theatre: many of the most popular kabuki plays were originally puppet plays of this type.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                      |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                     |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Q27.</b> Invented in the 1960s, <b>what is the name</b> of this percussion instrument?</p> <p>Consisting of a stiff U-shaped wire connecting a wooden ball to a hollow wooden box with a row of metal teeth inside, it makes a distinctive “rattlesnake” sound when struck.</p>                                                                                                                  |   |  |
| <p><b>Q28.</b> <i>I Hope I Get It</i> and <i>What I Did for Love</i> are two of the songs in <b>which 1975 Broadway musical</b>, with music by Marvin Hamlisch and lyrics by Edward Kleban? Its original run lasted 15 years and over 6,000 performances – which at the time made it the longest-running show in Broadway history, although its record has since been surpassed.</p>                   |                                                                                     |  |
| <p><b>Q29.</b> Over 50 TV series, 80+ video games, dozens of manga series and spin-off novels – not to mention a best-selling range of model robot kits known as <i>Gunpla</i> – comprise <b>what Japanese science-fiction media franchise?</b></p> <p>It began in 1979 with the animated series <i>Mobile Suit [BLANK]</i>, where the blank is the single-word title of the franchise as a whole.</p> |   |  |
| <p><b>Q30.</b> Please name this Egyptian singer, born in Port Said in 1961?</p> <p>Making his recording debut in 1983 with the album <i>Ya Tareeq</i>, he is often cited as being the best-selling Middle Eastern artist of all time.</p>                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |

## Lifestyle

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                      |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Q1.</b> St. James’s Gate in Dublin is so named because it was the location of the western entrance to the city in the Middle Ages.</p> <p>Although the medieval gate is no longer standing, nowadays more than 1.5 million tourists per year visit the location, because since 1759 it has been the site of a famous brewery founded by a man with <b>what surname?</b></p>  |                                                                                      |  |
| <p><b>Q2.</b> <b>What is the main ingredient</b> of the Swiss dish <i>rösti</i>?</p> <p>Originally a breakfast food eaten by farmers in the canton of Bern, nowadays it is eaten widely as an accompaniment to any meal and is considered by many to be a national dish of Switzerland.</p>                                                                                        |                                                                                      |  |
| <p><b>Q3.</b> <b>Name this popular confectionery product?</b> First launched in Italy in 1974, it consists of a hollow milk-and-white chocolate egg which contains a yellow plastic capsule with a miniature toy inside.</p> <p>Famously, this product is banned for sale in the United States, since FDA regulations consider the toy and its capsule to be a choking hazard.</p> |  |  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q4.</b> Derived from its local-language name <i>Hrvatska</i>, “.hr” is the Internet top-level domain for <b>what European country</b>?</p> <p>If you instead picked the first two letters of its English name, you would end up with the Internet domain of a country in Central America.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q5. What multinational telecoms company</b> was founded in England in 1985 as Racal Telecom?</p> <p>It currently operates mobile telephone networks in 16 countries (primarily in Europe and Africa) and partner networks in nearly 50 more.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |    |
| <p><b>Q6.</b> Along with \$ (US dollars), £ (pound sterling), € (euro) and ¥ (Japanese yen), one of the currency symbols most commonly seen on mobile phone virtual keyboards is <del>₩</del>, the symbol for two separate Asian currencies with similar names. <b>Name <u>either</u> currency?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q7.</b> An occupation that emerged in Britain during the Industrial Revolution and persisted into the 20<sup>th</sup> century until technological advances made it obsolete, <b>what useful service</b> did a “knocker-up” or “knocker-upper” perform for their customers?</p> <p>This service was usually performed with a stick, or sometimes with a handful of small pebbles or a pea-shooter. Nowadays, many people would rely on their smartphone to perform the same function.</p> |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q8. What single letter</b> can represent all of the following: three dots and a dash in Morse code, a chart-topping 2014 album by Maroon 5, a 1983 American TV mini-series about an alien invasion, and the chemical element with atomic number 23?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q9. What 8-bit home computer</b> is listed by Guinness World Records as the best-selling single computer model of all time, having sold over 12.5 million units between its 1982 launch and its discontinuation in 1994?</p> <p>Your answer should include both a brand name <u>and</u> a number.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |
| <p><b>Q10.</b> <i>Nón lá</i> (Vietnam), <i>dǒulì</i> (China) and <i>satgat</i> (Korea) are three of the local names for <b>which distinctively-shaped item of clothing</b>, closely associated with Southeast and East Asia?</p> <p>As there is no universally agreed-upon name for this item in English, a <u>single-word</u> generic answer will suffice.</p>                                                                                                                                |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q11.</b> Born in Illinois in 1957, <b>who is this professional make-up artist</b> and entrepreneur, the namesake of a successful cosmetics brand she founded in 1991?</p> <p>Due to the close similarities in their names, you may also answer with the name of either the husband <u>or</u> daughter of an iconic singer who died in 2012.</p>                                                                                                                                          |  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q12.</b> Located on the banks of the Eerste River, the town of Stellenbosch (population 77,000) is notable not only as its nation's second-oldest town – having been founded in 1679 – but also for its location at the heart of <b>which country's</b> largest wine-producing region?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q13.</b> When seen on a laundry care label, this symbol consisting of a circle with a large X through the middle indicates that you should <u>not</u> perform <b>what action</b> to the garment?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |    |
| <p><b>Q14.</b> Developed in the 1920s and taking its name from Japanese characters meaning “universal” and “life force”, <b>what form of alternative medicine</b> involves a practitioner laying their hands on or near a patient's body to transfer “energy” and hence activate the patient's natural healing processes?</p> <p>Nowadays this type of therapy is a multi-billion-dollar industry, despite an absence of reliable clinical studies proving its effectiveness.</p> |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q15.</b> Consisting of 18 different indoor and outdoor pools, Széchenyi Thermal Baths is a popular attraction in <b>what European capital city</b>?</p> <p>This city is sometimes referred to as the “Spa Capital of the World” due to having multiple such facilities, fed by an extensive underground network of thermal springs.</p>                                                                                                                                     |    |
| <p><b>Q16.</b> The Spanish fashion designer Francisco Rabaneda y Cuervo (1934-2023) is better known by <b>what pseudonym</b>, which he adopted after his family fled to France to escape the Spanish Civil War?</p> <p>Founding his namesake fashion house in 1966, he became famous for his space-age designs which often incorporated plastic, metal and other “unwearable” materials.</p>                                                                                      |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q17.</b> While it is currently the Gregorian year 2025, the Islamic year 1447 and the Hebrew year 5786, it is the year 2018 in the unique 13-month calendar used by and named after <b>which African country</b>?</p> <p>Also known as the Ge'ez calendar, it differs by several years from the Gregorian calendar due to an alternate method of calculating when the birth of Jesus occurred.</p>                                                                          |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q18.</b> Growing in popularity in recent years, HIIT is a workout strategy which alternates short periods of vigorous anaerobic exercise with brief recovery periods until the point of exhaustion.</p> <p><b>What four words</b> do the letters “HIIT” stand for?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q19.</b> This is the logo of <b>what Indian soft drink brand</b>? A popular cola drink often described as “fizzier and spicier” than Coca-Cola, it was founded in 1977 when Coca-Cola temporarily withdrew from the Indian market.</p> <p>Its two-word name contains a deliberate misspelling (missing a “b”) to make the name unique and hence trademarkable.</p>                                                                                                          |  |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q20.</b> <i>Cachaça</i>, the most popular alcoholic spirit in Brazil, and <i>panela</i>, a solid food product used for many culinary purposes across South and Central America, are just two of the many foodstuffs made from <b>what plant</b>?</p> <p>This plant is a tall perennial grass originally native to New Guinea, thought to have been first domesticated by humans over 6,000 years ago.</p>                                                                |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q21.</b> These portraits are typical examples of <b>what handicraft</b>, in which designs are engraved onto animal bones or teeth?</p> <p>Originating in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, it was most widely practiced by sailors on whaling ships, who had time on their hands and a plentiful supply of whale bones to use as raw material.</p>                                                                                                                            |    |
| <p><b>Q22.</b> <b>What number</b> fills the blank in the following chronological sequence: 2000, Me, XP, Vista, [BLANK]?</p> <p>The product that the blank refers to was released in 2009, although that information by itself will not help you with the answer.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q23.</b> At first glance looking like a bowl of rice, in fact this is <b>which type of pasta</b>, whose usual English name means “barley” in Italian?</p> <p>Its rice-shaped “grains” make it suitable for use in a wide variety of dishes, including soups, casseroles, risottos and salads.</p>                                                                                                                                                                        |   |
| <p><b>Q24.</b> The hoodie in the picture is an unlicensed imitation of <b>what Australian fashion brand</b>, founded in 2013 and becoming globally popular in 2023/24 through intensive social media marketing?</p> <p>Many of their products prominently display the two-word brand name in the same “bubble font” as seen here.</p>                                                                                                                                          |  |
| <p><b>Q25.</b> This is the logo of <b>what 3D computer graphics game engine</b>, developed by Epic Games?</p> <p>First used in the 1998 first-person shooter after which it was named, this engine nowadays powers many popular and high-profile video games such as <i>Fortnite</i>, <i>PUBG: Battlegrounds</i> and <i>Hogwarts Legacy</i>, as well as providing real-time special effects generation for TV shows including <i>The Mandalorian</i> and <i>Westworld</i>.</p> |  |
| <p><b>Q26.</b> “Cambridge Favourite”, “Jewel”, “Albion” and “San Andreas” are just four of over 150 commercially-grown varieties of <b>what fruit</b>, harvested from flowering plants in the genus <i>Fragaria</i>?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q27.</b> Located on the French Riviera, 15 km from Cannes, the town of Grasse (population 50,000) has for over 200 years been considered the world capital of <b>what product or industry</b>?</p> <p>This is aided by the area’s microclimate, which enables abundant growing of the plants which often form key ingredients for this product.</p>                                                                                                                      |                                                                                      |

**Q28.** Most frequently used in Indian cuisine, **what spice** is a powdered resin derived from the giant fennel plant?

Adding a flavour reminiscent of garlic or onion when cooked, in its raw state it has a pungent, sulphurous smell – hence why its single-word English name means “stinking gum” and why it is colloquially known by similarly unpleasant names in other languages which literally translate as “Satan’s weed”, “devil’s dirt”, “devil’s dung”, etc.

**Q29.** This late 1950s Braun radio is a classic example of the minimalist aesthetic of **what German product designer** (born 1932)?



His “Ten Principles of Good Design”, written in the 1970s, have been hugely influential on modern product design, most notably at Apple – whose former chief designer Jony Ive has openly spoken of this man as an inspiration for products such as the iPod and iPhone.

**Q30.** **What name** is given to this type of ear piercing, that passes through the ear’s innermost cartilage fold?



First documented in the 1990s, its name derives from the Hebrew word for “knowledge”, supposedly because of the skill required by a piercer to successfully perform it.

## Culture

**Q1.** Introduced in 1932 to replace the earlier Badge of Military Merit, **what is the name** of this US military medal, awarded to anyone wounded or killed in action while serving in the American armed forces?



**Q2.** “The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints” is the official name of a religious movement founded in the United States in the 1830s.

Its followers are usually known by **what shorter name**, after the 4<sup>th</sup>-century prophet and military leader said to have written the book which is a central text of the religion?

**Q3.** Considered a masterwork of Western calligraphy, **what is the name** of this lavishly-illustrated Bible, which for over 150 years has been on public view in Trinity College Dublin, and is nowadays one of the major visitor attractions in the Irish capital?



Named after a town 65 km from Dublin (the site of a monastery where the book was housed for centuries), it is believed to have been primarily created on the Scottish island of Iona by a group of Celtic monks circa 800 CE.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q4.</b> Located in Paris on the Left Bank of the Seine, directly across from the Tuileries Garden, the Gare [BLANK] was a monumental railway terminus and hotel built in 1900 on the site of the Palais [BLANK], a government building destroyed by fire in 1871.</p> <p>No longer used as a railway station after World War II, it was nearly demolished before being repurposed as the Musée [BLANK] in the 1980s, and is now one of the world's most-visited art galleries.</p> <p><b>What word</b> fills in all three blanks above?</p> |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q5.</b> Simply consisting of a snow shovel with the artist's name written on the handle, <i>In Advance of the Broken Arm</i> (1915) was one of the earliest so-called "ready-made" artworks by <b>which influential French artist?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <p><b>Q6. What is the single-word name</b> of this ancient Egyptian symbol: a cross with a loop at the top that in hieroglyphics represented the word for "life", as well as the concepts of immortality and the afterlife?</p> <p>In recent decades it has become a popular design for jewellery and tattoos in Western culture, particularly in the goth subculture.</p>                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| <p><b>Q7. What trickster/demigod character</b> from Polynesian mythology is famed for his mischievous exploits, such as lassoing the sun to slow it down and hence make the day last longer?</p> <p>This ancient figure became much better-known to modern audiences following his appearance as a leading character in the 2016 Disney animated movie <i>Moana</i>, where he is voiced by Dwayne Johnson.</p>                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q8.</b> In the King James Version (and in most other English translations), the shortest verse in the Bible occurs during the story of Lazarus: specifically John Chapter 11 Verse 35, which is usually rendered as <b>what two words?</b></p> <p>In some English-speaking countries this phrase is used as a mild expletive, to express incredulity or exasperation at something going wrong.</p>                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q9.</b> The Indigenous people of Canada (comprising 5% of the population) are categorised into three main groups: the Inuit, the Métis, and <b>what third group</b>, a catch-all term to represent all other Indigenous Canadians, of which there are more than 600 such groupings across the country?</p> <p>This two-word term was coined in the 1970s to replace previous terminology such as "Native Canadians" or "Indian bands".</p>                                                                                                  |                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Q10.</b> The multi-volume treatise <i>De architectura</i>, also known as <i>Ten Books on Architecture</i>, is the only substantial literary work about architecture to survive from antiquity. It was written in the 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE by <b>what Roman architect and engineer?</b></p> <p>His ideas were highly influential in subsequent centuries – a famous drawing by Leonardo da Vinci references this man's name in its title as it was inspired by his description of the human body's proportions.</p>                    |                                                                                    |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Q11.</b> After Mecca and Medina, <b>what is considered the third-holiest city in Islam?</b> The Al-Masjid Al-Aqsa site in this city is said to have been the location from where Mohammed ascended to heaven, and the same site was also the original “qibla”, i.e. the direction in which Muslims face while praying, until 624 CE when this was changed to the Kaaba in Mecca instead.</p>                           |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q12.</b> The contemporary Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama (born 1929) is particularly associated with <b>what pattern or design element(s)</b>, which appear in the majority of her paintings and sculptures?</p> <p>She has described this as an artistic response to a series of intense hallucinations involving these patterns which she experienced as a child.</p>                                                  |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q13.</b> A major holiday every year in India is the Hindu festival of lights: usually lasting 5 days, during which houses are lit with oil lamps and candles to celebrate the spiritual victory of light over darkness.</p> <p>This year taking place in late October, the festival is usually known by <b>what one-word name?</b></p>                                                                                 |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q14.</b> Botticelli’s <i>The Birth of Venus</i> and Leonardo da Vinci’s <i>The Last Supper</i> are two famous paintings to have used <b>what type of painting medium</b>, in which pigments are mixed with a water-soluble binder, typically egg yolk?</p> <p>This was the primary type of paint used by European artists before oil paints became prevalent in the 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p>     |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q15.</b> Selling for £24.7 million in 2016, the record for most expensive British sculpture is held by this 1951 work <i>Reclining Figure: Festival</i> by <b>which English sculptor</b> (1898-1986)?</p> <p>His monumental bronze sculptures often depict reclining human figures in a semi-abstract style, with undulating forms said to have been inspired by the hills and landscapes of his native Yorkshire.</p> |  |
| <p><b>Q16.</b> Depicting their creator-god Oduduwa, this is the flag of <b>what African people</b>, native to south-west Nigeria and parts of Benin and Togo?</p> <p>Numbering more than 40 million, they are one of the largest ethnic groups in Africa, with notable people of this ethnicity including musician Fela Kuti and Nobel-winning playwright/poet Wole Soyinka.</p>                                             |  |
| <p><b>Q17.</b> A motif frequently seen in classical architecture is the bucranium (plural: bucrania), a carved decoration that takes the form of the head or skull of <b>what animal?</b> These carved skulls are usually depicted with garlands or other decorations, mirroring the ancient practice of hanging the heads of these animals on temple walls after they had been used for sacrificial purposes.</p>           |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Q18.</b> Commissioned in 1929 for a German fashion magazine cover, <i>Self-Portrait in a Green Bugatti</i> is an iconic work by <b>what Polish artist</b> (1894-1980), noted for her highly stylised Art Deco portraits?</p>                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |

**Q19.** This stained-glass window depicts **what 14<sup>th</sup> century English philosopher and theologian**, a Franciscan born in (and named after) a small village in the county of Surrey?



Considered to be one of the major figures of medieval thought, he produced significant works on logic, physics and theology during his lifetime, as well as a problem-solving principle that bears his name, which is still well-known and widely-used today.

**Q20.** The pictured building in the Israeli city of Haifa is the seat of the Universal House of Justice, the nine-member supreme ruling body of **what religion**, founded in the Middle East in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century when it split from the Bábism faith?



Estimates place the number of worldwide adherents today at between 5 and 8 million, with the largest number (up to 2 million) in India.

**Q21. What title** is used for an official who acts as the representative of a monarch in a country over which the monarch does not rule in person?

Most commonly used by the British Empire to administer its colonies, today such roles persist as ceremonial positions in Australia, Canada and a dozen other Commonwealth countries which have not yet become republics.

**Q22. What name** is given to this type of memorial structure, used for the storage or display of urns containing cremated human remains?



Its most common English name derives from the Latin for “dove”, since traditional buildings used for housing doves had a similar compartmentalised structure.

**Q23.** First established in 1587 during the reign of Pope Sixtus V, **what former role** in the Catholic Church was used to scrutinise candidates for sainthood by taking a sceptical view of the candidate’s credentials?

Officially known as “Promoter of the Faith”, instead we are looking for this role’s more commonly-used two-word name, which in English has also come to mean someone who makes a counter-argument they do not necessarily agree with during a discussion or debate.

**Q24.** It’s not the Uffizi, but Michelangelo’s iconic statue of David has been displayed indoors in **which gallery** in Florence since 1873, to protect it from further damage after small cracks were noticed on its legs?

The version seen by most tourists nowadays is a replica, made in 1910 and placed outdoors in the statue’s original spot in the Piazza della Signoria.

**Q25.** Its name meaning “spirit rope” in Quechuan languages, **what hallucinogenic beverage**, brewed from vines and leaves containing psychoactive compounds, has been produced for centuries by the indigenous peoples of the Amazon basin for medicinal and spiritual purposes?

**Q26.** A term coined in the 1940s, **what name** is given to the philosophical movement that emphasises individual freedom, personal responsibility, and the search for meaning in a world that offers no inherent purpose?

Among the philosophers often categorised by this term are Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, and retroactively certain 19<sup>th</sup> century thinkers such as Søren Kierkegaard and Friedrich Nietzsche.

**Q27.** *Vertumnus* is a 1590 portrait of the Holy Roman Emperor Rudolf II by **what Italian Renaissance artist?**

It is a characteristic example of his surreal portraits, which form human likenesses from inanimate objects such as fruit, vegetables and flowers.



**Q28.** In ancient Andean (Inca and pre-Inca) mythology, **what supreme deity** is credited with creating the heavens, earth, sun, moon, and all living beings from the waters of Lake Titicaca?

According to myth, he was displeased by his first living creations – a race of brainless giants – so he destroyed them with a great flood before subsequently creating humans.

**Q29.** This 1963 painting *Little Thinker* is a typical work of **what American artist** (1927-2022), whose paintings often featured children with dark, oversized eyes?

She was played by Amy Adams in the 2014 movie *Big Eyes* which dramatises her life, including the successful lawsuit against her ex-husband, who had for decades falsely claimed to be the creator of her work.



**Q30.** On display in the Vatican since the 16<sup>th</sup> century, this ancient sculpture shows **what Trojan priest** and his sons being devoured by sea serpents?

In Virgil's *The Aeneid*, this priest spoke out against letting the Trojan Horse into the city of Troy, and hence suffered this grisly fate as a punishment from the gods.



## END OF QUIZ



**Did you enjoy this quiz?**

If so, please consider buying the author a coffee at: [www.buymeacoffee.com/danomalley](http://www.buymeacoffee.com/danomalley)

Thanks!