

Irish Quiz League questions

2026 Cup quarter-finals / Plate semi-finals — 8th June 2026

Questions by Dan O'Malley

All questions correct as of the above date



Individual questions

Round 1

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	What American-born author , with the first name Henry, is best known for the late 19th-century works <i>The Portrait of a Lady</i> and <i>The Turn of the Screw</i> ?	Henry <u>James</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	The career of Irish model and media personality Vogue Williams was launched by what early 2010s RTÉ TV reality show , loosely based on US shows such as <i>The Hills</i> , and named after a thoroughfare in Dublin city centre?	<u>Fade Street</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	What word , meaning an oversimplified generalisation, came from the 19th-century French printing industry, where it originally meant a pre-cast solid metal plate used for efficiently printing large numbers of identical pages?	<u>Stereotype</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	What word is given to a bending movement that decreases the angle between two neighbouring segments of the human body? Two examples of this type of movement occur when you bend your elbow or make a fist.	<u>Flexion</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	Only two members of Monty Python have ever received an Oscar nomination. By coincidence, both were nominated for Best Original Screenplay for a 1980s film which co-starred Michael Palin. The first was Terry Gilliam, nominated for which dystopian 1985 film starring Jonathan Pryce, in which Palin plays a duplicitous official in the Ministry of Information?	<u>Brazil</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	In the recent Dublin Central by-election triggered by Pascal Donohue's appointment to the World Bank, which Social Democrats politician and former League of Ireland footballer emerged victorious, gaining nearly 20% of first preferences and comfortably defeating Sinn Féin's Janice Boylan in the final count?	Daniel <u>Ennis</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	What adjective precedes "cream" in the name of a dairy product produced by fermenting regular cream with lactic acid bacteria? It is a common ingredient and/or condiment in Tex-Mex cuisine and in many parts of Eastern Europe.	<u>Sour /</u> <u>soured</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	While its Irish-language name has a different source, the English name of which Irish county comes from the Old Norse for "Vikings' meadow"?	<u>Wicklow</u>

Round 3

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	Introduced in 2013, the current design of the Irish passport features verses of poetry in English, Irish and Ulster Scots. While the English verse is by W.B. Yeats, who is the Irish-language poet featured? Born in Lancashire in 1952 to Irish parents, she is considered one of the most prominent poets writing in Irish today, with her work having been translated into English by Seamus Heaney among others.	Nuala <u>Ní Dhomhnaill</u> ["noolah nee dough-null"] (accept Nuala <u>O'Donnell</u>)
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	What Irish pizza delivery chain , founded in Dublin in 1996, shares its name with the most-streamed song on Spotify by The Shadows?	<u>Apache</u>
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	<i>"To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance"</i> – this quote comes from which of Oscar Wilde's plays , in which an upstanding British politician is blackmailed by an old schoolmate of his wife?	An <u>Ideal Husband</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	If you listed all the countries in South America alphabetically by their English name, what country would come first?	<u>Argentina</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	Last Saturday, what Russian tennis player won her first ever Grand Slam tournament by defeating Maja Chwalińska in the French Open women's singles final? At 19 years of age, she is the youngest French Open singles champion since Monica Seles over 30 years ago.	Mirra <u>Andreeva</u>
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	Hollywood heavyweights Leonardo DiCaprio and Brad Pitt have surprisingly only starred in one movie together: what 2019 Quentin Tarantino film , in which DiCaprio plays a fading 1960s actor and Pitt his stunt double?	<u>Once Upon a Time in Hollywood</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	Notable for creating hundreds of elaborately-carved standing stones which still survive today, what name is given to the confederation of indigenous tribes who lived in what is now eastern & northern Scotland between the 3rd and 9th centuries CE?	<u>Picts</u>
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	A breakdown of collagen in the human body, resulting in weakened connective tissues, fatigue, bleeding gums, and easy bruising: this is a description of what disease , caused by a prolonged deficiency of Vitamin C?	<u>Scurvy</u> (accept <u>scorbutus</u>)

Round 5

Q1 (Team A Player 1)	Yesterday, what German tennis player won his first ever Grand Slam tournament by defeating Flavio Cobolli in the French Open men's singles final? He is the first German to win a Grand Slam singles title since Boris Becker 30 years ago.	Alexander <u>Zverev</u>
Q2 (Team B Player 1)	Hollywood heavyweights Leonardo DiCaprio and Matt Damon have surprisingly only starred in one movie together: what 2006 Martin Scorsese film , in which DiCaprio plays an undercover cop and Damon a mole within the Boston police department?	The <u>Departed</u>
Q3 (Team A Player 2)	" <i>The hedge-hauntin' blackbird</i> " is the first line of an 18th century verse in Ulster Scots dialect, reproduced in the current version of the Irish passport. This verse was written by what Antrim-born poet (1770-1816), nicknamed "The Bard of Ballycarry"?	James <u>Orr</u>
Q4 (Team B Player 2)	What American-born author , with the first name Henry, is best known for the semi-autobiographical 1930s novels <i>Tropic of Cancer</i> and <i>Tropic of Capricorn</i> ?	Henry <u>Miller</u>
Q5 (Team A Player 3)	While its Irish-language name has a different source, the English name of which Irish county comes from the Old Norse for "muddy inlet"?	<u>Wexford</u>
Q6 (Team B Player 3)	If you listed all the countries in South America alphabetically by their English name, what country would come last?	<u>Venezuela</u>
Q7 (Team A Player 4)	What word is the opposite of flexion: in other words, a bending movement that increases the angle between two neighbouring segments of the body? For example, the motion experienced by your knees when moving from a seated to a standing position.	<u>Extension</u>
Q8 (Team B Player 4)	What word , meaning an overused phrase or expression, also came from the 19th-century French printing industry, originally an onomatopoeic term for the clicking sound a metal mould made when striking molten metal to create a stereotype plate?	<u>Cliché</u>

Round 7

Q1 (Team B Player 1)	What adjective precedes "cream" in the name of a dairy product produced by heating milk using steam or a water bath and then leaving it in shallow pans to cool slowly? It is frequently served with scones and jam as an essential ingredient of a "cream tea".	<u>Clotted</u> (also accept <u>scalded</u> , <u>clouted</u> , <u>Devonshire</u> or <u>Cornish</u>)
Q2 (Team A Player 1)	<i>"I can resist everything except temptation"</i> – this famous line comes from which of Oscar Wilde's plays , centring around a virtuous young woman who suspects her husband of having an affair?	<u>Lady Windermere's Fan</u>
Q3 (Team B Player 2)	The second Monty Python member to be Oscar-nominated was John Cleese, for writing the script to what 1988 comedy film in which he also starred, alongside Michael Palin who played the owner of the titular creature?	A <u>Fish Called Wanda</u>
Q4 (Team A Player 2)	Irish actors Simon Delaney and Don Wycherley [<i>"witch-er-lee"</i>] both came to wider attention as cast members of what early 2000s RTÉ comedy/drama series , based around a trio of young male friends who live on the titular Dublin city centre thoroughfare?	<u>Bachelor's Walk</u>
Q5 (Team B Player 3)	What Irish coffee shop chain , founded in Galway in 1997, shares its name with the most-streamed song on Spotify by Faithless?	<u>Insomnia</u>
Q6 (Team A Player 3)	In the recent Galway West by-election triggered by Catherine Connolly's election as President, which Fine Gael politician and former Government Chief Whip emerged victorious, gaining just over 20% of first preferences and pulling ahead of the Independent Ireland candidate Noel Thomas on the final count?	Seán <u>Kyne</u>
Q7 (Team B Player 4)	A condition that causes bones to soften, weaken, and deform, often resulting in bowed legs or knock-knees: this is a description of what childhood disease , caused by a prolonged deficiency in either vitamin D, calcium, or phosphorus?	<u>Rickets</u> (accept <u>osteomalacia</u>)
Q8 (Team A Player 4)	Along with the Angles and the Saxons, who were the other major Germanic tribe that settled in Britain in the 5th century CE after the departure of the Romans? They are believed to have originated from what is now Denmark.	<u>Jutes</u>

Team questions

Died on their Birthday

Q1	What iconic Swedish actress died in London in 1982 on her 67th birthday? She is one of only a handful of actresses to have won three Oscars, doing so for <i>Gaslight</i> (1944), <i>Anastasia</i> (1956) and <i>Murder on the Orient Express</i> (1974).	Ingrid <u>Bergman</u>
Q2	Name the Prohibition-era American gangster who died in prison in 1954 on his 59th birthday? His birth name was George Barnes, but you should answer with his better-known nickname, one which American rapper and singer Colson Baker (born 1990) also adopted as his stage name.	Machine Gun <u>Kelly</u> (accept <u>Machine Gun</u> by itself)
Q3	Formed in 1966, the Strangers were the backing band for what California-born country singer? A central pioneer of the so-called "Bakersfield sound", this man had many country hits during his career, including <i>Mama Tried</i> and <i>Okie from Muskogee</i> , before passing away in 2016 on his 79th birthday.	Merle <u>Haggard</u>
Q4	Often credited with sparking the "second wave" of American feminism, who wrote the 1963 bestseller <i>The Feminine Mystique</i> ? This Illinois-born writer and activist went on to co-found the National Organization for Women before passing away on her 85th birthday in 2006.	Betty <u>Friedan</u> (born Bettye <u>Goldstein</u>)

The Greatest Tournament on Earth?

(Four questions on the upcoming 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup, kicking off later this week)

Q1	This year's FIFA Men's World Cup will be by far the largest in the tournament's history, expanding from 32 participating countries to how many?	<u>48</u>
Q2	Since this World Cup has three host countries (the US, Canada and Mexico), appropriately the tournament also has three mascots, each an iconic animal from one of the host countries. The American mascot Clutch is unsurprisingly a bald eagle – what animals are the Canadian and Mexican mascots (named Maple and Zayu respectively)?	<u>Moose</u> and <u>jaguar</u> (need both)
Q3	What NFL stadium in New Jersey will host the World Cup final on July 19th? Built next door to Giants Stadium which was demolished in 2010, this venue will be officially referred to as "New York/New Jersey Stadium" during the tournament due to FIFA's stadium sponsorship regulations, however you should answer with its more commonly-used sponsored name.	<u>MetLife</u> Stadium (accept <u>Meadowlands</u>)
Q4	Roberto 'Pico' Lopes, born in Dublin but playing for his father's native Cape Verde, will be the only Irish-born player at this World Cup. But he's not the only League of Ireland player taking part: what Ghanaian goalkeeper, currently playing for St. Patrick's Athletic, was just last week called up to his country's World Cup squad?	Joseph <u>Anang</u>

Delayed Hits

Q1	German electronic music pioneers Kraftwerk have always been considered ahead of their time: typified by what 1978 song , arguably their most famous track, which failed to chart upon its original release but finally reached Number 1 in the UK nearly four years later, after the synth-pop genre had become fully mainstream?	The <u>Model</u> / Das <u>Model</u>
Q2	The UK's best-selling single of 1990 was a 25-year-old song, reaching the top of the singles chart for the first time after featuring in a memorable scene from the Patrick Swayze / Demi Moore film <i>Ghost</i> . Name the song AND the artist?	<u>Unchained Melody</u> / The <u>Righteous Brothers</u> (need both)
Q3	In the summer of 1981, Michael Jackson achieved his first ever solo Number 1 in both the Irish and UK charts with what song , which rather than being a recent track was a single he recorded at the age of 16 in late 1974 but which missed the charts at the time?	<u>One Day In Your Life</u>
Q4	Currently to be found in both the UK and Irish singles charts is the track <i>Go</i> by which English act? Originally released in 2015 but failing to reach the Top 40, last month it finally became a "proper" hit after featuring in the Charlize Theron Netflix movie <i>Apex</i> , to become this act's first Top 10 hit in 22 years.	The <u>Chemical Brothers</u>

Maritime Disasters

Q1	Unveiled in 1968 and depicting an angel hovering over two young fishermen, a memorial in which Irish town commemorates the Lusitania, infamously sunk by a German U-boat 20 km off the Irish coast in May 1915? This town was also the final port of call for the Titanic on its fateful 1912 voyage.	<u>Cobh</u> ["cove"] / accept <u>Queenstown</u>
Q2	In a memorable scene in the movie <i>Jaws</i> , Robert Shaw's character Quint recounts how he survived the sinking of what real-life US Navy warship? This ship was torpedoed in the Western Pacific in July 1945 with the loss of nearly 900 men – dozens of whom were killed by sharks as they drifted on the ocean for several days awaiting rescue.	USS <u>Indianapolis</u>
Q3	What was the four-word name of the British passenger ferry which capsized minutes after leaving the Belgian port of Zeebrugge in March 1987? Nearly 200 passengers died in the incident, caused by the vessel's bow doors accidentally being left open during departure.	<u>Herald of Free Enterprise</u>
Q4	In May 1914, over 1,000 died in Canada's worst peacetime maritime disaster when what passenger liner sank near the mouth of the St. Lawrence after colliding with another vessel in thick fog? Despite the ship's name, it has nothing to do with the Emerald Isle and was in fact a Canadian-owned vessel, built in Scotland and en route to Liverpool at the time.	RMS <u>Empress of Ireland</u>

Going Green

(Four questions about renewable & sustainable energy)

Q1	It is estimated that by 2030, up to 50 million European homes will use what devices for central heating instead of traditional boilers? Operating on a similar principle to air conditioners or refrigerators, these electrical devices transfer thermal energy from outdoors to indoors rather than burning fuel to generate heat, making them 3 to 5 times more efficient than gas- or oil-fired boilers.	<u>Heat pumps</u>
Q2	Introduced in 2019 under mayor Sadiq Khan, London's ULEZ <i>["yoo-lez"]</i> is a clean air initiative targeting vehicles not compliant with current emissions standards, requiring drivers to pay £12.50 per day to drive such vehicles within the designated area in London. What four words does the acronym ULEZ stand for?	<u>Ultra Low Emissions Zone</u>
Q3	Founded in 2002, what governmental body is responsible for the development and adoption of renewable energy in Ireland? Among other things, they administer the retrofitting grants which assist Irish homeowners to upgrade the energy efficiency of their homes by installing solar panels, cavity insulation, etc. You may answer with the agency's four-letter initialism or its full name.	<u>SEAI / Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland</u>
Q4	At a press release last month, Ferrari unveiled their first all-electric car, with what name , the Italian word for "light"? The reaction to the launch was highly polarised, with many criticising the car's rounded shape and minimalist styling for venturing too far from classic Ferrari designs.	<u>Luce</u> <i>["loo-che"]</i>

Simply Capital

(Each of these answers is also the capital city of a UN member country)

Q1	In Greek mythology, who is said to have killed Achilles by shooting an arrow into his heel? This son of King Priam of Troy also sparked the Trojan War by eloping with Helen.	<u>Paris</u>
Q2	What is the given name of the woman who was Queen of Spain as the wife of King Juan Carlos I, from 1975 until his abdication in 2014?	<u>Sofia</u>
Q3	In the Latter Day Saints tradition (a.k.a. Mormonism), what was the name of the ancient American prophet who, after being resurrected as an angel, was said to have directed Joseph Smith to the location of the buried "golden plates" from which he transcribed the Book of Mormon in the early 19th century?	<u>Moroni</u>
Q4	A rare non-action movie role for Jason Statham was in what 2005 romantic drama , where he plays a cocaine-addicted banker, alongside Chris Evans as a young man who tries to win back his ex-girlfriend (played by Jessica Biel) at a drug-fuelled going-away party?	<u>London</u>

Cult Sci-Fi

Q1	The 2005 movie <i>Serenity</i> was a spin-off from what short-lived American sci-fi TV series , which despite only lasting 11 episodes in 2002 garnered a huge cult following? Often described as a "space Western", the series starred Nathan Fillion as the captain of a ragtag crew of mercenaries in the 26th century.	<u>Firefly</u>
Q2	Sadly passing away last month aged 79, English actor Michael Keating was best known for playing Vila, the only character to appear in every episode of what cult British sci-fi drama? (1978-1981) The character was one of the group of interstellar rebels referred to in the show's title.	<u>Blake's 7</u>
Q3	"I have come here to chew bubblegum and kick ass. And I'm all out of bubblegum." This famous line was spoken by wrestler-turned-actor "Rowdy" Roddy Piper in what cult 1988 movie , directed by John Carpenter, in which Earth's ruling class are discovered to be aliens in disguise?	<u>They Live</u>
Q4	Eight years after the untimely death of Douglas Adams aged 49, Irish author Eoin ["owen"] Colfer was commissioned to write what 2009 novel , the sixth and final book in Adams's cult sci-fi comedy saga <i>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i> ?	<u>And Another Thing...</u>

Roses of Tralee

(Four questions on notable women who have taken part in Ireland's iconic Rose of Tralee festival, held every August since 1959)

Q1	Since Gary Lineker's departure from the BBC last year, <i>Match of the Day</i> has been hosted by a trio of presenters: Kelly Cates, Mark Chapman and who else? This highly-experienced BBC sports presenter made her TV debut in very different circumstances in 1991, when she took part in the Rose of Tralee at the age of 18, representing Leeds.	Gabby <u>Logan</u> (accept Gabby <u>Yorath</u>)
Q2	Born in Boston in 1987 to Irish parents, name the Fine Gael politician who since 2019 has served as an MEP for the Midlands/North-West constituency? She came to fame in 2014 when she won the Rose of Tralee representing Philadelphia, in the process becoming the first openly gay holder of the title.	Maria <u>Walsh</u>
Q3	When Taoiseach Micheál Martin created the national Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss in 2022, he nominated which academic and broadcaster to chair it? Back in 2004 while still a Physics undergraduate, this 21-year old from Carnacon near Castlebar had become the first Rose of Tralee winner to represent Mayo.	Aoibhinn <u>Ní Shúilleabháin</u> ["ay-veen nee hool-a-wawn"] / accept <u>O'Sullivan</u>
Q4	Who was the author of the controversial 2020 novel <i>American Dirt</i> , a <i>New York Times</i> bestseller that sold over 3 million copies worldwide? At the age of 19, this American writer of Irish & Puerto Rican ancestry had taken part in the 1994 Rose of Tralee, representing Washington D.C.	Jeanine <u>Cummins</u>