

Questions

Round 1: Warm-Up Round 5 easy · 100 points each

1. On which continent is the Sahara Desert found?

- A. Africa
- B. Australia
- C. South America
- D. Asia

2. Which famous ocean liner sank in 1912 after hitting an iceberg on its maiden voyage?

- A. Britannic
- B. Titanic
- C. Olympic
- D. Lusitania

3. Which planet is nicknamed the Red Planet?

- A. Venus
- B. Jupiter
- C. Mars
- D. Mercury

4. Which artist painted 'The Starry Night'?

- A. Paul Cézanne
- B. Claude Monet
- C. Vincent van Gogh
- D. Edvard Munch

5. Which river flows through the Egyptian capital, Cairo?

- A. Niger
- B. Nile
- C. Congo
- D. Tigris

Round 2: Main Stage 10 medium · 150 points each

6. Which of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World is still largely standing today?

- A. Great Pyramid of Giza
- B. Lighthouse of Alexandria
- C. Colossus of Rhodes
- D. Hanging Gardens of Babylon

7. Which German craftsman is credited with inventing the printing press in 15th-century Europe?

- A. William Caxton
- B. Albrecht Dürer
- C. Johannes Gutenberg
- D. Martin Luther

8. Which gas makes up the largest share of Earth's atmosphere?

- A. Argon
- B. Carbon dioxide
- C. Nitrogen
- D. Oxygen

9. Which country's national flag is the only one in the world that is not rectangular?

- A. Bhutan
- B. Nepal
- C. Cambodia
- D. Sri Lanka

10. What is the longest river in China?

- A. Yellow River
- B. Yangtze
- C. Pearl River
- D. Mekong

11. Which Baroque composer wrote the violin concertos known as The Four Seasons?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. Antonio Vivaldi | B. George Frideric Handel |
| C. Johann Sebastian Bach | D. Arcangelo Corelli |

12. Which is the smallest country in the world by area?

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| A. Vatican City | B. Monaco |
| C. Liechtenstein | D. San Marino |

13. Who painted 'The Persistence of Memory'?

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|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Joan Miró | B. Salvador Dalí |
| C. Pablo Picasso | D. René Magritte |

14. Which organ in the human body produces insulin?

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| A. Kidney | B. Pancreas |
| C. Thyroid | D. Liver |

15. Which nut is the main ingredient in marzipan?

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|---------------------|--------------------|
| A. Cashew | B. Almond |
| C. Pistachio | D. Hazelnut |

Round 3: Hard Round 4 hard · 250 points each

16. Which mathematician first proved Fermat's Last Theorem?

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. Grigori Perelman | B. Andrew Wiles |
| C. Terence Tao | D. Pierre de Fermat |

17. Who wrote the novel 'One Hundred Years of Solitude'?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. Jorge Luis Borges | B. Gabriel García Márquez |
| C. Pablo Neruda | D. Mario Vargas Llosa |

18. Which astronomer lost part of his nose in a sword duel in 1566?

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. Tycho Brahe | B. Johannes Kepler |
| C. Galileo Galilei | D. Nicolaus Copernicus |

19. Who created the constructed language Esperanto?

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. Noah Webster | B. J. R. R. Tolkien |
| C. Samuel Johnson | D. L. L. Zamenhof |

Round 4: Last Call 1 very hard · 500 points each

20. Which SI base unit measures luminous intensity?

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| A. Candela | B. Lumen |
| C. Kelvin | D. Lux |

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Answer sheet

1. A. Africa

The Sahara covers about 9.2 million square kilometres, making it the largest hot desert on Earth.

2. B. Titanic

RMS Titanic left Southampton for New York City and sank in the early hours of 15 April 1912.

3. C. Mars

Mars looks red-orange because its surface is rich in iron(III) oxide, better known as rust.

4. C. Vincent van Gogh

Van Gogh painted it in June 1889, inspired by the view from his bedroom window at an asylum in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence.

5. B. Nile

The Nile runs north through Egypt and empties into the Mediterranean Sea near Alexandria, forming a large delta.

6. A. Great Pyramid of Giza

It is the oldest of the Seven Wonders, and the only one that has remained largely intact.

7. C. Johannes Gutenberg

Movable type already existed in East Asia, but Gutenberg's press made printing far faster.

8. C. Nitrogen

Dry air is about 78% nitrogen and 21% oxygen, with argon making up most of the rest.

9. B. Nepal

Nepal's flag is made of two stacked pennants and is also the only national flag taller than it is wide.

10. B. Yangtze

The Yangtze is also the third-longest river in the world, after the Nile and the Amazon.

11. A. Antonio Vivaldi

The four violin concertos give musical expression to the seasons of the year.

12. A. Vatican City

Vatican City covers only 44 hectares (109 acres) and has fewer than 1,000 residents.

13. B. Salvador Dalí

Dalí finished the Surrealist painting of soft, melting pocket watches in August 1931.

14. B. Pancreas

Insulin is made by beta cells in the pancreas; when they are destroyed, as in type 1 diabetes, the body loses its own insulin supply.

15. B. Almond

Marzipan is sugar plus ground almonds, sometimes boosted with almond oil or extract.

16. B. Andrew Wiles

After 358 years of effort by mathematicians, Wiles's proof was released in 1994 and formally published in 1995.

17. B. Gabriel García Márquez

The 1967 novel follows the Buendía family in the fictional town of Macondo.

18. A. Tycho Brahe

Tycho wore a prosthetic nose for the rest of his life; in 2012 researchers reported it was made of brass.

19. D. L. L. Zamenhof

Zamenhof published Esperanto in 1887; it became the most widely used constructed international auxiliary language.

20. A. Candela

One candela is roughly the light of an ordinary wax candle, which is where the name comes from.

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