MEGAN MORAN QUIZZES

Pub quiz questions and answers

80 questions in 8 rounds. Read each question out and give teams a moment to write their answers. The host's answer sheet (with a fact to share for each answer) and a team answer sheet to print for every table come after the questions.

Round 1: General knowledge

1. Which fictional Belgian detective was created by Agatha Christie?
2. How many squares are there on a standard chessboard?
3. What number does the Roman numeral D stand for?
4. In which Shakespeare play do the characters Rosencrantz and Guildenstern appear?
5. Which artist painted The Starry Night in 1889?
6. What name is given to a word that reads the same backward as forward, such as "level"?
7. What is the fear of spiders called?
8. Who wrote the novel Pride and Prejudice, published in 1813?
9. Which Russian author wrote the novel War and Peace?
10. In the NATO phonetic alphabet, which word stands for the letter Q?

Round 2: Geography

1. Which river flows through the center of London?
2. Which ocean lies between Africa and Australia?
3. The Mediterranean island of Corsica belongs to which country?
4. Which sea separates the islands of Great Britain and Ireland?
5. Which long, narrow sea separates Egypt and Sudan from Saudi Arabia?
6. Table Mountain overlooks which South African city?
7. Which strait separates Alaska from Russia?
8. The Gobi Desert covers parts of northern China and which other country?
9. Mount Fuji stands on which of Japan's main islands?
10. Which line of latitude lies about 23.4 degrees north of the equator?

Round 3: History

1. Which boy pharaoh's nearly intact tomb was discovered by Howard Carter in 1922?
2. Which US president issued the Emancipation Proclamation?
3. In which year was the Battle of Hastings fought?

4. Which emperor was exiled to the Mediterranean island of Elba in 1814?
5. Which Japanese city was hit by the first atomic bomb used in war, on August 6, 1945?
6. Which English monarch was on the throne when the Spanish Armada sailed against England in 1588?
7. Which Macedonian king, whose empire stretched as far as India, died in Babylon in 323 BC?
8. Which leader, born Temüjin, was proclaimed ruler of all the Mongols in 1206?
9. Which dynasty ruled Russia from 1613 until 1917?
10. Which Spartan king led the Greek force against the Persians at the Battle of Thermopylae in 480 BC?

Round 4: Science and nature

1. What is the chemical formula for water?
2. How many legs does an adult insect have?
3. Diamonds are made of which chemical element?
4. What is the chemical symbol for sodium?
5. A seismometer records ground motion caused mainly by which natural events?
6. What is the more common name for the clavicle?
7. Which organ in the human body produces insulin?
8. How many teeth are in a full set of adult human teeth, including the wisdom teeth?
9. Which English scientist set out his three laws of motion in the Principia, published in 1687?
10. In plant cells, which structures contain chlorophyll and carry out photosynthesis?

Round 5: Film and TV

1. In Disney's The Lion King (1994), what is the name of the lion cub who grows up to be king?
2. In which fictional town do the Simpsons live?
3. Which actor plays Captain Jack Sparrow in the Pirates of the Caribbean films?
4. In Star Wars, what is the name of Han Solo's spaceship?
5. Which Netflix series, set in the 1980s, takes place in the fictional town of Hawkins, Indiana?
6. Which 2009 James Cameron film is set on the moon Pandora?
7. Which 1972 film directed by Francis Ford Coppola follows the Corleone crime family?
8. Who directed the 1994 film Pulp Fiction?
9. The US sitcom The Office was adapted from a British original set at a paper company in which English town?
10. In Game of Thrones, what is the name of the ancestral castle of House Stark?

Round 6: Music

1. Which singer was nicknamed the "King of Pop"?
2. How many strings does a standard guitar have?
3. What is the stage name of the Detroit rapper born Marshall Mathers?
4. Fans of which singer are known as "Swifties"?
5. Who is best known as the lead singer of the Rolling Stones?
6. In which country was the singer Shakira born?
7. Which British singer released albums titled 19, 21, 25 and 30?
8. Which band did Bob Marley form in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1963?
9. In sheet music, what does the instruction "forte" tell a musician to do?
10. In which present-day country was the composer Frédéric Chopin born?

Round 7: Sport

1. In which sport do players score tries and pack down in scrums?
2. How many points is a touchdown worth in American football?
3. How many players does each basketball team have on the court at one time?
4. The Stanley Cup is the championship trophy in which sport?
5. In golf, what is the name for a score of one under par on a hole?
6. In which country did the martial art judo originate?
7. How long is an Olympic-size swimming pool, in meters?
8. Which city hosted the 2016 Summer Olympics?
9. How many hurdles does each runner clear in the men's 110-meter hurdles?
10. Which French town hosted the first Winter Olympics, in 1924?

Round 8: Food and drink

1. Paella is a rice dish from which country?
2. Gouda cheese comes from which country?
3. Which nut is the main ingredient of marzipan?
4. Which spirit is the base of a mojito?
5. Tofu is made from the milk of which bean?
6. Which root vegetable gives borscht its deep red color?
7. What is the Japanese name for thin slices of raw fish served on their own, without rice?
8. Which coffee-flavored Italian dessert has a name meaning "pick me up"?
9. Which type of pastry is used to make éclairs and profiteroles?

10. Which grain is mixed with parsley, tomato and mint to make tabbouleh?

Answer sheet

For the host. The facts in gray are extras to read out after each answer.

Round 1: General knowledge

1. **Hercule Poirot (accept Poirot)**
   Poirot first appeared in The Mysterious Affair at Styles, Christie's first published novel, which came out in 1920.
2. **64**
   They form an 8-by-8 grid, set up so each player has a light square in the near-right corner.
3. **500**
4. **Hamlet**
   Tom Stoppard later made the pair the leads of his play Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead.
5. **Vincent van Gogh (accept Van Gogh)**
   He painted it while staying at an asylum in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence, France. MoMA in New York has held it since 1941.
6. **Palindrome**
   The word comes from the Greek palin, meaning "again", and dromos, meaning "way" or "direction".
7. **Arachnophobia**
8. **Jane Austen**
   It was published anonymously, credited only to "the Author of Sense and Sensibility".
9. **Leo Tolstoy (accept Tolstoy)**
10. **Quebec**

Round 2: Geography

1. **River Thames (accept Thames)**
2. **Indian Ocean**
3. **France**
   Its capital is Ajaccio, and the Italian island of Sardinia lies just to the south.
4. **Irish Sea**
5. **Red Sea**
   At its northern end, the Gulf of Suez leads to the Suez Canal, which opened in 1869.
6. **Cape Town**
   The cloud that often spills over its flat summit is nicknamed the "tablecloth".
7. **Bering Strait**
   At its narrowest point it is just over 80 km (about 50 miles) wide.
8. **Mongolia**
9. **Honshu**
   At 3,776 meters it is Japan's highest mountain. Its last eruption began in 1707.
10. **Tropic of Cancer**
    On the June solstice, the Sun is directly overhead there at noon.

Round 3: History

1. **Tutankhamun (accept King Tut)**
   His tomb, KV62, is in the Valley of the Kings. He became pharaoh at about eight or nine.
2. **Abraham Lincoln (accept Lincoln)**
   It took effect on January 1, 1863, during the American Civil War.
3. **1066**
4. **Napoleon (accept Napoleon Bonaparte or Napoleon I)**
   He escaped about ten months later. After Waterloo he was exiled to Saint Helena, where he died in 1821.
5. **Hiroshima**
   A second atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later, on August 9.
6. **Elizabeth I (accept Queen Elizabeth I)**
7. **Alexander the Great (accept Alexander III of Macedon)**
   He was just 32 years old when he died.
8. **Genghis Khan (accept Chinggis Khan)**
9. **Romanov (accept the Romanovs)**
   The last tsar, Nicholas II, abdicated in March 1917.
10. **Leonidas (accept Leonidas I)**

Round 4: Science and nature

1. **H2O**
2. **Six**
3. **Carbon**
   Graphite is also pure carbon, but its atoms are arranged in soft, slippery layers.
4. **Na**
   Na is short for natrium, a name linked to natron, a salt known in ancient Egypt.
5. **Earthquakes**
6. **Collarbone**
   It is the first bone to start turning into bone tissue in a developing embryo, at about five to six weeks.
7. **Pancreas**
   Insulin is made by beta cells in clusters called the islets of Langerhans.
8. **32**
   Children have 20 baby teeth, ten in each jaw.
9. **Isaac Newton (accept Newton)**
10. **Chloroplasts**
    They are thought to have descended from ancient cyanobacteria taken in by an early cell.

Round 5: Film and TV

1. **Simba**
   "Simba" is the Swahili word for lion.

2. **Springfield**
   Matt Groening picked the name as one of the most common town names in the US. The show deliberately keeps its state vague.
3. **Johnny Depp**
   The role earned him a Best Actor Oscar nomination for the first film, The Curse of the Black Pearl (2003).
4. **Millennium Falcon**
5. **Stranger Things**
6. **Avatar**
7. **The Godfather**
   It won Best Picture, and Marlon Brando won Best Actor as Vito Corleone.
8. **Quentin Tarantino**
   It won the Palme d'Or at the 1994 Cannes Film Festival.
9. **Slough**
   Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant created the original, which began on BBC Two in 2001.
10. **Winterfell**

Round 6: Music

1. **Michael Jackson**
2. **Six**
3. **Eminem**
   His song Lose Yourself became the first hip-hop song to win the Oscar for Best Original Song.
4. **Taylor Swift**
   Time magazine named Taylor Swift its Person of the Year for 2023.
5. **Mick Jagger**
6. **Colombia**
   She was born in 1977 in Barranquilla, on Colombia's Caribbean coast.
7. **Adele**
8. **The Wailers (accept Bob Marley and the Wailers)**
   Founding members also included Peter Tosh and Bunny Wailer.
9. **Play loudly**
   It is written as f. Its opposite, piano (p), means play softly.
10. **Poland**
    He was born in 1810 in a village west of Warsaw and died in Paris in 1849.

Round 7: Sport

1. **Rugby (accept rugby union or rugby league)**
2. **Six**
   The scoring team can then attempt one extra point with a kick, or two points with another play.
3. **Five**
4. **Ice hockey (accept hockey)**
   Lord Stanley of Preston, then Canada's governor general, donated it in 1892.

5. **Birdie**
6. **Japan**
   Kano Jigoro created it in 1882, and it joined the Olympics at the 1964 Tokyo Games.
7. **50 meters**
8. **Rio de Janeiro (accept Rio)**
   They were the first Olympic Games ever held in South America.
9. **10**
   Each men's hurdle stands 106.7 cm (42 inches) high.
10. **Chamonix (accept Chamonix-Mont-Blanc)**
    Billed as International Winter Sports Week, the event was only later recognized by the IOC as the first Winter Olympics.

Round 8: Food and drink

1. **Spain**
   It comes from the Valencia region, and its name is the Valencian word for frying pan.
2. **The Netherlands (accept Holland)**
   It is named after the city of Gouda in the province of South Holland.
3. **Almonds**
4. **Rum (accept white rum)**
5. **Soybean (accept soy or soya)**
6. **Beet (accept beetroot)**
   In 2022 UNESCO added Ukrainian borscht cooking to its list of heritage in need of urgent safeguarding.
7. **Sashimi**
8. **Tiramisu**
   It layers coffee-soaked ladyfingers with a mascarpone cream and a dusting of cocoa.
9. **Choux pastry (accept choux)**
   It has no raising agent. Steam from its high water content puffs it up in the oven.
10. **Bulgur wheat (accept bulgur or cracked wheat)**
    Traditional Levantine versions use more parsley than bulgur.

Team answer sheet

Print one for each team. 80 questions.

Team name _____

Round 1: General knowledge

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Score _____ / 10

Round 2: Geography

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Round 3: History

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Round 4: Science and nature

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Round 5: Film and TV

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Round 6: Music

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Round 7: Sport

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Round 8: Food and drink

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Score _____ / 10

Total score _____ / 80