

KNOCKOUT ELIMINATOR MATCH THURSDAY 17 MARCH 2022
QUESTIONS BY THE ALEXANDRA

First Verbal Round

1. Which town, roughly equidistant from Sheffield and Nottingham, was the birthplace of swimmer Rebecca Adlington, former Manchester City Council supremo Sir Richard Leese, broadcaster Richard Bacon and singer Alvin Stardust?
Mansfield
2. Shirley Bassey has performed the theme tune for three James Bond films. *Goldfinger* and *Diamonds Are Forever* are two, which is the third?
Moonraker
3. What is the number of the A road that runs from Chester to Holyhead and is also known as the *North Wales Expressway*?
A55
4. What is the **full** name of the *Coronation Street* character played by David Neilson?
Roy Cropper
5. The 2007 film *Across the Universe*, with a screenplay by British comedy-writing duo Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais, is a jukebox musical based on the music of which band?
The Beatles
6. Name this song. An adaptation of Jacques Brel's *Le Moribond*, it was released by a Canadian singer and topped the UK singles chart for four weeks in 1974.
Seasons in the Sun (by Terry Jacks)
7. Adam Beales, Mwaksy Mudenda and Richie Driss are the current presenters of which long-running BBC television programme?
Blue Peter
8. In which European city could you visit the Pitti Palace and the Boboli Gardens?
Florence
9. As of 8 March 2022 who is the head coach of the Manchester City women's team? He signed for City's men's team in 1998, came on as a substitute in the famous 1999 play-off final win against Gillingham and joined Burnley in 2001.
Gareth Taylor
10. Which 'chocolate box' village in Worcestershire is perhaps best known for the nearby tower, which is the second-highest point in the Cotswolds?
Broadway
11. Who does Ryan Gosling play in the 2018 film *First Man*?
Neil Armstrong
12. Which two-word title is shared by a 1986 Bananarama album and a 1981 American crime film? The movie, which stars Robert de Niro as a priest and Robert Duvall as his detective brother, is loosely based on the real-life 'Black Dahlia' murder case of 1947?
True Confessions
13. Sixways Stadium is the home ground of which English Rugby Union Premiership team?
Worcester (Warriors)

14. Which four-word expression, centre of some modern-day controversy, was first used in 1937 by Archbishop of Canterbury Cosmo Gordon Lang to describe the bombing of Guernica during the Spanish Civil War?

Weapons of Mass Destruction

15. Greg Heffley is the central character in which series of books by US cartoonist Jeff Kinney?

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

16. In science and engineering what is the full name of the problem-solving technique that may be abbreviated to RCA?

Root cause analysis

17. Which Shropshire village, approximately six miles north-west of Ludlow and one mile south of Craven Arms, is best known for its thirteenth century castle managed by English Heritage and described as '*one of the best-preserved medieval fortified manor houses in England*'.

Stokesay

18. Whom did scientific researcher Mary Weeden marry at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford in 1966?

Jeffrey Archer

19. Which ten-letter word is used to describe marriages in which the titles and privileges of the husband are **NOT** conferred upon, or inherited by, the wife or any subsequent children. The word is derived from Latin and Old High German expressions relating to a gift from the groom to the bride on the morning of the wedding,

Morganatic

20. What is the **full** name of the character played by Reg Varney in the ITV comedy *On the Buses*?

Stan Butler

21. In the UK and USA what is traditionally given as a gift to celebrate a fifth wedding anniversary?

Wood

22. Played by Simon Day in the BBC TV comedy *The Fast Show*, what is the alliterative name of the pub know-it-all and fruit machine 'expert', with the catchphrase "*someone's sitting there, mate*"? He was also the central character in the spin-off series *Grass*, which saw him re-located to rural Norfolk in a witness protection programme. Full name required.

Billy Bleach

23. The national flags of Botswana and Estonia both contain which three colours?

Blue, white and black

24. The Tom Stoppard play *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* was inspired by and features many characters from which of Shakespeare's works?

Hamlet

25. Who connects a former leader of the Labour Party and Cabot's Cove?

Angela Lansbury

(granddaughter of George Lansbury, Labour leader from 1932-35, and star of *Murder She Wrote*, set in Cabot's Cove)

26. Which country will host the 2026 Winter Olympics?

Italy (Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo)

27. In the USA what usually accompanies a dish if it is served *à la mode*?

Ice cream

28. As described in the 1917 short story *His Last Bow*, which activity did Sherlock Holmes take up as his main occupation following his retirement to a farm in Sussex?

Bee-keeping

29. What two-word name is usually given to the drink containing one part port and approximately five parts of the 'alcopop' blue WKD?

Cheeky Vimto

30. This French-made programme was first shown on children's TV in the UK in the 1960s, with frequent re-runs during the 1970s. What is the English name of the historical drama about a French spy's attempts to rescue the garrison of a besieged castle during the seventeenth century War of the Mantuan Succession?

The Flashing Blade

First Written Round NO THEME

31. How many times has Andy Murray reached the final of a grand slam singles tournament?

Nine (five Australian; two Wimbledon; one US and one French) **see note 1**

32. What is the three-word title of the 2021 Netflix special whose controversial content got comedian Jimmy Carr into a spot of bother last month?

His Dark Material

33. Which record label released the first three studio albums by Oasis?

Creation

34. Home to the iconic links golf course, Pebble Beach is in which US state?

California

35. What colour pants are usually worn by Mickey Mouse?

Red

36. Which country abolished its monarchy and became a federal republic in May 2008?

Nepal

37. Of which novel are these the opening words?

No one who had ever seen Catherine Morland in her infancy would have supposed her born to be an heroine.

Northanger Abbey

38. As of 8 March 2022 who is the current musical director and principal conductor of Manchester's Hallé Orchestra?

Sir Mark Elder

39. As of 8 March 2022 which former player is the current manager of Stockport County?

Dave Challinor

40. The former Cunard liner *QE2* is now a floating hotel in which city?

Dubai

Second Verbal Round

41. Home to approximately 215,000 people, Huntsville is the most populous city in which US state?
Alabama
42. The US Open tennis championships traditionally begin on the last Monday of which month?
August
43. In which 2021 film does Tom Hollander play three roles: King George V, Kaiser Wilhelm II and Tsar Nicholas II?
The King's Man
44. Who was the eldest of the six Mitford sisters?
Nancy
45. *Albariño* is a white wine grape grown in which region of northern Spain?
Galicia
46. The 2021 Scottish crime novel *The Dark Remains* was left unfinished following the death of its author William McIlvanney in 2015. Which other Scottish author completed it?
Ian Rankin
47. Which band released their debut single *The Silent Sun* in 1968?
Genesis
48. Which was the only one of the five test match venues at which England's men's team managed to avoid defeat on their recent calamitous Ashes tour of Australia?
Sydney
49. To within one year, in which year was the Education Reform Act passed? Amongst other things it introduced City Technology Colleges, Key Stages and the National Curriculum.
1988 (accept 1987 to 1989)
50. As of 8 March 2022, who is the MP for Welwyn Hatfield and also Secretary of State for Transport?
Grant Shapps
51. What common name is usually given to trees of the genus *Abies*?
Fir
52. In which British TV programme might contestants aspire to receive a 'Hollywood handshake'?
The Great British Bake Off
53. In which county is Holme Fen, at three metres below sea level the lowest point in the UK?
Cambridgeshire
54. The best-selling fragrance in France in 2021, *La Vie est Belle* is produced by which French perfumier?
Lancôme
55. Which 2,848 ft peak in the Lake District is also known as *Saddleback*?
Blencathra
56. The names of four chemical elements begin with the letter 'G'. Gold is one, name any two of the other three.
Any two from: **Gadolinium, Gallium, Germanium**

57. Choux pastry takes its name from the French word for which other edible item?

Cabbage

58. England's highest mountain Scafell Pike stands at the north-eastern end of which lake?

Wast Water

59. The Duchess of Sussex is known by her middle name, Meghan. What is her first name?

Rachel

60. In 1984 who became the first darts player to achieve a televised nine-dart finish in the UK?

John Lowe

61. Besides eggs, what is traditionally the main ingredient of a Spanish omelette?

Potato

62. John Batman was responsible for founding which Commonwealth city during the 1830s?

Melbourne

63. A conflict between which two countries was brought to an end by the Treaty of Ghent in 1814?

Great Britain and the USA (War of 1812)

64. Who was the most notable survivor of the sinking of US torpedo boat PT-109 by the Japanese destroyer *Amagiri* in August 1943? [see note 2](#)

John F. Kennedy

65. Who was the Member of Parliament for Stratford-on-Avon from February 1950 to June 1963?

John Profumo

66. Vlorë, Elbasan, Shkodër and Kamëz are four of the most populous cities in which European country?

Albania

67. In which 1920 novel did Agatha Christie's detective Hercule Poirot make his literary debut?

The Mysterious Affair at Styles

68. He made his club debut for the Belgian team Beveren in 2001, also played in France, Spain and Ukraine and had eight seasons in the English Premier League. His real first name is Gnégneri, but he is usually known by his middle name. Who is he?

Yaya Touré

69. Which chemical element exhibits the highest electrical conductivity, thermal conductivity and reflectivity of any metal?

Silver

70. Who is the regular host of the ITV afternoon game show *Tipping Point*?

Ben Shephard

Second Written Round NO THEME

71. Three boroughs of Greater Manchester do **not** have a Metrolink tram stop. Stockport is one; name the other two.

Bolton and Wigan

72. Who is the only person ever to be awarded the title of 'Honorary Citizen' by Manchester City Council?

Ariana Grande

73. What connects Blue Monday, Waterloo, Ashdown Foresters and Renegade Monk?

All are varieties of British cheese (accept any answer containing 'cheese')

74. Name **any one** of the UK's three official manufacturers of Kendal Mint Cake.

One from: **Romney's, Wilson's or Quiggin's**

75. Which American director's debut feature-length film was the 1967 release *Who's That Knocking at My Door?*

Martin Scorsese

76. What is the largest lake in Italy by surface area?

Lake Garda

77. What is missing from this list of this winter's UK storms?

Arwen, Barra, Corrie, _____, Eunice, Franklin

Dudley

78. In May 2019 who succeeded Carol Ann Duffy as Poet Laureate?

Simon Armitage

79. *We Are the World* by USA for Africa was the American equivalent of Band Aid's *Do They Know It's Christmas?*

Name **either** of the singer-songwriters who composed it.

Michael Jackson or Lionel Richie

80. Which English county is the principal setting for the Sherlock Holmes novel *The Hound of the Baskervilles*?

Devon

Spares (also to be used as an additional written round in the event of a draw)

1. The Ten Commandments are described in which **two** books of the *Old Testament*?
Exodus and Deuteronomy
2. Which European war that began in 1618 was ended by the treaties known as the *Peace of Westphalia*?
Thirty Years War
3. Who has been Russian Foreign Minister since 2004?
Sergey Lavrov
4. What is Donald Duck's middle name?
Fauntleroy
5. Which city is the capital of Kosovo?
Pristina
6. Which three players scored during Manchester City's 4-1 defeat of Manchester United earlier this month?
Kevin de Bruyne, Riyad Mahrez, Jadon Sancho
7. What was the nationality of the early twentieth century aircraft designer Anthony Fokker?
Dutch
8. Which of the countries in Rugby Union's Six Nations Championship has the stadium with the smallest capacity?
Ireland [see pedantic note 3](#)
9. Who is the current member of Parliament for Hazel Grove?
William Wragg
10. Which motorway runs for just over 60 miles between Edinburgh and Glasgow?
M8

Tie-breakers

1. According to the 2021 Census what is the population of the Isle of Man?
84,069
2. As at 8 March 2022, how many times has the Victoria Cross been awarded?
1,358

Notes

1. He has competed in **eleven** grand slam singles finals (3 Wimbledon, 2 US, 5 Australian and 1 French).
2. This question was replaced with the first spare because it is similar to a question that was used in the previous week.
3. As written the question could be interpreted as "what is the smallest capacity stadium in any of the six countries in the Rugby Six nations?" which is anyone's guess. It would probably be better re-phrased as "which country's stadium used in the 2022 Rugby Six Nations has the smallest capacity" which eliminates Italy's Stadio Flaminio (capacity 32,000, but not used since 2011) as a possible answer.