

**KNOCKOUT ELIMINATOR ROUND THURSDAY 4 JANUARY 2024
QUESTIONS BY THE RAILWAY AND SMART ALEX**

First Verbal Round

- In a scientific context what links the years 1781, 1846 and 1930?
Discovery of planets (Uranus, Neptune and Pluto)
- Porto Novo is the capital of which African country?
Benin
- Which king of England is buried in Worcester cathedral?
John
- Name one of the two English clubs that contested the first UEFA Cup Final, in 1972.
Tottenham Hotspur or Wolverhampton Wanderers
- Who directed the films *La Grande Illusion* (1937) and *The Rules of the Game* (1939), often cited by critics as among the greatest films ever made?
Jean Renoir
- In the title of a 1970s TV series, how was Jaime Sommers better known?
The Bionic Woman
- Who has been Britain's Astronomer Royal since 1995?
Martin Rees
- Founded in 1966 as a guerrilla movement, UNITA is now the second-largest political party in which country?
Angola
- What name is given to a variable resistor, which enables the current in an electrical circuit to be controlled?
A rheostat (also accept 'potentiometer')
- Who composed the *Academic Festival Overture*, *A German Requiem*, and two sets of *Hungarian Dances*?
Johannes Brahms
- What is the common English name for the marine mammal with the scientific name *Monodon monoceros*?
The narwhal
- Named after the court of the French king Louis XIV, what is the main ingredient of potage St Germain?
Peas
- Which footballer is commemorated by two stained glass windows in his local church, St Francis's, Dudley?
Duncan Edwards
- Born on 29 December 2010, what first name was given to Princess Anne's first grandchild and the Queen's first great-grandchild?
Savannah (daughter of Peter Philips)

15. Which German city boasts the world's tallest cathedral spire?

Ulm

16. Which town in County Kerry in south-west Ireland is famous for Fungie the dolphin, who frequented its bay from 1983 until 2020 when he disappeared?

Dingle

17. How is the decimal number ten represented in the binary system?

1010

18. In his poem of the same name, which animal did G K Chesterton describe as 'the Devil's walking parody on all four-footed things'?

The Donkey

19. Which company was founded in Birmingham's Gun Quarter in 1861, and became famous for manufacturing bicycles and motorcycles?

BSA (Birmingham Small Arms)

20. What is the correct name (in English) of the Salvador Dali painting sometimes known by names like *Melting Clocks* and *The Melting Watches*?

The Persistence of Memory

21. Within two either way, in which year did New Zealand become the first country to give women the vote?

1893 (accept 1891 to 1895)

22. Which family owned Tatton Hall near Knutsford, from its construction in the 1770s until 1958 when it was bequeathed to the National Trust?

Egerton

23. The working class Rabitte family is central to the plots of which literary trilogy, published in 1987, 1990 and 1991?

The Barrytown trilogy (by Roddy Doyle)

24. Which actress, who died earlier this year, gave her name to a famous handbag made by Hermès?

Jane Birkin

25. Which resort on the Tyrrhenian Sea gives its name to a stretch of coastline including nearby towns such as Positano and Ravello, designated a World Heritage Site in 1997?

Amalfi (the site is the Amalfi Coast)

26. In which English county is Wulfhall, the home of the Seymour family in Tudor times and the inspiration for Hilary Mantel's title *Wolf Hall*?

Wiltshire

27. Which BBC3 sitcom, which aired between 2017 and 2020, was co-written by brother and sister Daisy May and Charlie Cooper, who also starred in it?

This Country

28. What chemical element was named after an Italian-born nuclear physicist and Nobel laureate?

Fermium

29. What 1997 film, described as 'a spiritual successor to *A Fish Called Wanda*', was dedicated to Gerald Durrell and Peter Cook, who both died in 1995?

Fierce Creatures

30. What name is shared by four English rivers, flowing respectively into the Yorkshire Ouse, the Irish Sea, the Trent and the Tyne?

Derwent

First Written Round **THERE IS A THEME**

31. Which League 2 football club claimed in 2015 to be the first vegan football club in the world?

Forest Green Rovers

32. In English place names such as Chipping Norton, what does the word 'Chipping' mean?

Market

33. Which country has the world's largest Spanish-speaking population?

Mexico

34. According to the Bible, what item is made of acacia wood with a gold lid known as the mercy seat?

The Ark of the Covenant (aka the Ark of Testimony or the Ark of God)

35. Which novel by Dodie Smith, first published in 1948, is narrated by Cassandra Mortmain?

I Capture the Castle

36. Whose first credited film role was in 1959 at the age of 12, when she appeared alongside her father in *Tiger Bay*?

Hayley Mills

37. In a series of children's books by Michael Bond, and named after a family pet, what type of animal is Olga da Polga?

Guinea pig

38. What is the capital of Trinidad & Tobago?

Port of Spain

39. Which British actor played Sally Bowles' friend Brian Roberts in the 1972 film *Cabaret*?

Michael York

40. Known as 'the gateway to Sydney', which harbour and tourist neighbourhood is the focal point of the city's New Year celebrations?

Circular Quay

Theme is add 'New' to make a place name

(New Forest, Newmarket, New Mexico, Newark, Newcastle, New Mills, New Guinea, Newport, New York, Newquay)

Second Verbal Round

41. *People Will Say We're In Love* is a song from which musical?

Oklahoma

42. Who was the Roman Goddess of fruitful abundance?

Pomona

43. What name is given to the dip in Hadrian's Wall, where a famous tree was controversially cut down in secret in September 2023?

Sycamore Gap

44. Traded as a commodity, the mineral concentrate called *yellowcake* is derived from the ore of which metal?

Uranium

45. What is the name of the hills spanning the counties of Selkirk, East Lothian and Berwick whose name is mentioned in an 1819 novel and an 1835 opera?

Lammermuir Hills

46. Against which team did Pele score his first World Cup goal in 1958?

Wales

47. The Naughty Boy number one hit *La La La* features vocals by which singer, whose album *In the Lonely Hour* topped the charts around the world in 2014?

Sam Smith

48. What was the actual first name of the Roman emperor known to posterity by his nickname *Caligula*?

Gaius

49. How is Amy Dunne described in the title of the novel by Gillian Flynn?

Gone Girl

50. How did Matty Edgell make the news in December 2023?

He won *The Great British Bake Off* see note 1

51. Covering a mere 259 square kilometres, which is the smallest of the United Arab Emirates?

Ajman

52. Name two of the four ministries mentioned in the book *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

Truth, love, peace, plenty

53. In which English county was physicist Sir Isaac Newton born?

Lincolnshire

54. In the Western Christian tradition, what name is given to the feast day commemorating the visit of the Three Kings to the infant Jesus?

Epiphany

55. Which English author is famous for the three quotes: '*It was a dark and stormy night*', '*The pen is mightier than the sword*' and '*the great unwashed*'?

Edward Bulwer-Lytton

56. The chemical compound *niacin* is otherwise known as which vitamin?

B₃

57. Who are the reigning County Cricket champions?

Surrey

58. The opening scene of which 1931 film, where he buys a flower from a blind flower seller, took two years and 342 takes until Charlie Chaplin was satisfied?

City Lights

59. What is the name of Princess Anne's country residence in Gloucestershire?

Gatcombe Park

60. Which European composer was invited to take part in the opening of Carnegie Hall in New York in 1891, two years before his death from cholera?

Tchaikovsky

61. The current World Snooker Champion is from Belgium. What is his name?

Luca Brecel

62. For which film of 1990 did the song *Sooner or Later* win the Oscar for the best original song? The film won three Oscars in all and starred Warren Beatty, Al Pacino and Madonna amongst others.

Dick Tracy

63. Which American general's middle name was that of the Shawnee chief Tecumseh?
William Sherman
64. Cunard will be bringing a new cruise ship into service in Spring 2024. What is its name?
Queen Anne
65. Which toyshop, originally in High Holborn and now in Regent Street, is claimed to be the oldest toyshop in the world by the Guinness book of records?
Hamleys
66. Whose novels include *A Small Town in Germany* and *The Night Manager*?
John le Carré
67. Founder of an observatory named after him, which American astronomer is well-known for his belief in the existence of Martian canals, as detailed in three books between 1895 and 1908?
Percival Lowell
68. Which French restaurant in London's Upper Brook Street will close its doors in January 2024, 56 years after it was opened by the Roux brothers?
Le Gavroche
69. Which second division EFL club which plays in black and white stripes was in the old first division from 1929 to 1948 and has never played top-flight football again? After being relegated to the National League they re-entered the EFL in 2022 after winning the National League play-off at Wembley.
Grimsby Town [see note 2](#)
70. Grenadine is traditionally made from which fruit?
Pomegranate

Second Written Round **THERE IS A THEME** (in one of the answers the theme forms part of a longer word)

71. Which city's racecourse is known as *The Roodee*?
Chester
72. Walter Becker and Donald Fagen founded which US rock band in 1971?
Steely Dan
73. In the children's animated television series from 1969, Mary was the little girl and Midge was the name of her mouse. What was the name of her dog?
Mungo
74. Who was the first Prime Minister of the State of Israel? (first name required)
David Ben-Gurion
75. With the exception of Sir Alec Douglas-Home, who resigned his peerage shortly after entering 10 Downing Street, what is the title of the last member of the House of Lords to serve as UK Prime Minister?
Lord/Marquess of Salisbury
76. Famous for his collection of jumpers, who has appeared alongside Sheila Hancock, Maureen Lipman and Joanna Lumley on *Celebrity Gogglebox*? (first name required)
Gyles Brandreth
77. Which English satirist who died in 1998 contributed to *Mrs Wilson's Diary* and the *Dear Bill* letters in *Private Eye*? He also wrote and starred as Denis Thatcher in the stage farce *Anyone for Denis?*
John Wells

78. F. Scott Fitzgerald was born in which city, the state capital of Minnesota?

St Paul

79. Who composed the operas *Wozzeck* (pronounced Votseck) and *Lulu*? (first name required)

Alban Berg

80. According to tradition, who was the mother of the Virgin Mary?

Anne

Theme is UK Cathedrals

(Chester, Ely, St Mungo's Glasgow, St David's Wales, Salisbury, St Giles Edinburgh, Wells, St Paul's, St Alban's, St Anne's Belfast)

Third Written Round (for use in the event of a tie)

1. Which of the seven hills of Rome has a name beginning with Q, which it gives to the official residence of the President of Italy?

Quirinal

2. What is missing from this set? Dover, Hastings, Hythe, New Romney...

Sandwich (the original Cinque Ports)

3. Who wrote the short story *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, on which the Brad Pitt film was based?

F. Scott **Fitzgerald**

4. Who served as deputy prime minister in Churchill's wartime coalition government, from 1942 to 1945?

Clement **Attlee**

5. In what year was the two-pound coin introduced into circulation in the UK?

1998

6. Who plays Acting DI Macintosh - aka "Tosh" - in the TV crime drama *Shetland*?

Alison O'Donnell

7. Who committed suicide via cyanide on 14 October 1940 and was buried near Ulm?

Erwin Rommel [see note 3](#)

8. Which musical comedy that had its debut in 2003 features puppets with their puppeteers, and human actors? Its title is also the original name of a thoroughfare in New York city.

Avenue Q

9. Which actress/singer/dancer and EGOT winner appeared in a 1961 musical film and its 2021 remake when aged 90 in a different role?

Rita Moreno

10. Herbert Spencer coined which phrase in his *Principle of Biology* after reading *On the Origin of Species*?

Survival of the fittest

Nearest-the-bull tie-breaker

1. According to Wikipedia, how many islands make up the Japanese Archipelago?

14,125

Spares

1. Which fruit is named after a Moroccan port on the Straits of Gibraltar?
The tangerine
2. Who was the first person to play Doctor Who on television this century?
Christopher Eccleston
3. Who played glamorous attorney Jordan Roberts in *Falcon Crest*, and guested as Chandler's mother in *Friends*?
Morgan Fairchild
4. One of the fastest in the world, which bird has the scientific name *Apus apus*? It was once thought to be a swallow with no feet.
Swift
5. Which US state capital originally had the names Harrisburg and Rockwell? It received its current name in honour of a French-Canadian miner and gold prospector.
Juneau

Notes

1. The 2023 final of The Great British Bake Off was broadcast on 28 November.
2. The National League play-off final was played at West Ham's London Stadium, not Wembley.
3. Presumably a typo; Rommel died in 1944, not 1940.