

PLATE SEMI-FINALS THURSDAY 7 MARCH 2024
QUESTIONS BY WANDERING STAR AND HORSE & FARRIER

First Verbal Round see note 1

1. Which Spanish province is bordered by the provinces of Granada, Málaga, Seville, Badajoz, Ciudad Real and Jaén?
Córdoba
2. Which Spanish province is bordered by the provinces of Almeria, Granada, Albacete, and Alicante?
Murcia
3. Which AC/DC album was the first to feature vocalist Brian Johnson?
Back in Black
4. Which industrial rock band was founded/assembled by Trent Reznor in 1988?
Nine Inch Nails (NIN)
5. Who was the first woman to win a Best Director Oscar?
Kathryn Bigelow (for *The Hurt Locker*)
6. Who was the first woman to be nominated for a Best Director Oscar?
Jane Campion (for *The Piano*)
7. What is the current name of the bridge over the River Orme in Normandy, previously called Ranville Bridge, which was seized by British forces on D-Day?
Horsa Bridge (after the Horsa gliders involved in its capture)
8. What was the name of the bridge in Arnhem which was destroyed in October 1944 and later renamed as the John Frost Bridge?
The Rhine Bridge (Rijnbrug)
9. Of what is *glossophobia* the fear?
Public speaking
10. Of what is *hodophobia* an extreme fear?
Travel
11. Which tree, native to the UK, has the Latin name *Betula pendula*?
Silver Birch (also accept warty birch, European white birch or East Asian white birch)
12. Which Scottish League One Club plays home matches at Forthbank Stadium?
Stirling Albion
13. Which Scottish League Two Club plays home matches at Ochilview Park?
Stenhousemuir
14. Which tree, native to the UK, has the Latin name *Acer campestre*?
Field Maple (accept just 'Maple')
15. Who directed the films *Summer with Monika* and *Wild Strawberries*?
Ingmar Bergman

16. Who directed the films *Dial M for Murder* and *Jamaica Inn*?
Alfred Hitchcock
17. Which 1986 romantic comedy film starred Corey Haim, Kerri Green, Charlie Sheen, and Winona Ryder?
Lucas
18. Which future British Prime minister, then aged 27, was cavalry commander of the troops at the 1797 Massacre of Tranent?
Lord Liverpool (also accept 'Viscount Hawkesbury' or 'Robert Jenkinson')
19. In the 1994 film *The Lion King* who voiced Mufasa?
James Earl Jones
20. What is a heavy cavalry sword with a curved blade and a single cutting edge known as?
Sabre
21. Which 1910 novel by Gaston Leroux was adapted into a 1986 musical?
Le Fantôme de l'Opéra (obviously accept 'Phantom of the Opera')
22. In which battle in 1797 did Nelson lose his right arm?
Santa Cruz de Tenerife (accept either 'Santa Cruz' or 'Tenerife')
23. Who was the original Green Cross Man?
Dave Prowse
24. Which actor played Victor Frankenstein in the 1957 film *The Curse of Frankenstein*?
Peter Cushing
25. What was the year:?
Jimmy Carter sworn in as the 39th US President; the Ford Fiesta car first goes on sale in the UK; Red Rum wins his third Grand National?
1977
26. What name was given to the German specialist infantry units used to attack Allied defensive positions in WW1?
Storm troopers (also accept 'Stoßtruppen' or 'Sturmtruppen')
27. What type of prehistoric monument is at Castlerigg in Cumbria?
Stone circle
28. What famous saying appears in Thomas Tusser's 1557 poem entitled *A Hundred Points of Good Husbandry*, later published as *Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry*?
'Sweete April showers, doo spring Maie Flowers' (accept any answer with 'April showers' and 'May flowers')
29. The American Revolutionary Wars were ended by the Treaty of Paris in what year?
1783 (to come into force 12 May 1784, so either year acceptable)
30. In terms of the number of troops, what was the largest surrender in British military history?
Singapore (in 1942, 85,000 troops)

First Written Round **THERE IS A THEME** (the spelling is different in one case, while one answer is implicitly rather than explicitly connected to the theme)

31. What was the real name of Mystic Meg who died on 9 March 2023?
Margaret Lake
32. What is the name of the pub in Edinburgh's Grassmarket, sited near the city gallows that were last used in 1864?
The Last Drop

33. What was the bastard name of Kit Harington's character in *Game of Thrones*?

Jon Snow

34. Who was the Supreme Court judge who presided over the decision that Boris Johnson's prorogation of parliament was unlawful?

Lady Hale

35. In what sport is the Vezina Trophy awarded to the best goal-keeper?

NHL (National Hockey League) **see note 2**

36. Who had a hit with *Turning Japanese* in 1980?

The Vapors

37. What was the name of the woman who married the Doctor when that role in *Dr Who* was played by Matt Smith? Full name required.

River Song

38. Which ITV sitcom, first aired in September 1974, ran for two series and, among others, starred Richard Beckinsale?

Rising Damp **see note 3**

39. Which individually wrapped confections were created by Eric Fox in 1918?

Glacier Mints

40. Who played Helen Herriot in the 1970s version of *All Creatures Great and Small*?

Carol Drinkwater

Theme is water in many manifestations: lake, drop, snow, hail, ice, vapour, river, damp, glacier, water

Second Verbal Round

41. In the TV drama series *Vigil*, which actor plays the lead character DCI Amy Silva?

Suranne Jones

42. Who was the King of France from 1814 to 1824? His reign was interrupted by the return of Napoleon from Elba and resumed after the Battle of Waterloo. Name and regnal number required.

Louis XVIII

43. The US Space Shuttle programme was ended in 2011. Which was the final Space Shuttle to fly, launched on 8 July?

Atlantis

44. J. M. Coetzee has won the Booker Prize twice; name either book.

The Life and Times of Michael K* or *Disgrace

45. *Bellis perennis* is the scientific name for which small flowering plant, often regarded as a weed?

Daisy

46. Who conducted the *Last Night of the Proms* in 2023?

Marin Alsop

47. Which is the highest mountain peak in the southern hemisphere?

Mount Aconcagua (Argentina)

48. On an Ordnance Survey map, what symbol is used to identify a craft centre?

A Spinning Wheel

49. In which daily newspaper do you find the Andy Capp cartoon strip?
Daily Mirror
50. Give a year in the life of Niccolò Machiavelli, author of *The Prince*.
1459 to 1527 see note 4
51. When melted with gentle heat, which element (atomic number 53) will evaporate into a dense violet vapour?
Iodine
52. Which English Queen Consort died of a postpartum infection on her 37th birthday in 1503?
Elizabeth of York (accept wife of Henry VII)
53. Created by Andy Scott, which large sculptures can be found in the Helix Park, at the eastern end of the Forth & Clyde canal?
The Kelpies
54. Who lost to Real Madrid in the Copa del Rey final in 2023?
Osasuna
55. Although not all are currently allocated, what range of numbers is assigned to preservatives and some acids in the food E numbers system?
The two hundreds. i.e. E200-299 [note that E1105 (lysozyme) is also a preservative]
56. Okra, also known as *lady's fingers* or *bhindi*, is native to which continent?
Africa
57. In which constellation is Polaris, also known as the Pole Star?
Ursa Major see note 5
58. Name the year: Niels Bohr was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics; Marcel Proust died; Telly Savalas was born; T. S. Eliot's *The Wasteland* was published.
1922
59. Which man, who had died in a plane crash three months earlier, was the posthumous recipient of the 1961 Nobel Peace Prize?
Dag Hammarskjöld
60. Of which daily newspaper is Gary Jones the editor?
Daily Express
61. A glass of wine in a pub can be sold in measures of 125 or 175mL, or multiples thereof. What two measures (or multiples thereof) are legal for fortified wines, such as port or sherry?
50 and 75 mL
62. The first Duke of Wellington, Francis Bacon (the artist), and Michael Gambon were all born in which city?
Dublin
63. As of 1 March 2024, what is the number one album in the official albums chart?
Swing Fever (by Jools Holland and Rod Stewart)
64. The English inventor Trevor Baylis was best known for what invention?
Wind-up radio
65. *1863*, *Lowry* and *Hopster* are all beers produced by which north-west brewer?
Hydes
66. On 5 November 1688 who landed at Brixham, leading an invasion army?
William of Orange (also accept 'William III')

67. In which art gallery will you find *The Birth of Venus* by Botticelli?
The Uffizi (in Florence)
68. The currency in Thailand is the baht. It is divided into 100 what?
Satang
69. Which river rises in Spain, flows through the Pyrenees and then into the Gironde estuary at Bordeaux?
Garonne
70. Henry VIII's sister Margaret Tudor married which King of Scotland?
James IV

Second Written Round **THERE IS A THEME** (whose words may be clear, or hidden in the answers)

71. The *Book of Daniel* relates the tale of three men who were thrown into a fiery furnace because they refused to obey Nebuchadnezzar's command to worship a golden statue. One of the men was named Meshach; what were the names of the other two?
Shadrach and Abednego
72. Released at the end of 1969, which group's first and most successful record was *Give Me Just a Little More Time*?
Chairmen of the Board **see pedantic note 6**
73. Which imperial realm occupied most of the Mediterranean's coastal areas from the 16th to 18th centuries?
Ottoman
74. According to the saying, who or what "flock together"?
Birds of a Feather
75. Which play by Ronald Harwood had its world première at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester in 1980, with Tom Courtenay and Freddie Jones in the lead roles?
The Dresser
76. Which King Creole and the Coconuts single, the third from their *Tropical Gangsters* album, reached number six in the UK charts in 1982?
Stool Pigeon **see note 7**
77. What term became familiar in Britain in the 1960s for a group of unofficial or private advisers to a political leader?
Kitchen cabinet
78. In *Alice in Wonderland*, what unanswerable riddle does the Mad Hatter ask during the tea party?
"Why is a raven like a writing desk?"
79. Whipsnade Zoo is located about four miles south of which Bedfordshire market town?
Dunstable
80. What is the line that follows 'Come away, come away, Death', sung by Feste in *Twelfth Night*?
'And in sad Cypress let me be laid'
- Theme is household furniture** (bed, chair, ottoman, sofa, dresser, stool, cabinet, desk, table, press)

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

81. What stage name was used by the entertainer who was born Benjamin Kubelsky?
Jack Benny

82. What in Ireland is a *turlough*?
A lake (actually a temporary lake)
83. In what area of modern warfare has Iraqi-born engineer Abraham Karen made a major contribution?
Use of drones (accept anything related to robotic planes)
84. Which singer released the studio album *Diary of a Madman* in 1981?
Ozzy Osbourne
85. Which school was attended by Old Alleynians?
Dulwich College
86. In which month is *La Befana* celebrated in Italy?
January (eve of the Epiphany)
87. In June 1667 what part of England was invaded by a foreign country?
Isle of Sheppey (by the Dutch navy)
88. In which country is the city of Tartu, home to that country's oldest university?
Estonia
89. Which US state is home to both Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame?
Indiana
90. Senator Mitch McConnell, leader of the Republican Party in the US Senate, has announced his retirement. Which state does he represent in the Senate?
Kentucky

Tie-breakers (nearest-the-bull)

1. What was the reported attendance when Dundee beat Ross County 2-0 in the Scottish Premier League on 17 February 2024?
5846
2. Navendu Mishra was elected the MP for Stockport in the last general election. How many votes did he receive?
21695

Spares

1. Which sport is to be reintroduced for the 2028 Olympics, after an interval of 120 years?
Lacrosse [see note 8](#)
2. *Serendib* is the old Persian and Arabic name for which country?
Sri Lanka
3. Who preceded George Galloway as MP for Rochdale?
Tony Lloyd
4. What is the common name of the thylacine, an extinct carnivore?
Tasmanian Tiger, or Tasmanian Wolf
5. The director of the recent *Dune* films, and the commander of the French and Spanish fleets at the Battle of Trafalgar, share a surname. What is it?
Villeneuve

Notes

1. Questions for knockout matches should not be paired. Not only does it make setting unnecessarily difficult, but if the pairing sequence is relatively obvious (as was the case for much of Round 1) it may help a team that twigs the sequence to pick questions on preferred subjects.
2. The NHL is an organisation, not a sport. The sport is ice hockey, in which the position is known as **goaltender** rather than **goalkeeper**.
3. There were four, not two, series of *Rising Damp*.
4. Machiavelli was born in 1469, not 1459.
5. Polaris is in Ursa **Minor**, not Ursa Major.
6. The song was released in 1970, not 1969.
7. The correct name of the band is **Kid Creole and the Coconuts**; *Stool Pigeon* was the second, not third, UK single taken from the album *Tropical Gangsters*; it reached number seven, not six, in the UK charts.
8. Cricket will also be re-introduced, but after an interval of **128** years.