

LEAGUE MATCHES THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2023
QUESTIONS BY SMART ALEX

First Verbal Round

1. *Politics on the Edge* is a recent best-seller by which former Conservative MP, who now hosts a podcast alongside Alastair Campbell?
Rory Stewart
2. Which Danish cyclist won the Tour de France in 2022 and 2023?
Jonas Vingegaard Rasmussen (accept either 'Vingegaard' or 'Rasmussen')
3. Which battle, the bloodiest of the Napoleonic Wars, was mentioned in Tolstoy's *War and Peace*?
Borodino
4. Which two letters of the alphabet do not appear in the symbols of chemical elements?
J and Q
5. Manitas de Plata was a renowned player of which musical instrument?
Guitar
6. Which Anglo-Dutch wood carver who worked on St Paul's Cathedral was appointed master carver to George I?
Grinling Gibbons
7. P. D. James' crime novel *Cover Her Face* takes its title from a line in which 17th century Jacobean tragedy?
The Duchess of Malfi (*Cover her face. Mine eyes dazzle; she died young.*)
8. What is the name of the valley which runs between the Marlborough Downs and Salisbury plain in Wiltshire?
The Vale of Pewsey
9. Who directed the 1970 film *M*A*S*H*?
Robert Altman
10. Which type of cat is produced by the crossing of a Siamese with a black cat? (Two-word answer required)
Havana Brown
11. Which planet in our solar system has a hexagonal-shaped storm around its north pole?
Saturn
12. Which band had a 'one-hit wonder' with their debut single *You Get What You Give* in 1998?
New Radicals see note 1
13. In which year did the following happen?
The last Woolworths store closed in Britain; Ireland won the Six Nations Championship for the first time; Jade Goody died.
2009
14. Which London underground station is situated next to the London O2 Arena?
North Greenwich
15. In the 2023 film *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny*, which actor plays Jürgen Voller, a Nazi-turned-NASA scientist who plans to use the dial to alter the outcome of World War II?
Mads Mikkelsen
16. Which actor is playing Napoleon in the 2023 Ridley Scott film of the same name?
Joaquin Phoenix

17. Which London Underground station on the Victoria line is closest to Tate Britain?

Pimlico

18. In which year did the following happen?
Mark Selby won his first World Snooker title; Scotland voted "No" to Independence; Richard Attenborough died.

2014

19. Which band had a 'one-hit wonder' with their debut single *Jump Around* in 1992?

House of Pain [see note 1](#)

20. Which planet in our solar system spins on its side?

Uranus

21. Which type of cat is produced by crossing an Asian Leopard with a domestic breed?

Bengal

22. Who directed the 1967 film *Bonnie and Clyde*?

Arthur Penn

23. What is the name of the former mediaeval hunting forest and chalk plateau which is bounded by the escarpments which face Blackmore Vale to the west, the Vale of Wardour to the north, and the Hampshire Avon to the east?

Cranborne Chase

24. Evelyn Waugh's novel *A Handful of Dust* takes its title from a line in which 20th century poem?

The Wasteland (*I will show you fear in a handful of dust*)

25. Which Italian sculptor created the marble statue *The Three Graces*?

Antonio Canova

26. Barry Tuckwell was a renowned player of which musical instrument?

French Horn

27. The names of which two chemical elements end with the letter d?

Gold and Lead

28. Brian Boru, the High King of Ireland, died during which battle in 1014?

Clontarf

29. Who won the Women's Singles championship at Wimbledon this year?

Markéta Vondroušová

30. Whose four-part series *Union* was recently shown on BBC television?

David Olusoga

First Written Round

There is a theme with sound-alikes and in one case the theme forms part of a word

31. Which was the first James Bond film to feature Judi Dench as 'M'?

Goldeneye

32. Which Gilbert and Sullivan opera has the alternative title *The Witch's Curse*?

Ruddigore

33. In the realm of DC Comics, who is the sidekick and lover of the Joker? She has been portrayed on film by Margot Robbie.

Harley Quinn

34. What is the name of the category 4 hurricane that, in 2021, became the second-most damaging and intense hurricane on record to make landfall in Louisiana? It occurred between Henri and Julian.

Ida

35. Which Yorkshire-born singer presented the BBC Radio 2 shows *Big Band Special* from 2006 to 2013, and *Sunday Night at 10* from 2009 to 2013?

Claire Teal

36. The Principality of Moscow that was disestablished in 1547 was also known by what single name?

Muscovy

37. What is the title of Sean Penn's debut feature film as director? It depicts the relationship between two brothers who find themselves on opposite sides of the law. It features Viggo Mortensen, Dennis Hopper, and Sandy Dennis in her last role.

The Indian Runner

38. What word can refer to someone who has an important job in the Civil Service, and a tree with the binomial *Citrus reticulata*?

Mandarin

39. What is the county town of Buckinghamshire?

Aylesbury

40. By what name is the steam locomotive LNER Class A4 4468 better known?

Mallard

Theme is breeds of duck

(goldeneye, ruddy, harlequin, eider, teal, Muscovy, Indian runner, mandarin, Aylesbury, mallard)

Second Verbal Round

41. Executed at Wandsworth Prison in 1949, who is remembered as the Acid Bath Murderer?

John Haigh

42. Which game uses the terms: suits, honours, winds, dragons, seasons and flowers?

Mah-jong

43. What was the name of the Queen of Tonga from 1918 to 1965?

Salote

44. Which author of *Tanglewood Tales* was appointed to the position of United States consul to Liverpool by Franklin Pierce?

Nathaniel Hawthorne

45. Born in 1986, who is the most capped male footballer for France? He has played for his current club since 2012 and has won a UEFA Champions League runner-up medal with them. He has 145 caps, the first being in 2008.

Hugo Lloris

46. Which percussion instrument derives its name from 'little chestnuts'?

Castanets

47. Which Hollywood film noir of 1946, based on a novel of the same name by James M. Cain, starred Lana Turner and John Garfield?

The Postman Always Rings Twice

48. The town of Montélimar is renowned for the production of which type of confectionery which contains sugar, honey and nuts?

Nougat

49. According to *A Day in the Life* by the Beatles, how many holes were in Blackburn?

4000

50. In France, on which day of the year is the cake *galette des rois* traditionally eaten?

6 January (also accept 'Epiphany'; it is aka Three Kings cake)

51. If you were afflicted with *gynaecomastia*, what would you have?

Male breasts/man boobs

52. Whose painting entitled *The Origin of the Milky Way* currently hangs in the National Gallery? This should not be confused with *The Birth of the Milky Way* by Rubens.

Tintoretto

53. The Gateway Arch, the tallest of its kind in the world, is situated in which US city?

St Louis

54. Which flavour of ice cream would you get if you ordered *nocciola* in Italy?

Hazelnut

55. As of 2 November 2023, which football team plays their home matches at The Matchroom Stadium?

Leyton Orient

56. As of 2 November 2023, which football team plays their home matches at Glanford Park?

Scunthorpe United

57. Which flavour of ice cream would you get if you ordered *lampone* in Italy?

Raspberry

58. The Lowell Observatory is situated in which US state?

Arizona

59. Whose painting entitled *Bacchus and Ariadne* currently hangs in the National Gallery?

Titian

60. If you were afflicted with *argyria*, caused by excessive exposure to silver, what would be your symptoms?

Your skin turns blue see note 2

61. Meaning 'large loaf of bread' what sweet item is traditionally eaten at Christmas in Italy?

Panettone

62. In *Paperback Writer* by the Beatles, who wrote the novel upon which the singer based his book?

Lear

63. The town of Lübeck is renowned for the production of which type of confectionery which contains sugar, honey and almonds?

Marzipan

64. Which Hollywood film noir of 1955, the only film directed by Charles Laughton, starred Robert Mitchum and Shelley Winters?

The Night of the Hunter

65. Which wind instrument derives its name from the term 'high wood'?

Oboe (from 'hautbois')

66. Still active as a footballer playing for Sevilla, who is the most capped male footballer for Spain? He won 180 caps between 2005 and 2021. With one of his previous clubs, he won four UEFA Champions League titles.

Sergio Ramos

67. Which Russian author was fatally wounded in a duel with Georges d'Anthès, his sister-in-law's husband?

Alexander Pushkin

68. What is the two-word name of the legendary Christian patriarch and king who provided the title of a book by John Buchan?

Prester John

69. In Texas hold 'em poker, what term is used for the combination of three of a kind and a pair?

Full house

70. Which American serial killer, who was executed in 1989, is remembered as 'the Campus Killer'?

Ted Bundy

Second Written Round There is a theme; one answer is a homophone

71. Which British Prime Minister was previously MP for Aberavon?

Ramsay MacDonald

72. In the Bond films what's the name of M's chief of staff? He has been played by Rory Kinnear since 2008.

Bill Tanner

73. *My Take* is a 2006 autobiography by which English singer, songwriter, record producer, television personality, and recipient of six Ivor Novello Awards?

Gary Barlow

74. Which anthropologist and Professor of Public Engagement in Science has been a presenter on the TV series *Coast*, *Time Team* and *Digging For Britain*?

Alice Roberts

75. Who published his *American Dictionary of the English Language* in 1828?

Noah Webster

76. Who wrote the 1989 political thriller *House of Cards*?

Michael Dobbs

77. Which footballer started his playing career at Crewe Alexandra in 1985, briefly managed Sampdoria, and ended his playing career as player-manager at Nottingham Forest?

David Platt

78. Who replaced Chris Moyles as host of the Radio 1 *Breakfast Show*?

Nick Grimshaw

79. Which region of the shipping forecast has a border with SE Iceland and Faroes?

Bailey

80. Which flamboyant person was the drama critic of the *Daily Mail* for 24 years from 1972? Following his death, aged 58 in 1996, lights in the West End were dimmed in his honour.

Jack Tinker

Theme is surnames of current characters in *Coronation Street*

Spares

1. How many pedals are there on a concert harp?

Seven

2. The delivery company Hermes was rebranded as what name in 2022?

Evri

3. What is the official language of Andorra?

Catalan

4. Which 18th century philosopher said: "*It is dangerous to be right when those in power are wrong*"?

Voltaire

5. Which King of England was father to Sweyn, Harold, Harthacnut and Gunhilde?

Cnut (aka Canute)

5. The last set of stamps featuring the silhouette of Queen Elizabeth II was issued in March this year to celebrate the centenary of which steam locomotive?

The Flying Scotsman

Notes

1. 'One-hit wonder' is normally used to describe an act that has only one chart hit. Whilst the songs were undoubtedly the most successful singles for the bands in question, both acts had other, lesser UK chart hits.
2. The skin turning blue is the principal and most noticeable symptom of argyria, but other parts of the body (e.g. gums, whites of the eyes, some internal organs) may also change colour. There may be other, less obvious symptoms such as seizures, impaired renal function, headaches, abdominal pain and fatigue.