

LEAGUE MATCHES THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2024

QUESTIONS BY SMART ALEX

First Verbal Round

1. Which landlocked country is bordered by Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique?

Malawi

2. The war between the Greeks and the Trojans, as recounted in Homer's epic poem *The Iliad*, was unleashed because Paris had kidnapped Helen. Of where was she the queen?

Sparta

3. Credited to Edwin Hubble in 1936, what name is given to the dumbbell-shaped group of galaxies whose largest members are the Milky Way and the Andromeda Galaxy?

Local Group

4. In *HMS Pinafore* W. S. Gilbert was inspired to create the character of Sir Joseph Porter KCB by the appointment to the first Lord of the Admiralty of the proprietor of a nationwide eponymous chain of shops. What is the chain, which is still a going concern today?

WH Smith

5. Which one of their forenames does our two most recent female UK Prime Ministers have in common?

Mary (Theresa Mary May and Mary Elizabeth Truss)

6. Who is the manager of Manchester United's WSL women's team?

Marc Skinner

7. In the 1980s TV advertisement which soft drink was "*made in Scotland from girders*"?

Irn-Bru

8. In which Shakespeare play does a father advise his son "*neither a borrower nor a lender be*"?

Hamlet

9. Utilising superheated water, the Frasch process is an industrial method for extracting which element from underground deposits?

Sulphur

10. The ballet *La Boutique Fantasque* is based on the music of Rossini orchestrated by which composer?

Ottorino Respighi

11. Which American President said: "*The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here*"?

Abraham Lincoln

12. Bodega Catena Zapata is a famous vineyard in which country?

Argentina

13. The jazz musician Thelonius Monk played which instrument?

Piano

14. Robert Oppenheimer is known as 'the father of the atomic bomb'. Who is known as 'the father of the hydrogen bomb'?

Edward Teller

15. Which country underwent the so-called Carnation Revolution in 1974?

Portugal

16. Which landlocked country is bordered by Argentina, Bolivia and Brazil?

Paraguay

17. On Odysseus's journey home from the Trojan War, he lands on an island where the inhabitants eat a plant which causes them to live in a state of perpetual bliss. What is the name of this race of people?

The Lotus Eaters

18. Featuring in the James Bond film *Goldeneye*, and located in Puerto Rico, what is the name of the giant radio telescope that collapsed suddenly in 2020?

Arecibo

19. Which movement flourishing in England in the 1870-80s and supported by Oscar Wilde, is satirised in the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta *Patience*?

The aesthetic movement

20. Who is the most recent UK Prime Minister to have James as his first forename?

Gordon Brown

21. Sam Kerr is a striker for Chelsea's WSL team, but for which national team does she play?

Australia

22. In the 1970s TV advertisement which alcoholic drink could be enjoyed "*Any time, any place, anywhere*"?

Martini

23. The quotation "*a rose by any other name would smell as sweet*" is from which Shakespeare play?

Romeo and Juliet

24. In 1828 the first synthesis of an organic substance, urea, from inorganic chemicals was achieved by which German chemist?

Friedrich Wöhler (pron: vurler)

25. The suite *Soirées musicales* is based on the music of Rossini orchestrated by which composer?

Benjamin Britten

26. Which political activist said: "*The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice*"?

Martin Luther King

27. Viña Montes is a famous vineyard in which country?

Chile

28. The jazz musician Charlie Mingus played which instrument?

Double Bass (accept 'Bass') **see note 1**

29. What was the code name given to the first detonation of a nuclear weapon carried out by the US army on 16 July 1945 as part of the Manhattan Project?

Trinity

30. The town of Port Royal, a haunt of pirates, was destroyed by an earthquake in 1692, when it was the largest settlement in which island country?

Jamaica

First Written Round **There is a theme**

The theme may be part of a longer word in one of the answers and is a close sound-alike in another.

31. Which children's animated TV series featured Windy Miller and PC McGarry number 452?

Camberwick Green

32. The Duke of Kent sits at the head of which type of controversial organisation in England? It admits only men as members and traces its origins back to the fourteenth century.

Masons/Freemasons

33. Which American couple were sent to the electric chair in 1953 after being found guilty of spying for the Soviet Union?

Julius and Ethel Rosenberg

34. Margaret Thatcher studied at which Oxford College? Other alumnae include Indira Gandhi and Iris Murdoch.

Somerville

35. Scottish pop group the Bluebells reached number one in 1993 with their cover version of which song? A different song made popular by Frank Sinatra in the 1950s has the same title.

Young at Heart

36. Who was King of the Scots from 1306 until his death in 1329?

Robert the Bruce

37. Who played Joe Sugden in Emmerdale from 1972 to 1994? (Full name required)

Frazer Hines

38. Waterstones' flagship store on London's Piccadilly was previously the home of which famous department store until the 1990s?

Simpsons

39. Who is the anti-hero of John le Carré's most autobiographical novel, *A Perfect Spy*? He was played by Peter Egan in a 1987 BBC adaptation.

Magnus Pym

40. Acknowledged as one of the world's greatest harmonica players, who composed the themes of the musical score to the film *Genevieve*?

Larry Adler

Theme is BBC journalists

(Chris Mason, Political Editor; Jane Green, News Anchor; Steve Rosenberg, Moscow Correspondent; Quentin Sommerville, Middle East Correspondent; Vicki Young, Deputy Political Editor; Fiona Bruce, News Anchor; Christian Fraser, Senior News Correspondent; John Simpson, World Affairs Editor; Hugh Pym, Health Editor; Katya Adler, Europe Editor)

Second Verbal Round

41. Rigil Kent is the third brightest star in the night sky but it is not visible from Britain. In which constellation does it lie?

Centaurus

42. Which animal, an example of which is *Silurus glanis*, gives its name to a slang term for pretending to be a different person online?

Catfish

43. What specifically happens on a string instrument if the music is played *spiccato*?

The bow "bounces" off the string

(do not accept short notes, i.e. *staccato*, as this is a non-bouncing bow stroke)

44. Who is the current Secretary of State for Education?

Gillian Keegan

45. What is the name of the traditional, slightly spicy Korean dish made from fermented vegetables?

Kimchi

46. In biochemistry the citric acid cycle is also known by the name of which Nobel Prize-winning biologist who identified it in 1937 while working at Sheffield University?

Hans Krebs

47. The standard minimum loading gauge for railways was agreed by most European countries in the 1910s and is named after which European capital?

Berne

48. The final line of which novel is 'Very few castaways can claim to have survived so long at sea as Mr Patel, and none in the company of an adult Bengal tiger.'?

The Life of Pi

49. If you asked for 'der Essig' in a German restaurant, what would you get?

Vinegar

50. In the TV detective series *Dalziel and Pascoe*, who played DI Peter Pascoe?

Colin Buchanan

51. What name is given to the bundle of small fabric pieces, usually 18" x 22" in size, used in quilting or patchwork?

Fat quarter [see note 2](#)

52. What is the most abundant chemical element in the Earth's crust, constituting some 46% of it by mass?

Oxygen

53. In 1961 which was the first team to win the English Football League cup? The team is currently playing in the Premier division.

Aston Villa

54. Wimbledon is on which London Underground line?

District

55. With reference to its bright colours, how is the tie of the MCC colloquially known?

Egg and bacon

56. Antares is a red giant star visible from Britain. In which constellation does it lie?

Scorpius (accept 'Scorpio')

57. What sort of person would most likely be described as a *wisenheimer*? [see note 3](#)

A smart Alec (accept anything similar)

58. What specifically happens in string music when the direction is for the music to be played *col legno*?

The instrument is played with the wooden part of the bow

59. Who is the current Secretary of State for Health and Social Care?

Victoria Atkins

60. What is the name of the Japanese soup consisting of noodles, salty broth and various toppings?

Ramen

61. In biology the term *edaphic* relates to which part of the environment?

Soil

62. The conventions held in 1899 and 1907 which codified conduct in warfare are named after which European capital?

The Hague

63. The final line of which horror story is 'He was soon borne away by the waves and lost in darkness and distance.'?
Frankenstein
64. If you asked for *senf* in a German restaurant, what would you get?
Mustard
65. In the TV detective series *A Touch of Frost*, who played Sergeant George Toolan?
John Lyons
66. Rib, garter and moss are terms associated with which craft?
Knitting (they are stitches)
67. Derived from the name of a plateau between Italy and Slovenia, which geological term indicates any porous topography with sinkholes and little surface water, resulting from the dissolution of soluble rock?
Karst
68. In 1962 which was the first team outside the first division to win the English Football League cup? The team is currently playing in the championship.
Norwich City
69. Marble Arch is on which London Underground line?
Central
70. What is the nickname of Twickenham stadium, which alludes to the previous use of the land on which it was built?
(Billy Williams') **Cabbage Patch**

Second Written Round

71. In mathematics which of the regular solids is the only one to have faces that are pentagons?
Dodecahedron
72. Give a year in the life of the Roman statesman Cicero.
106 BC to 43 BC
73. Which river runs through Perth, Scotland?
Tay
74. Who painted *The Anatomy Lesson of Doctor Nicolaes Tulp*?
Rembrandt
75. What did Harry Redknapp lose after a car crash and Michael Hutchence lose after a fracas with a taxi driver?
Their sense of smell
76. Which winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1908 said "*All science is either physics or stamp collecting*"?
Ernest Rutherford
77. Founded in 1919 and still in existence, which was the first mass production car company outside the USA? In 1955 the revolutionary *DS* was the first mass production car with disc brakes.
Citroën
78. Who was the USA's longest-serving Secretary of Defense, being in office from 1961 to 1968? Following his resignation he became President of the World Bank.
Robert McNamara
79. Who led her family's newspaper, *The Washington Post*, for more than two decades, overseeing the Watergate coverage? She became the first female Fortune 500 CEO in 1972.

Katharine Graham

80. Who was the first Roman Emperor to have both his father and a grandfather as the two preceding emperors? He was also the first to be born during his father's reign and his grandfather adopted his father.

Commodus

Spares

1. The ancient city of Babylon was located in which modern-day country?

Iraq

2. Who created the 12th century amateur detective Brother Cadfael?

Ellis Peters (also accept her real name, Edith Pargeter)

3. Name the year. The rebuilt Wembley Stadium opens; the smoking ban in all enclosed public spaces comes into effect; Luciano Pavarotti dies.

2007

Notes

1. Although best known as a bassist Mingus was also an accomplished pianist, so 'piano' is also an acceptable answer.
2. A fat quarter is actually one piece of fabric which is often sold in bundles. The dimensions given here are for the US; the UK version is slightly larger.
3. It would have been helpful to point out that this is an American term, rather than a German one!