

KNOCKOUT QUALIFYING MATCHES THURSDAY 27 MARCH 2025
QUESTIONS BY THE SWAN WITH TWO NECKS AND S&C FIERS

First Verbal Round

1. Name three of the four capital cities that the River Danube flows through.
Any three from: **Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest, Belgrade**
2. In which year did Channel 5 begin broadcasting?
1997
3. What links the English towns of Barton and Hessle?
The Humber Bridge
4. Who wrote the classic children's book *Charlotte's Web*?
E. B. White
5. The *Naked Gun* films were a spin-off from which TV series?
Police Squad!
6. "Cohen" is Hebrew for what?
Priest
7. Which well-known food brand takes its name from a Uruguayan port?
Fray Bentos
8. In the Marvel/DC universe, what does 'DC' stand for?
Detective Comics
9. Between 1933 and 1947, the Hoover Dam was called what?
Boulder Dam
10. Which ice hockey team did Wayne Gretzky play for between 1979 and 1988?
Edmonton Oilers
11. Who was the founder of the *Today* newspaper?
Eddie Shah
12. Who became King of England, Scotland and Ireland on 27 March 1625?
Charles I
13. '*I was born in the year 1632, in the City of York*' are the first words of which 1719 novel?
Robinson Crusoe
14. According to Oscar Wilde, who is 'a man who knows the price of everything and the value of everything'?
A cynic **see note 1**
15. Which European city was formerly known as Christiana?
Oslo
16. *The Last Man* (1826), *Lodore* (1835) and *Falkner* (1837) are lesser-known books by which English novelist?
Mary Shelley

17. Released in the UK in March 1975, which film, based on a 1969 LP, contains the songs *I'm Free*, *Cousin Kevin* and *We're Not Gonna Take It*?

Tommy

18. Defrocked vicar Harold Davidson, mauled to death by a lion in 1937, was known as the rector of which Norfolk town?

Stiffkey

19. Which show is the highest-grossing Broadway production ever?

The Lion King

20. Who wrote the 1865 poem *You Are Old, Father William*, a parody of Robert Southey's poem *The Old Man's Comforts and How He Gained Them*?

Lewis Carroll

21. A member of which band threw water over John Prescott at the 1998 Brit awards?

Chumbawumba

22. From which conflict does the term 'Fifth Columnist' come?

Spanish Civil War

23. Who was the puppeteer responsible for *Trumpton*, *Camberwick Green* and *Chigley*?

Gordon Murray

24. In which London tourist attraction would you find the Chapel Royal of St. Peter ad Vincula?

The Tower of London

25. What is the sum total of all the numbers on a roulette wheel?

666

26. Which rugby league team play their home games at the Totally Wicked Stadium?

St Helens

27. What was the name of Dick Turpin's horse in the romanticised version of his life, *Rockwood* by William Harrison Ainsworth (1834)?

Black Bess

28. Martyn Ware and Ian Craig Marsh were two of the three members of which 1980s chart act?

Heaven 17

29. Written in the seventh century AD, *Life of St. Columba* by Adomnán of Iona contains the first reference to which legendary creature?

The Loch Ness monster

30. What is the oldest recorded town in the UK?

Colchester

First Written Round

31. FC St. Pauli, renowned for their passionate left-wing support, are a football team based in which European city?

Hamburg

32. The first *Now That's What I Call Music* album was released in which year?
1983
33. In which European country would you find the tourist attraction Bran Castle?
Romania
34. In what part of the human body would you find the palatine glands?
The mouth [see note 2](#)
35. What was the nickname of prisoner Robert Franklin Stroud?
The Birdman of Alcatraz
36. Which is the largest moon in the solar system?
Ganymede
37. Later made into a TV series featuring Peter Kay, which broadcaster's first autobiography was entitled *Going to Sea in a Sieve*?
Danny Baker [see note 3](#)
38. Which dessert can also be known as Tuscan trifle?
Tiramisu
39. Benjamin Franklin was a key figure in the drafting of the United States Constitution. Which state did he represent during the Constitutional Convention in 1787?
Pennsylvania
40. In mathematics, what is the name for a number that is not a prime number and has more than two factors?
Composite number [see note 4](#)

Second Verbal Round

41. In the field of computing what does the acronym *NAS* stand for? [see note 5](#)
Network Attached Storage
42. Which English Football League ground has stands named Dolman, Atyeo and Landsdown?
Ashton Gate
43. What was the first British single to top the Billboard Hot 100 in the US?
Telstar (by the Tornados)
44. The theory of electromagnetism was unified by which British scientist?
James Clerk Maxwell
45. Boudica led a rebellion against which Roman Emperor's rule in Britain?
Claudius
46. Which British poet wrote *My Last Duchess*, a dramatic monologue?
Robert Browning
47. Which film, directed by Lindsay Awas the first British movie to win the Palme d'Or at Cannes in 1969?
If [see note 6](#)
48. Born in Leamington Spa, Trina Gulliver is a multiple world champion in which sport?
Darts
49. In which English county would you find the Cerne Abbas Giant, a large chalk figure cut into the hillside?
Dorset

50. Which former Test cricketer was Bishop of Liverpool from 1975 to 1997?
David Sheppard
51. In what year did the UK officially switch to the metric system for scientific use?
1965 **see note 7**
52. Tony Stark is the *alter ego* of which Marvel Comics superhero?
Iron Man
53. Which British band released the album *Disintegration* in 1989?
The Cure
54. The Barada river runs through which Middle-Eastern capital city?
Damascus
55. Which artist painted a new ceiling for the Paris Opera House in 1964?
Marc Chagall
56. Which British band released the album *Spirit of Eden* in 1988, regarded as a precursor to post-rock?
Talk Talk
57. Which music hall artist described herself as “*One of the ruins that Cromwell knocked about a bit*”?
Marie Lloyd
58. Who wrote *The Golden Bough*, a monumental study in comparative mythology and religion?
Sir James George Frazer
59. What does the acronym *NASA* stand for?
National Aeronautics and Space Administration **see note 8**
60. Who is credited with discovering the electron?
Joseph John Thompson
61. Fought in April 1862, the Battle of Shiloh was a major conflict of the American Civil War. In which state did it take place?
Tennessee
62. Who had a UK number one hit in January 1961 with *Poetry in Motion*?
Johnny Tillotson
63. Which Roman Emperor retired to the island of Capri in the first century AD?
Tiberius
64. What is the capital city of Kyrgyzstan?
Bishkek
65. How is the plant *Myosotis* more commonly known?
Forget-me-not
66. Flowing from the Great Slave Lake to the Arctic Ocean, what is the longest river in Canada?
Mackenzie
67. In the 1949 film *Samson and Delilah* starring Victor Mature, who played the part of Delilah?
Hedy Lamarr
68. Which painter created the works *Nighthawks* and *Automat*?
Edward Hopper

69. After Ganymede and Titan, which moon of Jupiter is the third largest in the solar system?

Callisto

70. Which actor starred as lead character Jenny Lee in the first three series of *Call the Midwife*?

Jessica Raine

Second Written Round **There is a theme**

Theme is produced by adding a suffix to one word in each answer. In one answer the accent is ignored

71. Which 1928 novel by Radclyffe Hall was judged in a court case to be obscene?

The Well of Loneliness

72. Which actor played Tarzan in films made by RKO Pictures between 1949 and 1953?

Lex Barker see note 9

73. What is the name of the band formed in Bradford in 1980 by Justin Sullivan, Stuart Morrow and Phil Tompkins?

New Model Army

74. What is the name of the Grade 1 listed building on the seafront at Bexhill-on-Sea? It is named after the peer who persuaded the council to build it; one of his ancestors had an American connection.

De La Warr Pavilion

75. In the 1922 novel *Ulysses* by James Joyce, which character is having an affair with Hugh 'Blazes' Boylan?

Molly Bloom

76. Who composed the pieces *Spiegel im Spiegel*, *Fratres* and *Cantus In Memoriam Benjamin Britten*?

Arvo Pärt

77. What title of a 1938 film starring James Cagney was also the title of a 1978 hit for the punk group Sham 69?

Angels with Dirty Faces

78. What song from *South Pacific*, sung by Nellie Forbush, was referenced by P J Harvey in her 1992 single *Sheela-Na-Gig*?

I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outa My Hair

79. Which philosopher wrote the books *On Liberty* and *Utilitarianism*?

John Stuart Mill

80. Which poem by T S Eliot begins '*Because I do not hope to turn again, Because I do not hope, Because I do not hope to turn?*'

Ash Wednesday

Theme: adding 'ington' produces place names

(Wellington, Lexington, Newington, Warrington, Bloomington, Partington, Withington, Washington, Millington, Ashington)

Spares

1. Starting on 29 January, 2025 is the year of what animal in the Chinese zodiac?

Snake

2. How is Deoxyribonucleic Acid better known?

DNA

3. Which fruit is known as “the King of Fruits” and is banned in many hotels and public transportation in southwest Asia due to its strong smell?

Durian

4. Situated at 68-74 Deansgate, Manchester, which Wetherspoon’s pub is named after a 1946 essay by George Orwell in which he provided a detailed description of his ideal pub?

The Moon Under Water

5. In *Coronation Street* what was the name of Emily Bishop’s second husband, who turned out to be a bigamist?

Arnold Swain

6. Dick Swiveller and Daniel Quilp are characters in which Charles Dickens novel?

The Old Curiosity Shop

7. Al Pacino won a Best Actor Oscar for playing a blind, retired Army colonel in which 1992 film?

The Scent of a Woman

8. What white crystalline solid with the chemical formula $C_{10}H_8$ is used in moth repellents and dyes?

Naphthalene

9. Two UK shipping forecast areas have a border with Denmark. Name either

Fisher or German Bight

10. The wryneck is a member of which family of birds?

Woodpeckers or Picadae

Notes

1. A typo. The quote *should* say ‘the price of everything and the value of **nothing**’.
2. Questions like this often have more than one acceptable answer. In this case “the head” and “soft palate” are also correct answers.
3. The same question was used by the same setters last month.
4. A composite number is defined as a positive integer that has at least one divisor other than one and itself. So rather than “more than two”, it is perfectly possible for a composite number to have only two factors.
5. ‘Network Access Server’ is also an acceptable answer.
6. Another typo. The question *should* say: ‘Which film, directed by Lindsay Anderson, was ...’
7. The government made the *decision* to go metric in 1965, but various changes took place over many years.
8. This question has dozens of equally correct, if much less likely, answers such as National Auto Sport Association, National Aeronautics and Space Act, National Academy of Sciences of Armenia *etc.*
9. The theme word is the forename, so the question should have specified that the full name is required.