Pot Luck
Quiz 87

"Quiz like nobody's Googling"

Less 'University Challenge,' More 'Drunk Guessing Championship.'

1. What engineering system was created to protect London from flooding by the River Thames?

2. What is the name of Sherlock Holmes' older, intellectually gifted brother?

3. Which branch of Britain's armed forces is traditionally referred to as the "Senior Service"?

4. A common myth claims the nose of which ancient sculpture was destroyed by Napoleon's troops during his Egyptian campaign in 1798?

5. What links Star Wars and a 1970s British road safety superhero who taught children how to cross the street safely?

6. The BBC World Service broadcasts global news and programming in how many different languages?

7. In which 1949 Western film did John Wayne star as Captain Nathan Cutting Brittles, on the verge of retirement?

8. What is the literal translation of the French phrase "C'est la vie" into English?

9. In pre-decimal British currency, how many old pennies made up one shilling?

10. Which British billionaire businessman owns Necker Island in the Caribbean?

11. How many digits are found in the CVV code on the back of most credit and debit cards?

12. "Bharat" is the name for which country in the Hindi language?

Total Score

QUESTION	ANSWER	DID YOU KNOW?
1. What engineering system was created to protect London from flooding by the River Thames?	1. The Thames Barrier	1. The Thames Barrier is one of the largest movable flood barriers in the world and has protected London since it became operational in 1984.
2. What is the name of Sherlock Holmes' older, intellectually gifted brother?	2. Mycroft Holmes	2. Mycroft Holmes works for the British government and is said to be even more brilliant than Sherlock, though far less active.
3. Which branch of Britain's armed forces is traditionally referred to as the "Senior Service"?	3. The Royal Navy	3. The Royal Navy is called the "Senior Service" because it is the oldest of the British armed forces, officially established in 1546.
4. A common myth claims the nose of which ancient sculpture was destroyed by Napoleon's troops during his Egyptian campaign in 1798?	4. The Great Sphinx of Giza	4. The Sphinx's nose was missing long before Napoleon's time—sketches from the 1700s show it already broken.
5. What links Star Wars and a 1970s British road safety superhero who taught children how to cross the street safely?	5. David Prowse (Darth Vader actor and the Green Cross Code Man)	5. David Prowse, who played Darth Vader's physical form in Star Wars, also portrayed the Green Cross Code Man, promoting road safety for kids.
6. The BBC World Service broadcasts global news and programming in how many different languages?	6. Over 40 languages	6. The BBC World Service currently broadcasts in over 40 languages, reaching more than 400 million people globally—making it the largest international broadcaster of its kind.
7. In which 1949 Western film did John Wayne star as Captain Nathan Cutting Brittles, on the verge of retirement?	7. She Wore a Yellow Ribbon	7. The film was one of director John Ford's cavalry trilogy and won an Academy Award for Best Cinematography.
8. What is the literal translation of the French phrase "C'est la vie" into English?	8. That's life	8. The phrase is commonly used to express acceptance or resignation when something unfortunate or unexpected happens.
9. In pre-decimal British currency, how many old pennies made up one shilling?	9. 12	9. The pre-1971 UK monetary system used pounds, shillings, and pence, with 12 pennies in a shilling and 20 shillings in a pound.
10. Which British billionaire businessman owns Necker Island in the Caribbean?	10. Richard Branson	10. Branson bought the island in 1978 for just $180,000 and transformed it into a luxury resort frequently visited by celebrities and entrepreneurs.
11. How many digits are found in the CVV code on the back of most credit and debit cards?	11. 3	11. American Express cards are an exception – their security code has 4 digits and is printed on the front.
12. "Bharat" is the name for which country in the Hindi language?	12. India	12. The name "Bharat" appears in the Indian constitution and comes from ancient Sanskrit texts.