

★ Wooden Spoon Quizzes ★

Thru-the-Years

1970s

Crafted with care.... Stirred to Perfection

Quiz #4



1. Howard Garns gave the world a number puzzle he originally called Numbers Game in the 1970s. Today, millions tackle it daily in newspapers and apps — but what name do we know it by?
2. Which pioneering space station made headlines in 1979 when it dramatically fell back to Earth, scattering debris across parts of the Indian Ocean and Western Australia?
3. In the famous 1973 "Battle of the Sexes", Billie Jean King defeated which reigning Wimbledon men's champion in one of the most-watched tennis matches ever played?
4. The summer of 1976 left Britain sweltering for weeks on end. What prolonged weather event dominated headlines and emptied reservoirs across the country?
5. Which counterculture author penned *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, the novel that inspired the Oscar-winning 1975 film starring Jack Nicholson?
6. Who lifted the Gentlemen's Singles trophy at Wimbledon in 1972, becoming the first player from his country to win the title?
7. The 1979 Eurovision Song Contest broke new ground by becoming the first contest hosted outside geographical Europe. Which country staged the event?
8. Which musical debuted on Broadway in 1975 and eventually became the longest-running show in Broadway history at the time?
9. Which football club won their ninth English League Championship in 1979, setting a new record for the most league titles won by any club at that point?
10. Launched in 1973, NASA's Mariner 10 became the first spacecraft to visit which planet after using Venus for a pioneering gravitational slingshot manoeuvre?
11. Which major international agreement, designed to curb the spread of nuclear weapons while encouraging peaceful nuclear technology, officially came into force in 1970?
12. Amnesty International received one of the world's highest honours in 1977 for its human rights work. What award did it receive?



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QUESTIONS



ANSWERS

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- Sudoku
- Skylab
- Bobby Riggs
- Drought
- Ken Kesey
- Stan Smith
- Israel
- A Chorus Line
- Liverpool
- Mercury
- The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)
- The Nobel Peace Prize



ONE FOR THE BAR!

- Despite being strongly associated with Japan, Sudoku was actually invented in the United States before being popularised worldwide by Japanese publishers.
- Before Skylab came down, an Australian council jokingly fined NASA for littering — and decades later, a US radio station paid the fine on NASA's behalf!
- An estimated 90 million people worldwide watched the match, making it one of the biggest sporting television events of the decade.
- The UK government even appointed a special “Minister for Drought”, Denis Howell — and it famously rained heavily soon after.
- Kesey worked the night shift in a psychiatric hospital, an experience that directly inspired many elements of the novel.
- The famous Adidas trainers named after Stan Smith have sold far more units than there have been tennis spectators at Wimbledon throughout its entire history.
- Israel earned the hosting rights after winning Eurovision in both 1978 and 1979 — the first country to achieve back-to-back victories.
- Much of the musical's dialogue and songs were based on real-life stories from Broadway dancers auditioning for work.
- Liverpool lost just four league matches all season in 1978–79 and finished a massive eight points clear of second place — a huge margin in the two-points-for-a-win era.
- Mariner 10 photographed around 45% of Mercury's surface — the rest remained unseen until NASA's Messenger mission arrived more than 30 years later.
- The NPT is one of the most widely adopted arms-control agreements in history, with more countries signed up than almost any other international treaty.
- Amnesty International began in 1961 after a British lawyer read about two students jailed for raising a toast to freedom in Portugal.

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