

General Knowledge Q/A

1. The river Danube rises in which country?

Germany.

2. Which US state has the sugar maple as its state tree and is the leading US producer of maple sugar?

Vermont.

3. Which country is nicknamed 'The Cockpit of Europe' because of the number of battles throughout history fought on its soil?

Belgium.

4. What is the capital of Libya?

Tripoli.

5. Apart from French, German and Romansch, what is the fourth official language of the Switzerland?

Italian.

6. Which country is the world's largest producer of coffee?

Brazil.

7. In which city was the world's first underground train service opened in 1863?

London.

8. How many pairs of ribs are there in the human body?

12.

9. Which country is separated from Ethiopia by the Red Sea?

Yemen.

10. What is the main port of Italy?

Genoa.

11. Mount Logan is the highest peak in which country?

Canada.

12. In which state is Harvard University?

New Jersey.

13. Which is larger: Norway or Finland?

Finland.

14. Which city was the first capital of the Kingdom of Italy until 1865?

Turin.

15. What is measured by an ammeter?

Electric current.

16. What is a rhinoceros horn made of?

Hair.

17. Which three countries, apart from the former Yugoslavia, share borders with Greece?

Albania, Bulgaria, Turkey.

18. The Palk Strait separates which two countries?

India and Sri Lanka.

19. Ga is the symbol for which element?

Gallium.

20. In the Greek alphabet, what is the name for the letter O?

Omicron.

21. What, in the 16th and 17th century, was a pavana?

A dance.

22. A nephron is the functional unit of which organ in the human body?

Kidney.

23. In which country is the ancient city of Tarsus?

Turkey.

24. The Khyber Pass links which two countries?

Afghanistan and Pakistan.

25. Name the six US states that comprise New England.

Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts.

26. Which musical instrument is played by both exhaling and inhaling?

Harmonica (or mouth organ).

27. The northern part of which country is called Oesling?

Luxembourg.

28. Napier is a city in which country?

New Zealand.

29. What is the Hook of Holland?

A port in the southeast Netherlands,

30. The river Douro forms part of the border between which two countries?

Spain and Portugal.

31. In which country is the Great Slave Lake?

Canada.

32. Which six countries border the Black Sea?

Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine.

33. Kathmandu is the capital of which country?

Nepal.

34. What name is given to a mixture of bicarbonate of soda and tartaric acid used in cooking?

Baking powder.

35. AOL are an internet service provider. What does AOL stand for?

America Online.

36. Who discovered penicillin?

Alexander Fleming.

37. Which English queen had an extra finger on her hand?

Anne Boleyn.

38. Which precious metal has the symbol Pt?

Platinum.

39. The Gobi desert extends over which two countries?

China and Mongolia.

40. Apart from America, which is the only country in the world to which alligators are native?

China.

41. Which are the highest types of clouds: stratocumulus or cirrus?

Cirrus.

42. Which ancient measure of length was based on the length of the arm from fingertip to elbow?

Cubit.

- 43. After World War I, Transylvania became part of which country?**
Romania.
- 44. Which sea in Northern Europe is bounded by several countries including Sweden, Finland, Poland and Germany?**
The Baltic.
- 45. A road tunnel runs from Pelerins in France to Entreves in Italy under which mountain?**
Mont Blanc.
- 46. The Barents Sea is part of which ocean?**
Arctic.
- 47. Which two countries are either side of the mouth of the River Plate?**
Argentina and Uruguay.
- 48. Quicklime is an alkaline powder obtained by strongly heating which other material?**
Chalk.
- 49. What is the longest river solely in England?**
Thames.
- 50. The Great Barrier Reef is off coast of which Australian state?**
Queensland.
- 51. What is the name of the milky fluid obtained from trees which is used to produce rubber?**
Latex.
- 52. Of what is entymology the study?**
Insects.
- 53. Of where is Amman the capital?**
Jordan.
- 54. How many innings are there for each team in a game of baseball?**
Nine.
- 55. Which is the only mammal with the power of active flight?**
Bat.
- 56. Which lower level of clouds are commonly called 'rain clouds'?**
Nimbus.
- 57. What is the longest river in India?**
Ganges.
- 58. Which metallic element has the property of catching fire if dropped in hot water?**
Sodium.
- 59. Which month of the year obtains its name from the Latin verb for 'to open'?**
April.
- 60. On what river does Rome stand?**
Tiber.

- 61. Quantas is the national airline of which country?**
Australia.
- 62. What in Scotland is the meaning of the prefix 'Inver'?**
River mouth.
- 63. Which US state has the lowest population?**
Alaska.
- 64. Which county is nicknamed the Garden of England?**
Kent.
- 65. Which African country was formerly called French Sudan?**
Mali.
- 66. Which sport was originally called 'soccer-in-water'?**
Water polo.
- 67. Which unit of measurement is derived from the Arabic quirrat, meaning seed?**
Carat.
- 68. Which Italian city was originally built on seven hills?**
Rome.
- 69. What does the acronym NAAFI stand for?**
Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes.
- 70. Dolomite is an ore of which metal?**
Magnesium.
- 71. Manama is the capital of which country?**
Bahrain.
- 72. On which river does Berlin stand?**
River Spree.
- 73. What type of clock was invented in 1656 by Christian Huygens?**
The pendulum clock.
- 74. In which desert is the world's driest place?**
Atacama (Chile).
- 75. Which is the world's saltiest sea?**
The Red Sea.
- 76. and which is the least salty?**
The Baltic Sea.
- 77. Which nun won the Nobel prize for peace in 1979?**
Mother Teresa.
- 78. How many points in the pink ball worth in snooker?**
Six.
- 79. Which scientist was named 'Person of the Century' by Time Magazine?**
Albert Einstein.

80. What kind of creature is a monitor?

Lizard.

81. Which medical specialty is concerned with the problems and illnesses of children?

Pediatrics.

82. Who sailed in Santa Maria?

Christopher Columbus.

83. What name is given to the stiffening of the body after death?

Rigor mortis.

84. Which country was formerly known as Malagasy Republic?

Madagascar.

85. Addis Ababa is the capital of which country?

Ethiopia.

86. The name of which North African city literally means 'white house'?

Casablanca.

87. Of what sort of fish is the dogfish a small variety?

Shark.

88. Which Asian country was divided at the 38th parallel after World War II?

Korea.

89. What is the name of the Winter Olympics event that combines cross-country skiing and shooting?

Biathlon.

90. Which American science-fiction writer wrote Fahrenheit 451?

Ray Bradbury.

91. For which powerful opiate is diamorphine the technical name?

Heroin.

92. How many dominoes are there in a normal set?

28.

93. Who was cartoonist who created Batman?

Bob Kane.

94. Aerophobia is a fear of flying, agoraphobia is a fear of open spaces, what is acrophobia a fear of?

Heights.

95. In computing, how is a modulator-demodulator more commonly known?

Modem.

96. An auger bit is used to drill what type of material?

Wood.

97. What part of the wheelbarrow is the fulcrum?

The wheel.

98. What C is a device used to determine small lengths, of which a vernier is one type?
Caliper.

99. Rip, chain and band are types of which tools?
Saw.

100. What calibrated tool was the standard tool for engineers and scientists prior to the invention of the hand-held calculator?
Slide rule.

101. What P is sometimes referred to as block and tackle?
Pulley.

102. For what purpose would a gardener use a dibber?
Making holes.

103. What J is a device used to raise an object too heavy to deal with by hand?
Jack.

104. Ball-pein, club, claw and bush are types of which tool?
Hammer.

105. Which African animal's name means 'river horse'?
Hippopotamus.

106. Which Indian religion was founded by Guru Nanak?
Sikhism.

107. What is the most distant of the giant planets?
Neptune.

108. What is the capital of Austria?
Vienna.

109. What in printing do the letters 'u.c.' stand for?
Upper case.

110. Which eye infection is sometimes called pinkeye?
Conjunctivitis.

111. What sort of creature is an iguana?
A lizard.

112. What, politically, does UDI stand for?
Unilateral declaration of independence.

113. Wagga Wagga is a city in which Australian state?
New South Wales.

114. Which Indian religion celebrated the 300th anniversary of its founding in 1999?
Sikhism.

115. What do the initials FBI stand for?
Federal Bureau of Investigation.

116. By what name is the fruit of the plant Ananas comosus known?

Pineapple.

117. Donnerstag is German for which day of the week?

Thursday.

118. What type of citrus fruit is a shamouti?

Orange.

119. Apiphobia is a fear of what?

Bees.

120. Which Asian capital city was known as Batavia until 1949?

Jakarta.

121. Which astronomical unit of distance is greater, a parsec or a light year?

A parsec.

122. The ancient city of Carthage is now in which country?

Tunisia.

123. What in Russia is Izvestia?

A newspaper.

124. Which is the world's windiest continent?

Antarctica.

125. In the book Treasure Island what is the name of the ship?

Hispaniola.

126. In which part of the body are the deltoid muscles?

Shoulder.

127. E is the international car registration letter for which country?

Spain.

128. Vienna stands on which river?

Danube.

129. What type of camel has two humps?

Bactrian.

130. In the MG motor car, what do the letters MG stand for?

Morris Garages.

131. The name of which Roman god means 'shining father' in Latin?

Jupiter.

132. What is the central colour of a rainbow?

Green.

133. Which French city is a meeting place for the European Parliament?

Strasbourg.

134. What part of the body consists of the duodenum, the jejunum and the ileum?

Small intestine.

135. Annapurna is a mountain in which mountain range?

Himalayas.

136. What kind of foodstuff is Monterey Jack? (It was also a cartoon's name 'What's for breakfast?')

187. What is the name of a person, plant or animal which shuns the light?
Lucifugous.

188. What, in field of optics, is biconvex?
A lens which is convex on both sides.

189. Which country was invaded in Iraq in 1980?
Iran.

190. What did Johann Galle discover in 1846?
Neptune.

191. What, in internet terminology, does SMTP stand for?
Simple Mail Transfer Protocol.

192. How is October 24 1929 remembered?
Black Thursday.

193. The River Danube flows into which sea?
The Black Sea.

194. Which strait separates the North and South islands of New Zealand?
Cook Strait.

195. What, in internet terminology, does FTP stand for?
File Transfer Protocol.

196. Who wrote Black Beauty?
Anna Sewell.

197. What is the capital of Poland?
Warsaw.

198. Ice-cream was first produced in which country in the 17th century?
Italy.

199. In medicine, what does the acronym SARS stand for?
Severe Acute Respiratory System.

200. Which popular name for Netherlands is actually a low-lying region of the country?
Holland.

201. Which Shakespeare play was set in Elsinore Castle, Denmark?
Hamlet.

202. Who said: 'Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration'?
Edison.

203. The Kyukyu Island chain lies between which two countries?
Japan & Taiwan.

204. Which fibrous protein is the major constituent of hair, nails, feathers, beaks and claws?
Keratin.

205. Of which fruit is morello a variety?
Cherry.

206. Which explorer discovered Victoris Falls in Africa?
David Livingstone.

207. Who was the last king of Egypt?
Farouk.

208. What is the literal meaning of the word mafia?
Bargging.

209. Which war lasted 16 years longer than its name implies?
The Hundred Year's War.

210. What is the national sport of Malaysia and Indonesia?
Badminton.

211. Which is the shallowest of the Great Lakes?
Lake Erie.

212. What name is given to minute or microscopic animals and plants that live in the upper layers of fresh and salt water?
Plankton.

213. Which country was originally named Cathay?
China.

214. Sinhalese is a language spoken in which country?
Sri Lanka.

215. The Sao Francisco river flows through which country?
Brazil.

216. In which sport do teams compete for the Dunhill Cup?
Golf.

217. Which Shakespeare character's last words are: 'The rest is silence'?
Hamlet.

218. In economics, whose law states that: 'bad money drives out good money'?
Gresham's

219. Who made the first navigation of the globe in the vessel Victoria?
Magellan.

220. Which mountaineer on being asked why he wanted to climb Everest said: 'Because it's there'?
George Mallory.

221. What was the former name for Sri Lanka?
Ceylon.

222. Of which Middle East, country is Baghdad the capital?

Iraq.

223. How many arms does a squid have?

Ten.

224. Which indoor game is played with a shuttlecock?

Badminton.

225. Do stalactites grow upwards or downwards?

Downwards.

226. What food is also called garbanzo?

Chick-pea.

227. What is the quality rating for diesel fuel, similar to the octane number for petrol?

Catane number.

228. Which German city and port is at the confluence of the rivers Neckar and Rhine?

Mannheim.

229. Where in Europe are the only wild apes to be found?

Gibraltar.

230. The Brabanconne is the national anthem of which country?

Belgium.

231. In which country is the River Spey?

Switzerland.

232. Which international environmental pressure group was founded in 1971?

Greenpeace.

233. What is the capital of Morocco?

Rabat.

234. How many balls are on the table at the start of a game of pool?

Sixteen.

235. In which country is the volcano Mount Aso?

Japan.

236. What name is given to inflammation of one or more joints, causing pain, swelling and restriction of movement?

Arthritis.

237. Which mineral is the main source of mercury?

Cinnabar.

238. What A is the national airline of Russia, code name SU?

Aeroflot.

239. What would be kept in a quiver?

Arrows.

240. What 'ology' is concerned with the study of unidentified flying objects?

Ufology.

241. Coal and longtailed are types of which bird family?

Tit.

242. In the game of darts, what is the value of the outer bull?

25.

243. In which part of the human body is the cochlea?

Ear.

244. What is the modern name of the rocky fortress which the Moors named Gabel-al-Tarik (the Rock of Tarik)?

Gibraltar.

245. What was the name of German terrorist Andreas Baader's female partner?

Ulrike Meinhof.

246. And what was the name of the urban guerrilla organisation they headed?

The Red Army Faction.

247. Which German bacteriologist discovered Salvarsan, a compound used in the treatment of syphilis, before the introduction of antibiotics?

Paul Ehrlich.

248. Which ancient Roman satirist wrote the 16 Satires?

Juvenal.

249. Who became the Queen of Netherlands in 1980?

Beatrix.

250. Who was the last British king to appear in battle?

George II.

251. What is the art of preparing, stuffing and mounting the skins of animals to make lifelike models called?

Taxidermy.

252. What is the Beaufort scale used to measure?

Wind speed.

253. What is the technical name for abnormally high blood pressure?

Hypertension.

254. What part of eye is responsible for its color?

The iris.

256. The letter RF on a stamp would indicate it is from which country?

France.

257. What is the meaning of the musical term *cantabile*?

In a singing style.

258. San Juan is the capital of which island in the West Indies?

Puerto Rico.

259. Which profession gets its name from the Latin word for lead?

Plumbing.

260. On which part of the body do grasshoppers have their ears?
Hind legs. **261. Who wrote children's stories about the land of Narnia?**
C.S. Lewis.

262. What is the second planet from the sun?
Venus.

263. What is the highest mountain in the Alps?
Mont Blanc.

264. Of which Caribbean country is Port-au-Prince the capital?
Haiti.

265. Which German city is associated with the legend of the Pied Piper?
Hameln, or Hamelin.

266. What name is given to the wind pattern that brings heavy rain to South Asia from April to September?
Monsoon.

267. What is the first book of the New Testament?
The Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

268. What name is given to the time taken for half the atoms in a sample of a radioactive isotope to decay?
Half-life.

269. Who was president of Kenya from 1964 to 1978?
Jomo Kenyatta.

270. Which German author wrote the anti-war novel All Quiet on the Western Front?
Erich Maria Remarque.

271. Which country had a police force called the Tonton Macoutes?
Haiti.

272. What would you find in formicary?
Ants.

273. Who was the first British sovereign to make regular use of Buckingham Palace when in residence in London?
Queen Victoria.

274. Of where is Sofia the capital?
Bulgaria.

275. What is meant by the musical term andante?
At a moderate tempo.

276. In a bullfight, what is the mounted man with a lance called?
A picador.

277. Which team has a soccer team called Ajax?
Amsterdam.

278. Which Dutch explorer discovered New Zealand?

Abel Tasman.

279. Who became first black world heavyweight boxing champion in 1918?

Jack Johnson.

280. The name of which city in South America means Vale of Paradise?

Valparaiso.

281. Which gas used in advertising signs has the symbol Ne?

Neon.

282. Which branch of mathematics uses symbols to represent unknown quantities?

Algebra.

283. What does the abbreviation RAF stand for?

Royal Air Force.

284. What name is given to the use of live animals in the experiments?

Vivisection.

285. Viti Levu is the largest island of which country?

Fiji.

286. The Golden Arrow was a famous train that ran from Paris to which destination?

Monte Carlo.

287. Which country fought on both sides during World War II?

Italy.

288. What centigrade temperature is gas mark 6 equal to?

200 degrees C.

289. In the game of chess, which piece is called springer in Germany?

Knight.

290. What is the meaning of the Russian word 'mir'?

Peace.

291. Who, in World War II, were Axis Power?

Germany, Italy. Japan.

292. Which scientist used kites to conduct electrical experiments?

Benjamin Frankline.

293. What is the longest river in France?

Loire.

294. Which inventore had a research laboratory at Menlo Park?

Edison.

295. Which birds fly in groups called skeins?

Geese.

296. In medicine, which is the most widespread parasitic infection?

Malaria.

297. What nationality was the explorer Ferdinand Magellan?
Portuguese.

298. Which Italian city is called Firenze in Italian?
Florence.

299. What is Australia's largest city?
Sydney.

300. Which term meaning 'lightning war' was used to describe military tactics used by Germany in World War II?
Blitzkrieg.