

General Knowledge Pub Quiz

Questions with the answers

4 rounds · 39 questions

1 audio question is play-online only and left off this sheet. The 39 questions below are numbered 1–39.

ROUND 1

General Knowledge

- Which scientist was the first person to win Nobel Prizes in two different scientific fields, physics and chemistry?**
| ANSWER Marie Curie
- Which South American river carries the greatest volume of water of any river on Earth?**
| ANSWER Amazon River
- Which Leonardo da Vinci painting, housed in the Louvre, is famous for its subject's enigmatic smile?**
| ANSWER The Mona Lisa
- Which South African leader spent 27 years in prison before becoming his country's first Black president?**
| ANSWER Nelson Mandela
- Which mountain, straddling Nepal and Tibet, is recognized as Earth's highest point above sea level?**
| ANSWER Mount Everest
- Which 'unsinkable' ocean liner struck an iceberg and sank on its maiden voyage in 1912?**
| ANSWER Titanic
- Which ancient inscribed slab, discovered in Egypt in 1799, was key to deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphs?**
| ANSWER The Rosetta Stone
- Which American tennis star has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, the most of any woman in the Open Era?**
| ANSWER Serena Williams
- Which 1986 nuclear power plant disaster in Ukraine became the world's worst civil nuclear accident?**
| ANSWER Chernobyl disaster

Science And Nature Basics

10. Which green pigment in plant cells absorbs sunlight to power photosynthesis?

| ANSWER Chlorophyll

NOTE Chlorophyll reflects green light, which is why most plants appear green to our eyes.

11. What shape is the DNA molecule famously described as, thanks to Watson and Crick's model?

| ANSWER Double helix

12. Which planet in our solar system is famous for its Great Red Spot, a giant storm?

| ANSWER Jupiter

13. Which naturalist proposed the theory of evolution by natural selection after his voyage on HMS Beagle?

| ANSWER Charles Darwin

14. What is the term for water vapor turning back into liquid droplets, a key step in the water cycle?

| ANSWER Condensation

15. Which physicist developed the theory of relativity, expressed in the famous equation $E=mc^2$?

| ANSWER Albert Einstein

16. Which Russian chemist is credited with creating the modern periodic table of elements in 1869?

| ANSWER Dmitri Mendeleev

17. What special movement do honeybees perform to communicate the location of food sources to their hive?

| ANSWER The waggle dance

NOTE The angle and duration of the waggle dance encode both direction and distance to the food.

18. What nuclear process powers the Sun, fusing hydrogen atoms into helium at its core?

| ANSWER Nuclear fusion

19. What geological theory explains the slow movement of the huge rigid slabs that make up Earth's outer shell, causing earthquakes and volcanoes?

| ANSWER Plate tectonics

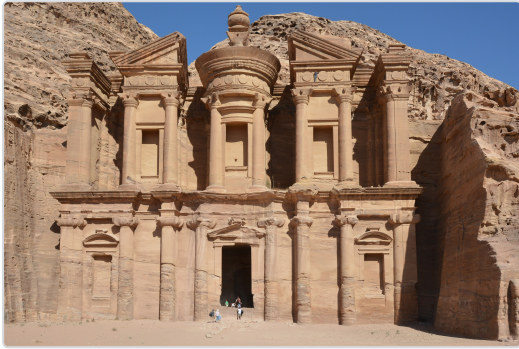
World Capitals and Landmarks

20. Which South American capital city was purpose-built in the late 1950s and inaugurated in 1960, replacing Rio de Janeiro?

| ANSWER Brasília

NOTE The city was laid out in the shape of an airplane or a bird, depending on who you ask.

21. Which Jordanian archaeological city, famous for its rock-cut architecture, is nicknamed the 'Rose City' and was carved by the Nabataeans?



| ANSWER Petra

22. Which city was chosen as Australia's capital as a compromise between rivals Sydney and Melbourne?

| ANSWER Canberra

23. Which giant Art Deco statue overlooks Rio de Janeiro from the top of Corcovado mountain?

| ANSWER Christ the Redeemer

24. Which massive Cambodian temple complex, originally built as a Hindu temple, appears on that nation's flag?

| ANSWER Angkor Wat

25. Which Central Asian capital, known for its futuristic architecture, was renamed Nur-Sultan in 2019 before taking back its previous name in 2022?

| ANSWER Astana

26. Which 15th-century Inca citadel sits high in the Andes and was 'rediscovered' for the Western world by Hiram Bingham in 1911?

| ANSWER Machu Picchu

27. Which capital city, powered largely by geothermal energy, is the northernmost capital of a sovereign state?

| ANSWER Reykjavik

28. Which Dubai skyscraper held the title of world's tallest building upon its 2010 completion, and still holds it today?

| ANSWER Burj Khalifa

29. Which harborside performing arts venue, designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon with its distinctive sail-like shells, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

| ANSWER Sydney Opera House

Famous Inventions and Discoveries

30. Which Scottish bacteriologist accidentally discovered penicillin in 1928 after noticing mold killing bacteria in a petri dish?

| ANSWER Alexander Fleming

NOTE Fleming almost threw away the contaminated petri dish before noticing its antibacterial effect.

31. Which German physicist discovered X-rays in 1895, earning the first-ever Nobel Prize in Physics?

| ANSWER Wilhelm Röntgen

NOTE He named them 'X-rays' because their nature was unknown, using X for the mathematical unknown.

32. Which inventor is credited with patenting the first practical telephone in 1876?

| ANSWER Alexander Graham Bell

NOTE His famous first words on the phone were reportedly 'Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you.'

33. Which American inventor discovered the vulcanization process that made rubber durable and usable for tires?

| ANSWER Charles Goodyear

NOTE He discovered the process accidentally when he dropped rubber mixed with sulfur onto a hot stove.

34. Which Swedish chemist invented dynamite in 1867 and later founded the prize bearing his name?

| ANSWER Alfred Nobel

NOTE A premature obituary calling him 'the merchant of death' is said to have inspired him to create the Nobel Prizes.

35. Which British computer scientist invented the World Wide Web in 1989 while working at CERN?

| ANSWER Tim Berners-Lee

NOTE He proposed the idea in a document his boss called 'vague but exciting.'

36. Which French inventor created the first permanent photograph using a process called heliography in the 1820s?

| ANSWER Nicéphore Niépce

NOTE His earliest surviving photo required an exposure time of several days.

37. Which Canadian researcher, alongside Charles Best, first isolated insulin in 1921 to treat diabetes?

| ANSWER Frederick Banting

NOTE The insulin patent was sold to the University of Toronto for just one dollar so the drug could be affordable worldwide.

38. Which pair of American brothers achieved the first powered, controlled airplane flight at Kitty Hawk in 1903?

| ANSWER The Wright Brothers

NOTE Their first flight covered only 120 feet, shorter than the wingspan of a modern jumbo jet.

39. Which French scientist developed the heat-treatment process called pasteurization and pioneered the germ theory of disease?

| ANSWER Louis Pasteur

NOTE He also developed the first vaccine for rabies, saving a boy bitten by a rabid dog in 1885.
