

27th May 2023 – This quiz is set by The Merchants – we do hope that it’s enjoyable, balanced and not too annoying.

Required answers are in **BOLD CAPITALS**.

Round 1

Something beginning with Q

Every answer begins with the 17th letter of the alphabet.

- 1a. What is the one-word term used by astronomers for an extremely luminous active galactic nucleus whose emissions are powered by black holes?

QUASAR

- 1b. The name of which twentieth-century Norwegian statesman has become a by-word for traitor?

QUISLING

- 2a. What is the name of the leather ball used in the game of quidditch?

QUAFFLE

- 2b. The James Bond films have a recurring character called Q. What is Q short for in this context?

QUARTERMASTER

- 3a. What is the name of the title-character in Victor Hugo’s novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*?

QUASIMODO

- 3b. What substance is a treatment for malaria and also a common flavouring in tonic water?

QUININE

- 4a. What was the title of the cult TV show that originally ran from 1989-1993 in which a US scientist and his hologram sidekick travel back in time, “putting right what once went wrong”?

QUANTUM LEAP

- 4b. Antoni, Bobby, Jonathan, Karamo and Tan are the “fab five” presenters of which US reality TV show?

QUEER EYE (Accept QUEER EYE FOR THE STRAIGHT GUY)

Spare:

What is the stocky marsupial that resembles a very small kangaroo?

QUOKKA

Round 2

Musical numbers - All questions or answers have a number in them

- 1a How many 'love songs' are there in the title of a Take That top ten hit of 1992?
A MILLION
- 1b The Beatles had two songs with square numbers in their titles. One was 'Sweet Little Sixteen'. What was the other?
WHEN I'M SIXTY-FOUR
- 2a In the world of classical music, there is a superstition attached to writing a certain number of symphonies because so many prominent composers (including Beethoven, Schubert and Vaughan Williams) have died after reaching this number. What is this 'cursed' number?
NINE
- 2b Composed by the saxophonist Paul Desmond and originally recorded in 1959, what is the biggest-selling jazz single ever?
TAKE 5
- 3a. How many ways are there to leave your lover in the title of a 1975 hit by Paul Simon?
FIFTY
- 3b. In total, how many people are referred to in the title of Stanley Donen's 1954 musical film about siblings finding love in 1850s Oregon?
FOURTEEN (ie 7 brides + 7 brothers)
- 4a. The 'Symphony of a Thousand' is the nickname for a 1906 work by which composer?
MAHLER
- 4b. The works of which classical composer are referred to by their Köchel numbers?
MOZART
- Spare:
In 1981, Sheena Easton and Dolly Parton both had a number one hit with a song of which title?
9 TO 5

Round 3

About Time

- 1a. What is the name of the symbolic timepiece devised by US atomic scientists in 1947 that indicates how close the human race is to self-inflicted catastrophe?
DOOMSDAY CLOCK
- 1b. Which British scientist threw a drinks party in June 2009 to which the only people invited were time travellers from the future?
STEPHEN HAWKING
- 2a. In the Islamic calendar, what month comes after Sha'ban and before Shawwal?
RAMADAN

- 2b. The composer Gioachino Rossini (b. 1792), the actor Joss Ackland (b. 1928) and the Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez (b. 1972) share which unusual birthday?

29 FEBRUARY

- 3a. Nicknamed 'Old Joe', the world's tallest freestanding clock-tower is in which English city?

BIRMINGHAM

- 3b. Which European capital city has, in its Old Town Square, an intricate clock that is thought to be the oldest astronomical clock still in operation?

PRAGUE

- 4a. Which film of 1993 is the story of a man called Phil Connors who is trapped on 2nd February?

GROUNDHOG DAY

- 4b. Which character from a novel of 1865 says that in his life it is "Always six o'clock...always tea-time".

The **MAD HATTER** (also accept **HATTER**).

Spare

What term is used by astronomers to refer to a period of a billion years?

AEON

Round 4

Cover Versions

Given a well known song and artist, can you name the original songwriter or the recording artist that made it famous?

- 1a. Whitney Houston had an international number one hit with *I Will Always Love You* in 1992, but who originally wrote and recorded the song in 1974?

DOLLY PARTON

- 1b. In 1998, Steps had a hit with a mash up of the songs *Tragedy* and *Heartbeat*. Who originally wrote and recorded *Tragedy* in 1979?

THE BEE GEES

- 2a. *Only You* was a number one hit for the Flying Pickets in 1983, but who originally wrote and released the song the previous year?

YAZOO or VINCE CLARKE

- 2b. Blancmange reached number 22 with *The Day Before You Came* in 1984, but who wrote and released the original recording in 1982?

ABBA or BENNY Andersson & BJORN Ulvaeus

- 3a. UB40 had a hit with *Red, Red Wine* in 1983, but who originally wrote and recorded the song in 1967?

NEIL DIAMOND

- 3b. Johnny Cash recorded an unlikely version of the song *Personal Jesus* in 2002, but who originally wrote and recorded the song in 1990?

DEPECHE MODE or Martin GORE

4a *I Drove All Night* was a number 6 hit for Cyndi Lauper in 1989, but who originally recorded the song in 1987?

ROY ORBISON

4b Sinéad O'Connor went to number one in 1990 with *Nothing Compares 2 U*, but who wrote the song in 1985?

PRINCE

Spares

The Beat had a hit with *Can't Get Used to Losing You* in 1981, but whose recording popularised the song in 1963?

ANDY WILLIAMS

Soft Cell went to number one in 1981 with *Tainted Love*, but who recorded the original song in 1964?

GLORIA JONES

Round 5

Comebacks

- 1a. The return of which king from exile marked the Restoration of the Stuart Monarchy?
CHARLES II
- 1b. The monarchy of which Asian country was abolished in 1970 and restored in 1993?
CAMBODIA
- 2a. Cincinnatus, the Roman statesman who made a comeback from rural retirement to rule as dictator, was ominously name-checked in a speech by which political figure on 6 September 2022?
BORIS JOHNSON
- 2b. The president of which South American country was re-elected to high office in 2022 after a spell in the political wilderness that included jail-time for money laundering?
BRAZIL
- 3a. Which bespectacled snooker player came from seven frames behind to beat Steve Davis in the final of the 1985 World Snooker Championship?
DENNIS TAYLOR
- 3b. The extraordinary achievements of which controversial cyclist, who dominated his sport after recovering from stage-3 cancer, were described as 'either the greatest comeback in the history of sport or the greatest fraud'?
LANCE ARMSTRONG
- 4a. Which fictional character 'dies' in a story called 'The Final Problem' (1893) but makes a comeback in a story called 'The Empty House' (1903)?
SHERLOCK HOLMES
- 4b. Which figure from the Gospels is sometimes nicknamed "the four-days dead" and is also a song by David Bowie?
LAZARUS

Spare

Which Star Wars character seemingly dies at the end of *The Return of the Jedi* (episode 6 of the sequence) but turns out to be alive in *The Rise of Skywalker* (episode 9)?

Accept the **EMPEROR** or **PALPATINE**.

Round 6 Blue Plaques

Given the location of the blue plaque, birth and death dates and one other clue, name the person

- 1a. 1a Dorset Street, W1 (1791–1871) Mathematician, astronomer and computer pioneer
Charles **BABBAGE**
- 1b. Finchley Central tube station, N3 (1903–1974), Creator of the schematic Tube map
Harry **BECK**

- 2a.** 83 Shortlands Road, Bromley (1897–1968) Children’s Writer
Enid **BLYTON**
- 2b.** Primark Store, Market Place, Bromley, (1866–1946) Science Fiction Writer
H. G. WELLS
- 3a.** 4 Ealing Road, Wembley (1934–2011) Professional Boxer. British, Commonwealth & European Heavyweight Champion.
Sir Henry **COOPER**
- 3b.** The Hollies, Station road, Maghull, Liverpool (1863–1836) Toy manufacturer (Meccano Ltd) and MP.
Frank **HORNBY**
- 4a.** Site of the Marquee Club, 90 Wardour Street, Soho, London W1 (1946–1978) Drummer
Keith **MOON**
- 4b.** 101-8 Maitland Park Road, NW3 (1818–1883) Philosopher, political economist, and revolutionary
Karl **MARX**

Spares

Grand Hotel, Scarborough, North Yorkshire (1820–1849) Writer

Anne **BRONTË**

St John's Boarding House, Chesham Road, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire (1904–1991) Writer

Graham **GREENE**

Round 7 Fruit Bowl

All answers in this round contain the name of a fruit.

- 1a.** Which fruit did the Happy Mondays accuse “you” of “twisting, man” in the song Step On?
MELONS
- 1b.** Which 70s band had a huge hit with Play That Funky Music?
WILD CHERRY
- 2a.** Which small single-board computers were initially developed to promote the teaching of basic computer science in schools and developing countries?
RASPBERRY PI
- 2b.** Which brand of smartphones with a built-in keyboard was enormously popular before the explosion of touch-screen technology?
BLACKBERRY
- 3a.** In which Roald Dahl novel does a young boy encounter a number of enormous insects?
JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH
- 3b.** Which semi-autobiographical coming-of-age novel was Jeanette Winterson’s debut?
ORANGES ARE NOT THE ONLY FRUIT
- 4a.** In his 11th Labour, which fruits did Hercules have to take from the Gardens of the Hesperides?
Golden **APPLES**

4b. What type of food did Hades use to trick Persephone into remaining in the underworld?

POMEGRANATE Seeds

Spare

Which 90s band had a huge hit with Zombie?

CRANBERRIES

Which Western folk ballad focuses on the daughter of a “miner forty-niner” who drowns?

OH MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

Round 8 A Really General Round – General appears in all the answers (groan) – except the spare where it’s in the question and no, I didn’t run out of questions.

1a. Who was appointed commander of Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force that led the D Day invasion

GENERAL Dwight D. **EISENHOWER**

1b. What was the name of the Argentinian light cruiser sunk on the 2nd May 1982

GENERAL **BELGRANO**

2a. What is the final round in the TV programme QI called

GENERAL **IGNORANCE**

2b. What was the name of the orange car with the confederate battle flag in the Dukes of Hazzard

GENERAL **LEE**

3a. What is the name of both the 1998 film starring Brendan Gleeson and a 1926 film starring Buster Keaton

THE **GENERAL**

3b. Which still running day time US Soap Opera first aired on April 1, 1963

GENERAL **HOSPITAL**

4a. Einstein's theory of gravity is also known as what

GENERAL **RELATIVITY** or **THEORY OF GENERAL RELATIVITY** or **GENERAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY**

4b. What does GDPR stand for

GENERAL **DATA** **PROTECTION** **REGULATION** (don’t be mean, accept **GENERAL** **DATA** **PROTECTION** **REGULATIONS** too!)

Spare

Ike Godsey, postmaster and owner of the general store with his somewhat snobbish wife Corabeth appeared in which 1970s US TV series

THE **WALTONS**