



**Where did it go wrong?** - Not in any particular order.

**Examples from the 2012-13 season:-**

**Question:** What was the date of Gandhi's assassination?

**Answer:** 30 January 1948

**Comments:** No problem with the wording of the question however the rubric on the first page of the quiz stated "*Required answers are in upper case, bold and underlined*".

"1948" does not answer the question as set; the correct answer to the question is "30 January 1948". If the setter only required the year, the question needed to be re-worded.

**Question:** What is the name of the BBC journalist and presenter who was murdered by an unknown killer in 1990?

**Answer:** (Jill) Dando

**Comments:** Jill Dando died in 1999 not 1990.

All these questions refer to a round requiring the name of the monarch on the English throne when certain events took place.

**Question:** 3B: The Seven Years War

**Answer:** George II

**Comments:** The Seven Years War was fought between 1756 and 1763. George II died in 1760, when George III came to the throne. George III was therefore a reigning monarch during this conflict and is also a correct answer.

**Question:** Spare: Battle of Waterloo

**Answer:** George IV

**Comments:** Battle of Waterloo was fought in 1815; George IV's reign began in 1820. The correct answer is George III.

**Question:** 4B: Battle of Stamford Bridge

**Answer:** Harold Godwinson

**Comments:** The answer required here moved away from the consistent approach adopted for the previous 7 questions and the spare, thus unbalancing the round. All answers except for this one required the monarch's name and regnal number. It is to be hoped that Harold II (aka Harold Godwinson) was accepted as a correct answer to this question on the night.

**Question:** 2A: Battle of Bannockburn - See the next set of questions/comments.



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This round from the same quiz was titled "History" and was more or less the previous round Part 2. It was broken up into 2 halves; in the first half players were given a year and they had to name the battle or conflict in that year - in the second half players were given a battle and they had to provide the year (no problems with this half of the round).

Whilst some teams do not like questions that are too wordy, there needs to be sufficient wording to ensure that there can be only one answer to the question. The difficulties were obvious right away with the example provided: *1066 - Hastings* (Fulford and Stamford Bridge were also fought in 1066).

1a: 1815 - Waterloo (also New Orleans; Quatre Bras; Ligny, etc)

1b: 1805 - Trafalgar (also Austerlitz; Caldiero; Ulm, etc)

2b: 1314 - Bannockburn (The player being asked this question had already been asked a Bannockburn related question in Round 2.)

This question: -

2b: The Hitch-Hikers' Guide to the Universe; Life, the Universe and Everything (Douglas Adams' increasingly inaccurately named Hitch-Hikers' Guide to the Universe Trilogy)

Should have been: -

2b: The Hitch-Hikers' Guide to the Galaxy; Life, the Universe and Everything (Douglas Adams' increasingly inaccurately named Hitch-Hikers' Guide to the Galaxy Trilogy)

These questions were from a round on Sports in 2012.

**Questions:** 1a) Which golfer led the Open Championship for most of the final day only to falter at the end and let in Ernie Els? Ans - Adam Scott.

3a) Which golfer was the only member of the European Ryder cup team NOT to contribute a point to their historic win in this year's competition?

Ans - Peter Hanson.

**Comments:** Nothing wrong with questions or answers, it was just that the round was not balanced as the same team was required to answer both of these golfing questions.

**Question:** Which grand prix is the basis for a film starring Peter Cook, Dudley Moore, Terry Thomas, Tony Curtis, Eric Sykes and Hattie Jacques?

**Answer:** Monte Carlo or Bust (accept Monaco)

**Comments:** This is from a round entitled "Formula 1". The film "*Monte Carlo or Bust*" was based on the Monte Carlo Rally (which is not Formula 1) and not the Monaco Grand Prix.

**Question:** In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas", what did my true love give to me on the 12th day?

**Answer:** 12 Drummers Drumming



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**Comment:** This was from a round with a Christmas Theme. As well as the answer required, over the years the following have also been used in the lyrics for the 12<sup>th</sup> day - Bells a-ringing; Lords a-leaping; Ladies a-dancing. In Australia it can be 12 parrots prattling or 12 possums playing.

**Question:** What is the local currency in the southern (Greek) part of Cyprus?

**Answer:** Cyprus Pound (accept Pound)

**Comments:** The Euro and not the Cyprus Pound is the local currency of the Republic of Cyprus (ie. the southern part) and has been since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008. The Cyprus Pound is no longer legal tender, although the Central Bank will exchange Cyprus Pound banknotes until the end of 2017.

**Question:** What is the largest Gothic cathedral in Northern Europe? This question was subject to objection.

**Answer:** York Minster

**Comments:** After careful consideration, the Committee concluded that the question was insufficiently worded for York Minster to be the correct answer. On the face of it the question looks very straightforward but the following matters caused difficulty: -

Largest: By what measure - area; volume?

Gothic: Built in the Gothic period or Gothic architectural style?

Cathedral: Just the church part or does it include ancillary buildings (eg Chapter House)?

Northern Europe: There are different opinions as to what now constitutes Northern Europe.

After weighing up all the evidence, it was considered that Cologne Cathedral met the criteria set by the question.

**Questions:** 3a - 4b: *Given the years they came to office identify the Prime Minister.*

3a: 1855 & 1858

4a: 1874 & 1880

4b: 1931 & 1935

**Answers:**

3a: Viscount/Lord Palmerston

4a: Benjamin Disraeli

4b: Ramsay MacDonald

**Comments:**

3a: Should be 1855 & 1859 (1855 to 1858; 1859 to 1865)

4a: Should be 1868 & 1874 (1868 to 1868; 1874 to 1880)

4b: Should be 1924 & 1929 (1924 to 1924; 1929 to 1935)

Source: [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) - Inside Government.



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**Question:** Which is the only racecourse to be found within the boundaries of the M25?  
This question was subject to objection.

**Answer:** Kempton Park

**Comments:** The question is inaccurate as there are other racecourses which meet the stipulated requirement. Epsom and Sandown racecourses are also situated within the boundaries of the M25.

**Question:** At the time of the mad cow scare, who fed his four year old son a beef burger to show that British beef was safe to eat?

**Answer:** John Selwyn Gummer

**Comments:** First of all, John Gummer fed the burger to Cordelia, his four year old daughter; not his son.

Secondly, the answer required is inconsistent with all the other answers in the round which required the first name (or favoured first name) and the surname. The only answer that meets with that consistency is John Gummer. The family surname is Gummer (not Selwyn Gummer). The father gave his name, Selwyn, to all of his sons (John Selwyn; Peter Selwyn and Mark Selwyn).

**Question:** Which record spent the most consecutive weeks at No 1?

**Answer:** Everything I Do (I Do For You)

**Comments:** (Everything I Do) I Do It for You

**Question:** The Cheetah is the fastest running land animal, how fast?

**Answer:** 96 - 104 km/h (60 - 65 mph)

**Comments:** The question is not sufficiently specific. The rubric at the head of the quiz states "*Answers underlined*". Strictly, therefore, in order to score any points, a player needed to give the full answer exactly as shown above.

When so many sources disagree as to the top speed of a cheetah (71 mph per Encyclopaedia Britannica), questions like this are probably best avoided.

### Examples from the 2011-12 season:-

A round on the islands of the British Isles threw up a number of problems. The player was required to identify islands from the towns provided. 3pts were awarded if answered correctly after one town provided; 2pts if two towns provided and 1pt after all 3 towns provided. No additional towns would be revealed for a pass - so if a player attempted the answer on the 1st town and got the answer wrong then the remaining 2 towns would not be made available to either team for the pass attempt.

The answers to all of the questions except **Question 3b** were the names of single islands. The town options for this question were New Grimsby, Maypole and Hugh Town. The



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answer required was **Isles of Scilly**. This is an archipelago or island group and the answer was totally inconsistent with all other answers in the round. New Grimsby is on Tresco; Maypole and Hugh Town are on St. Mary's. Based on the construction of the whole round, Tresco is the correct answer but based on the first option only. Teams would have been within their rights to require the spare to be asked here.

The answer required for **Question 4b** was Lewis. This is not an island within the Oxford English Dictionary definition but it is one of the several areas in the British Isles which through custom and usage are referred to as *Islands* or *Isles* (e.g. Black Isle, Barry Island, Isle of Dogs, Thanet, Ely, Purbeck, Portland and Harris etc).

The town options were as follows: Tarbert, Port Nis, Stornoway. If the strict definition of an island is followed, the only correct answer is Lewis and Harris (or Lewis with Harris). If the wider view is taken (the round is after all about the British Isles), a player attempting an answer on the first option, Tarbert, could also give Harris as an alternative answer. Lewis is incorrect whichever view is adopted. This question was subject to objection.

**Question:** Sportingly, what is the maximum score that a player can make in a normal game of ten-pin bowling?

**Answer:** 320 (a "perfect game" of 12 consecutive strikes)

**Comments:** The answer required is incorrect. The maximum score for a perfect game is 300. According to the World Tenpin Bowling Association Rules (2.1.5) - *To bowl the maximum score of 300, a player must bowl 12 strikes in succession.* Rule 4 of the General Playing Rules of the British Tenpin Bowling Association contains similar wording.

**Question:** Who made the following makes of cars and trucks? (1A to 2B are cars).  
**2b:** Alpine. This question was subject to objection.

**Answer:** Sunbeam

**Comments:** Whist the answer required is a correct one; research shows that Chrysler is also a perfectly acceptable answer to the question as set. It would also appear that Talbot and Renault are acceptable alternatives.

**Question:** Which mathematical terms correspond to the following definitions?  
**1a:** Triangles of which all sides, and therefore angles, are equal?  
This question was subject to objection.

**Answer:** Congruent.

**Comments:** The problem here is that the question is too loosely worded to enable "congruent" to be the only correct answer. Congruency is a method of comparing the properties of one triangle with those of another or others? It is considered that the question's wording does not convey this element of comparison of one triangle with another.

Triangles with all equal length sides, and therefore equal angles ( $60^\circ$ ), are regular triangles or equilateral triangles. Equilateral was accepted as correct.



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**Question:** A French artist, lived from 1887 to 1968. His best-known works are a urinal that he signed and exhibited as an art work called "Fountain" and a picture of a pipe with "Ceci n'est pas une pipe" written underneath it?

**Answer:** (Marcel) Duchamp

**Comments:** The answer required is only correct for the first part of the question (up to and including the word "Fountain"). The final part of the question refers to the painting "La trahison des images" (The Treachery or Treason of Images) by the Belgian surrealist artist, René Magritte.

**Question:** As of the start of October 2011, how many test centuries has Sachin Tendulkar hit? This question was subject to objection.

**Answer:** 99.

**Comments:** "99" was incorrect for the question as set. The correct answer was "51" test centuries. Tendulkar had scored "99" international centuries (51 Tests and 48 One Day Internationals) at the relevant date.

**Question:** How many ladies singles titles has Martina Navratilova Won?

**Answer:** NINE.

**Comments:** Again this is a problem with the wording of the question. Martina Navratilova won 9 Wimbledon ladies singles titles. She won 167 WTA (Women's Tennis Association) ladies singles titles. A fair amount of research would be required to determine how many ladies singles titles she won before her association with the WTA.

### Examples from the 2010-11 season:-

**Question:** Which British venue staged its first Cricket Test Match in 2009?

**Answer:** Swalec Stadium **CARDIFF**.

**Comments:** No problem with the wording of the question however the rubric on the first page of the quiz stated "**ALL ANSWERS IN HIGHLIGHTS OR CAPITALS ARE REQUIRED**".

**CARDIFF**, does not answer the question as set. If the setter required "CARDIFF" as the answer then the question should have been worded differently. Swalec Stadium is the venue and should have been the answer required.

**Question:** What are the current names of the following territories? - Gold Coast.

**Answer:** Kenya.

**Comments:** This is an incorrect answer - the correct answer is Ghana.



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**Question:** Who played bass guitar in Queen?

**Answer:** Roger Taylor.

**Comments:** This is an incorrect answer - the correct answer is John Deacon. Roger Taylor was the drummer.

**Question:** Which football teams do the following celebs support? - Robbie Williams.

**Answer:** Stoke.

**Comments:** This is an incorrect answer - the correct answer is Port Vale. Although born in Stoke, he has been a lifelong fan and now a majority shareholder of Port Vale.

**Question:** Non-Fiction Best Sellers - Author? - The King's Speech.

**Answer:** Mark Logue and Peter Conradi (both required).

**Question:** Off with their heads - Which two of Henry VIII's wives were beheaded?

**Answer:** Catherine Howard and Anne Boleyn (both required).

**Comments:** Nothing wrong with the questions or answers but not balanced because the same team was asked both of these multiple answer questions - the only 2 in the quiz.

**Question:** National Parks? - Which is the largest of the National Parks in Britain?

**Answer:** Cairngorms.

**Question:** Which Welsh National Park covers the smallest area?

**Answer:** Pembrokeshire Coast.

**Comments:** Nothing wrong with the 1st question. There are 15 National Parks in Britain, if the question is passed over to the opposition they still have 13 to choose from.

However this cannot be said of the 2nd question. There are only 3 National Parks in Wales. If the teams knew the 3 National Parks concerned and the question is passed over then there is only one possible answer left - the correct one. This is a gift point.

**Question:** Generations? - In 1972, a flash new motor was advertised with the slogan 'The car you always promised yourself'. Which car - make and model?

**Answer:** Ford Capri.

**Comments:** Here the question contains incorrect information as the new Ford Capri was launched in early 1969 as 'The car you always promised yourself'.