Sample round: ten questions

Ten free questions in the style of the full kit: a little science, places, history, culture and one picture question. Not part of the 60-question event.

This page has the answers. Keep it away from the teams.

How to run it

Print one sample answer sheet per team. Open **nofussgames.com/couch-club/quiz-host/sample/** for the presenter screen and host view, or simply read the questions from this guide. Read each question twice; after question 10, teams swap sheets and mark them while you read the answers.

> *Good evening, and welcome to quiz night! Tonight there is one sample round of ten questions. You will need one pen per team and one answer sheet. Please put a team name on every sheet.*

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1 EASY qh1-s-01

Which planet is known as the Red Planet?

ANSWER **Mars**

Don't accept: Jupiter or Venus (Other planets.)

Iron minerals in the dust on Mars have rusted, which makes the planet look red from Earth.

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2 EASY qh1-s-02

Which metal is a liquid at room temperature?

ANSWER **Mercury**

Also accept: Hg · Quicksilver

Don't accept: Gallium (Melts at just above room temperature, so it is solid in a normal room.)

Mercury is the only metallic element that is liquid at room temperature. Gallium, cesium and rubidium melt just above it.

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3 EASY qh1-s-03

What is the smallest country in the world by area?

ANSWER **Vatican City**

Also accept: Vatican · Holy See

Don't accept: Monaco (Small, but larger than Vatican City.)

Vatican City covers about 44 hectares (109 acres), inside the city of Rome.

4 MEDIUM qh1-s-04

What is the largest hot desert in the world?

ANSWER **The Sahara**

Also accept: Sahara · Sahara Desert

Don't accept: Antarctica (Counted as a desert because it is so dry, but it is a cold one.); Gobi or Arabian Desert (Smaller deserts.)

The Sahara covers about 8.6 million square kilometers (3.3 million square miles) of northern Africa.

5 MEDIUM qh1-s-05

The Rosetta Stone carries the same decree written in Greek and in two Egyptian scripts. Which ancient Egyptian writing system did it help scholars learn to read?

ANSWER **Hieroglyphs**

Also accept: Egyptian hieroglyphs · Hieroglyphics · Hieroglyphic writing

Don't accept: Greek (Already readable: it was the key to the others.)

Scholars used the Greek text as a key. Thomas Young and then Jean-François Champollion worked out how the hieroglyphs on the stone recorded the Egyptian language.

Say it: HY-roh-glifs; shahm-pol-YON.

6 MEDIUM qh1-s-06

What name is given to the network of ancient trade routes that linked China with the Mediterranean world?

ANSWER **The Silk Road**

Also accept: Silk Road · Silk Roads · Silk Route

Don't accept: Spice Route (Mostly sea routes for the spice trade; the overland network is the Silk Road.)

It was not one road but many overland routes, named after the Chinese silk carried west. Ideas and inventions traveled along them too.

7 MEDIUM qh1-s-07

In which Shakespeare play do the characters Rosencrantz and Guildenstern appear?

ANSWER **Hamlet**

Also accept: The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark

Don't accept: Macbeth or King Lear (Other Shakespeare tragedies.)

They are old friends of Prince Hamlet, and the play puts their loyalty to him to the test.

Say it: ROH-zen-krants and GIL-den-stern.

8 EASY qh1-s-08

Which artist painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome between 1508 and 1512?

ANSWER **Michelangelo**

Also accept: Michelangelo Buonarroti

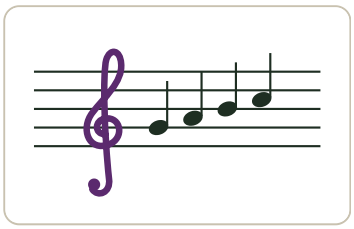
Don't accept: Raphael or Leonardo da Vinci (Other Renaissance artists.)

Pope Julius II commissioned the frescoes in 1508, and Michelangelo finished the whole ceiling in 1512.

Say it: my-kul-AN-juh-loh.

9 MEDIUM qh1-s-09

Sample picture: which musical symbol is drawn at the start of this staff?



ANSWER **Treble clef**

Also accept: G clef · G-clef

Don't accept: Bass clef or F clef (A different symbol, shaped like a backward C with two dots.)

The treble clef, or G clef, curls around the second line of the staff to mark the G above middle C. It is the clef most music students learn first.

Say it: TREB-ul.

10 MEDIUM qh1-s-10

What word describes a word or phrase that reads the same backward as forward, such as "level" or "racecar"?

ANSWER **Palindrome**

Don't accept: Anagram (A word made by rearranging the letters of another.)

Palindromes can be words, numbers or whole phrases; spaces and punctuation are usually ignored, as in "A man, a plan, a canal: Panama".

Say it: PAL-in-drome.

The full kit

3 editions, each with sixty more questions in six rounds (none of them repeated from this sample), a Connections bonus and three tiebreakers, plus the full host script, team sheets in US Letter and A4 with large print, a picture handout, score and recovery sheets, and the presenter. Free while we test it with hosts: write to support@twindle.nl.

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