

HARD TRIVIA QUESTIONS

#12



(www.TriviaChamp.com)

1> In 1824, a bricklayer, Joseph Aspdin, invented Portland cement, named for stone quarried on the Isle of Portland. Where is Portland?

- a. Oregon
- b. Ontario
- c. England
- d. Maine

2> In 1917, who signed a urinal as "R Mutt" and called it "Fountain Urinal"?

- a. Marcel Duchamp
- b. Georges Braque
- c. Joan Miro
- d. Salvador Dali

3> In 1930, Joe Benedetto finally sold the last farm on what US island?

- a. Manhattan
- b. Oahu
- c. Martha's Vineyard
- d. Puerto Rico

4> Why did the police force in New London, Connecticut, refuse to hire Robert Jordan?

- a. He was an ex-member of a street gang
- b. He was really Abdullah Tariq
- c. His 125 IQ was too high

d. He was a gay

5> From 1920 to 1946, what city was home to the League of Nations?

- a. New York City
- b. London
- c. Geneva
- d. Strasbourg

6> Broadly speaking, what is the difference between sociology and anthropology?

- a. Society vs. individual
- b. Public (work, politics) vs. private (household, family)
- c. Modern vs. ancient
- d. Urban vs. non-urban

7> Mia Thermopolis turns out to be Amelia Mignonette Grimaldi Thermopolis Renaldo, the unwitting heir of the House of Renaldi in what country?

- a. Camelot
- b. Arnor
- c. Genovia
- d. Gwynedd

8> From Latin for "It begins," an incipit usually begins something. What?

- a. A Catholic mass
- b. An opera
- c. A stage play
- d. A text

9> Later to be purchased by financial analyst Donald Scheer for 2.4 million at auction, what did a lucky bargain-hunter find under a framed picture purchased for \$4 at a flea market in Adamstown in 1989?

- a. Evidence that the Rosenbergs had been guilty all along
- b. A codex of Leonardo da Vinci's architectural drawings
- c. Homer Winslow's only self-portrait
- d. An official copy of the Declaration of Independence

10> The name of what fabric is also the name of the soft vascular skin that nourishes the developing antlers of deer?

- a. Velvet
- b. Serge
- c. Wool
- d. Silk

11> Kriegspiel is an odd version of what game, using two boards, in which neither player can see the other's pieces and a third person officiates?

- a. Cribbage
- b. Poker
- c. Chess
- d. Backgammon

12> With a name meaning "water stealing," a clepsydra would be used to do what?

- a. Irrigate a farm
- b. Bathe
- c. Tell time
- d. Play music

13> Which of these people are at the top of the Hindu caste system?

- a. Vaisyas (merchants and professionals)
- b. Kshatriyas (rulers and warriors)
- c. Sudras (workers)
- d. Brahmans (priests and scholars)

14> Found in Utah, Bryce Canyon National Park is more of an amphitheater than a canyon, and is famous for its hoodoos. What are hoodoos?

- a. An isolated hill with steep sides and a flat top
- b. A rock arch
- c. A glacially over-deepened valley
- d. Tall thin spires of rock

15> Which NBA's star first name is derived from that of the Greek god of wine and partying?

- a. Alan Iverson
- b. Larry Bird
- c. Dennis Rodman
- d. Michael Jordan

Answers:

- 1> England - Today, Portland cement is about 60 percent lime, 25 percent silica, 5 percent alumina and 10 percent other materials, such as gypsum, which controls how it hardens.
- 2> Marcel Duchamp - Marcel Duchamp was a French-American painter, sculptor and writer.
- 3> Manhattan - It was a truck farm at 213th Street and Broadway.
- 4> His IQ was too high - Jordan became a prison guard, instead. Many other US departments are abandoning cognitive tests altogether, for fear of civil rights lawsuits.
- 5> Geneva - The League of Nations was the first international organization put together for the purpose of maintaining world peace.
- 6> Urban vs. non-urban - Many believe sociology itself was impossible until the French Revolution, when industrialism created a society that could change quickly, and which provided the scientific tools to describe that change.
- 7> Genovia - She is the unwitting heir of the House of Renaldi in Genovia, as the only daughter of the late crown prince and his divorced wife.
- 8> A text - In music, an incipit can refer to the opening notes of a musical composition.
- 9> An official copy of the Declaration of Independence - The document was put up for sale again in June 2000. This time around, it fetched \$8.14 million.
- 10> Velvet - This tufted fabric is woven on a special loom.
- 11> Chess - Its name is German for 'war game' and it was used in the 1800s to train military officers in operations through the 'fog of war'.
- 12> Tell time - A clepsydra refers to any timepiece in which time is measured by the regulated flow of liquid.
- 13> Brahmins (priests and scholars) - The Aryans divided Hindu society into castes, each of which developed its own rules limiting social contact with other castes. The castes are meant to reflect the body of Brahma, the creator. Caste rules even define who may cook for you and what food you can eat.
- 14> Tall thin spires of rock - They are formed by eolian (wind) erosion.
- 15> Dennis Rodman - Dennis was also a part-time professional wrestler.