

# HARD TRIVIA QUESTIONS

## #11



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1> Built by Addison Mizner, what Florida city was known as the "spam capital of the world" and as home to the National Enquirer?

- a. Mobile Bay
- b. Boca Raton
- c. Tallahassee
- d. Jacksonville

2> What commonplace adage got its origins from a series of 1920s advertisements for Listerine that featured "pathetic Edna"?

- a. A stitch in time saves nine
- b. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
- c. Measure twice, cut once
- d. Always a bridesmaid, never a bride

3> A cruise ship registered in Monrovia leaves Antwerp and is headed for Belfast. While the ship is on the high seas, a baby is born to a mother who is a stateless refugee from Palestine. According to Article 3 of the UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, what nationality is the baby?

- a. Liberian
- b. Belgian
- c. Irish
- d. British

4> For many Mexican-Americans, who is La Llorona, who shouts "O hijos mios"?

- a. A wild dog who steals babies
- b. A monster with a preference for goats
- c. The ghost of a woman who drowned her children
- d. A vampire that looks for bad children

5> The UN used to let countries be "trustees" for colonies in its care. What American trusteeship was the last colony to become independent?

- a. Papua New Guinea
- b. Nauru
- c. Palau
- d. Western Samoa

6> We have ourselves a revolution and adopt syndicalism. Who will be running the government?

- a. Trade unions
- b. Scientists
- c. Churches
- d. Organized crime

7> It's said he was born on February 30, because Verse 3.3 of the book named for him says, "Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, there is a man child conceived." Who was he?

- a. Joshua
- b. Jonah
- c. Joel
- d. Job

8> Who said, "No, Sir, when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life for there is in London all that life can afford"?

- a. David Beckham

- b. HL Mencken
- c. Samuel Johnson
- d. Charles De Gaulle

9> New Jersey teen Gary Broksma became a Web sensation in 2005 thanks to the webcam'd "Numa Numa Dance," performed to O-Zone's "Dragostea Din Tei," which means "Love Among the Linden Trees" in what language?

- a. Romanian
- b. Swedish
- c. Thai
- d. Mongolian

10> In the word "parsec," the "sec" part is for "second." But what is the "par"?

- a. Partial
- b. Parallax
- c. Parker
- d. Parallel

11> What counterculture figure, Winona Ryder's godfather, was busted out of jail in 1970 by the Weather Underground?

- a. Ken Kesey
- b. Huey Newton
- c. Abbie Hoffman
- d. Timothy Leary

12> Used in making perfume, civet is named from the cat-like mammal from which it comes. But what part of the civet animal gives us civet fluid?

- a. Eye ducts
- b. Anal glands
- c. Sweat glands
- d. Saliva glands

13> The phrase "Oh, be a fine girl, kiss me right now, sweetheart!" is a mnemonic. What does it help you remember?

- a. Stuart monarchs of Britain
- b. Books of the Bible
- c. Harvard Spectral Classification System for stars
- d. The order of the bones in the wrist

14> Auspicious comes from the Latin "auspex," which is how Roman augurs predicted the future. How?

- a. By reading your palm
- b. By reading tea leaves
- c. By turning over playing cards
- d. By watching birds

15> Who wrote "Ionisation" for piano, percussion, and two sirens, as well "Poeme electronique," which was recorded from 425 loudspeakers?

- a. Igor Stravinsky
- b. Edgard Varese
- c. John Cage
- d. Arnold Schoenberg

**Answers:**

1> Boca Raton - During the 1920s, Mizner was one of the best-known and most-popular American architects.

2> Always a bridesmaid, never a bride - According to the ad, Edna had to be content being 'a bridesmaid but never a bride' due to her halitosis.

3> Liberian - According to the United Nations Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, 'For the purpose of determining the obligations of Contracting States

under this Convention, birth on a ship or in an aircraft shall be deemed to have taken place in the territory of the State whose flag the ship flies or in the territory of the State in which the aircraft is registered, as the case may be.'

4> The ghost of a woman who drowned her children - Her name means "the weeping woman."

5> Palau - The Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, run by the US, broke up in 1990 into Micronesia and the Marshall Islands, which became independent, and the Northern Mariana Islands, which became a US Commonwealth.

6> Trade unions - Syndicalism is a French/Spanish word meaning 'trade unionism'.

7> Job - Scholars date Job between the 6th and 4th century BCE.

8> Samuel Johnson - He also said, "You find no man, at all intellectual, who is willing to leave London."

9> Romanian - The band itself is from Moldova, and had a number one hit in Europe with this song in 2003. Numa means 'don't want.'

10> Parallax - One parsec equals approximately 3.26 light-years or 19.2 trillion miles.

11> Timothy Leary - Well-known for his advocacy of psychedelic drugs such as LSD, Leary was an American psychologist and writer.

12> Anal glands - Abyssinian civets mark their territory with secretions from the perineal gland, next to their anus.

13> Harvard Spectral Classification System for stars - This tells you star classification, from hottest to coolest. Excluding 'now sweetheart,' the phrase was coined by Annie Jump Cannon.

14> By watching birds - Auspex literally means 'bird seer'. They predicted the future by studying flight and feeding patterns. The plural form, 'auspices', means 'kindly patronage'.

15> Edgard Varese - The loudspeakers were placed at specific points in Le Corbusier's Philips Pavilion at the Brussels World Fair.

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