

LITERATURE TRIVIA QUESTIONS IV



(www.TriviaChamp.com)

1> The novel Roots - The Saga of an American Family spawned a 1977 TV miniseries. Who wrote the book?

2> According to Shakespeare, which king would have loved to have had a horse when he was defeated at the Battle of Bosworth?

3> In which of the following books would you find the character named Bilbo Baggins?

- a. The Invisible Man
- b. The Hobbit
- c. War of the Worlds
- d. 1984

4> In 1969, an unpublished writer named John Kennedy Toole killed himself. Then, of course, his novel was not only published, but became a huge hit and even won a Pulitzer Prize. What was the book?

5> Hemingway wanted to call this book about Jake Barnes and his expat friends "Fiesta". Instead, his publisher used a line from Ecclesiastes 1:5. What book is this?

6> Who is credited with coining the word "factoid" in a 1973 book about Marilyn Monroe, intending it to mean widely believed made-up facts?

7> The first "For Dummies" book came out in 1991. What was it about?

8> Which writer lost use of his left hand at the Battle of Lepanto and was once kidnapped by Barbary pirates?

9> Jane Smiley's "A Thousand Acres" is a Pulitzer Prize winning agricultural retelling of what Shakespeare play?

10> What poet won the first-ever Library of Congress Bollingen Award, for the *Pisan Cantos*, which he wrote while indicted for treason after World War II?

11> According to Lady Caroline Lamb, what clubfooted British poet was "mad, bad and dangerous to know"?

12> Athos, Portos and Aramis weren't real, but Armand Jean du Plessis sure was. By what name do we better know him?

13> The TV series, *All Creatures Great and Small*, is based on which author's books?

14> The blockbuster movie, *Jaws*, was based on a book that was written by whom?

15> The characters named Desinov and Dolokhov can be found in what well-known novel?

Answers:

- 1> Alex Haley - Alex Haley was charged with plagiarism in separate lawsuits, each filed in the spring of 1977.
- 2> Richard III - He was the last York king.
- 3> The Hobbit - The Hobbit was published on 21 September 1937.
- 4> A Confederacy of Dunces - After Simon and Schuster rejected it, because it "isn't really about anything", Toole never sent it out again.
- 5> The Sun Also Rises - The book is still called Fiesta in many international editions. Other possible titles included Two Lie Together, River to the Sea, and The Old Leaven.
- 6> Norman Mailer - In the 1990s, CNN Headline News started calling data at the bottom of the screen 'factoids'.
- 7> DOS for Dummies - Written by Dan Goodkin, DOS For Dummies nearly had a different name, as the publisher felt the 'for Dummies' tag demeaned the readers.
- 8> Miguel de Cervantes - He spent five years as a slave in Algeria before his family paid his ransom, having tried four times to escape.
- 9> King Lear - Larry Cook divides his farmland among his three daughters, Ginny, Rose and Caroline.
- 10> Ezra Pound - He spent 25 days in an open-air cage, had some sort of nervous breakdown, and was moved to a medical tent. The Cantos describes life in the prison.
- 11> Lord Byron - Her husband, William Lamb, 2nd Viscount Melbourne, became Britain's prime minister and has an Australian city named for him.
- 12> Cardinal Richelieu - Although depicted as a villain, Louis XIII's cardinal restored French power. Indeed, despite the fame of the Three Musketeers, in 1616 Louis organized the Swiss Guards to protect him.
- 13> James Herriot - James Herriot is the pen name of James Alfred Wight.
- 14> Peter Benchley - Benchley also authored The Deep, a book about a honeymooning couple discovering two sunken treasures.
- 15> War and Peace - Written by Leo Tolstoy, Newsweek ranked it first in its list of the Top 100 Books in 2009.

Links to Free Trivia on the Net

[Movie Trivia](#)
[Movie Trivia Questions](#)
[Elvis Trivia Questions](#)
[Beatles Trivia Questions](#)