

SCIENCE TRIVIA QUESTIONS IX



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1> If in Back to the Future, Marty McFly replaced his flux capacitor with a plain old everyday capacitor, what would it do?

- a. Send electricity to the gears
- b. Prevent electrical shorts
- c. Store electrical charge
- d. Measure electrical current

2> In the Kevin Bacon game, as well as in Stanley Milgram's Small World Experiment, how many degrees of separation supposedly separate you from anybody else on Earth?

- a. Twenty-five
- b. Twelve
- c. Six
- d. Ninety-nine

3> If Sabrina the Teenage Witch needs to make a tincture of something, what will that something be dissolved into?

- a. Saltwater
- b. Alcohol
- c. Blood
- d. Acid

4> What do gluons "glue" together within hadrons?

- a. Quirks
- b. Quasars
- c. Quarks
- d. Quickies

5> 3D is height, width and breadth. Under Einstein's general theory of relativity, what is the fourth dimension?

- a. Light
- b. Gravity
- c. Time
- d. That "Age of Aquarius" band

6> When you pass gas, the gases are a combination of nitrogen, carbon dioxide and methane. If an aristocratic nobleman were to only pass noble gases, which of these gases would not be in the recipe?

- a. Ammonia
- b. Neon
- c. Helium
- d. Argon

7> The Mizar was a flying car, made in the early 1970s by adding the rear portion of a Cessna Skymaster to what Ford car, whose fuel tank was prone to explosions if messed with from behind?

- a. Ford Corsair
- b. Ford Escort
- c. Ford Pinto
- d. Ford Focus

8> What famous painter also designed a bat-like flying device that never got off the ground?

- a. Leonardo da Vinci
- b. Samuel Morse
- c. Michelangelo
- d. James Whistler

9> Why is it unusual that Oklahoma City's two airports are named for Will Rogers and Wiley Post?

- a. They co-wrote, "Man Will Never Fly"
- b. They famously were afraid to fly
- c. They died in the same plane crash
- d. They hated Oklahoma and opposed building the airports

10> For whom were the Oldsmobile and the Reo Speedwagon named?

- a. Ransom Eli Olds
- b. Richard Evert Oldman
- c. O Henry Reo
- d. Old Man Reo Ford

11> If Auric Goldfinger had all the gold ever extracted in a typical year, what would he need to store it all in?

- a. One of the Great Lakes
- b. A football stadium
- c. A good sized room
- d. The Empire State Building

12> In 2000, I founded the Justin Timberlake Fans4Ever Club. When will my club celebrate its quasisiquicentennial?

- a. 2125
- b. 2500
- c. 2250
- d. 2050

13> What is the chemical symbol of the element with the shortest English name?

- a. Pb
- b. Sn
- c. Cu
- d. Fe

14> Mintaka is the Arabic word for "belt". Mintaka, Alnilam and Alnitak are the stars that keep what constellation's pants from falling down?

- a. Orion
- b. Aquarius
- c. Cassiopeia
- d. Sagittarius

Answers:

- 1> Store electrical charge - Capacitors are often used in electronic circuits for blocking direct current while allowing alternating current to pass.
- 2> Six - Milgram's experiment came from a desire to learn more about the probability that two randomly selected people would know each other.
- 3> Alcohol - Other solvents sometimes used include vinegar, glycerol, ether and propylene glycol.
- 4> Quarks - A quark is an elementary particle and a fundamental constituent of matter.
- 5> Time - Special relativity shows that time behaves surprisingly like the three spatial dimensions.
- 6> Ammonia - Household ammonia ranges in concentration from 5 to 10 weight percent ammonia.
- 7> Ford Pinto - The Ford Pinto was discontinued in 1980.
- 8> Leonardo da Vinci - Responsible for many designs, few were constructed or even feasible during his lifetime.
- 9> They died in the same plane crash - On takeoff, the plane's engine failed and the aircraft uncontrollably nose dived into a lagoon.
- 10> Ransom Eli Olds - The band REO Speedwagon took their name from the REO manufactured REO Speed Wagon light delivery truck.
- 11> A good sized room - Gold is a chemical element with the symbol Au and atomic number 79.
- 12> 2125 - Quasiquicentennial relates to a period of 125 years.
- 13> Sn - The symbol Sn represents tin.
- 14> Orion - Orion is a prominent constellation located on the celestial equator and visible throughout the world.