Richard's Birthday Quiz 2023



Devised as a birthday gift by good friend Derek Kortlandt.

I asked Derek to make questions loosely on the party theme of one world, and to make them not the kind that we have answers to in our head (unless we are super clever), but that could respond to collaborative research. So use of the internet is allowed - even large language model AI, if you think it will help!

So please team-up with others you don't know too well - we will do the answers later in the evening.

If you are online, perhaps form one team - **meet.jit.si/69HeseltineHouse** is open early if you want to work away!

| | Team name: | Members: |
|---|--|----------|
| 1 | The boundaries of 3 US States as shown on maps consist entirely of straight lines. Two of them are rectangles. I appreciate that straight lines are merely a theoretical concept when considering geographic features on the ground, and given the curvature of the Earth the rectangles are probably trapezoidal anyway, but this is nitpicking and not in the party spirit. Which are the 3 states and the 2 rectangles? (3 marks) | |
| 2 | Why might you see Dragons in Wigan? (1 mark) | |
| 3 | What is the seasonal connection between these three celebrities in this order? a) Dame Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, OBE – German-born Austro-British soprano b) Matthew le Tissier – Guernsey born England footballer, selfstyled "conspiracy realist" c) Ernest Hemingway – American writer who shot himself while cleaning his shotgun. (1 mark) | |

| 4 | 2023 being the 400 th anniversary of the publication of the First Folio, |
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| • | here is a seasonal question. The word Christmas only appears in two |
| | plays, the bard not being obsessed with the jolly season. Here are the |
| | quotes. What are the two plays? |
| | "Is not a Christmas gambold a comonty, or a tumbling trick" |
| | said by Christopher Sly, a tinker, in the Induction Scene. |
| | "At Christmas I no more desire a rose |
| | Than wish a snow in May's new-fangled shows." |
| | Than wish a show in May's new-langled shows. |
| | Lord Longaville, Act 1, Sc 1 |
| | (2 marks) |
| 5 | What unique misfortune befell Bridget Driscoll in Croydon on 17 th |
| | August 1896? |
| | |
| | a) She found out Lloyd George really was her father |
| | b) She was stuck for hours in the world's first public toilet to be |
| | equipped with an electric lock |
| | c) She was the first person to be killed by a motor vehicle on a |
| | public road |
| | d) She was killed by a cricket ball hit by Dr W G Grace, who |
| | refused to abandon his innings, allegedly saying "she should |
| | have caught it" |
| | (1 mark) |
| 6 | Christmas Babies - aaah! Which of these recently deceased was born |
| | on Xmas Day? |
| | a) Shane McGowan |
| | b) Bobby Charlton |
| | c) Henry Kissinger |
| | d) Alastair Darling |
| | e) Glenys Kinnock |
| | (1 mark) |
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| 7 | Which of these events did NOT happen in 1955? |
| | a) Richard Millwood was born |
| | b) Massive crash at Le Mans, killing 83 spectators and 1 driver |
| | c) Manchester City beat Newcastle 3-1 in FA Cup final |
| | d) The Warsaw Pact was formed |
| | e) Quare Times won the Grand National |
| | f) In Argentina Juan Peron resigned |
| | g) Rosa Parks arrested in USA |
| | (1 mark) |
| | (many |

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| 8 | Tubes – there are at least 10 London Tube stations alluded to here in various ways. | |
| | "That'll make'em envious, " said Britain's longest reigning Queen (at that time) on taking delivery of the latest flush toilet. "Yes ma'am," beamed the Chancellor in his sly manner, "those European monarchs will be angry too, I wager." "You are a messenger from heaven, Chancellor. One day I want these wonders made available to every man or house in the country. We'll leave those barbarians in Europe to their round holes in the ground." "Yours madam, you will note, is elliptical" | |
| | "Meanwhile we need to keep it safe. Take it to the weapon store at Woolwich. You know what I mean." "Yes ma'am, but I prefer not to say the name in present company." | |
| | (10 marks) | |
| 9 | More tubes. Can you name the cities where these metro stations can be found? | |
| | a) Flora, Hradčanskà, Invalidovna, Luka b) El Carmen, Atocha, Buenos Aires, Iglesia c) Perù, Plaza Miserere, Florida, Carlos Pellegrini d) Alexandre Dumas, Bir Hakeim, Bolivar, Rome e) Opera, Stadium, El-Nozha, Kitkat f) Batman, Cheltenham, Hallam, Ivanhoe | |
| | (6 marks) | |
| 10 | Where is this? | |
| | South of Java, nicknamed the Galapagos of the Indian Ocean, Capital "Flying Fish Cove" | |
| | (1 mark) | |
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| 12 | Look at the Christmas Tree on your party invitation. Where on the globe is it located? (1 mark) |
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| 13 | And finally, anagram of the day - Bar Harpy Hid Dirty Chap (1 mark) |
| | Total marks possible 42 |