

# KNOCKOUT MATCHES THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER 2024

## QUESTIONS BY THE GRIFFIN AND SMART ALEX

### First Verbal Round

- Which character did Richard Harris play in the film *Gladiator*?  
**Marcus Aurelius** (or Marcus Aurelius Antoninus)
- Which actor played Spike Milligan in the film *Adolf Hitler, My Part in His Downfall*?  
**Jim Dale**
- In which sport is Caitlin Clark a star?  
(Women's) **Basketball**
- Which country is home to *Minecraft*'s Mojang Studios?  
**Sweden**
- Which political post is held by Simon Harris?  
**Taoiseach** (accept Irish Prime Minister)
- What notable second did Maria Goeppert Mayer achieve in 1963?  
**The second woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics** (after Marie Curie)
- Which popular UK sweet was invented in the nineteenth century for Fryers of Nelson, by an Austrian immigrant called Steinbeck?  
**Jelly Babies**
- What concept can be investigated using the Drake Equation?  
**Extra-terrestrial civilisations** (the probability of there being such civilisations)
- Which country did the UK invade on 10 May 1940?  
**Iceland**
- What first was achieved by Charles Lucas in 1854?  
**The first person to be awarded a Victoria Cross**
- According to Moore's Law, which computer component doubles in number every two years with minimal rise in cost?  
**Transistor**
- Which American city has a name that means 'The Meadows'?  
**Las Vegas**
- At the conclusion of which international event held throughout August would you hear *The Black Bear* played?  
**The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**
- What did Christopher Moore introduce at Easter 1964 by the playing of *Not Fade Away* by the Rolling Stones?  
**Radio Caroline**
- Give any year in the Lancashire cotton famine.  
**1861 to 1865**
- Who led the 1859 raid on the arsenal at Harpers Ferry? Full name required.  
**John Brown**

17. How is the politician and journalist born Graeme Logan in 1967 better known?  
**Michael Gove**
18. What Yorkshire institution was founded by Frederick Belmont in 1919?  
**Betty's of Harrogate**
19. Which Italian manufacturer of weapons has been owned by the same family for almost 500 years?  
**Beretta**
20. Although "*there's an awful lot of coffee in Brazil*", which country is the world's second-biggest producer of coffee?  
**Vietnam**
21. Which city is referred to in the Shakespearean quotation "*the trade and profit of the city consisteth of all nations*"?  
**Venice** (said by Antonio in *Merchant of Venice*)
22. For which army did Jules Repond design its Renaissance-style uniforms?  
**The Swiss Guard** (accept Vatican City army)
23. What first did analytical chemist Diane Leather achieve in May 1954?  
**First woman to run a sub-5-minute mile**
24. Which series of young-adult novels was written by Francine Pascal?  
**Sweet Valley** (accept *Sweet Valley High*)
25. What first was achieved by Giorgia Boscolo in 2010?  
**The first fully licensed female Venetian gondolier**
26. In which battle did Nelson receive the injuries that led to the loss of sight in his right eye?  
**Siege of Calvi** (accept any answer that mentions Corsica)
27. What was the battleship *Bismarck's* sister ship on its final voyage?  
**Prinz Eugen** **see note 1**
28. The tripoint of three US states is in the middle of Lake Superior. Name any two of the three states.  
Any two from: **Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin**
29. Which UK city is nicknamed *The Maiden City*?  
**Derry/Londonderry**
30. The Eagles were originally formed in 1971 from the backing group for which female singer?  
**Linda Ronstadt**

**First Written Round** **There is a theme, albeit with three soundalikes**

31. Who captained the European Ryder cup team in 1991, 1993 and 1995?  
**Bernard Gallacher**
32. In Squirrel Nutkin's version of the nursery rhyme, in what is Humpty Dumpty lying?  
**The Beck**
33. What was the name of the dog on *That's Life* that said "sausages"?  
**Prince**

34. In which month of the year are Gilbert & Sullivan Day, National Doughnut Week and International Nurses' Week?
- May**
35. Which superstar actor's lesser-known films include *American Graffiti*, *Random Hearts* and a 2020 remake of *Call of the Wild*? (full name required)
- Harrison Ford**
36. Which Cheshire village is bypassed by a road officially known as Melrose Way?
- Alderley Edge**
37. Name the Swansea born actor who plays Stacey in *Gavin & Stacey*.
- Joanna Page**
38. Which American comedy drama first released in 2000 follows the lives of Lorelai and her teenage daughter Rory?
- Gilmore Girls**
39. Which single written by David Bowie did Mott The Hoople record in 1972, after having rejected *Suffragette City*?
- All the Young Dudes**
40. Which producer of gin is based at the Girvan Distillery in Ayrshire?
- Hendrick's** [see pedantic note 2](#)

### **The theme is rock guitarists**

(Noel Gallagher - and perhaps Liam, Jeff Beck, Prince, Brian May, George Harrison, The Edge, Jimmy Page, Dave Gilmour, Angus Young, Jimmy Hendrix)

## **Second Verbal Round**

41. Which St Lucian sprinter won the women's 100 metres final at the Paris Olympics this year?
- (Julien) Alfred**
42. Aureolin is a shade of which colour?
- Yellow**
43. Who said on 5 July 2024: "*Whatever our disagreements in this campaign, he is a decent, public-spirited man, whom I respect*"?
- Rishi Sunak** (of incoming PM Sir Keir Starmer)
44. Dua Lipa has dual citizenship with the UK and which other country?
- Albania**
45. Coined in 1920 by the 9-year-old nephew of American mathematician Edward Kasner, what term is used in mathematics to indicate the number 10 raised to the power of 100?
- Googol** (don't accept 'googolplex')
46. Consisting of one extended movement for piano and jazz orchestra, which work by George Gershwin celebrates its centenary this year?
- Rhapsody in Blue**
47. What is the next line of this traditional hymn: "*Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven*"?
- To His feet thy tribute bring**

48. The river Yalu, prominent in news reports in the early 1950s, forms part of the boundary between which two countries?

**North Korea and China**

49. Which is the smallest US state by area?

**Rhode Island**

50. In which city did the 2024 Tour de France start?

**Florence**

51. Anne Robinson, Terry Wogan, Barry Took, Kenneth Robinson, Jeremy Vine and Carol Vorderman are among the presenters of which long-running TV show, first aired in October 1961?

**Points of View**

52. In chemistry the prefix 'thio-' in the name of a compound indicates that an atom of oxygen has been replaced by an atom of which other element?

**Sulphur**

53. Who is the current Secretary of State for Northern Ireland?

**Hilary Benn**

54. Which current West End musical, directed by Stephen Daldry, is set in Hawkins, Indiana?

**Stranger Things: The First Shadow** (accept just 'Stranger Things') **see note 3**

55. Who became the French Prime Minister on 5 September 2024?

**Michel Barnier**

56. Which famous historical document contains the words "*We hold these truths to be self-evident*"?

**United States Declaration of Independence**

57. What links Thomas Matthew Crooks (July 2024) and Ryan Routh (September 2024)?

**Attempted assassination of Donald Trump** (accept any appropriate answer)

58. Octavia Hill, Canon Hardwicke Rawnsley and Sir Robert Hunter established what in 1895?

**The National Trust**

59. Known as the 'father of transfusion medicine', which Austrian-American scientist developed the modern blood-grouping system, also discovering the Rhesus factor and the polio virus?

**Karl Landsteiner**

60. On the 7 October 2024, what became the new price of a first-class postage stamp?

**£1.65**

61. What global weekly event was founded in Bushy Park in October 2004?

**Park Run**

62. Sakari Oramo has been the principal conductor of which British orchestra since 2013?

**BBC Symphony Orchestra**

63. Queen guitarist Brian May earned a PhD in which subject?

**Astrophysics** (also accept astronomy)

64. The previously all-male Garrick Club accepted female members in July 2024. Name the two actresses who were the first to be accepted.

**Dame Judi Dench and Dame Sian Phillips**

65. Virginia Woolf committed suicide in 1941 by drowning in which river?

**Ouse**

66. Currently called Volgograd, what was the original name of this Russian city from 1589 until 1925, when it became Stalingrad?

**Tsaritsyn**

67. On 6 October 2024 who replaced Sue Gray as Keir Starmer's chief of staff?

**Morgan McSweeney**

68. In June 2024 Claudia Sheinbaum was elected as the first woman president of which country?

**Mexico**

69. Which 2003 musical has a cast list including the characters Elphaba and Glinda?

**Wicked**

70. What is the height in feet of a regulation NBA basket?

**Ten**

**Second Written Round** **There is a theme with three soundalikes and a nickname**

71. Which conservationist who was murdered in Rwanda in 1985 wrote *Gorillas in the Mist*? (full name required)

**Dian Fossey**

72. Which national capital was created by the Residence Act, which stipulated that it should encompass an area of "no more than ten miles square" - although its current area is only just over 68 square miles?

**Washington, D.C.**

73. In which European city is the headquarters of the International Court of Justice?

**The Hague**

74. Who has been the lead presenter of *Gardeners' World* on BBC TV since 2011? (full name required)

**Monty Don**

75. Which dish consists of Romaine lettuce, croutons, Parmesan cheese, lemon juice, olive oil, boiled egg, Worcester sauce, mustard and black pepper? Variations include adding chicken or bacon.

**Caesar salad**

76. Who played Sonny Corleone in the film *The Godfather*?

**James Caan**

77. Which artist painted the iconic image *American Gothic*? (full name required)

**Grant Wood**

78. Who played Chief Superintendent Mullet in the TV programme *A Touch of Frost*?

**Bruce Alexander**

79. John Betjeman, Anthony Blunt and Frank Gardner are all old boys of which public school? It went co-ed in 1989 and boasts among its more recent students Catherine and Pippa Middleton.

**Marlborough College** (accept just 'Marlborough')

80. The French pastry *mille feuille* is known by what other name in North America?

**Napoleon**

**Theme is military commanders.**

(Moshe Dayan, George Washington, General Sir Douglas Haig, Duke of Marlborough, General Bernard Montgomery, Julius Caesar, Genghis Khan, Ulysses S. Grant, Alexander the Great, Napoleon)

**Additional Written Round (for use in the event of a tie) see note 4**

81. The RFU (Rugby Football Union) has sold the naming rights to Twickenham stadium. What is its new name?

**The Allianz Stadium**

82. Sven Goran Eriksson only had four forwards in his 2006 World Cup Squad. Rooney, Owen and Crouch were three, who was the fourth?

**Theo Walcott**

83. Which Austrian philosopher initially studied aeronautics at Manchester University from 1908, but eventually published the *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* and taught philosophy at the University of Cambridge, dying in 1951?

**Ludwig Wittgenstein**

84. The trioxide of which metallic-grey element, atomic number 33 and known from antiquity, was mixed with vinegar and chalk to be used by Victorian ladies to maintain a pale complexion?

**Arsenic**

85. In the film *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, what is the name of the test that Starfleet Academy cadets must take?

**Kobayashi-Maru**

86. The United Nations General Assembly requests that delegates limit their addresses to 15 minutes. On 26 September 1960, who remained on the rostrum for 269 minutes, making his address the longest timed speech in General Assembly history?

**Fidel Castro**

87. Which opposing Roman general did Octavian, the future Emperor Augustus, defeat at the Battle of Actium in 31 BC?

**Mark Antony**

88. How many counters does each player start with in a game of backgammon?

**15**

89. The paradox that there is no conclusive proof of intelligent, extraterrestrial life despite the likelihood of it, is named after which Italian-American physicist?

**Enrico Fermi**

90. Who is the current Children's Laureate?

**Frank Cottrell-Boyce**

**Tie-breaker (nearest-the-bull) see note 4**

1. How many dollars did the USA pay Russia for Alaska?

**\$7.2 million**

2. How long, in metres, is Southend Pier?

**2158 metres**

**Spares**

1. Which traditional Nepali knife, with a distinctive broad, sharply curved blade, is standard issue to Gurkha soldiers as a weapon and a tool?

**Kukri**

2. Which country is bordered by Laos, Thailand and Vietnam?

**Cambodia**

3. In July 2024 the CEO of which company was appointed as the Prisons Minister?

**Timpsons**

## Notes

1. Although *Prinz Eugen* accompanied *Bismarck* during her final voyage, they were not 'sister ships'. A sister ship is defined as one of the same class or almost identical design, but *Prinz Eugen* was a heavy cruiser rather than a battleship, and of markedly different design. *Bismarck*'s sister ship was the only other *Bismarck*-class battleship: *Tirpitz*.
2. The *producer* based at the Girvan Distillery is William Grant & Sons, the manufacturer of Hendrick's gin.
3. *Stranger Things: The First Shadow* is a dramatic play rather than a musical.
4. In knockout **qualifying** games a draw is a valid result, so there is no need to include an additional written round or nearest-the-bull tie-breakers. These types of question only need to be included for the semi-finals and finals.