

**LEAGUE MATCHES THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2025**  
**QUESTIONS BY THE ALEXANDRA**

**First Verbal Round**

1. Which American pilot who became the first man to break the sound barrier was born on this day in 1923?  
**Chuck Yeager** (real name Charles Yeager)
2. Today would have been the 87th birthday of which notorious British actor who died in Malta in 1999?  
**Oliver Reed**
3. Which Manchester band's studio albums include *Gold Mother*, *Seven*, *Millionaires* and *Girl at the End of the World*?  
**James**
4. Which Manchester band's studio albums include *Picture Book*, *Life*, *Home* and *Blue Eyed Soul*?  
**Simply Red**
5. Who plays architect László Tóth in the recent cinema release, *The Brutalist*?  
**Adrien Brody**
6. Who plays Bob Dylan in the recent cinema release, *A Complete Unknown*?  
**Timothée Chalamet**
7. Which is the most northerly of the seven cities in Wales?  
**St Asaph**
8. Which is the most southerly of the six cities in Northern Ireland?  
**Newry**
9. In the lyrics of the Beatles song *Penny Lane*, whose portrait does the fireman have in his pocket?  
**The Queen**
10. According to the lyrics of the Beatles song *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*, what sort of pies do the rocking horse people eat?  
**Marshmallow**
11. Which non-metallic element is usually added to rubber to make it 'vulcanised'?  
**Sulfur**
12. Which non-metallic element is added to iron to make steel?  
**Carbon**
13. In which year did the following events happen?  
Laurel and Hardy had a posthumous UK top ten hit with *Trail of the Lonesome Pine*.  
Proceedings of the House of Commons were broadcast live on UK radio for the first time.  
Freak weather saw many parts of the UK experience snow in June.  
**1975**
14. In which year did the following events happen?  
Art Garfunkel had the year's best-selling UK single with *Bright Eyes*  
Actor Richard Beckinsale died at the tragically young age of 31  
Former Liberal Party leader Jeremy Thorpe was acquitted of charges of conspiracy and attempted murder.  
**1979**

15. Only five male actors have been nominated for an Academy Award in five different decades. Two of the five are British; name either.

**Laurence Olivier or Michael Caine**

16. Who is the only member of the *Carry On* team ever to be nominated for an Academy Award? He was nominated for the Oscar for Best Original Song as lyricist for the theme to the 1966 film *Georgy Girl*, a worldwide hit for The Seekers. His first *Carry On* was *Cabby* in 1963, and his last was *Columbus* in 1992.

**Jim Dale**

17. Who was UK Prime Minister during the 1936 Abdication Crisis?

**Stanley Baldwin**

18. Who was UK Prime Minister during the 1956 Suez Crisis?

**Anthony Eden**

19. What new name did the African country Upper Volta adopt in 1984?

**Burkina Faso**

20. What is the current name of the country known until 1968 as South West Africa?

**Namibia**

21. Which German word that means 'replacement' or 'substitute' is used in English to denote an alternative considered to be of inferior quality to the real thing?

**Ersatz**

22. Which German word that means 'shape' or 'form' is used in English to describe something considered to be greater than the sum of its parts?

**Gestalt**

23. Which 1996 song was the first UK number one for the Spice Girls?

**Wannabe**

24. Which 1995 song was the first UK number one for Oasis?

**Some Might Say**

25. In the 1970s US TV cop show *Starsky & Hutch*, what was Starsky's first name?

**Dave**

26. In the 1970s UK TV cop show *The Sweeney*, what was Carter's first name?

**George**

27. As of 29 January 2025, which American at number four is the highest-placed non-European in the ATP rankings in men's singles tennis? He was knocked out in the third round of last month's Australian Open.

**Taylor Fritz**

28. As of 29 January 2025, which American at number three is the highest-placed non-European in the WTA rankings in women's singles tennis? She was a beaten quarter-finalist in last month's Australian Open.

**Coco Gauff**

29. Laura Jesson and Dr Alec Harvey are the principal characters in which iconic British film of 1945?

**Brief Encounter**

30. Charlie Croker is the principal character in which iconic British film of 1969?

**The Italian Job**

## First Written Round

### THERE IS A THEME

31. Which BBC TV comedy show that ran from 1965 to 1970 is probably best known for its *Dagenham Dialogue* sketches: rambling conversations between the flat-capped *alter egos* of the show's two stars, Peter Cook and Dudley Moore.

**Not Only...But Also**

32. Which 1998 rom-com tells the story of two people conducting an on-line romance who are unaware that they are also business rivals in the real world? It was directed by Nora Ephron, and stars Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan.

**You've Got Mail**

33. Which 1984 book was the sequel to the 1982 best-seller *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13¾*?

**The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole**

34. Which imperial unit of measurement is equal to 20.1168 metres?

**Chain** (22 yards)

35. Which US hip hop group, known for politically charged music, was formed by Chuck D and Flavor Flav in New York state in 1985? Their UK hits include *Don't Believe the Hype*, *Fight the Power* and *Harder Than You Think*.

**Public Enemy**

36. Which two ballroom dances can be found in the NATO phonetic alphabet?

**Foxtrot and Tango**

37. What is the common modern-day name of the viral disease that was historically known as *hydrophobia*?

**Rabies**

38. Which city will host the next summer Olympic Games, in July 2028?

**Los Angeles**

39. Which four-letter word can be found in the title of UK number one hits for All Saints and Hear'Say, and is also the title of the Lightning Seeds first UK chart single in 1989?

**Pure** (*Pure Shores, Pure and Simple, Pure*)

40. The unfathomably famous Kardashian-Jenner family has several members whose first name begins with the letter 'K'. Also beginning with 'K', what is the first name of the US rapper who was married to Kim Kardashian from 2014 to 2022? His current partner, Bianca Censori, caused something of a stir with her choice of attire at this month's Grammy Awards.

**Kanye** (West)

**Theme: each answer contains an anagram of the name of a country**

(Laos, Mali, Spain, China, Yemen, Tonga, Serbia, Senegal, Peru, Kenya)

## Second Verbal Round

41. Which European country is home to the vodka brand *Absolut*?

**Sweden**

42. Which European country is home to the *Grey Goose* brand of vodka?

**France**

43. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote just four full-length Sherlock Holmes novels. Three were *A Study in Scarlet*, *The Valley of Fear* and *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. Name the fourth, which features a case involving stolen Indian treasure.

***The Sign of Four***

44. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote over fifty short stories featuring Sherlock Holmes. Published in July 1891, which was the first of these, in which Holmes is engaged by a European royal to recover a compromising photograph?

***A Scandal in Bohemia***

45. Probably best-known for his breakdown and imprisonment after stealing the Christmas Club money, which downtrodden *EastEnders* character was played by Bill Treacher from 1985 to 1996? Full name required.

**Arthur Fowler**

46. Who played the iconic *Coronation Street* character Jack Duckworth from 1979 to 2010? Full name required.

**Bill Tarmey** (also accept his real name, Bill Piddington)

47. Clacket Lane, South Mimms and Thurrock are all services on which UK motorway?

**M25**

48. Beaconsfield, Cherwell Valley and Warwick are all services on which UK motorway?

**M40**

49. Which Samoan-born, New Zealand chef has appeared regularly since 2009 as a judge on BBC TV's *MasterChef: The Professionals*?

**Monica Galetti**

50. Which comedian has hosted *The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice* since it began in 2014?

**Jo Brand**

51. Who was appointed Secretary of State for Transport in November 2024, following the resignation of Louise Haigh? She is also the MP for Swindon South.

**Heidi Alexander**

52. As of 5 February 2025, who is the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions? She is also the MP for Leicester West.

**Liz Kendall**

53. Which herb is traditionally added to salmon in the Nordic dish *gravlax*?

**Dill**

54. Which vegetable is the principal ingredient of the middle eastern dish *baba ganoush*?

**Aubergine** (also accept 'eggplant')

55. What everyday name is usually given to the flightless birds of the *Spheniscidae* family?

**Penguins**

56. Which island group is home to *Spheniscus mendiculus*, the only species of penguin found in the wild north of the equator?

**Galápagos Islands**

57. Which two colours appear on the flag of Morocco?

**Red and green** (a green pentangle on a red background)

58. Which two colours appear on the flag of Somalia?

**Blue and white** (a white star on a blue background)

59. What is the nationality of the premium retail clothing company Massimo Dutti?  
**Spanish**
60. What is the nationality of the luxury fashion house JOOP!?  
**German**
61. What was the principal effect of the nineteenth amendment to the US constitution, which came into force in 1920?  
**It gave women the right to vote**
62. What was the principal effect of the twenty-second amendment to the US constitution, which came into force in 1951?  
**It limited the number of times a person may be elected president**
63. From which club did Manchester United sign defender Noussair Mazraoui in August 2024?  
**Bayern Munich**
64. From which club did Manchester City sign midfielder Bernardo Silva in May 2017?  
**Monaco**
65. Give **either** of the surnames of the two men who founded and gave their name to the ice cream company Ben & Jerry's.  
(Ben) **Cohen** or (Jerry) **Greenfield**
66. Give **either** of the first names of the two men who founded and gave their name to the publishing company Mills & Boon.  
**Gerald** (Mills) or **Charles** (Boon)
67. In the 1942 Disney animated film *Bambi*, what sort of animal is Flower?  
**A skunk**
68. In the 1940 Disney animated film *Pinocchio*, what sort of animal is John Worthington Foulfellow?  
**A fox**
69. Which British artist's works include *Bubbles*, *Ophelia* and *Autumn Leaves*?  
**John Millais**
70. Which British artist's works include *The Awakening Conscience*, *The Scapegoat* and *The Light of The World*?  
**William Holman Hunt**

**Second Written Round THERE IS A THEME**

(The theme contains soundalikes and theme words hidden within longer words; when an answer is a person's name the first **and** surname are required)

71. Which twentieth century American voice actor's cartoon characters included Hair Bear, Huckleberry Hound, Quick Draw McGraw, Snagglepuss and Yogi Bear? Full name required.  
**Daws Butler**
72. In BBC Radio's *The Archers*, what is the name of the former country club and luxurious hotel that was previously owned by the late Caroline Sterling and her husband Oliver?  
**Grey Gables**
73. Charles Dickens wrote *David Copperfield* whilst staying at Bleak House in which seaside town on the Isle of Thanet in Kent?  
**Broadstairs**

74. Which castle near Kelso in south east Scotland is the ancestral seat of the Duke of Roxburghe?  
**Floors Castle**
75. Anne Howe was the first and Lynne Frederick was the last of the four wives of which British comedian and actor who died in 1980? Full name required.  
**Peter Sellers**
76. Which traditional British dessert consists of apples baked beneath a layer of Victoria sponge? It takes its name from the variety of eating apple normally used in the recipe.  
**Eve's pudding**
77. Which lawyer is the protagonist of *To Kill a Mockingbird*? Full name required.  
**Atticus Finch**
78. November this year will see the fortieth anniversary of the first release of which commonly used computer operating system?  
**Microsoft Windows** (accept just 'Windows')
79. Who played the title role in the ITV drama series *Foyle's War*? Full name required.  
**Michael Kitchen**
80. In the title of 1980s hit singles where were Lionel Richie and Blancmange respectively dancing and living?  
**On the ceiling**
- Theme is parts of a house/building**  
(Door, gable, stairs, floor, cellar, eaves, attic, window, kitchen, ceiling)

## Spares

1. Which 1965 British comedy film features the lead character Marshal P. Knutt, sanitation engineer first class?  
**Carry On Cowboy**
2. Which Gilbert & Sullivan operetta features the renowned musical number *I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major-General*?  
**The Pirates of Penzance**
3. With a successful test on this day in 1960, which country became the world's fourth nuclear-armed power?  
**France**
4. Styria and Carinthia are two of the nine states or provinces that make up which EU member country?  
**Austria**
5. In Shakespeare's *King Lear*, who is the youngest of the king's three daughters?  
**Cordelia**
6. When ripe, what colour are the berries of the toxic plant deadly nightshade (*Atropa belladonna*)?  
**Black**
7. Which year was the last time the Winter and Summer Olympics were held in the same year?  
**1992**