

LEAGUE MATCHES THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2025

QUESTIONS BY THE ARMOURY

First Verbal Round

- Which green topping is typically used for the 'spring' section of a 'four seasons' pizza?
(Globe) artichoke
- First produced by Carl William Scheele in 1774, which gaseous element was named and confirmed as an element by Humphry Davy in 1810? It is number 17 in the periodic table.
Chlorine
- In the revision of the Laws of Cricket in 2017, "handled the ball" was removed as a separate category for a batter being given "out"; it was integrated into which other, more generalised, reason for dismissal?
Obstructing the field
- There are four assay offices in the UK; which of them is identified by the anchor symbol?
Birmingham
- Who is the Roman god of sleep?
Somnus
- Published in 1959, which book by an English writer begins: '*I was set down from the carrier's cart at the age of three; and there with a sense of bewilderment and terror my life in the village began*'?
Cider with Rosie
- Which state was the first to ratify the 1787 US Constitution, and is thereby regarded as the first of the United States of America?
Delaware
- What do the J and W stand for, in the name of the author J. K. Rowling? **see note 1**
Joanne Kathleen
- In contract bridge how many tricks must be successfully taken to achieve a 'small slam'?
Twelve
- In which country would you find Don Mueang Airport?
Thailand (Bangkok)
- Give a year in the life of the philosopher, scientist, and mathematician René Descartes.
1596 to 1650
- Under which UK Prime Minister was the National Minimum Wage introduced?
Tony Blair (1998)
- In which nineteenth century novel do members of the noble Rostov family play a central role?
War and Peace
- Who succeeded to the throne of England on the death of King John?
Henry III
- At just over 2000 metres, Kebnekaise is the highest mountain in which European country?
Sweden

16. What is the English term for the vegetable ingredient called *takenoko* in Japanese cuisine, and *zhú sūn* in Chinese cuisine?

Bamboo shoots

17. Which scientist, formerly an assistant to Humphry Davy, founded the Royal Institution Christmas Lectures, and defined the First and Second Laws of Electrolysis?

Michael Faraday

18. Which county cricket club did W. G. Grace captain, from its foundation in 1870 until 1899?

Gloucestershire

19. Gold and silver have been hallmarked by Assay Offices for many centuries. Two other metals have been brought under the Hallmarking Act; name either.

Platinum or Palladium

20. Who is the Greek god of dreams?

Morpheus

21. Which book by an American writer, published in the 1860s, ends: '*Oh, my girls, however long you may live, I never can wish you a greater happiness than this*'?

Little Women

22. In which year were Alaska and Hawaii formally admitted into the United States of America?

1959

23. What do the J and D stand for, in the name of the author J. D. Salinger?

Jerome David

24. In which trick-taking card game, named after a suit, are overtricks referred to as 'bags' or 'sandbags'?

Spades

25. In which country would you find Batman Airport?

Turkey (serving the city of Batman, in the south-east of Turkey)

26. Give a year in the life of the Swedish artist Hilma af Klint.

1862 to 1944

27. Who was Chancellor of the Exchequer when Universal Credit was introduced?

George Osborne (2013)

28. In which twentieth century novel does the aristocratic Flyte family play a central role?

Brideshead Revisited

29. Who was on the English throne before the succession of Richard II?

Edward III

30. Sweden is divided into three historical regions, called Lands. Name any one of them.

Norrland, Svealand, Götaland

First Written Round There is a theme – a theme word may form part of a longer word in the answer

31. Sharing their name with an album by the Shadows, which pop group's only top ten hit was *Sky High* in 1975?

Jigsaw

32. What is the name of the evacuation procedure that prioritises “women and children first”, adopted after its use during a sinking in 1852?

Birkenhead Drill

33. Prevalent in all oceans, which very recognisable predator of the *Chondrichthyes* class has the scientific name *Sphyrnidae*?

Hammerhead shark

34. Which children’s TV presenter hosted the *Wide Awake Club* and *Wacaday*?

Timmy Mallett

35. In Raymond Chandler’s *The Long Goodbye*, which cocktail was described thus: ‘Half gin and half Rose’s Lime Juice and nothing else. It beats martinis hollow.’?

The Gimlet

36. *Funeral in Berlin* was the second spy film made from a sequence of novels by Len Deighton. What was the name of the first one?

The Ipcress File

37. What is the name of the coastal plain and wetland area, running south from the Mendips to the Blackdown Hills?

Somerset Levels

38. One of the three native British breeds, which heavy draught horse from East Anglia is also known as a *Sorrel*?

Suffolk Punch

39. Which position of authority was first held by Lord Canning in 1858, and last held by Lord Mountbatten in 1947?

Viceroy of India

40. Which fictional TV family live at 518 Crestview Drive, Los Angeles County, USA?

The Clampetts (in *The Beverly Hillbillies*)

Theme is tools (jigsaw, drill, hammer, mallet, gimlet (similar to a bradawl), file, level, punch, vice, clamp)

Second Verbal Round

41. Which Mitford sister wrote about “U” and “non-U” vocabulary, in an article about the English aristocracy?

Nancy

42. Which is the most northerly of the seven Welsh cities? **see note 2**

St Asaph (Bangor is a close runner-up)

43. How many Earth days does Mercury take to orbit the Sun?

88

44. What was the name of the cargo ship which blocked the Suez Canal for six days in March 2021?

Ever Given

45. What colour star is on the flag of Senegal?

Green

46. What nationality is Philippe Clément, current manager Glasgow Rangers?

Belgian **see note 3**

47. Which radio programme will celebrate its centenary in November of this year, having been broadcast on Nashville's radio station WSM since it began, and gaining its well-known name in 1927?

Grand Ole Opry (it started life as the *WSM Barn Dance*)

48. Which domesticated animal is on the flag of the Swiss Canton Uri?

A bull

49. In which decade was the Clifton Suspension Bridge completed?

1860s (1864)

50. In 1981 Ennio Morricone reached number two in the UK singles chart with the instrumental *Chi Mai*. It had been used as the theme to a BBC television series dramatising the life of which Prime Minister?

David Lloyd George

51. In sport which organisation goes by the initials BBBC?

British Board of Boxing Control [see note 4](#)

52. In the UK Parliament who holds the unofficial position of Father of the House?

Sir Edward Leigh

53. Hoshoryu has, as of 29 January this year, become the 74th *Yokozuna*, the top rank in which sport?

Sumo wrestling

54. Brought to Europe by Columbus, what is the common name of the starchy tuberous roots of the vine species *Ipomoea batatas*, in the Morning Glory family?

Sweet potato

55. Founded over 2000 years ago on the Orontes river, in which modern-day country would the ancient city of Antioch be located?

Turkey

56. Which Mitford sister wrote *The American Way of Death*, exposing the practices of the US funeral industry?

Jessica (aka Decca)

57. The burial place of Robert the Bruce, which is Scotland's newest city?

Dunfermline

58. Which planet in the solar system has the shortest day - just under ten Earth hours?

Jupiter

59. What was the name of the supertanker which ran aground off the coast of Brittany in March 1978, spilling 220,000 tons of crude oil?

Amoco Cadiz

60. What colour star is on the flag of Myanmar?

White

61. The number one places in the official world rankings for both men's and women's squash are held by players of which nationality?

Egyptian

62. ITV celebrates its 70th birthday in 2025, as does commercial television as a whole. The first advertisement on the first night in September 1955 was for what type of product?

Toothpaste (namely, Gibbs SR)

63. Which wild animal is on the flag of the Swiss Canton Grisons?

An ibex [see note 5](#)

64. In which year was the first section of the Bridgewater Canal—from Worsley to Manchester—completed? There is some leeway.
1761 (allow 1756 to 1766)
65. American TV and film composer Mark Snow reached number two in the UK singles chart for three weeks in 1996, with the theme music to which popular science fiction drama series?
The X-Files
66. In the news recently, what does USAID stand for?
United States Agency for International Development
67. In the UK Parliament, who preceded Diane Abbott in the unofficial position of Mother of the House?
Harriet Harman
68. A five-day sumo tournament will be taking place in London this October. It will be held at which iconic concert hall, which also hosted the last UK-hosted tournament in 1991?
The (Royal) Albert Hall
69. What is the more common English name for rutabaga, a vegetable that originated as a hybrid of cabbage and turnip?
Swede
70. The ancient Phoenician cities of Sidon and Tyre are in which modern-day country?
Lebanon

Second Written Round

71. The current Home Secretary is Yvette Cooper. Name the other five women who have been Home Secretary in the UK Parliament.
Jacqui Smith, Theresa May, Amber Rudd, Priti Patel, Suella Braverman
72. A relic of its ties to Portugal, the currency in Cape Verde is the Cape Verde Escudo. It has a fixed exchange rate with which other currency?
The Euro
73. Who played Adrian Mole in the 2001 TV adaptation of *The Cappuccino Years*?
Stephen Mangan
74. Formerly owned by Brooke Bond, which company now makes PG Tips, in Trafford Park?
Lipton (Teas and Infusions)
75. Which Shakespeare play features the pedantic and loquacious scholar Holofernes?
Love's Labour's Lost
76. The recent series of *The Traitors* was filmed at what location?
Ardross Castle
77. Who wrote the lyrics for the musical *Nice Work If You Can Get It*?
Ira Gershwin **see note 6**
78. How is the Kirklees Stadium in Huddersfield currently known, for sponsorship reasons?
John Smith Stadium
79. Blake's poem known as *Jerusalem* was originally published in the preface to an epic poem whose hero is which poet?
John Milton

80. Specific to divorce proceedings, what may be legally controlled by a Mesher Order?

The timing of the sale of the matrimonial home

Spares

1. Which 2017 war film, which won an Academy Award for editing, was directed by Mel Gibson and starred Andrew Garfield in the true story of Desmond Doss?

Hacksaw Ridge

2. The European intellectual and philosophical movement known as the Age of Enlightenment spanned which century?

Eighteenth

3. In the 2000 remake of the film *Get Carter*, who had the title role?

Sylvester Stallone

4. What is the character limit for posts on X (formerly Twitter) if you've not paid for your account?

240

5. Following the elevation of Sir Mark Elder to Conductor Emeritus, who is now the Principal Conductor of the Hallé Orchestra?

Kahchun Wong [see note 7](#)

Notes

1. The question should have asked what the J and **K** stand for. The author's real name is just Joanne Rowling. The 'K' was only added as part of her pen name for publishing purposes, Kathleen being the name of her grandmother.
2. The same question was used last week.
3. Clément was sacked three days after this quiz.
4. The correct answer is British Boxing Board of Control
5. An ibex is a species of wild goat, so the question should have asked for a specific answer, or also accepted 'goat'.
6. The composer is George Gershwin, the lyricist Ira Gershwin. There is scope for confusion here and the setter should have clarified to the QM whether the full name is required.
7. 'Wong Kah Chun' is also an acceptable answer.