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2025: The Year in Review

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes
Number of players: Unlimited
Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers
Suitable for visually impaired players.

Overview:

2025 — yet another remarkable year! Here's a quiz that includes just a few of the significant events that occurred last year. Let's see how many of them you remember.

Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first question. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may 'buzz' in and answer.
4. Scoring: Give 10 points for each correct answer.

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1. President Biden awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal, one of the nation's highest civilian honors, to twenty people in his last weeks in office. Who, among the honorees, was cited for "putting country over party"?
2. In his first week in office, President Trump called for expanding American territory into three regions? Can you name two of them?
3. In addition to reverting the name of Denali back to Mt. McKinley, what other North American region did Trump rename?
4. Name the Canadian Prime Minister who stepped down from office in January; and for extra credit, name the new Canadian Prime Minister who was elected in March.
5. In his second week in office, President Trump pardoned 1600 people convicted of crimes associated with what event?
6. Members of President Trump's cabinet were confirmed throughout January. Can you name his:
 - a. Secretary of State
 - b. Secretary of the Treasury
 - c. Secretary of Defense
 - d. Attorney General
 - e. Secretary of Health and Human Services
 - f. Secretary of Education
 - g. Secretary of Homeland Security
7. In February, President Trump declared that the US would "take over" this territory and turn it into the "Riviera of the Middle East."
8. Which NFL team won the Super Bowl in 2025?
9. Which MLB team won the World Series in 2025?
10. NBC celebrated the 50th anniversary of this TV program with a star-studded special.
11. This US Senator and former Senate Majority Leader announced that he would not seek reelection in 2026.
12. What power tool did Elon Musk brandish at the CPAC meeting to emphasize all the employee firings he was making to the federal government?
13. President Trump announced plans to sell what to wealthy foreigners for \$5 million?
14. By March more than 125 new cases of this disease had been identified in Texas.
15. The Justice Department's pardon attorney was fired after she refused to recommend restoring gun rights to this prominent actor and Trump supporter.
16. Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore returned home in March to a hero's – well, two heroes' – welcome. Where had they been for the previous nine months?
17. What Republican US representative from upstate New York was on her "goodbye tour"

- before taking on her new job as the US Ambassador to the United Nations when President Trump rescinded her nomination?
18. 2025 was a year marked by an increase in political violence. In what states did the following events occur:
 - a. An arson attack on the governor's mansion.
 - b. The assassination of State Rep. Melissa Hortman and State Senator John Hoffman.
 - c. The murder of conservative activist Charlie Kirk on a college campus.
 19. This actor, whose film roles included playing Jim Morrison in *The Doors* and Iceman in *Top Gun*, died at the age of 65.
 20. On the day after Easter, Pope Francis died in the Vatican at age 88. Where was he born?
 21. In May, a new pope was elected. What is his given name? What is the name he chose as pope? And what American city does he come from?
 22. What former Republican vice president was presented with a Profile in Courage Award at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston?
 23. Who said, "The picture of the world's richest man killing the world's poorest children is not a pretty one."?
 24. President Trump threatened to revoke the US citizenship of this US-born celebrity with whom he has had a longstanding feud.
 25. In July, the senate voted to rescind (i.e., take away money that was already allocated) \$1.1 billion for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). What two organizations did the CPB fund?
 26. Singer/songwriter Taylor Swift announced her engagement to this American athlete.
 27. In October, President Trump had this historic part of the White House demolished.
 28. Which Iowa Republican senator announced in September that she would not seek reelection next year?
 29. In a rare show of bipartisanship, Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA), Representative Ro Khanna (D-CA), and Representative Thomas Massie (R-KY) banded together to call for the release of all documentation related to this investigation.
 30. After several days being taken off the air by Disney in September, this late-night TV host returned to record-breaking ratings.
 31. In late fall, journalists from most news organizations turned in their press passes rather than agree to the new severe restrictions imposed on their news gathering abilities by this US agency.
 32. After a string of scandals, including his relationship with Jeffrey Epstein and his links to an alleged Chinese spy, this British royal gave up his royal titles.
 33. Can you name the former head of the FBI and the New York state attorney general who were both indicted by the Department of Justice?
 34. Can you name the 34-year-old, Muslim, African-born of Indian descent, candidate who was elected mayor of New York last year, beating Andrew Cuomo, the former NY governor?
 35. A *Financial Times* reporter coined the acronym TACO to describe President Trump's flip-flopping on tariffs. What does TACO stand for?

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ANSWERS

1. Former Wyoming Representative Liz Cheney, who co-chaired the January 6th House investigation along with Representative Bennie Thompson of Mississippi, who also received a Presidential Citizens Medal.
2. Canada, Greenland, and Panama
3. He changed the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of America.
4. Justin Trudeau left office, and Mark Carney was elected in March.
5. They had all been convicted of various crimes committed at the January 6, 2021 insurrection at the US Capitol, including violence against the police.
6. Trumps' cabinet:
 - a. Marco Rubio
 - b. Scott Bessent
 - c. Pete Hegseth
 - d. Pam Bondi
 - e. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.
 - f. Linda McMahon
 - g. Kristi Noem
7. The Gaza Strip. Trump's plan involved removing Palestinians from the territory and sending in US troops.
8. The Philadelphia Eagles beat the Kansas City Chiefs 40-22.
9. The Los Angeles Dodgers bested the Toronto Blue Jays in a thrilling seven-game series.
10. *SNL (Saturday Night Live)*
11. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky
12. A chain saw
13. US citizenships. The president said that a new "gold card" will offer a path to citizenship to anyone who can afford the \$5 million fee.
14. Measles. Diseases once eradicated in the US are now coming back with a vengeance, primarily due to decreased vaccination of children.
15. Mel Gibson, who lost his right to own a gun in 2011 after a domestic violence conviction
16. In space – specifically on the International Space Station. The return of the two NASA astronauts had been delayed for months because of technical problems with their Boeing spacecraft.
17. Elise Stefanik. Trump was worried that if Stefanik left the House, her seat would be filled by a Democrat.

18. Political violence:
 - a. Pennsylvania. Governor Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania was in the mansion at the time, celebrating the first night of Passover. Governor Shapiro and his family were safely evacuated from the building, and the alleged suspect was taken into custody.
 - b. Minnesota
 - c. Utah
19. Val Kilmer
20. Pope Francis was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
21. Robert Francis Prevost from Chicago chose to be known as Pope Leo XIV.
22. Former Vice President Mike Pence was given the award for “putting his life and career on the line to ensure the constitutional transfer of presidential power on January 6, 2021.”
23. Bill Gates – himself once the world’s richest man – made that statement to *The Financial Times* regarding Elon Musk’s drastic cuts to USAID (the US Agency for International Development).
24. Rosie O’Donnell, who actually moved to Ireland shortly before Trump was inaugurated in January
25. The Public Broadcasting System (PBS) and National Public Radio (NPR). The cuts to PBS and CPB are likely to have the biggest impact on many small local stations in poor and rural areas.
26. Football player Travis Kelce
27. The East Wing, which was previously used by the First Lady and her staff and other White House support personnel, was demolished to make room for a ballroom that will be nearly twice as large as the White House itself.
28. Joni Ernst
29. The Jeffrey Epstein investigation
30. Jimmy Kimmel
31. The Pentagon, which now requires journalists to cover only stories pre-approved by the Pentagon. Even Fox News disagreed with the new restrictions.
32. Prince Andrew
33. James Comey and Letitia James. The case was dismissed just weeks later by US District Judge Cameron McGower Currie because the government’s prosecutor had been unlawfully appointed.
34. Zohran Mamdani
35. Trump Always Chickens Out