

10/5/25 How Much Do You Know About ... ?

Oklahoma

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Overview:

We're bringing back this popular quiz – updated and improved. Each week (ish), we'll explore one US state. This week, we've randomly selected **OKLAHOMA**. Let's see how much you know about this state whose official meal includes chicken-fried steak, sausage with biscuits and gravy, black-eyed peas, cornbread, strawberries, and pecan pie.

Instructions:

1. Divide the players evenly into teams (or as closely as possible).
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 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. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

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Instructions: Find out how much you know about Oklahoma from this quiz.

1. What is the capital city of Oklahoma?
2. With nearly 630,000 people, Oklahoma City is the largest city in the state. Name one of the other three cities in Oklahoma that have populations greater than 100,000.
3. How many of the six states that border Oklahoma can you name?
4. This mountain range, the largest range between the Appalachians and the Rockies, runs through eastern Oklahoma. In popular culture, these mountains were also the home of the Clampett family of *The Beverly Hillbillies* and the Yokum family of *Li'l Abner* fame.
5. During the 19th century, thousands of Native Americans were expelled from their ancestral homelands and relocated to Oklahoma. The name given to that act of forced relocation, in which some 15,000 people died of exposure and malnutrition, is "The Trail of ... " What?
6. In 1889, settlers were allowed to race into parts of Oklahoma's Indian territory and claim land for themselves. Inevitably, some managed to get to these spots before the territory was officially open to them. By what word were they known, which eventually became the state's nickname, and later, the name of the University of Oklahoma's athletic teams.
7. In the middle of the Great Depression, Oklahoma was the center of the Dust Bowl, a long period of drought followed by severe dust storms that damaged millions of acres of farmland. What iconic book written by John Steinbeck depicted the plight of "Okies" moving west to California during the Dust Bowl?
8. Starting in 1923, Tulsa, Oklahoma was considered the center of the production of this crucial commodity ... until Houston, Texas surpassed it in the 1960s.
9. *Oklahoma!*, the musical that celebrates the founding of the state and includes songs such as "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'" and "The Surrey with the Fringe on Top," was the first collaboration of this musical pair.
10. The 1983 film *Silkwood* was inspired by the true-life story of Karen Silkwood, who died in a suspicious car accident while investigating alleged health violations at the Oklahoma plutonium plant where she worked. Who played Karen Silkwood?

Name these famous Oklahomans:

11. This martial artist and star of *Walker, Texas Ranger* was born in Ryan, OK in 1940.
12. This child actor was born in Duncan, OK in 1954 ... not in Mayberry, North Carolina.
13. He left Oklahoma in 1948 to start his professional baseball career and ended up as center fielder and one of the best sluggers ever to play for the New York Yankees. In 1961 he chased, but ultimately did not capture, Babe Ruth's home run record.
14. Although he was born in Tulsa, OK in 1927, this erudite politician is best remembered as the US senator from New York who served from 1977 to 2001.
15. Born in Shawnee, OK in 1963 (although raised in Missouri), this actor and heartthrob got his breakthrough role playing a small-time criminal who befriends Geena Davis in *Thelma & Louise*.
16. Born in Tulsa in 1920, he's probably best remembered for playing Felix Unger on TV's *The Odd Couple*.
17. This legendary folk musician, writer of hundreds of iconic songs, including "This Land is Your Land," was born in Okemah, OK in 1912.
18. Her blog and TV show on the Food Network are both called *The Pioneer Woman*. She presents homestyle dishes cooked on her husband's family cattle ranch near Pawhuska, OK.

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ANSWERS

1. Oklahoma City
2. Tulsa (400,000); Norman (120,000); Broken Arrow (105,000)
3. Texas; New Mexico; Colorado; Kansas; Missouri; Arkansas
4. The Ozark Mountains
5. The Trail of Tears
6. Sooners
7. *The Grapes of Wrath*, which won the National Book Award, the Pulitzer Prize, and was prominently cited when Steinbeck was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1962.
8. Oil
9. Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein (1943)
10. Meryl Streep

Famous Oklahomans:

11. Chuck Norris
12. Ron Howard
13. Mickey Mantle. It was Roger Maris who beat out Mickey Mantle and held the single-season home run record from 1961 to 1998.
14. Daniel Patrick Moynihan
15. Brad Pitt
16. Tony Randall
17. Woody Guthrie
18. Ree Drummond