

8/17/25

Last Week's News

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

Overview:

This quiz explores some of the news and current events that occurred last week.

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. Last week, President Trump invoked the Home Rule Act of 1973, taking control of the Washington DC police and deploying 800 National Guard members to crack down on crime in Washington, DC. Whom did he put in charge of the DC police?
2. A hastily arranged meeting with Russian president Vladimir Putin to discuss the war between Russia and Ukraine took place last week in this location.
3. Israel has been roundly criticized for targeting and killing five journalists who worked for this news organization.
4. Last week, Jen Pawol became the first woman in Major League Baseball history to hold this job.
5. President Trump personally selected this year's Kennedy Center honorees. Can you name two of his picks? And for extra credit, can you identify who will be hosting the award ceremony?
6. What did Democrats in Texas' House of Representatives do to block a vote on a Republican redistricting plan?
7. A zoo in Demark made a public request for what kind of food to feed to its predator inhabitantss?
8. Last week marked the peak of the Perseids (PURR•see•ids). What are the Perseids?
9. This Atlanta-based federal agency, which has been the target of much misinformation and misguided conspiracy theories, was the site of a violent attack last week in which 180 shots were fired, killing a police officer and terrifying hundreds of employees.
10. On whose podcast did Taylor Swift announce the debut of her new studio album? (Hint: he's her current boyfriend.)
11. Jim Lovell, who was commander of the ill-fated Apollo 13 mission in 1970, died last week at the age of 97. Who portrayed Lovell in the 1995 blockbuster film, *Apollo 13*?

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ANSWERS

1. Attorney General Pam Bondi. (Bondi has, in turn, named the head of the DEA, Terry Cole, as “emergency” DC police chief.)
2. A US military base in Anchorage, Alaska
3. Al Jazeera. Israel claims that one of the journalists, Anas al-Sharif, was a Hamas operative.
4. Pawol became the first female umpire to work a regular season game. The NBA had its first female referee 28 years ago. The NHL has still never had one.
5. The five honorees selected by Trump are Michael Crawford (famous for playing the title role in *Phantom of the Opera*); Gloria Gaynor (a disco-era singer best known for the songs “I Will Survive” and “Never Can Say Goodbye”); KISS (the glam rock group known for their heavy make-up and shock-rock style live performances); Sylvester Stallone (actor and creator of the *Rocky* movie franchise); and country singer George Strait. In a break from tradition, Trump will be hosting the ceremonies himself.
6. They fled the state to deny the Republicans a quorum and therefore the right to call a vote on the redistricting plan.
7. Unwanted pets. Apparently, the zoo has been accepting unwanted animals as feed for years – chickens, rabbits, guinea pigs, and horses – but not dogs and cats. The request, which was posted on Facebook, has since gone viral!
8. They are a prolific annual meteor shower featuring bright meteors and fireballs zooming across the night sky. (They can also be correctly described as debris from an orbiting comet.)
9. The Centers for Disease Control
10. Travis Kelce, who is also tight end for the Kansas City Chiefs
11. Tom Hanks