

11/16/25

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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QUESTIONS

1. What happened for the last time at the US Mint in Philadelphia last week?
2. The US government finally reopened last week. How many days did the shutdown last?
3. Can you name the Arizona Representative who was finally sworn in last week after waiting seven weeks plus one day?
4. Speaking of Representative Grijalva: her signature was the final one needed to release what controversial documents?
5. A wild solar storm (geomagnetic storm) triggered this natural phenomenon in skies around the world.
6. Last week, the US State Department issued an unusual "Wildlife Alert" for Americans in Japan. What dangerous animal should people watch out for in northern Japan?
7. What member of the Kennedy family announced last week that he is running for what office?
8. Last week, a financial report indicated that younger people are not purchasing the first homes until they are in their forties, given the price of housing and mortgage rates. What was President Trump's solution to this problem?
9. What US Senator was hospitalized last week after a fall near his Pennsylvania home?
10. Speaking of John Fetterman: he was one of seven Democrats and one Independent in the Senate who voted to pass the budget bill and reopen the government. Can you name two (or more) of the other senators who voted "aye"?
11. Last week, the US celebrated Veteran's Day, which, until 2054, was known by this name.
12. President Trump pardoned nearly 80 allies who backed his effort to do what in 2020?
13. Three paintings by this high-profile TV artist were sold at auction last week, raising more than \$600,000 for public television stations hurt by the cuts in federal funding.

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ANSWERS

1. After 232 years (or 238 years, depending on what you consider "official") the United States minted its last official one-penny coin. Canada did the same thing ... thirteen years ago.
2. 43 days, the longest government shutdown in US history
3. Democrat Adelita Grijalva
4. The Jeffrey Epstein files
5. The Northern Lights
6. Bears. Bear sightings and bear attacks have been steadily increasing in parts of northern Japan.
7. Jack Schlossberg (John Kennedy Bouvier Schlossberg), the son of Caroline Kennedy and grandson of the late president John F. Kennedy, is running to be a US Representative from New York. He is hoping to win the seat held by the retiring Jerry Nadler, which encompasses midtown and parts of the Upper East Side and Upper West Side of Manhattan.
8. Trump recommended that banks offer 50-year loans, which would keep Gen Z homebuyers in debt well into their 80s.
9. Senator John Fetterman. Fetterman sustained minor injuries but will remain in the hospital for a short stay so that doctors can "fine-tune" his cardiac medications, which may have contributed to the fall.
10. The other Democrats who voted "yes" were Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (NV), Dick Durbin (IL), Tim Kaine (VA), Maggie Hassan (NH), Jackie Rosen (NV), and Jeanne Shaheen (NH). The Independent senator was Angus King (ME).
11. Armistice Day
12. The allies, who include Rudy Giuliani, Sidney Powell, and Kenneth Chesebro, all helped Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election.
13. Bob Ross