

12/18/22

Country Quiz

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Suitable for visually impaired players.

Overview:

In this series of quizzes, posted every so often, we test your knowledge of world countries. This week, it's ENGLAND.

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.

12/18/22

Country Quiz

Instructions: This week we test your knowledge of ENGLAND.

QUESTIONS

1. England shares land borders with which two United Kingdom countries?
2. What is the name of the waterway that separates England from continental Europe?
3. The Channel Tunnel, informally known as The Chunnel, provides a high-speed rail connection between England and this European country.
4. What is the capital and largest city in England?
5. Six cities in England have populations over 500,000. How many of them can you name? (Note: This question refers to England only, not the larger United Kingdom.)
6. The melody of this British national anthem was borrowed by the United States for its de facto national anthem, "My Country 'Tis of Thee," until the adoption in 1931 of "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the official anthem of the US.
7. Who is the current prime minister of the United Kingdom?
8. Currently, there are seven living former British Prime Ministers. How many of them can you name?
9. There is evidence of human presence (homo antecessor) in England dating back nearly 800,000 years ago. One of the oldest human constructions can be found on the plains of Salisbury, England: a circular setting of large standing stones built somewhere between 4,000 to 5,000 years ago. What is the name of this prehistoric monument?
10. King Henry VIII (1491-1547) will be forever remembered for his role in the separation of the Church of England (or the Anglican Church) from the Roman Catholic church; and for having had six wives in fairly quick succession. How many of those wives can you name?
11. Most historians believe that the legend of the early sixth-century King Arthur and his round table of knights is just that – a legend. Nonetheless, it's an inspiring story that has been told many times, in many ways, in books, on the stage, and in the movies. What was the name of the Broadway musical that debuted in 1960, starring Richard Burton as King Arthur and Julie Andrews as Queen Guinevere? (It was later made into a movie musical starring Richard Harris as Arthur and Vanessa Redgrave as Guinevere.)?
12. In the year 1215, this legal charter was issued that, for the first time, limited the powers of the monarchy and provided for the rights of free men. It was the first step on the route to a democratic England.

13. In 1585, the explorer Sir Walter Raleigh founded the first English colony in the Americas. Can you name this settlement that would become known as "The Lost Colony" because the colonists who settled there had all disappeared when English boats returned about three years later?
14. Although all the famous English brands of cars are now foreign owned, how many of the six best known sports and luxury cars that originated in England can you name?
15. Born in Lincolnshire, England in 1642, he is considered by most historians as the most influential scientist that ever lived. And there is direct evidence that he did formulate his theory of gravity by observing the fall of an apple from a tree.
16. Another influential Englishman was Edward Jenner. He not only publicized the idea of vaccination, but in 1796 he developed a vaccine against this disease, which over the next two centuries saved hundreds of millions of lives.
17. What is the name of the largest airport in England?
18. What is the nickname of the British flag?
19. The language called Old English is perhaps best represented by the epic poem *Beowulf*, believed to have been composed in the 8th century. Middle English emerged with *The Canterbury Tales*, a collection of stories written in the late 14th century by this author, who is considered to be "The Father of English Literature."
20. Of course, it is William Shakespeare who has no equal in literature. Can you name the town in central England where Shakespeare was born and died?
21. Some of the best loved authors of the Victorian era were Charles Dickens, Charlotte Bronte, George Eliot ... and this novelist and poet, whose most notable works include *Far from the Madding Crowd*, *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, and *The Mayor of Casterbridge*.
22. This "British Invasion" band had hits with these songs in the 1960s: "Nowhere Man," "We Can Work It Out," and "Eleanor Rigby."
23. What was the maiden name of Diana, Princess of Wales, the first wife of Prince Charles?
24. What breed of dog was Queen Elizabeth's favorite?
25. Who – or what – is "The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street?"
26. What is English writer J. K. Rowling's claim to fame?

12/18/22

Country Quiz

ANSWERS

1. Scotland to the north and Wales to the west
2. The English Channel
3. France. The Chunnel, which opened in 1994, connects Folkstone, Kent, England with Calais in northern France. At 23.5 miles, it is the longest undersea tunnel in the world.
4. London is the capital, and with over 7 million people, it is by far the largest city in England.
5. London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, and Sheffield
6. "God Save the King" (as of September, 2022)
7. Rishi Sunak
8. Boris Johnson, Liz Truss, David Cameron, Theresa May, John Major, Tony Blair, Gordon Brown
9. Stonehenge
10. Katherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, and Catherine Parr
11. *Camelot*
12. The Magna Carta
13. Roanoke (in Virginia)
14. Aston Martin, Bentley, Jaguar, Lotus, MG, and Rolls-Royce
15. Sir Isaac Newton
16. Smallpox
17. Heathrow
18. The Union Jack
19. Geoffrey Chaucer
20. Stratford-upon-Avon
21. Thomas Hardy
22. The Beatles
23. Spencer
24. The Welsh Corgi
25. The Bank of England
26. Rowling authored the Harry Potter series of children's books.