

2/5/23

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 has the Pentagon been tracking in the skies over the northwest United States ever since it entered US airspace last week?
2. Because of the appearance of the surveillance balloon, this US Secretary of State postponed his planned meeting with President Xi of China, which had been scheduled for this weekend.
3. Can you name the US Representative from Minnesota who was ousted from her long-held seat on the Foreign Affairs Committee? The final vote of 218 to 211 was entirely along party lines.
4. Last week, who announced his second retirement from the NFL in two years, saying this time "it's for good"?
5. And speaking of football: which NFL teams are headed to the Super Bowl on February 12?
6. Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow last week. What does that mean?
7. Actress Cindy Williams died last week at age 75. What was her best known television role?
8. The last of this model commercial airplane, the world's first Jumbo Jet that was once known as "The Queen of the Skies," left the factory last week.
9. What Advanced Placement elective high school course was banned in his state by Governor Ron DeSantis of Florida last week?
10. Former British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said that he partially blames this American news commentator for infecting the thinking around the world about what Putin really stands for. "[Putin] stands for war, aggression, systematic murder, rape, and destruction," said Johnson. "That's what he stands for."
11. What was the name of the Memphis police specialized team that was disbanded after five members were charged in the killing of Tyre Nichols?
12. A zoo in what city recently experienced the death of a vulture, the escape of a clouded leopard, and the disappearance of two emperor tamarins?

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ANSWERS

1. A large spy balloon (the size of two buses) from China. At this writing, China claims that it's a weather balloon gone astray. And the balloon has traveled to North Carolina on its movement eastward. The US military and the Biden administration are deciding what to do about the balloon once it is over the Atlantic Ocean.
2. Tony Blinken
3. Representative Ilhan Omar
4. Tom Brady
5. The Philadelphia Eagles and the Kansas City Chiefs
6. It means it was Groundhog Day (Feb 2nd): and since Phil (the official groundhog from Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania) did see his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter.
7. Williams played Shirley Feeney, along with Penny Marshall playing Laverne DeFazio, in the hit sitcom *Laverne and Shirley* from the mid-'70s to the early '80s.
8. The Boeing 747
9. African American studies
10. Tucker Carlson, who supports President Putin and has stated that he doesn't "really care one way or the other" what Putin does to Ukraine.
11. The Scorpion Unit
12. Dallas. The tamarins, which are small, mustachioed monkeys, were found in a closet in an abandoned house. Police have arrested a suspect in the case.