



Sample round: ten questions

Ten free questions in the style of the full kit: a little science, places, history, culture and one picture question. Not part of the 60-question event.

This page has the answers. Keep it away from the teams.

How to run it

Print one sample answer sheet per team. Open couchclub.idistic.com/quiz-host/sample/ for the presenter screen and host view, or simply read the questions from this guide. Read each question twice; after question 10, teams swap sheets and mark them while you read the answers.

Good evening, and welcome to quiz night! Tonight there is one sample round of ten questions. You will need one pen per team and one answer sheet. Please put a team name on every sheet.

1 EASY

qh1-s-01

Which planet is known as the Red Planet?

ANSWER Mars

Don't accept: Jupiter or Venus (Other planets.)

Iron minerals in the dust on Mars have rusted, which makes the planet look red from Earth.

2 EASY

qh1-s-02

Which metal is a liquid at room temperature?

ANSWER Mercury

Also accept: Hg · Quicksilver

Don't accept: Gallium (Melts at just above room temperature, so it is solid in a normal room.)

Mercury is the only metallic element that is liquid at room temperature. Gallium, cesium and rubidium melt just above it.

3 EASY

qh1-s-03

What is the smallest country in the world by area?

ANSWER Vatican City

Also accept: Vatican · Holy See

Don't accept: Monaco (Small, but larger than Vatican City.)

Vatican City covers about 44 hectares (109 acres), inside the city of Rome.

4

MEDIUM

qh1-s-04

What is the largest hot desert in the world?

ANSWER The Sahara

Also accept: Sahara · Sahara Desert

Don't accept: Antarctica (Counted as a desert because it is so dry, but it is a cold one.); Gobi or Arabian Desert (Smaller deserts.)

The Sahara covers about 8.6 million square kilometers (3.3 million square miles) of northern Africa.

5

MEDIUM

qh1-s-05

The Rosetta Stone carries the same decree written in Greek and in two Egyptian scripts. Which ancient Egyptian writing system did it help scholars learn to read?

ANSWER Hieroglyphs

Also accept: Egyptian hieroglyphs · Hieroglyphics · Hieroglyphic writing

Don't accept: Greek (Already readable: it was the key to the others.)

Scholars used the Greek text as a key. Thomas Young and then Jean-François Champollion worked out how the hieroglyphs on the stone recorded the Egyptian language.

Say it: HY-roh-glifs; shahm-pol-YON.

6

MEDIUM

qh1-s-06

What name is given to the network of ancient trade routes that linked China with the Mediterranean world?

ANSWER The Silk Road

Also accept: Silk Road · Silk Roads · Silk Route

Don't accept: Spice Route (Mostly sea routes for the spice trade; the overland network is the Silk Road.)

It was not one road but many overland routes, named after the Chinese silk carried west. Ideas and inventions traveled along them too.

7

MEDIUM

qh1-s-07

In which Shakespeare play do the characters Rosencrantz and Guildenstern appear?

ANSWER Hamlet

Also accept: The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark

Don't accept: Macbeth or King Lear (Other Shakespeare tragedies.)

They are old friends of Prince Hamlet, and the play puts their loyalty to him to the test.

Say it: ROH-zen-krants and GIL-den-stern.

8

EASY

qh1-s-08

Which artist painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome between 1508 and 1512?

ANSWER Michelangelo

Also accept: Michelangelo Buonarroti

Don't accept: Raphael or Leonardo da Vinci (Other Renaissance artists.)

Pope Julius II commissioned the frescoes in 1508, and Michelangelo finished the whole ceiling in 1512.

Say it: my-kul-AN-juh-loh.

9

MEDIUM

qh1-s-09

Sample picture: which musical symbol is drawn at the start of this staff?

ANSWER Treble clef

Also accept: G clef · G-clef

Don't accept: Bass clef or F clef (A different symbol, shaped like a backward C with two dots.)

The treble clef, or G clef, curls around the second line of the staff to mark the G above middle C. It is the clef most music students learn first.

Say it: TREB-ul.



10

MEDIUM

qh1-s-10

What word describes a word or phrase that reads the same backward as forward, such as "level" or "racecar"?

ANSWER Palindrome

Don't accept: Anagram (A word made by rearranging the letters of another.)

Palindromes can be words, numbers or whole phrases; spaces and punctuation are usually ignored, as in "A man, a plan, a canal: Panama".

Say it: PAL-in-drome.

The full kit

Sixty more questions in six rounds (none of them repeated from this sample), a Connections bonus, three tiebreakers, the full host script, team sheets in US Letter and A4 with large print, a picture handout, score and recovery sheets, and the presenter. Free while we test it with hosts: write to support@twindle.nl.

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