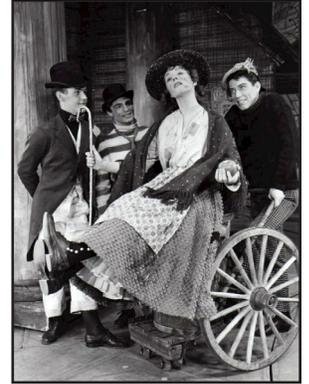


### *My Fair Lady* Trivia

This activity includes 30 questions on *My Fair Lady*. The questions are accompanied by the answers and additional information for discussion.

#### There are several activity possibilities:

- For a group activity, read and discuss the trivia questions and answers. Also print the [picture pages](#) to pass around during the activity.
- For independent activities, print and distribute fill-in-the-blank copies of the [questions without the answers](#). Also available are the [questions with the answers](#).
- Post one or more of the trivia questions on your bulletin board every day or so throughout the month using this [special sign](#).



---

### Trivia Questions and Answers

1. Who originally portrayed Eliza Doolittle in the Broadway show, from 1956 to 1958?

**Answer:** Julie Andrews. She was succeeded by Sally Ann Howes in February 1958.

2. On what earlier play is *My Fair Lady* based?

**Answer:** *Pygmalion*. Broadway playbills and posters traditionally credit the earlier work by name.

3. Who wrote *Pygmalion*?

**Answer:** George Bernard Shaw. Other works by the famed Irish playwright include *Saint Joan* and *Caesar and Cleopatra*.

4. True or false? The 1956 Broadway production was Julie Andrews' Broadway debut.

**Answer:** False. Although she was only 21 at the time, she had already appeared in *The Boy Friend* on Broadway in 1954.

5. In the 1956 Broadway run of the show, which character did Rex Harrison portray?

**Answer:** Professor Henry Higgins. Harrison reprised the role in the 1964 film version.

6. What transformation does Eliza Doolittle undertake in the film?

**Answer:** Becoming a "proper lady." Her work to unlearn a Cockney accent and blend into high society is the film's comedic center.



7. During a memorable musical number, Eliza and Professor Higgins sing about what weather phenomenon?

**Answer:** Rain. “The Rain in Spain” remains one of the work’s most popular tunes with its catchy lyrics.

8. Was Audrey Hepburn’s singing included in the 1964 film?

**Answer:** No. Her songs were dubbed by Marni Nixon, a successful film “ghost singer” at the time.

9. What award did Rex Harrison receive for his role in the 1964 film?

**Answer:** The Academy Award for Best Actor. The film won eight Academy Awards total.

10. Designer Cecil Beaton created 1,500 of what type of item for the film?

**Answer:** Costumes. The costume he did not create for the film was Eliza Doolittle’s Embassy Ball gown, which he found in an antique shop.

11. True or false? The original Broadway cast’s album was the best-selling LP for two years running.

**Answer:** True. Released by Columbia at a cost of \$5, it outsold the likes of Frank Sinatra and Patti Page in 1957 and 1958.

12. For what prominent role in the film was Cary Grant considered?

**Answer:** Professor Higgins. He turned down the role, commenting that the role was rightfully Harrison’s. Grant also noted that his own accent was closer to Eliza Doolittle’s Cockney accent.

13. In 1965, Audrey Hepburn was not nominated for Best Actress for her role as Eliza Doolittle; for what role did Julie Andrews win the award instead?

**Answer:** *Mary Poppins*. Ironically, Andrews was replaced for the film by Hepburn, due to Hepburn’s star power at the time.

14. What is the full title of Eliza Doolittle’s tune “Wouldn’t It be \_\_\_”?

**Answer:** “Wouldn’t It Be Lovely.” The song was sung by Julie Andrews in the stage version.

15. How much money did the movie cost to produce: \$10 million, \$17 million, or \$5 million?

**Answer:** \$17 million. It was Warner Bros.’ most expensive movie to date, but it was also one of the most profitable films of the year.

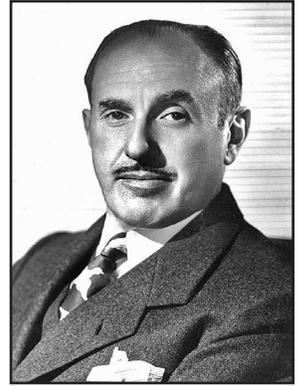
16. From what traditional nursery rhyme did the play take its title?

**Answer:** “London Bridge Is Falling Down.” The rhyme goes, “London Bridge is falling down, my fair lady.”



17. When the film won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1965, who accepted the award?

**Answer:** Jack Warner. The Oscar for Best Picture goes to the film's production company—in this case, Warner Bros. The film also won a BAFTA in 1966 for Best Film.



18. Which of these decades did *not* see a Broadway revival of the show: 1970s, '80s, '90s, 2000s, or 2010s?

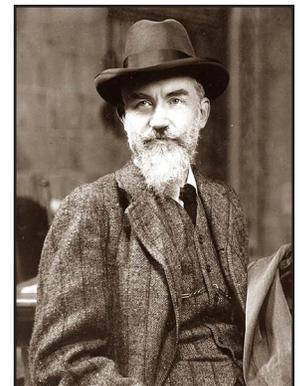
**Answer:** 2000s. However, a touring production did begin in September 2007 and run through June 2008.

19. Which famous musical theater duo first attempted to adapt *Pygmalion* as a musical?

**Answer:** Rodgers and Hammerstein. They felt the play was unadaptable, but duo Lerner and Loewe found their own style to transform the work.

20. True or false? *Pygmalion* writer George Bernard Shaw was so upset about his work becoming a musical that he refused to attend the opening night production.

**Answer:** False. Shaw died in 1950, years before *My Fair Lady* was written. During his lifetime, however, he had opposed musical versions of *Pygmalion*.



21. What makes Rex Harrison's singing unique in terms of his style?

**Answer:** He speaks many lines. In spite of extensive vocal training, Harrison struggled with many notes, developing his "speak-singing" technique instead.

22. One of Eliza's first forays into high society is a scene at the Ascot, which is what type of venue?

**Answer:** A racecourse. While at the Ascot, Eliza charms the crowd but slips back into her Cockney accent in the excitement.

23. Among the film's accolades was a Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture in what genre?

**Answer:** Comedy or musical. The film won three Golden Globes and was nominated for an additional two categories.

24. What type of event is the "final test" for Eliza's transformation?

**Answer:** A ball. At the Embassy Ball, the character meets with great success in her new mannerisms and speech.

25. Where does the film's final scene occur, between Professor Higgins and Eliza Doolittle?

**Answer:** Professor Higgins' study. After an argument, the pair reunite in the study, where Professor Higgins is listening to tapes of their speaking lessons.

26. To capture his singing, Rex Harrison wore an early version of what type of microphone?

**Answer:** Wireless. The wireless microphone, perhaps the first used in film, was hidden in his neckwear.

27. Does the Embassy Ball scene feature prominently in *Pygmalion*?

**Answer:** No. In Shaw's play, we see Eliza after her debut event, but we don't see the actual ball.

28. What is Eliza's profession in the play and film?

**Answer:** Flower seller. When Henry Higgins first encounters Eliza, she is selling flowers to passersby.

29. How did Audrey Hepburn feel about her singing being dubbed in most songs?

**Answer:** Negatively. She admitted later that she would not have taken on the role if she had known this would be the case.

30. Which of the film's songs did Rex Harrison say reminded him of wife Kay Kendall, as he would sing it to her during the original Broadway run?

**Answer:** "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face." He said that when he revisited the tune during filming, he thought of nothing but his late wife.





Julie Andrews



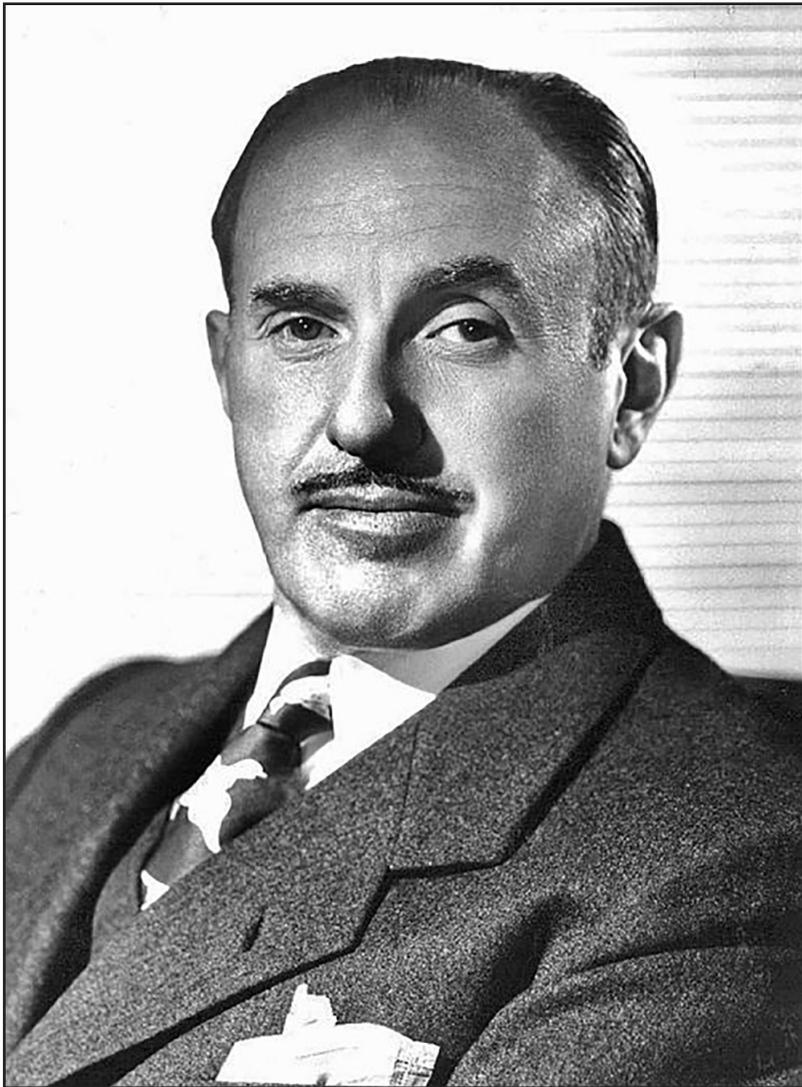
Eliza Doolittle  
and Professor Henry Higgins



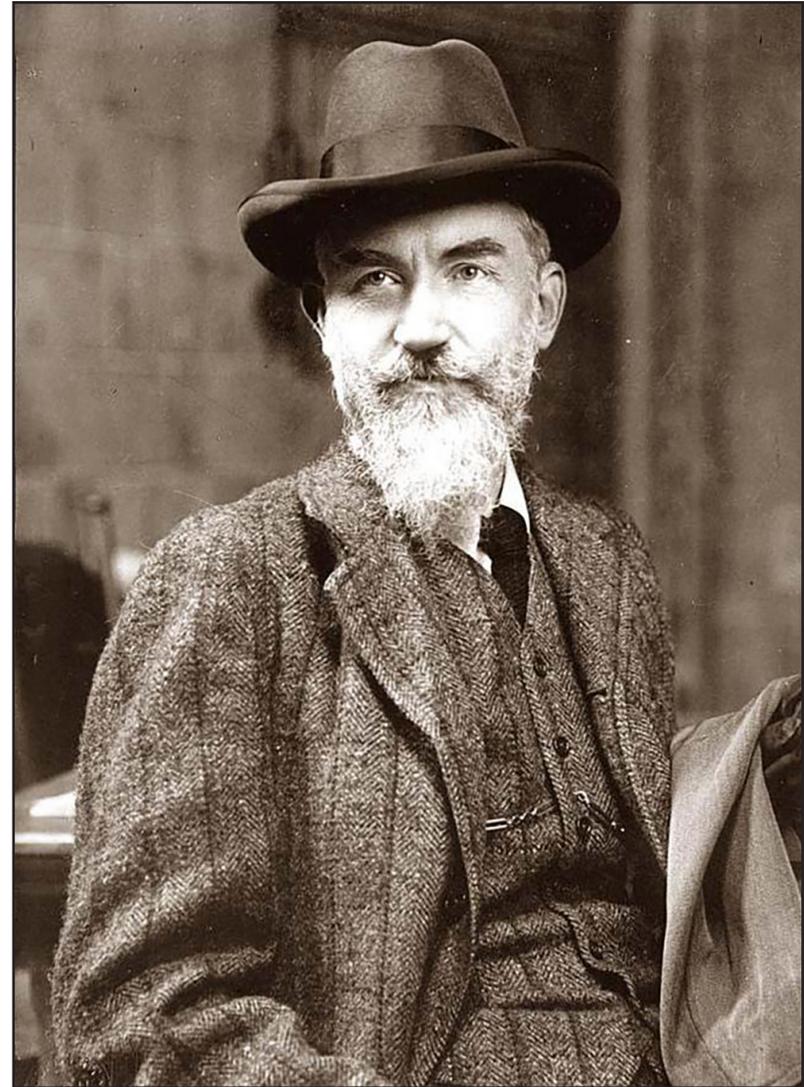
Marni Nixon



*Mary Poppins*



Jack Warner



George Bernard Shaw



The Embassy Ball



Kay Kendall

## ***My Fair Lady* Trivia**

(Questions Only)

1. Who originally portrayed Eliza Doolittle in the Broadway show, from 1956 to 1958?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. On what earlier play is *My Fair Lady* based?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Who wrote *Pygmalion*?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. True or false? The 1956 Broadway production was Julie Andrews' Broadway debut.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. In the 1956 Broadway run of the show, which character did Rex Harrison portray?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. What transformation does Eliza Doolittle undertake in the film?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

7. During a memorable musical number, Eliza and Professor Higgins sing about what weather phenomenon?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Was Audrey Hepburn's singing included in the 1964 film?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

9. What award did Rex Harrison receive for his role in the 1964 film?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

10. Designer Cecil Beaton created 1,500 of what type of item for the film?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

11. True or false? The original Broadway cast's album was the best-selling LP for two years running.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

12. For what prominent role in the film was Cary Grant considered?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

13. In 1965, Audrey Hepburn was not nominated for Best Actress for her role as Eliza Doolittle; for what role did Julie Andrews win the award instead?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

14. What is the full title of Eliza Doolittle's tune "Wouldn't It be \_\_\_"?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

15. How much money did the movie cost to produce: \$10 million, \$17 million, or \$5 million?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

16. From what traditional nursery rhyme did the play take its title?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

17. When the film won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1965, who accepted the award?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

18. Which of these decades did *not* see a Broadway revival of the show: 1970s, '80s, '90s, 2000s, or 2010s?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Which famous musical theater duo first attempted to adapt *Pygmalion* as a musical?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

20. True or false? *Pygmalion* writer George Bernard Shaw was so upset about his work becoming a musical that he refused to attend the opening night production.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

21. What makes Rex Harrison's singing unique in terms of his style?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

22. One of Eliza's first forays into high society is a scene at the Ascot, which is what type of venue?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

23. Among the film's accolades was a Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture in what genre?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

24. What type of event is the "final test" for Eliza's transformation?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

25. Where does the film's final scene occur, between Professor Higgins and Eliza Doolittle?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

26. To capture his singing, Rex Harrison wore an early version of what type of microphone?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

27. Does the Embassy Ball scene feature prominently in *Pygmalion*?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

28. What is Eliza's profession in the play and film?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

29. How did Audrey Hepburn feel about her singing being dubbed in most songs?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

30. Which of the film's songs did Rex Harrison say reminded him of wife Kay Kendall, as he would sing it to her during the original Broadway run?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

## ***My Fair Lady* Trivia**

(Questions with Answers)

1. Who originally portrayed Eliza Doolittle in the Broadway show, from 1956 to 1958?

**Answer:** Julie Andrews. She was succeeded by Sally Ann Howes in February 1958.

2. On what earlier play is *My Fair Lady* based?

**Answer:** *Pygmalion*. Broadway playbills and posters traditionally credit the earlier work by name.

3. Who wrote *Pygmalion*?

**Answer:** George Bernard Shaw. Other works by the famed Irish playwright include *Saint Joan* and *Caesar and Cleopatra*.

4. True or false? The 1956 Broadway production was Julie Andrews' Broadway debut.

**Answer:** False. Although she was only 21 at the time, she had already appeared in *The Boy Friend* on Broadway in 1954.

5. In the 1956 Broadway run of the show, which character did Rex Harrison portray?

**Answer:** Professor Henry Higgins. Harrison reprised the role in the 1964 film version.

6. What transformation does Eliza Doolittle undertake in the film?

**Answer:** Becoming a "proper lady." Her work to unlearn a Cockney accent and blend into high society is the film's comedic center.

7. During a memorable musical number, Eliza and Professor Higgins sing about what weather phenomenon?

**Answer:** Rain. "The Rain in Spain" remains one of the work's most popular tunes with its catchy lyrics.

8. Was Audrey Hepburn's singing included in the 1964 film?

**Answer:** No. Her songs were dubbed by Marni Nixon, a successful film "ghost singer" at the time.

9. What award did Rex Harrison receive for his role in the 1964 film?  
**Answer:** The Academy Award for Best Actor. The film won eight Academy Awards total.
10. Designer Cecil Beaton created 1,500 of what type of item for the film?  
**Answer:** Costumes. The costume he did not create for the film was Eliza Doolittle's Embassy Ball gown, which he found in an antique shop.
11. True or false? The original Broadway cast's album was the best-selling LP for two years running.  
**Answer:** True. Released by Columbia at a cost of \$5, it outsold the likes of Frank Sinatra and Patti Page in 1957 and 1958.
12. For what prominent role in the film was Cary Grant considered?  
**Answer:** Professor Higgins. He turned down the role, commenting that the role was rightfully Harrison's. Grant also noted that his own accent was closer to Eliza Doolittle's Cockney accent.
13. In 1965, Audrey Hepburn was not nominated for Best Actress for her role as Eliza Doolittle; for what role did Julie Andrews win the award instead?  
**Answer:** *Mary Poppins*. Ironically, Andrews was replaced for the film by Hepburn, due to Hepburn's star power at the time.
14. What is the full title of Eliza Doolittle's tune "Wouldn't It be \_\_\_"?  
**Answer:** "Wouldn't It Be Lovely." The song was sung by Julie Andrews in the stage version.
15. How much money did the movie cost to produce: \$10 million, \$17 million, or \$5 million?  
**Answer:** \$17 million. It was Warner Bros.' most expensive movie to date, but it was also one of the most profitable films of the year.
16. From what traditional nursery rhyme did the play take its title?  
**Answer:** "London Bridge Is Falling Down." The rhyme goes, "London Bridge is falling down, my fair lady."
17. When the film won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1965, who accepted the award?  
**Answer:** Jack Warner. The Oscar for Best Picture goes to the film's production company—in this case, Warner Bros. The film also won a BAFTA in 1966 for Best Film.

18. Which of these decades did *not* see a Broadway revival of the show: 1970s, '80s, '90s, 2000s, or 2010s?

**Answer:** 2000s. However, a touring production did begin in September 2007 and run through June 2008.

19. Which famous musical theater duo first attempted to adapt *Pygmalion* as a musical?

**Answer:** Rodgers and Hammerstein. They felt the play was unadaptable, but duo Lerner and Loewe found their own style to transform the work.

20. True or false? *Pygmalion* writer George Bernard Shaw was so upset about his work becoming a musical that he refused to attend the opening night production.

**Answer:** False. Shaw died in 1950, years before *My Fair Lady* was written. During his lifetime, however, he had opposed musical versions of *Pygmalion*.

21. What makes Rex Harrison's singing unique in terms of his style?

**Answer:** He speaks many lines. In spite of extensive vocal training, Harrison struggled with many notes, developing his "speak-singing" technique instead.

22. One of Eliza's first forays into high society is a scene at the Ascot, which is what type of venue?

**Answer:** A racecourse. While at the Ascot, Eliza charms the crowd but slips back into her Cockney accent in the excitement.

23. Among the film's accolades was a Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture in what genre?

**Answer:** Comedy or musical. The film won three Golden Globes and was nominated for an additional two categories.

24. What type of event is the "final test" for Eliza's transformation?

**Answer:** A ball. At the Embassy Ball, the character meets with great success in her new mannerisms and speech.

25. Where does the film's final scene occur, between Professor Higgins and Eliza Doolittle?

**Answer:** Professor Higgins' study. After an argument, the pair reunite in the study, where Professor Higgins is listening to tapes of their speaking lessons.

26. To capture his singing, Rex Harrison wore an early version of what type of microphone?

**Answer:** Wireless. The wireless microphone, perhaps the first used in film, was hidden in his neckwear.

27. Does the Embassy Ball scene feature prominently in *Pygmalion*?

**Answer:** No. In Shaw's play, we see Eliza after her debut event, but we don't see the actual ball.

28. What is Eliza's profession in the play and film?

**Answer:** Flower seller. When Henry Higgins first encounters Eliza, she is selling flowers to passersby.

29. How did Audrey Hepburn feel about her singing being dubbed in most songs?

**Answer:** Negatively. She admitted later that she would not have taken on the role if she had known this would be the case.

30. Which of the film's songs did Rex Harrison say reminded him of wife Kay Kendall, as he would sing it to her during the original Broadway run?

**Answer:** "I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face." He said that when he revisited the tune during filming, he thought of nothing but his late wife.

---

