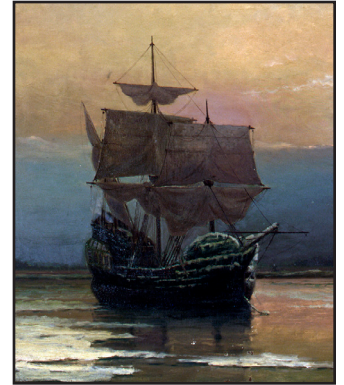


Random Trivia

This activity includes 30 questions on a variety of topics. 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. What was the name of the ship that sailed from England to Cape Cod in 1620?

Answer: The *Mayflower*. The ship brought approximately 150 people (crew and pilgrims) to the New World.

2. What feat did Sir Barton, Secretariat, and War Admiral accomplish?

Answer: All won the Triple Crown. Only 13 horses have won the three races that make up the Triple Crown: Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes, and Belmont Stakes.

3. To what prestigious group of schools do Princeton, Yale, and Brown Universities belong?

Answer: Ivy League. Cornell, Columbia, Dartmouth, Harvard, and the University of Pennsylvania are the other Ivy League schools.

4. What cream-filled cookie is advertised as “America’s favorite cookie”?

Answer: Oreo. The cookie was originally produced in 1912, but with lemon-meringue or cream flavors. The lemon-meringue flavor was discontinued in the 1920s.

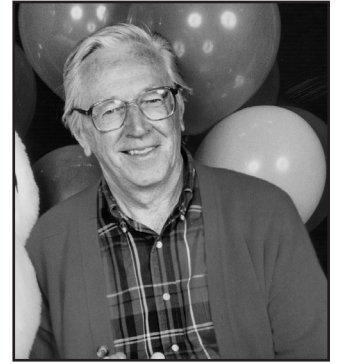
5. What musical instrument did B.B. King and Jimi Hendrix play?

Answer: Guitar (electric). Despite a very short musical career, Hendrix is considered one of the greatest electric guitar players of all time. B.B. King is regarded as one of the greatest blues musicians of all time, hence the nickname “King of Blues.”



6. What cartoonist created the characters Snoopy and Charlie Brown?

Answer: Charles M. Schulz. Snoopy and Charlie Brown are the main characters in the *Peanuts* comic series.



7. What three-letter word is the name of a flightless bird?

Answer: Emu. The emu is native to Australia and is a relative of the ostrich.

8. What sport is associated with the Calgary Stampeders, San Francisco 49ers, and New England Patriots?

Answer: Football. The Stampeders play in the Canadian Football League (CFL). The 49ers and Patriots are members of the National Football League (NFL).

9. What does the abbreviation *COD* stand for?

Answer: Cash on delivery. It is the system of paying for goods when they are delivered.

10. What former British jockey became a best-selling author of horse-racing mysteries?

Answer: Dick Francis. He was a successful royal jockey who won more than 350 races. He was jockey to the Queen Mother at one time.

11. What vegetable is primarily used to make a jack-o'-lantern?

Answer: Pumpkin. Turnips have also been used in some cultures. The use of gourds as lanterns has been around for 700 years because of their carving potential.

12. After how many years would you celebrate your silver wedding anniversary?

Answer: 25. Gold and diamond are 50 and 60 years, respectively.

13. Which country is farthest north: Poland or Sweden?

Answer: Sweden. Both are European countries. Poland's latitude is 52 degrees north. Sweden's is 62 degrees north.

14. Who recorded the songs "What a Wonderful World," "Hello, Dolly!" and "Jeepers Creepers"?

Answer: Louis Armstrong. "What a Wonderful World" is considered his signature song.



15. Which is the world's best-selling musical instrument: guitar or harmonica?

Answer: Harmonica. Many sources say the harmonica originated in Europe in the early 1800s.

16. What zodiac sign does the lion represent?

Answer: Leo. Leo is the zodiac sign for those born between July 23 and August 22.

17. What is the name of Tarzan's female companion?

Answer: Jane. The character of Jane appears in Edgar Rice Burroughs' first Tarzan novel, *Tarzan of the Apes*. The character reappears throughout most of the series.

18. What is the capital of Jamaica?

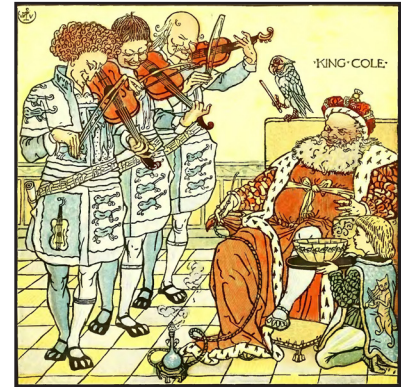
Answer: Kingston. Jamaica is located in the Caribbean.

19. In what sport did American Chris Evert participate?

Answer: Tennis. She won 18 Grand Slam singles championships during her career. She was the No. 1 tennis player in the world in the 1970s.

20. How many fiddlers did “Old King Cole” have in the nursery rhyme of the same name?

Answer: Three. In the nursery rhyme, he “calls for his fiddlers three.” The rhyme first appeared in print around 1708.



21. In what profession did Tom Clancy gain fame?

Answer: Author. Seventeen of Clancy’s novels have been best sellers, including his most famous novel, *The Hunt for Red October*. Clancy died in October 2013.

22. In what decade did the Cuban Missile Crisis take place?

Answer: 1960s. The 13-day confrontation between the Soviet Union, Cuba, and the United States ended when all parties agreed to dismantle their nuclear weapons.

23. Who painted *The Last Supper*?

Answer: Leonardo da Vinci. The mural was painted between 1494 and 1498. It covers a wall in the dining hall of the monastery of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, Italy.



24. How many vowels are in the word *unconstitutional*?

Answer: Seven

25. Whom did Prince William marry in 2011?

Answer: Catherine (Kate) Middleton. The royal couple welcomed an heir to the throne in July 2013.

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Answer: Scrabble. The popular game was created in 1938. The game is played in 120 countries worldwide. It is currently produced in 29 different languages.

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Answer: Madame Curie's discovery of radium. Marie and her husband, Pierre, made the discovery in 1898. The Salk vaccine was developed much later, in 1952.

29. What is the square root of 81?

Answer: Nine. 9 times 9 equals 81.

30. What 1959 Charlton Heston film features a memorable chariot race scene?

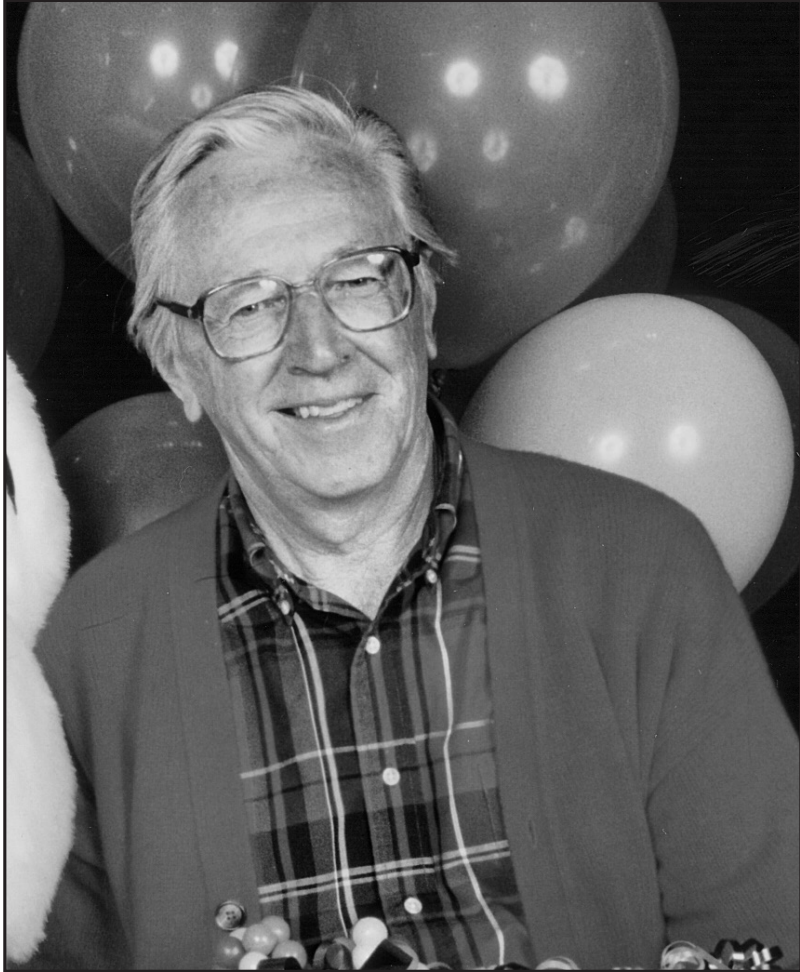
Answer: *Ben Hur*. *Ben Hur* won 11 Academy Awards, including one for cinematography for the famous scene.



The Mayflower



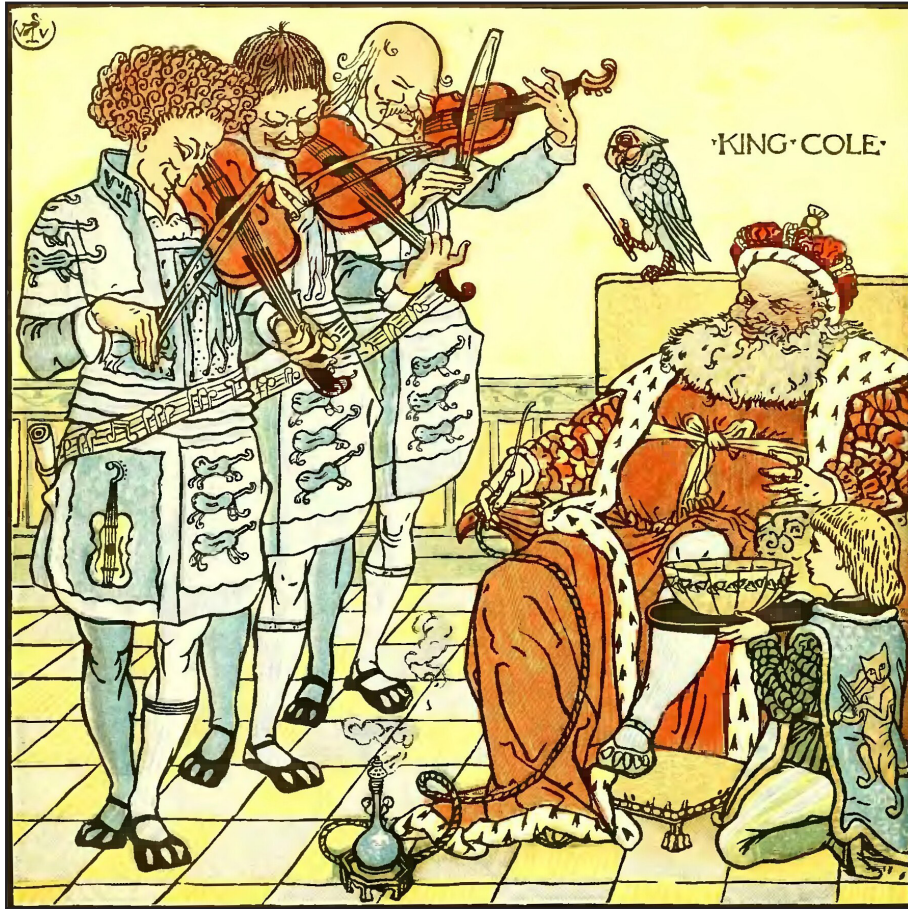
Oreo



Charles M. Schulz



Louis Armstrong



"Old King Cole"



Leonardo da Vinci

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(Questions Only)

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