

## Random Trivia

(Questions Only)

1. What salty body of water is located in the Middle East?

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

2. What U.S. president had a sign on his desk that said, "The buck stops here"?

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

3. What rare swan nests in Alberta, Canada? **Hint:** Its call sounds like a brass instrument, hence the name.

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

4. What cabbage dish is frequently served with hot dogs?

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

5. What type of fruit are morello, Royal Ann, and Bing?

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

6. What is the name of the tube that travels from the nose and mouth to the lungs?

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

7. Who was the ruler of the Greek gods?

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

8. What does the Latin phrase *semper fidelis* mean?

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

9. What Cole Porter musical is based on the Shakespearean play *The Taming of the Shrew*?

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

10. In what Nathaniel Hawthorne novel does Hester Prynne have to wear a red A?

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

11. What instrument did Buddy Rich play?

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

12. There are four awards for the best in entertainment (music, film, television, and Broadway theater). Name two.

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

13. For whom is the Hippocratic oath named?

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

14. In which Canadian province would you find Peggy's Cove?

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

15. Which "colorful" Ivy League school is located in Providence, Rhode Island?

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

16. What French oceanographer invented the Aqua-Lung?

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

17. What Austrian composer is famous for the symphony he didn't finish?

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

18. What is the name of the ancient arena in Rome?

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

19. Who wrote the classic novel *Oliver Twist*?

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

20. What actor starred as Nick Charles in *The Thin Man* series of films?

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

21. What is the largest city in France?

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

22. What is the only planet not named for a mythological figure?

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

## Random Trivia

(Questions and Answers)

1. What salty body of water is located in the Middle East?

**Answer:** The Dead Sea. It is so named because it is so salty that nothing can survive.

2. What U.S. president had a sign on his desk that said, "The buck stops here"?

**Answer:** Harry S. Truman. Fred M. Canfil, U.S. Marshall and friend of Truman, had the sign made for Truman as a gift. "I'm from Missouri" is on the reverse side. It is currently on display at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum.

3. What rare swan nests in Alberta, Canada? **Hint:** Its call sounds like a brass instrument, hence the name.

**Answer:** Trumpeter swan. It is the largest waterfowl in North America.

4. What cabbage dish is frequently served with hot dogs?

**Answer:** Sauerkraut. *Sauerkraut* means "sour cabbage" in German.

5. What type of fruit are morello, Royal Ann, and Bing?

**Answer:** Cherries. Cherries are categorized into two categories: sweet and sour. Sour cherries are mostly used in pies. Morello is a sour cherry. Royal Ann and Bing are sweet cherries.

6. What is the name of the tube that travels from the nose and mouth to the lungs?

**Answer:** The trachea or windpipe. The tube is approximately four inches long. It is made up of 20 rings of tough cartilage.

7. Who was the ruler of the Greek gods?

**Answer:** Zeus. He became the ruler when he overthrew his father, Cronus, and won the draw of lots with his brothers, Poseidon and Hades.

8. What does the Latin phrase *semper fidelis* mean?

**Answer:** "Always faithful." It is the motto of the U.S. Marine Corps.

9. What Cole Porter musical is based on the Shakespearean play *The Taming of the Shrew*?

**Answer:** *Kiss Me Kate*. Cole Porter wrote both the lyrics and music for *Kiss Me Kate*. It was his most popular musical. It won the first Tony Award for a musical in 1949.

10. In what Nathaniel Hawthorne novel does Hester Prynne have to wear a red A?

**Answer:** *The Scarlet Letter*. The scarlet A stands for *adulteress*. Hester becomes pregnant as a result of the dalliance. The baby is named Pearl. The community shuns her also.

11. What instrument did Buddy Rich play?

**Answer:** The drums. Rich first played the drums in vaudeville at the age of 18 months. He is touted as being the greatest drummer of all time.

12. There are four awards for the best in entertainment (music, film, television, and Broadway theater). Name two.

**Answer:** Emmy, Tony, Grammy, and Oscars (Academy Award). Eleven people have won all four awards. Richard Rodgers, Helen Hayes, Rita Moreno, Audrey Hepburn, and Marvin Hamlisch are on the list.

13. For whom is the Hippocratic oath named?

**Answer:** Hippocrates. The oath, believed to be written by Hippocrates (the father of Western medicine), is the American Medical Association's code of medical ethics. It has been updated a few times since it was written in 400 BC. Most medical school graduates take some version of the oath today.

14. In which Canadian province would you find Peggy's Cove?

**Answer:** Nova Scotia. The famous Peggy's Point Lighthouse is located at Peggy's Cove.

15. Which "colorful" Ivy League school is located in Providence, Rhode Island?

**Answer:** Brown. Founded in 1764, it is the seventh-oldest college in the United States.

16. What French oceanographer invented the Aqua-Lung?

**Answer:** Jacques Cousteau. The Aqua-Lung was the first commercialized self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA).

17. What Austrian composer is famous for the symphony he didn't finish?

**Answer:** Franz Schubert. The actual title of it is Symphony No. 8 in B minor, but it is commonly known as the *Unfinished Symphony*. Schubert began it in 1822 but did not complete it despite living for another six years.

18. What is the name of the ancient arena in Rome?

**Answer:** The Colosseum. It was originally known as the Flavian Amphitheatre. It could accommodate 50,000 spectators.

19. Who wrote the classic novel *Oliver Twist*?

**Answer:** Charles Dickens. The book is subtitled *The Parish Boy's Progress*. It was Dickens' second novel; it was published in 1838.

20. What actor starred as Nick Charles in *The Thin Man* series of films?

**Answer:** William Powell. He was paired up with Myrna Loy in seven of the films.

21. What is the largest city in France?

**Answer:** Paris. Marseille is the second largest. Lyon is the third.

22. What is the only planet not named for a mythological figure?

**Answer:** Earth. The other planets are named for Greek and Roman gods and goddesses. The word *earth* means "the ground."

