



Random Trivia

May 2021

1.
**What is Rolex known
for selling?**

Watches

Hans Wilsdorf founded Rolex in 1905 at the age of 24. He claims a genie whispered “Rolex” in his ear when he was trying to come up with a company name.



2.

Don't count your chickens
before they what?

Hatch

Healthy hens can lay eggs whether a rooster is present or not. Therefore, not all eggs can develop into chickens.

3.

Who directed
The Godfather?

Francis Ford Coppola.

Coppola was nominated for Best Director but lost to Bob Fosse for his work on *Cabaret*. However, two years later, Coppola won the award for *The Godfather: Part II*.

4.

What is the name of a famous Irish beer and a world record-keeping organization?

Guinness

The managing director of Guinness Brewery, Sir Hugh Beaver, came up with the idea to create the *Guinness Book of Records* at a party in the 1950s. During the event, an argument over what was the fastest bird in Europe ensued, and no one could find an answer in any existing reference book.

5.

**Moscow and
Saint Petersburg are major
cities in what country?**

Russia

There is a Russian saying: “Moscow is the heart, and Saint Petersburg is the head.” The reference infers that Moscow upholds Russian traditions, while Saint Petersburg has its eye on the future with social and scientific developments.



6.

What famous female ice skater won the 1996 world figure skating championship when she was only 15 years old?

Michelle Kwan

She held the title four more times, in 1998, 2000, 2001, and 2003. She is also a two-time Olympic medalist.

7.
Carpal tunnel
syndrome affects what
part of the body?

The hands and wrists

The compression of the median nerve located in the wrist causes carpal tunnel symptoms.



8.

**The pentatonic scale
contains how many notes
in an octave?**

Five notes

The root of this word is *penta*, meaning “five.” This scale can be written with five notes from either the major or minor music scales.

9.

“Circus of the sun”
is the translation of
what Canadian-based
performing arts group?

Cirque du Soleil

Cirque du Soleil was founded in Montreal in 1984 and was initially composed of 20 street performers. It has since expanded to include 4,000 employees working across 450 cities in 60 countries.

10.

What famous painting
by Leonardo da Vinci
features a woman with a
mysterious smile?

Mona Lisa

The portrait is believed to be of Lisa del Giocondo, the wife of a Florentine cloth merchant.

11.

Generally speaking, how many strikes is a player allowed at bat before they are out in a game of baseball?

Three

However, if the catcher fails to catch the ball on a third strike and first base is open, the batter could choose to make a run for first base.

12.

What famous “periodic” comet returns to Earth’s vicinity about every 75 years? Hint: The last sighting was in 1986.

Halley's comet

The comet is named after the English astronomer Edmond Halley and is projected to return in 2061.

13.

**In a basic table setting,
what two items are placed
to the left of the
dinner plate?**

The fork and napkin

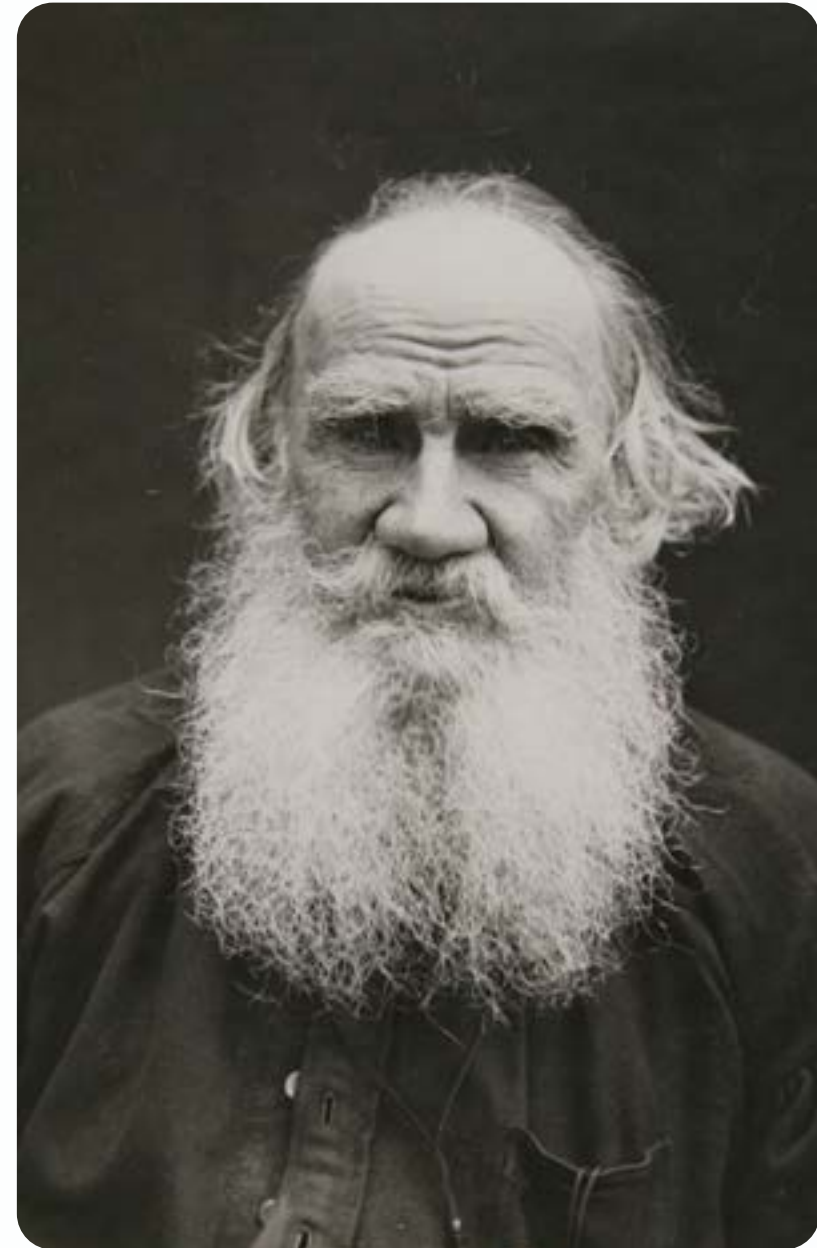
The napkin is typically folded beneath the fork. The knife and spoon are to the right of the plate, with the spoon on the outside.

14.

Who wrote *The Death of Ivan Ilyich* and *Anna Karenina*?

Leo Tolstoy

Tolstoy received four nominations for the Nobel Prize in Literature and three for the Nobel Peace Prize. The fact that he was never honored with the award is a point of controversy.



15.

The eastern brown,
mainland tiger, inland
taipan, and mulga are
all types of what
Australian reptile?

Snakes, specifically poisonous ones

The continent is home to about 170 species of land snakes, but bites and fatalities are rare.

16.

**What is the world's largest
and deepest ocean?**

The Pacific Ocean

It covers approximately 63 million square miles and contains more than half of the planet's water.



17.

What color are the two overlapping circles of the Mastercard logo?

Red and yellow

The two interlocking spheres have represented Mastercard since 1977. In recent years, the company dropped the word *Mastercard* that had been below the circles as recognition that the future of payment is digital.

18.

What does the Yiddish
phrase *mazel tov* mean?

“Congratulations” or “good luck”

People often shout *mazel tov* at Jewish weddings just after the groom breaks the glass and also at bar mitzvah and bat mitzvah celebrations.

19.
**Who was
Elvis Presley's wife?**

Priscilla Presley

Despite their divorce in 1973, Elvis and Priscilla remained close until his death in 1977. As chairwoman and president of Elvis Presley Enterprises, she has helped make Graceland a multimillion-dollar tourist attraction.

20.

**Which of the following
is not an integer:
100, -5 , 0 , or $1/8$?**

$1/8$

Integers are whole numbers,
including negative whole numbers.
A fraction like $1/8$ is not a whole
number, thus not an integer.

21.

**What is Canada's largest
French-speaking city?**

Montreal

French-speaking Canadians are the majority population in Montreal.



22.

**Drinks never taste thin
with what brand of gin?**

Gordon's gin

The tagline “drinks never taste thin with Gordon's Gin” was often seen on Gordon's gin advertisements of the 1930s and '40s. “There's no gin like Gordon's” was also used.

23.

In *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, what were the scarecrow, tin man, and lion hoping to get from the wizard?

A brain, a heart, and courage, respectively

The children's novel was written by L. Frank Baum and published on May 17, 1900. He went on to write a total of 14 books in the Oz series.

24.

The slogan “Make Love
Not War” was embraced by
protesters of which war?

The Vietnam War

Several people have claimed to be the author of the 1960s protest movement's signature phrase.

25.

**In what city does the
running of the bulls
take place?**

Pamplona, Spain

Pamplona is located in Spain's northern region of Navarre. Each year, six bulls are released into the city's narrow streets during the second week of July.



26.

Michael Buffer trademarked the catchphrase “Let’s get ready to rumble!” What kind of sporting events does he host?

Boxing and professional wrestling matches

Since he copyrighted the phrase in 1992, Buffer has made over \$400 million from its popularity. He has sold the rights for the line to be used in TV shows, movies, video games, merchandise, and more.

27.

Someone who
has hydrophobia is
afraid of what?

Water

Someone who is hydrophobic may not only fear swimming in water but also drinking it.

28.

In 1962, Andy Warhol painted 32 cans of what famous soup brand?

Campbell's Soup

Irving Blum of Ferus Gallery in Los Angeles saw the soup cans and immediately offered Warhol a show. At the exhibit, Blum put all 32 cans on shelves running the length of his gallery.

29.

Who became the president of the United States despite not being elected vice president or president?

Gerald Ford

Gerald Ford was made vice president during the fallout of the Watergate investigation when Spiro Agnew resigned.

He was later made president when Richard Nixon resigned in 1974. Thus, he was never elected to either office.

30.

Catherine of Aragon,
Anne Boleyn, and
Jane Seymour were all
wives to what man?

King Henry VIII of England

King Henry VIII
famously married a
total of six women.





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