

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 superhero's alter ego is Clark Kent?

Answer: Superman. Clark Kent wears his Superman costume under his clothes and is ready to transform into the superhero as crises arise.

2. What is the name of the horse in the song "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet"?

Answer: Dobbin. The line is "Put on your old grey bonnet with the blue ribbons on it while I hitch old Dobbin to the shay."

3. Who wrote the short stories "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Fall of the House of Usher"?

Answer: Edgar Allan Poe. Poe has been given credit for inventing the detective story with his "Murders in the Rue Morgue."

4. In which decade did King Edward VIII abdicate the throne?

Answer: 1930s. His reign ended on December 11, 1936, so that he could marry Wallis Warfield Simpson. They married on June 3, 1937.

5. What was the name of the priest in the film *Going My Way*?

Answer: Father Chuck O' Malley. Bing Crosby played him. The film won seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Actor, and Best Supporting Actor.

6. Who directed *It Happened One Night* and *It's a Wonderful Life*?

Answer: Frank Capra. His other successful works include *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, and *You Can't Take It with You*.



7. What is the name of the trophy awarded to the winner of the Super Bowl? **Hint:** It is named in honor of a famous Green Bay Packers football coach.

Answer: Vince Lombardi Trophy. A new Vince Lombardi Trophy is made each year, and the winning team remains in possession of it, unlike the Stanley Cup (National Hockey League trophy) and the Grey Cup (Canadian Football League trophy).

8. What literary character has sisters named Meg, Jo, and Beth March?

Answer: Amy March. The March sisters are the focus of the popular novel *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott.

9. What kind of toy was “Betsy Wetsy”?

Answer: Baby doll. The doll was a popular drink-and-wet doll in the 1940s and 1950s.



10. In what province is Ottawa located?

Answer: Ontario. Ottawa is the capital of Canada and its fourth-largest city.

11. What are the only two numbers on a telephone keypad that are not assigned letters?

Answer: 1 and 0. A, B, and C are assigned to the number 2. W, X, Y, and Z are assigned to the number 9.

12. What former president and first lady were highly involved with Habitat for Humanity?

Answer: Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. For over 30 years, the couple devoted a week of their time to help improve and build homes for the less fortunate.

13. In what country are Ankara and Istanbul?

Answer: Turkey. Istanbul is the most populated city in Turkey. The capital, Ankara, is the second most populated.

14. What automobile corporation did Lee Iacocca revive in the 1980s?

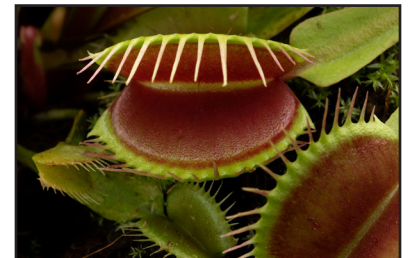
Answer: Chrysler. Iacocca first worked for Ford Motor Company and engineered the Ford Mustang and Ford Pinto.

15. Is a salamander a reptile or an amphibian?

Answer: Amphibian. Amphibious creatures lay their eggs in water. They can live in both water and on land.

16. What carnivorous plant uses its uniquely shaped leaves to catch prey?

Answer: Venus flytrap. Other carnivorous plants include pitcher plants, bladderwort, and sundew.

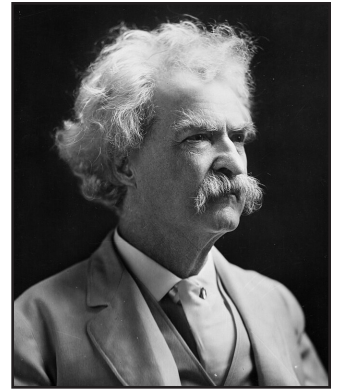


17. Who wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress*?

Answer: John Bunyan. The full title of the book is *The Pilgrim's Progress from This World to That Which Is to Come*. It was published in 1678. It is regarded as one of the great works of Christian literature.

18. What novelist created the characters Becky Thatcher and Aunt Polly?

Answer: Mark Twain. Both Becky Thatcher and Aunt Polly appear in the novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. In the story, Becky Thatcher is Tom's love interest.



19. What word means the equivalent of “zero” or “nil” in tennis?

Answer: Love. Some sources say that the origin of using the word *love* comes from the French word for *egg*: *l'oeuf*. The round shape of the egg resembles the number zero.

20. What are the three colors on the Italian flag?

Answer: Green, white, and red. The flag features three vertical stripes of equal length.

21. What two elements make up a water molecule?

Answer: Hydrogen and oxygen. The chemical formula for a water molecule is H₂O (two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom).

22. What is the first line of “O Canada”?

Answer: O Canada! Our home and native land. “O Canada” officially became the Canadian national anthem in 1980.

23. What kind of vegetable are Yukon Gold and Red Bliss?

Answer: Potato. There are approximately 400 varieties of potato. They are classified into several main groups, including russet, red, white, yellow, and purple.

24. What peach dessert is named for an opera singer?

Answer: Peach Melba. A French chef in London created and named the dessert in honor of Australian opera singer Nellie Melba in 1892. The soprano was performing in London, and the dessert was created in celebration of her performance.



25. For what sport is Canadian Bobby Orr famous for?

Answer: Ice hockey. Orr played for the Boston Bruins and the Chicago Blackhawks of the National Hockey League.

26. On which continent are the Himalayas?

Answer: Asia. The mountain chain is home to some of the world's highest peaks, including Mount Everest. It crosses six countries: Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Nepal, China, and Pakistan.

27. What famous San Francisco landmark is a form of transportation?

Answer: The cable cars. The cable cars were created as a safer means of transportation up and down the steep San Francisco cobblestone hills.

28. In what children's book does a train say, "I think I can, I think I can"?

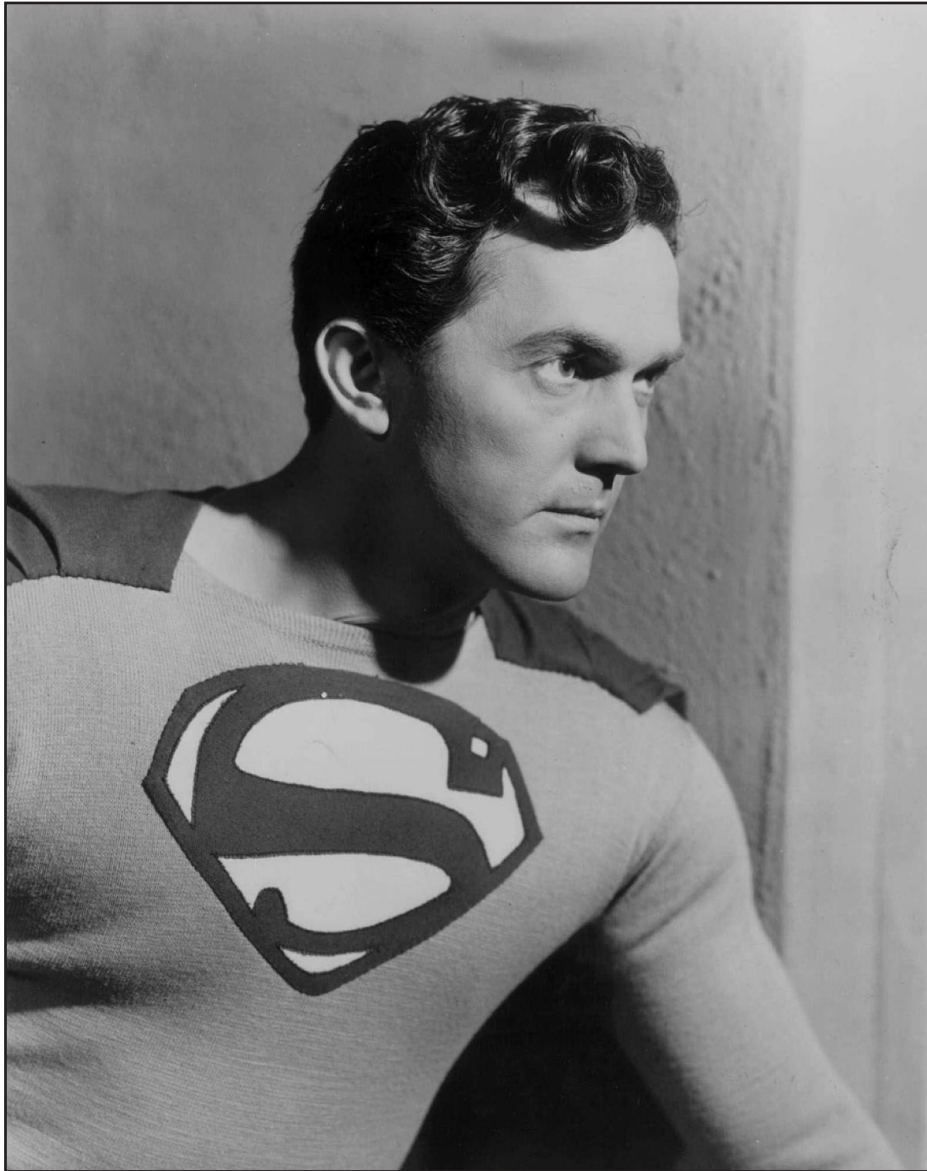
Answer: *The Little Engine That Could*. Variations of the children's story have been printed, but Watty Piper wrote the most well-known version. Piper was the pen name of Arnold Munk of the publishing firm Platt & Munk.

29. What actor stars in the films *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *On the Waterfront*?

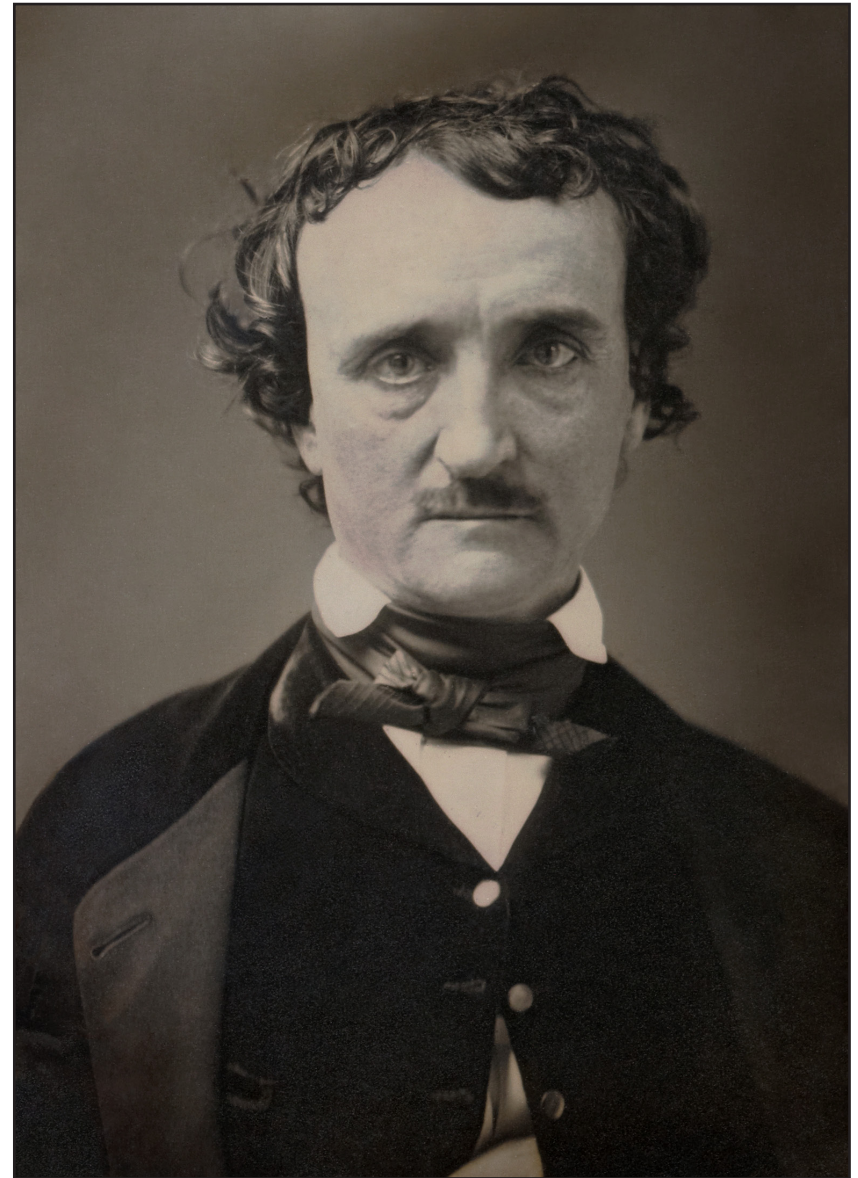
Answer: Marlon Brando. He was nominated for an Oscar for his performance in *Streetcar* but did not win; he won the Oscar for *On the Waterfront*.

30. What Aesop fable has the moral "slow and steady wins the race"?

Answer: "The Tortoise and the Hare." In the fable, the hare is overconfident and decides to take a nap because he is far ahead of the tortoise. As a result, the tortoise passes him and wins the race.



Superman



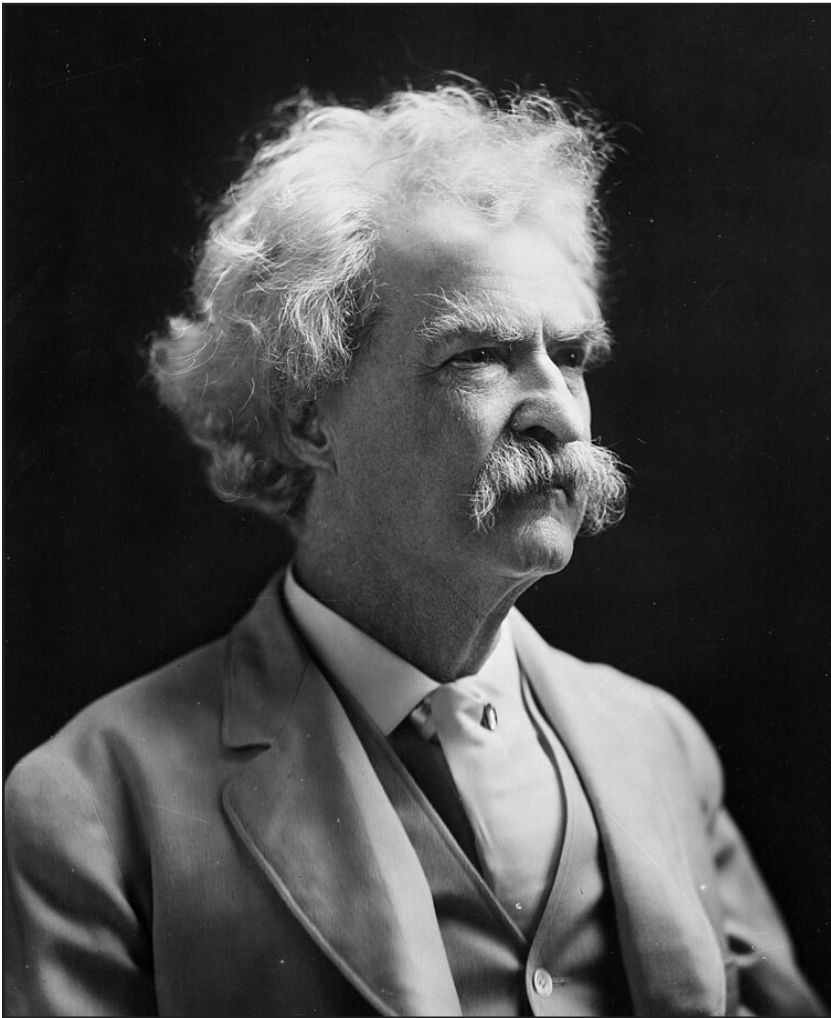
Edgar Allan Poe



Louisa May Alcott



Venus flytrap



Mark Twain



Peach Melba

Random Trivia

(Questions Only)

1. What superhero's alter ego is Clark Kent?

Answer: _____

2. What is the name of the horse in the song "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet"?

Answer: _____

3. Who wrote the short stories "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Fall of the House of Usher"?

Answer: _____

4. In which decade did King Edward VIII abdicate the throne?

Answer: _____

5. What was the name of the priest in the film *Going My Way*?

Answer: _____

6. Who directed *It Happened One Night* and *It's a Wonderful Life*?

Answer: _____

7. What is the name of the trophy awarded to the winner of the Super Bowl? **Hint:** It is named in honor of a famous Green Bay Packers football coach.

Answer: _____

8. What literary character has sisters named Meg, Jo, and Beth March?

Answer: _____

9. What kind of toy was "Betsy Wetsy"?

Answer: _____

10. In what province is Ottawa located?

Answer: _____

11. What are the only two numbers on a telephone keypad that are not assigned letters?

Answer: _____

12. What former president and first lady were highly involved with Habitat for Humanity?

Answer: _____

13. In what country are Ankara and Istanbul?

Answer: _____

14. What automobile corporation did Lee Iacocca revive in the 1980s?

Answer: _____

15. Is a salamander a reptile or an amphibian?

Answer: _____

16. What carnivorous plant uses its uniquely shaped leaves to catch prey?

Answer: _____

17. Who wrote *The Pilgrim's Progress*?

Answer: _____

18. What novelist created the characters Becky Thatcher and Aunt Polly?

Answer: _____

19. What word means the equivalent of "zero" or "nil" in tennis?

Answer: _____

20. What are the three colors on the Italian flag?

Answer: _____

21. What two elements make up a water molecule?

Answer: _____

22. What is the first line of "O Canada"?

Answer: _____

23. What kind of vegetable are Yukon Gold and Red Bliss?

Answer: _____

24. What peach dessert is named for an opera singer?

Answer: _____

25. For what sport is Canadian Bobby Orr famous for?

Answer: _____

26. On which continent are the Himalayas?

Answer: _____

27. What famous San Francisco landmark is a form of transportation?

Answer: _____

28. In what children's book does a train say, "I think I can, I think I can"?

Answer: _____

29. What actor stars in the films *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *On the Waterfront*?

Answer: _____

30. What Aesop fable has the moral "slow and steady wins the race"?

Answer: _____

Random Trivia

(Questions with Answers)

1. What superhero's alter ego is Clark Kent?

Answer: Superman. Clark Kent wears his Superman costume under his clothes and is ready to transform into the superhero as crises arise.

2. What is the name of the horse in the song "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet"?

Answer: Dobbin. The line is "Put on your old grey bonnet with the blue ribbons on it while I hitch old Dobbin to the shay."

3. Who wrote the short stories "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Fall of the House of Usher"?

Answer: Edgar Allan Poe. Poe has been given credit for inventing the detective story with his "Murders in the Rue Morgue."

4. In which decade did King Edward VIII abdicate the throne?

Answer: 1930s. His reign ended on December 11, 1936, so that he could marry Wallis Warfield Simpson. They married on June 3, 1937.

5. What was the name of the priest in the film *Going My Way*?

Answer: Father Chuck O' Malley. Bing Crosby played him. The film won seven Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Actor, and Best Supporting Actor.

6. Who directed *It Happened One Night* and *It's a Wonderful Life*?

Answer: Frank Capra. His other successful works include *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, and *You Can't Take It with You*.

7. What is the name of the trophy awarded to the winner of the Super Bowl? **Hint:** It is named in honor of a famous Green Bay Packers football coach.

Answer: Vince Lombardi Trophy. A new Vince Lombardi Trophy is made each year, and the winning team remains in possession of it, unlike the Stanley Cup (National Hockey League trophy) and the Grey Cup (Canadian Football League trophy).

8. What literary character has sisters named Meg, Jo, and Beth March?

Answer: Amy March. The March sisters are the focus of the popular novel *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott.

9. What kind of toy was “Betsy Wetsy”?

Answer: Baby doll. The doll was a popular drink-and-wet doll in the 1940s and 1950s.

10. In what province is Ottawa located?

Answer: Ontario. Ottawa is the capital of Canada and its fourth-largest city.

11. What are the only two numbers on a telephone keypad that are not assigned letters?

Answer: 1 and 0. A, B, and C are assigned to the number 2. W, X, Y, and Z are assigned to the number 9.

12. What former president and first lady were highly involved with Habitat for Humanity?

Answer: Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. For over 30 years, the couple devoted a week of their time to help improve and build homes for the less fortunate.

13. In what country are Ankara and Istanbul?

Answer: Turkey. Istanbul is the most populated city in Turkey. The capital, Ankara, is the second most populated.

14. What automobile corporation did Lee Iacocca revive in the 1980s?

Answer: Chrysler. Iacocca first worked for Ford Motor Company and engineered the Ford Mustang and Ford Pinto.

15. Is a salamander a reptile or an amphibian?

Answer: Amphibian. Amphibious creatures lay their eggs in water. They can live in both water and on land.

16. What carnivorous plant uses its uniquely shaped leaves to catch prey?

Answer: Venus flytrap. Other carnivorous plants include pitcher plants, bladderwort, and sundew.

17. Who wrote *The Pilgrim’s Progress*?

Answer: John Bunyan. The full title of the book is *The Pilgrim’s Progress from This World to That Which Is to Come*. It was published in 1678. It is regarded as one of the great works of Christian literature.

18. What novelist created the characters Becky Thatcher and Aunt Polly?
Answer: Mark Twain. Both Becky Thatcher and Aunt Polly appear in the novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. In the story, Becky Thatcher is Tom's love interest.
19. What word means the equivalent of "zero" or "nil" in tennis?
Answer: Love. Some sources say that the origin of using the word *love* comes from the French word for egg: *l'oeuf*. The round shape of the egg resembles the number zero.
20. What are the three colors on the Italian flag?
Answer: Green, white, and red. The flag features three vertical stripes of equal length.
21. What two elements make up a water molecule?
Answer: Hydrogen and oxygen. The chemical formula for a water molecule is H₂O (two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom).
22. What is the first line of "O Canada"?
Answer: O Canada! Our home and native land. "O Canada" officially became the Canadian national anthem in 1980.
23. What kind of vegetable are Yukon Gold and Red Bliss?
Answer: Potato. There are approximately 400 varieties of potato. They are classified into several main groups, including russet, red, white, yellow, and purple.
24. What peach dessert is named for an opera singer?
Answer: Peach Melba. A French chef in London created and named the dessert in honor of Australian opera singer Nellie Melba in 1892. The soprano was performing in London, and the dessert was created in celebration of her performance.
25. For what sport is Canadian Bobby Orr famous for?
Answer: Ice hockey. Orr played for the Boston Bruins and the Chicago Blackhawks of the National Hockey League.
26. On which continent are the Himalayas?
Answer: Asia. The mountain chain is home to some of the world's highest peaks, including Mount Everest. It crosses six countries: Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Nepal, China, and Pakistan.

27. What famous San Francisco landmark is a form of transportation?

Answer: The cable cars. The cable cars were created as a safer means of transportation up and down the steep San Francisco cobblestone hills.

28. In what children's book does a train say, "I think I can, I think I can"?

Answer: *The Little Engine That Could*. Variations of the children's story have been printed, but Watty Piper wrote the most well-known version. Piper was the pen name of Arnold Munk of the publishing firm Platt & Munk.

29. What actor stars in the films *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *On the Waterfront*?

Answer: Marlon Brando. He was nominated for an Oscar for his performance in *Streetcar* but did not win; he won the Oscar for *On the Waterfront*.

30. What Aesop fable has the moral "slow and steady wins the race"?

Answer: "The Tortoise and the Hare." In the fable, the hare is overconfident and decides to take a nap because he is far ahead of the tortoise. As a result, the tortoise passes him and wins the race.

