

- 1 What is the main difference between state schools & public or private schools?  
**State schools are free (No compulsory fees)**
- 2 Which country is the largest producer of petroleum in the European Union?  
**a - England, b - Wales, c - Northern Ireland, [D - Scotland]**
- 3 Which cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church was appointed Lord Chancellor to Henry VIII?  
**Thomas Wolsey (c1471–1530)**
- 4 Who was Britain's most prolific serial killer?  
**Harold Shipman (Between 1971 & 1998 he killed at least 215 patients, mainly elderly women in Manchester where he was a GP)**

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- 1 What type of learning institutions are the cities of Oxford & Cambridge famous for?  
**Universities**
- 2 In 1962 which society was formed in response to fears that the Welsh language would eventually die out?  
**The Welsh Language Society**
- 3 Which animal is on the Royal Coat of Arms of England?  
**The lion (Three lions, used until the Union of the Crowns in 1603)**
- 4 Which people called 1792 the 'Year of the Sheep'?  
**The Scottish Highlanders (Landowners turned people off the land to accommodate sheep in what is known as the 'Highland Clearances')**

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- 1 Political debates in the House of Commons are chaired by an MP known as what?  
**a - the leader, b - the prime minister, [C - the Speaker], d - lord (The Speaker's role is to keep order & ensure rules are kept)**
- 2 Who was the first person to represent Great Britain in Olympic ski jumping?  
**Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards (In 1988)**
- 3 What is the most common cancer in England?  
**Breast cancer (On average one in nine women develops breast cancer)**
- 4 Which castle is often called the 'Key to England' due to its defensive significance historically?  
**Dover Castle**

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- 1 The UK is a member of the UN, an international organisation set up after World War 2 that aims to prevent war & promote international peace & security. What do the initials UN stand for?  
**a - Ultimate Nations, b - Unbeatable Nations, c - Universal Nations, [D - United Nations]**
- 2 Which Act of 1908 benefitted the elderly?  
**The Old Age Pensions Act (It was paid to people over 70 years of age)**
- 3 In the 17th & 18th centuries reason began to be advocated as the basis for authority. What is this Western philosophy known as?  
**The Enlightenment (Also known as the Age of Reason)**
- 4 What did the 1872 Ballot Act introduce?  
**Secret voting**

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- 1 Who resides at Number 10 Downing Street?  
**The prime minister of the United Kingdom (It is one of the most widely-recognised addresses in the world)**
- 2 Which profitable animals became widely farmed in the Scottish Highlands from the late 18th century?  
**Sheep (At this time many families living at a subsistence level were displaced from the land)**
- 3 What do Flamingo Land Resort, Drayton Manor & Chessington World of Adventures have in common?  
**They contain a theme park & a zoo**
- 4 Who succeeded Oliver Cromwell as the Lord Protector in 1658?  
**Richard Cromwell (The third son of Oliver Cromwell, he held the post for less than nine months)**

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- 1 Which of these horse breeds would make the best racehorse?  
**a - Shetland, b - Highland, c - Clydesdale, [D - Thoroughbred]**
- 2 Who are the ceremonial guardians of the Tower of London?  
**The Beefeaters or Yeomen Warders (Their name possibly developed historically because they were paid in rations that included beef)**
- 3 What is an eisteddfod?  
**A Welsh festival of music, literature & performance (Dating back to at least the 12th century)**
- 4 What was the Great Stink or Big Stink of 1858?  
**During the summer the smell of untreated sewage almost overwhelmed people in central London (The summer was unusually hot)**

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- 1 Is the UK the largest Commonwealth nation by population?  
**No (It is the 5th largest after India, Pakistan, Bangladesh & Nigeria)**
- 2 What caused the death of 30-50% of Britain's population in the 14th century?  
**The Black Death (This plague was one of the deadliest pandemics in human history, peaking in Europe from 1347-51)**
- 3 Which British racing car driver won both the 1992 Formula One World Championship & the 1993 CART World Series?  
**Nigel Mansell (b1953)**
- 4 What is Rowland Hill (1795-1879) best known for?  
**Developing the modern postal service & inventing the postage stamp**

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- 1 Which two colours are on the flag of Scotland?  
**a - pink & purple, b - orange & red, [C - blue & white], d - black & green (The Saltire or St Andrew's Cross, according to legend, dates from the 9th century & is one of the oldest national flags still in use)**
- 2 The ten tallest peaks in the UK are all found in which country?  
**a - England, b - Northern Ireland, [C - Scotland], d - Wales**
- 3 Which king of Spain offered to marry Elizabeth I following the death of his wife Mary I in 1558?  
**Phillip II (1527-98)**
- 4 What were the main centres of education prior to 1100?  
**Monasteries (Monks were the best-educated members of society)**

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- 1 Which English scientist developed the Law of Gravity?  
**a - Thomas Huxley, [B - Isaac Newton], c - Stephen Hawking, d - David Attenborough (1642-1727. This law explains celestial motions, tides & terrestrial gravitation & is regarded as one of the greatest scientific achievements)**
- 2 Which pharaoh's tomb did the English archaeologist Howard Carter (1874-1939) discover in Egypt in 1922?  
**Tutankhamen's**
- 3 What was the State Pension age in the UK in 2009?  
**65 for men, 60 for women (The age for women will gradually rise from 60 to 65 from 2010 to 2020 to bring it in line with men)**
- 4 What was the purpose of the Treaty of Edinburgh in 1560?  
**To formally end the Auld Alliance with France**

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