# KQA <br> MAHAQUIZZER 

## The 2013 edition

## Name

## Organization / Institution

## Center

## Category

Open / School / College / Ladies [Select One]

## Rules

- Time allowed: 90 minutes
- Wait for start signal
- $\star / \star \star$ ed questions will resolve ties
- No negative marking
- No half marks for any question
- When the answer is a person's name a correct surname will do, unless the full name is specifically asked for
- A wrong first name but correct surname will count as a wrong answer
- Mobiles, smartphones and similar gadgets must be switched off. Usage will lead to immediate disqualification
- Any attempt at cheating will result in immediate disqualification
- Explanations are provided with the answers. Your scores at the end of correction will be final. If you have an issue, discuss it with your proctor. Unresolved issues need to be brought to the attention of the quiz setting team by email within 3 days. Copy the proctor on the email.

TOTAL


| 1. | What common suffix can be added to - top, beaver, high, silk, cylinder, chimney |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| pot and stove pipe? |  |$\quad$| The only way of destroying this book (when it becomes old and torn) is through a |
| :--- |
| special cremation process called "Agan Bhet". Which book? |


| $17 .$ | They were used for the first time in combat in 1806. The British launched 25,000 of these on Copenhagen, severely damaging the city. Francis Scott Key wrote about their 'red glare' in The Star Spangled Banner. What object, named after its inventor who was the son of the then Commandant of Royal Artillery? |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18. | Blood may be the best-known fluid in the human body. There's twice as much of which other fluid, a thin coagulable one containing white blood cells and chyle? <br> (Five Letter Answer please) |  |
| 19. | Ulugh Beg, a mathematician who constructed trigonometric tables accurate to 8 decimal places is buried in a mausoleum called Gur-E-Amir (meaning Tomb of the King) along with his father Shah Rukh and grandfather $\qquad$ . Who was his grandfather? |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 20 . \\ & \star \star \end{aligned}$ | This branded substance is strictly forbidden in racing circles, where it was once used frequently. In 2007, two NASCAR crew chiefs were fined \$100,000 for lining their fuel tanks and intake valves with it, in order to receive an added octane boost. What substance, more (in)famous in the world of Blues music? |  |
| 21. | Ernest Shackleton carried which 'multi-volume book' on the trip to Antarctica \& eventually ended up using its pages to kindle a fire? |  |
| 22. | To commemorate the successful conclusion of negotiations, Mussolini commissioned the Via della Conciliazione, and signed the Lateran treaty along with Pietro Gasparrion behalf of the Kingdom of Italy in 1929. What was established thus? |  |
| $23 .$ | This brand of caramel-flavoured sweets, now owned by the German company August Storck KG and marketed to senior citizens across Europe and America, is not named after a tragic Goethe character - it takes its name from the town in Westphalia where the company was founded in 1903. Name the brand. |  |
| 24. | While commenting on the most famous work of well-known photographer Yousuf Karsh, said "You can even make a $\qquad$ stand still to be photographed". Fill in the blanks to give the name of his famous work. |  |
| 25. | What large dark-red oval organ on the left side of the body between the stomach and the diaphragm is used in an expression to indicate someone has a tendency to become angry quickly? |  |
| 26. | Sounding like an erstwhile ruler of India, what five-letter term describes a bump on a ski slope formed by the repeated turns of skiers over the same path, or an important or powerful person in the motion picture industry? |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 27 . \\ & \star \star \end{aligned}$ | The fabric for these bedsheets is micro-encapsulated with an optimum amount of Mosquito Repellent Finish. This range of bed linen from Bombay Dyeing is named after one plant for obvious reasons. What is this range called? |  |
| 28. | McCarthyism forced which Major League baseball team to change their name briefly in the 1950s? |  |
| 29. | What gets its name from Marco Polo's use of a slang term for cowrie shells, meaning "little piglet", to describe an item that resembled the cowrie shell in its hard, shell-like sheen? |  |
| 30. | What four-letter word that might have originated from an obsolete Scots word meaning a "twist" denotes the complement of a knit stitch in knitting? |  |
| 31. | What is the title in Scottish aristocracy held both by Macduff and Macbeth? Not to be confused with a terminus of the first passenger train in India. |  |
| 32. | The Joshi-Abhyankar serial murders in Pune was the basis for this 2003 movie which was rejected at least 6 times by the censor board as it glorifies violence, murder \& drugs. Which 'unreleased' Hindi movie that is now considered a cult classic? |  |


| 33. | Name the non-Semitic people (Delilah from the Samson tale was one of them) who occupied the southern coast of Canaan and came into conflict with the Israelites. In modern usage the name has come to mean someone who is indifferent to culture and the arts, or has no understanding of them. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 34. | This country was called the "Scottish colony" because of the important roles played by the Scots during British rule. When the country gained independence, 3 years after WWII, anti-British sentiments were so strong that it did not join the Commonwealth Nations. Which country? |  |
| 35. | Complete this quote by Samuel Goldwyn - "Color television! Bah, I won't believe it until I see it in $\qquad$ !" |  |
| $36 .$ | This was where Mahatma Gandhi first set foot on European soil in 1888; 44 years later this was where he last set foot on European soil. Which Adriatic port, headquarters of the Reggimento San Marco? |  |
| 37. | If the term Oxonian pertains to Oxford University, then Cambridge University shares the name Cantabrigian with which other University? |  |
| 38. | On 25th Feb 2013, ISRO launched an "earth sensing" satellite, using PSLV technology. Its name is a word that should be familiar to all Indian Taxpayers. What word? |  |
| $39 .$ | The algebraic equations or problems having integers as solutions are named after a mathematician from the 3rd century AD, who also became part of the history of Fermat's equation. Name this mathematician. |  |
| 40. | They are two separate glands - the thymus and the pancreas - taken from lambs or calves. What name is given to these creamy morsels which, neither contain sugar nor are a baker's product, but are nevertheless popular with gastronomes? |  |
| 41. | The noun form of this word is widely used, and is seen in the fields of clothing, zoology, anatomy and geology. The verb form, however, is considered archaic, and is most often seen today with a negative prefix. What word? |  |
| 42. | This name was given to a detector developed by JC Bose and others- an electronic component consisting of a thin wire that lightly touches a crystal of semiconducting mineral to make a crude point-contact rectifier. If you get this two word phrase, then you may conclude that you are superior to others. |  |
| 43. | Regulations require it to be 14 meters long and between 1.5 and 2 meters wide. It is "grounded" to the scoring box. The action usually begins at the en garde line two meters on either side of the center line. What is being described? |  |
| 44. | What word for a light string composed of two or more strands joined together, and used to refer to something merged together, has its roots in the Old English for "double thread"? |  |
| 45. | Vishnumaya, the daughter of Brahma wished to serve the world. She became Lopamudra, the wife of Agasthya, and eventually became $\qquad$ . She has been the cause of many a disagreement, and two agreements, one each in 1892 and 1924. Fill in the blank. |  |
| 46. | Albany, barrymore, butterfly, chelsea, cossack, eton, jabot, mandarin, medici, piccadilly, round, sailor and upturned are all types of what item that varies with the vagaries of fashion, and is often starched? |  |
| 47. | If Leporello the servant and the Commendatore lend the bass voices, Donna Anna the daughter is the soprano, and Don Ottavio is the tenor, with a chorus of peasants, servants, young ladies, musicians, demons, who serves the baritone voice in the opera accompanied by Mozart's magic? |  |
| 48. | Which Liberal Party MP in 1892 refused to take oath on the Bible and took his oath on the Khordeh Avesta instead? |  |


| 49. | In the TV show The Simpsons, the appearance and voice of the character Dr. John Frink are based on that of the title character of a 1963 comedy (which was remade in 1996). This was further highlighted when the actor who played said title role voiced Dr. Frink's father in a 2003 episode. Name the movie. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & 50 . \\ & \star \star \end{aligned}$ | This has happened only thrice so far in the history of the Indian Parliament- 1961 (Dowry Prohibition Bill), 1978 (Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill) and 2002 (Prevention of Terrorism Bill). What exactly are we talking about? |  |
| 51. | This Hasbro toy brand, started in 1969, is most popular for its rubber foam-based weapons, especially the foam-dart gun, which became popular because the foam darts were less likely to cause injury than similar hard plastic darts. It has thus lent its name to a video-game term meaning "to reduce damage or effectiveness", usually heard in role-playing games. What term? |  |
| $52 .$ | Early in his career, this author expressed a willingness to have his work adapted for the screen. However, in 1949, a critically panned film version of his short story "Uncle Wiggily in Connecticut" was released. It was renamed My Foolish Heart, and took great liberties with the story's plot, which soured the author's view of Hollywood permanently. This is widely considered to be the reason behind what much-desired film project never coming to fruition? |  |
| 53. | Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten and ___ comprise what state? |  |
| 54. | What five-letter synonym for sarcasm was first seen in a work of literature featuring a Bellman, a Boots, a Bonnet-maker, a Barrister, a Broker, a Billiardmarker, a Banker, a Butcher, a Baker, and a Beaver? |  |
| 55. | Taking the words for "man" and 'new", what term in geology was coined by Nobel Winner Paul Crutzen to refer to the age in which we are living, where human intervention has transformed nature and poses a threat to our life support systems? |  |
| 56. | The copyright of this book is with Free State of Bavaria. Though you can read and distribute the existing volumes, reprinting is not allowed by the State. What work? |  |
| 57. | Its strength and density make it very useful in knives, drills, saws and bullets and machine tools. It has two names. Give the name derived from German for an animal frothing at the mouth, a reference to the large amounts of tin consumed in the extraction process. |  |
| 58. | Aptly describing the fact that hardly any living forms are found here, what is the name of the world's largest sand desert encompassing most of the southern third of the Arabian Peninsula, including most of Saudi Arabia and areas of Oman, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen? |  |
| $59 .$ | Complete this exhaustive sporting list: Larisa Turchinskaya - 7007; Carolina Klüft - 7001, 7032; $\qquad$ - 7158, 7128, 7291, 7044 |  |
| 60. | The silver-screen wrangler known as "King of the Cowboys" (his real-life wife acted with him on his eponymous show for 16 years) is associated with what nonalcoholic drink made of cola and grenadine syrup, topped with a maraschino cherry? |  |
| 61. | While this song was released in September 1971, it gained fame and topped most music charts a decade later in January 1981 thanks to a tragic event. Which song? |  |
| 62. | Rin Tin Tin and Strongheart are the two male canine non-cartoon characters on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Name the only female canine character to have this honour, even though always portrayed on TV by male collies? |  |



| 79. | Count Radbot built a castle on the banks of the river Aar in Switzerland. Legend has it that when he saw a hawk sitting on the walls of his majestic castle, he named it after the German word for hawk. The name of the castle gave its name to which famous European dynasty? |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 80. | The word comes from the Latin for 'helmet'. It refers to a profession and was coined specifically to describe Monsieur Champagne's profession. He had a number of aristocratic clients and was the title character in the comedy Champagne le $\qquad$ . What word? |  |
| 81. | This word, derived from the Latin for "musty" or "moldy", is used to describe a thick, gluey substance produced by nearly all plants. Some varieties of this substance are used in foods and medicines. The name was given to it not because it is particularly moldy or musty itself, but because it resembles a substance found in the human body which was thought to be caused by mold. Name this plant substance. |  |
| 82. | How do we refer to a person who makes or repairs any stringed instrument such as a violin or a guitar, the term originating from a 4-letter word generally referring to any plucked instrument having a pear-shaped body, a usually bent neck, and a fretted fingerboard? |  |
| 83. | The close-to 40 species of flowers including daffodils and jonquils bloom in spring and early summer, but tend not to last the summer. They are given what botanical name, after the son of the nymph Liriope and the river god Cephisus who had a similar short life? |  |
| 84. | The $8 \%$ tin / $92 \%$ copper blend is called "Malleable Bronze", which can be made into sheets and stamped into shape to reduce manufacturing costs. It is considered a great choice for beginners due to the cheaper price. What musical object that gets its name from the Greek word for bowl? |  |
| 85. | What 'chamber of power' was inspired by the elliptical salon used by George Washington in his temporary presidential house in Philadelphia? |  |
| 86. | Historically this word meant potassium hydroxide; nowadays it commonly means sodium hydroxide. What is this corrosive alkaline substance whose uses lie in many spheres- for example, to cure some varieties of food, as a key ingredient in soap and sometimes in the production of methamphetamine? |  |
| $87 .$ | What are Steve Harvey, D.L. Hughley, Cedric the Entertainer, and Bernie Mac collectively known as, according to the title of a Spike Lee film? |  |
| 88. | In the book QED: The strange theory of light and matter, by Richard P Feynman, what does QED stand for? |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 89 . \\ & \star \star \end{aligned}$ | Named for "cooked flesh", what term is both the style of cooking devoted to prepared meat products such as chorizo, pastrami, prosciutto and salami, and a delicatessen selling these products? |  |
| 90. | There have been only 3 recipients (all 'artistes') honored with all the four civilian awards of India - Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and the Padma Shri. If two of them are Ustad Bismillah Khan and Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, who is the third? |  |
| 91. | What five-letter word, if spelled entirely in lower-case refers to an alcoholic drink made from pears, but if spelled with the first letter in upper-case is both a male first name and a surname in the western world? |  |
| 92. | What plot device (that one could also relate to an Indian entity that has 336 stations across the country) is often seen in works like the Hitopadesha and the Panchatantra, in situations where the protagonist is given advice or told how (s)he needs to act? |  |


| 93. | His performance in A Place in the Sun is regarded as one of the signature method acting performances. He was nominated for an Oscar and his main rival, Marlon Brando, voted for him to win the Award. He in turn voted for Brando in A Streetcar Named Desire. Who? |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 94. | A comical chaos during the performance of Giuseppe Verdi's II Trovatore (The Troubadour) forms the climax of which 1935 comedy? |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 95 . \\ & \star \star \end{aligned}$ | With respect to data storage media, the difference between disc with a c (CD/DVD/LD) and disk with a $k$ (Hard Disk/Floppy Disk) is in how they work. Give one word each, in correct order, to differentiate discs and disks in terms of the operating principle of how data is read and written. No part points. | Disc - <br> Disk - |
| 96. | The Livadia Palace was the summer home of the last Russian Imperial family. Its ground floor was reworked into a modern venue to play host to what deliberation in 1945? |  |
| 97. | A Cook's Tour, __ , The Layover, Parts Unknown. Fill in the blanks. |  |
| 98. | In the old days a big toy horse was assembled and used by soldiers to practice climbing up and getting down. Which modern-day sporting equipment takes its name from this device? |  |
| 99. | If we consider the present century then Bangladeshi actress Moshumi, Pakistani actress Meera and Indian actresses Kalki Koechlin and 'X' form one group whereas Bangladeshi actress Apu Biswash, Pakistani actress Zara Shaikh and Indian actresses Mahi Gill and 'Y' form another group. Identify $X$ and $Y$. No part points. |  |
| 100. | In a Grand Piano, the stringed part of the instrument that produces the sound is named after which other musical instrument (as it resembles it)? |  |
| 101. | What four-letter word, better known as a baked dish, is also the name of a flat, round, blank piece of metal that is ready to be struck into a coin? |  |
| 102. | The area in your wrist where the nerve enters the hand is a major topic of discussion in lifestyle diseases. What is the two-word name? |  |
| $103 .$ | Known today as a perfume center, which capital that was once a focal point of the battles between the Gurjara Pratiharas, Palas and Rashtrakutas bears a name derived from the term 'the city of the hunchbacked maidens'? |  |
| 104. | More recent equivalents were Hitler's 1st SS Division, and Ceauşescu's Securitate. Once a force of bodyguards used by Roman Emperors, they later became infamous as mercenaries. What group of soldiers take their name from the tent of the commanding officer of a Roman armed division? |  |
| 105. | Which water-meadow alongside the River Thames, notable for being the place where the 'great charter' was signed, shares its name with a station on the scenic Nilgiri railway, just before Coonoor on the way up to Ooty? |  |
| 106. | The Goya painting The Second of May 1808, is also known as The Charge of the $\qquad$ The blank refers to a soldier of slave origin, many of whom were part of the elite French Imperial Guards. Who were these warriors, who were extraordinarily long-lived as a clan, lasting from the 9th to the 19th century A.D.? |  |
| 107. | What slang expression for "leaving in a hurry" probably originated from an image of the erect sacrum of a startled mustang? |  |
| 108. | Coco Channel separates the Coco Islands from which other group of islands? |  |



| 124. | A popular decorative textile motif of the Middle Ages, this design is usually depicted as two wavy horizontal bands alternating with three circles in triangular formation. The design elements are alternately referenced as "tiger stripes" and "leopard spots". Name this motif originating in Buddhist imagery which means "auspicious jewel" in Sanskrit? |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 125. | This nonagerian has won every award in architecture; his most famous works include the John F Kennedy Library, the Bank of China building in Hong Kong and the Museum of Islamic Art in Doha. Name this modernist who, with initials, sounds like he is announcing himself. |  |
| 126. | The soothsayer Titus Vestricius Spurinna middled what prediction that shares its name with a 2011 political thriller? |  |
| 127. | There are 88 in all, according to one calculation. Hydra, the sea monster, is the largest at 1303 square degrees, and Crux, the cross, is the smallest at 68 square degrees. Among them you will find Caeles, a sculptor's tool and Monoceros, a unicorn. What arbitrarily grouped arrangements are we talking about? |  |
| 128. | John Evelyn's 1661 pamphlet Fumifugium is one of the earliest known works on what major environmental problem? Be specific. |  |
| 129. | The original volume of which author's most famous work was dedicated to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and described on the title page as an "Attempt To Popularize Mythology, And Extend The Enjoyment Of Elegant Literature"? |  |
| $130 .$ | The back portion of the turbine in a jet engine acts like a windmill, extracting energy from the exhaust and using it to spin the compressor. What reheat component (that is also the name of a 1985 ZZ Top album) gets its name from the idea of injecting fuel directly into the exhaust stream and burning it using the remaining oxygen? |  |
| 131. | The original phrase refers to the practice of shortening matinée performances of Hamlet by reducing the long speeches before the reference to Hecuba in Act II Scene 2. Comedy producer Hal Roach changed the phrase to reflect the climax scenes in most comedy movies of the silent era. What was the new phrase? |  |
| 132. | When Queen Elizabeth ascended the throne in 1952, she also became the queen of two independent Asian countries. One was Ceylon. Which was the other country? |  |
| 133. | Rudyard Kipling's novel Kim is set on a road that was described in the book as "such a river of life as nowhere else exists in the world". Name the road. |  |
| 134. | The wood of the holly tree is white in colour. It is hard, fine-grained and durable, and can be turned well and finely smoothed. The wood also takes a stain well, often giving it the appearance of ebony. All these properties, especially the first and the last mentioned, make it ideal material for making what artefacts? |  |
| 135. | We know that SPAM originally meant a canned precooked meat product. What word do Spam-email classifiers use to denote email that is not SPAM? (Try removing the spice from SPAM!) |  |
| 136. | Be brave and complete this list! Snow White, Cinderella, Aurora, Ariel, Belle, Jasmine, Pocahontas, Mulan, Tiana, Rapunzel, $\qquad$ . |  |
| 137. | The Oxford Companion to Wine calls it a "non-specific tasting term, used particularly for red wines, to indicate those textural attributes, such as smoothness, that produce tactile sensations on the surface of the oral cavity". What is the nine-letter word used in winetasting and wine writing? |  |


| $138 .$ | This annual international event, started in 2008, is held on the third Saturday of April. The event is marked by reissues of albums and singles by the participating artists, with 2013's ambassador Jack White reissuing The White Stripes' Elephant in a 10th anniversary edition. What event, which many people say has latterly been co-opted by the music industry? | $\square$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} 139 . \\ \star \star \end{gathered}$ | His death, often attributed to a legendary curse, was probably caused by blood poisoning after he accidentally shaved an infected mosquito bite. Who is this person well known for bankrolling a famous 1920s operation? |  |
| 140. | Even though she stood bail for Julian Assange in December 2010, she now fears he is turning into "an Australian Ron L Hubbard". Name this Associate Editor of the New Statesman and editor-at-large of Vogue, who still uses her ex-husband's name and supports charities in his country. |  |
| $\stackrel{141 .}{\star}$ | It is a collective promoting music from various Eurasian cultures, and brings together musicians playing varied instruments such as a pipa, a duduk, a shakuhachi, and a morin khuur among others. What project led by Yo-Yo Ma, with a name reminiscent of group of musicians playing on an erstwhile trail? |  |
| 142. | Anthony Hopkins' performance in Silence Of The Lambs is widely believed to be the shortest lead performances to win an Oscar. However, purely in terms of minutes on screen, the record goes to an actor who was third-billed on the poster and in the credits of the movie he was nominated for. Name the actor whose win made him the only Oscar host to win an award in the year he hosted. |  |
| 143. | Which artist, when asked about his antagonist's unappeasable yearning to eat the uncatchable protagonist, quoted George Santayana in answer: "fanaticism consists in redoubling your effort when you have forgotten your aim"? |  |
| 144. | The conquistador Juan Ponce De Leon, the first Governor of Puerto Rico, was supposedly searching for what legendary water body when he came upon Florida? This tale is also alluded to in the movie Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides. |  |
| 145. | This village, together with North Walsham and Aylsham, became a manufacturing centre for yarn and cloth after weavers from Flanders immigrated to Norfolk in the 12th century. Which place that gives its name to a tightly twisted woollen yarn spun from long-staple wool, or a woollen fabric with a hard textured surface, and a yarn weight category? |  |
| 146. | When the Petrovsky was rebuilt in 1825, the new building got a prefix meaning 'big' as it was much larger than its predecessor. Soon the prefix itself became the name of the building, and it was from the stage inside it that the formation of the USSR was proclaimed. What was the prefix? |  |
| 147. | A custom from days long gone by, what song is played when the candidates march up The Final Steps in their Passing Out Parade (POP) at the National Defence Academy, Pune? It is also played at the POP of the Pakistan Military Academy. |  |
| 148. | What animal would work as a prefix with each of the species listed here - rat snake, moth, prawn, salamander, shark, beetle, cat? |  |
| 149. | What Russian term that is used for a type of horse-drawn carriage or sledge is also used to denote a bunch of officials who hold power, typically in socialist states, the most famous being Malenkov, Beria and Molotov, who ruled briefly after Stalin's death? |  |
| 150. | Which is the largest Spanish-speaking country in the world in terms of area? Italian, the Levantine dialect of Arabic and German are respectively the second, third and fourth most-spoken languages in this country. | $\square$ |

# This quiz was set by <br> Urmila Lakshmanan, Sujatha Sharma, Rajagopal P.S., Santosh Swaminathan, Vivek Karthikeyan and Mitesh Agarwal, of the Karnataka Quiz Association 

Guinea pig and grammarian - Arul Mani

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