

# KQA MAHAQUIZZER

*The 2009 edition*

Name: .....

Organization/Institution: .....

Centre / Registration No.: .....

Category: Open / School / College / Ladies

### **Rules**

No negative marking

Time allowed: 90 minutes

★/★★ed questions will resolve ties

Wait for start signal

Use of cell phones is not permitted

No half marks for any question

### ***In Association With***

QFI-Chennai

K-Circle & Hyderabad Quiz Club

The Boat Club Quiz Club, Pune

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Kutub Quizzers, New Delhi

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TOTAL

STARS

★	:	
★★	:	

<input type="checkbox"/>	1	It is an Italian sweet consisting of almonds in hard sugar-coating. Speakers of the English language should ignore a homophony and not throw it during celebrations. What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	If the pseudonymous first names of the siblings were Curren, Ellis and Acton, what would their pseudonymous surname be?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	This physical fitness system is named after its Greek-German creator, who originally called his method 'Contrology' because he believed his method used the mind to control muscles. He was interned as an enemy alien by Britain during World War I, and he used his method to help his fellow internees. What do we know it as now?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	In the late 1960s, a neurologist wrote a non-fiction book about his patients at Beth Abraham Hospital N.Y., who had been victims of the encephalitis lethargica epidemic. The book inspired a play by Harold Pinter, and a 1990 Oscar-nominated film starring Robert De Niro and Robin Williams. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	It was invented by a naval engineer in 1945. During the Vietnam war, thousands were shipped to be used as wireless antennae. In 1985, Discovery astronauts used it to demonstrate the effect of weightlessness, "It won't ___ at all. It sort of droops". Name the toy.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	It has existed as an island in its current form longer than any other island in the world, having first formed when it separated from India around 90 million years ago. Which island nation is this?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	In 1905, when Henri Matisse and a group of artists now known as Fauves exhibited their works in Paris, they faced a lot of condemnation. Matisse's <i>Woman with a Hat</i> was singled out for maximum criticism. However, the brother-and-sister owners of a local art salon rescued Matisse from his depression by buying this painting. The sister was also responsible for introducing Matisse to Picasso, and triggering a lifelong friendship between the two painters. Name her.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	A turnstile is a kind of gate that allows one person to pass at a time. Most turnstiles are at waist height, but there also exist full-height turnstiles to prevent people from jumping over. Such turnstiles operate in a manner similar to revolving doors, but look more like a set of spikes emanating from a central pole. By what name, bringing to mind a similar-looking medieval device, are full-height turnstiles also known?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Complete this baseline from an ad that had Shilpa Shetty in a body-hugging tiger-striped suit: "Beaten, Lonely and Abused. Boycott The _____".	
<input type="checkbox"/>	10 *	A saddle point between Mount Everest and Lhotse, which is the pass that usually serves as the site for the final base camp for climbers approaching Everest from the Nepal route?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Marcel Bloch, a French industrialist, was deported to Buchenwald during World War II for refusing to work with German aviation. After the war, he switched to a surname that was the pseudonym (derived from <i>char d'assaut</i> , the French term for 'tanks') of his brother, a General in the French resistance. Give his new surname, which we would know in India in connection with certain IAF fighter planes.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	12	In antiquity, this word was used to describe a follower of Zoroaster. Its usage soon extended to include anyone practicing astrology, alchemy and the occult, from which another word in English gets its origin. However, its current meaning is derived from the way it is used in the Gospel of St. Mathew. What is this word?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	13	Who is the only Indian to win a BAFTA acting award, for a supporting role in a movie that dominated the Oscar sweepstakes in 1982?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	14	One night at a bar, an old friend tells Ari about a recurring nightmare in which he is chased by 26 vicious dogs. Every night, he sees the same number of beasts. The two men conclude that the dream is connected to their Israeli Army mission in the first Lebanon War of the early eighties. Ari is surprised that he cannot remember anything about that period of his life. Intrigued by this riddle, he decides to meet and interview old friends and comrades around the world. What was made as a result?	



<input type="checkbox"/>	15	A clipped form of this animal's name (from Algonquin, meaning 'the one which rubs, scrubs and scratches with its hands') is an ethnic slur. Identify this 'masked bandit', which remains much sought after for its fur.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	16	The Darwin Medal is awarded by the Royal Society every alternate year for "work of acknowledged distinction in the broad area of biology in which Charles Darwin worked". Who was the first winner of this award, in 1890, "for his independent origination of the theory of the origin of species by natural selection"?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	17	In Wisden's list of the 'Greatest Cricketers of the Century', who is the only cricketer in the top five who has not been knighted yet?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	18	Who was the eldest son of Yayati who is believed to have started one of the five main clans of Aryan India, in which Lord Krishna was born many generations later?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	19	This 19th Century Maharaja who died at the young age of 33 was known less for his administrative skills and more for his contribution to Carnatic music, having composed more than 400 songs in his very short lifetime. Some well known compositions of his include <i>Padmanabha Pahi</i> , <i>Sarasijanabha</i> and <i>Deva Deva</i> . Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	20 *	Which political personality, supposedly the inspiration for a well known Bollywood movie, translated Taslima Nasreen's <i>Lajja</i> into Oriya?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	21	The second busiest airport in Denmark after Copenhagen is in Billund, a small town of population 6000. The air traffic is primarily freight, though tourists also constitute a significant chunk. All this air traffic can be attributed to something that began operations from this small town in the 1930's. What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	22	It was built to counter the Lorenz SZ 40/42. After World War II, Winston Churchill ordered it to be destroyed into "pieces no bigger than a man's hand". A team led by Tony Sale finished rebuilding it in 2007. What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	23	To travel from one side to the other, you have to cross the following points: Gatún, Trinidad Turn, Bohío Turn, Orchid Turn, Frijoles Turn, Barbacoa Turn, Mamei Turn, Gamboa Reach, Bas Obispo Reach, Las Cascadas Reach, Empire Reach, Culebra Reach, Cucaracha Reach, Paraiso Reach, Pedro Miguel, Miraflores and Balboa Reach. What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	24	When supermodel Claudia Schiffer first hit the ramp in the early 90s, her initial fame rested on the fact that she bore a striking resemblance to which siren of yesteryears?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	25	Sadi Carnot's 1824 paper <i>Reflexions sur la puissance motrice du feu</i> , or <i>Reflections on the Motive Power of Fire</i> is considered as the origin for what branch of science?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	26	<i>A Mouthful of Sky</i> was the first serial in English to be produced in India. It was about five MBAs who reunite 13 years after graduation to confront a macabre secret from the past, which a group of enemies uses against them. The thriller includes sub-plots about urban Indians and the conflict between their Indian-ness and their Westernized outlook. The serial was directed by Mahesh Bhatt amongst others, but who wrote the story?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	27	So far, this artist has self-published five books which feature his writings and photographs of his art. They are titled <i>Existencilism</i> , <i>Banging Your Head Against a Brick Wall</i> , <i>Cut It Out</i> , <i>Pictures of Walls</i> and <i>Wall and Piece</i> . His real identity is not known, and his works are often treated as vandalism by city councils. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	28	The city of 's-Hertogenbosch (yes, it starts with an apostrophe!) gets its name from the contraction of a Dutch phrase meaning 'the Duke's forest'. Which painter, to whom only about 25 paintings have been attributed, lived all of his life in or near this city?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	29	He first got attention with his 1951 album <i>Rocket 88</i> . Then, after a teenage girl grabbed the mike at one of his shows, the two collaborated on many hits. Name the duo. No half points.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	30 **	The tree with the botanical name <i>Albizia saman</i> is one of the most widespread trees in the world. It has many names, but which English name was coined in India with reference to a tendency which is due to the wet discharge from cicadas feeding on its leaves?	



<input type="checkbox"/>	31	A type of carriage in India; also known as the Friendly Islands (on account of the friendly reception accorded to Captain Cook on his first visit in 1773); an island-dwelling villain in one of the Sherlock Holmes novels; Intel's first Mobile Pentium II chip. What is the common word?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	32	This Indian entity has more than 150,000 offices, more than half a million employees, and celebrated 150 years of existence in 2004. It unveiled a new red & yellow logo on 23rd September 2008. What brand name has it adopted over the recent years?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	33	Literally, it means 'The Way of the Warrior'. Its origins go back to the 9th century AD and it has seven key principles: Rectitude, Courage, Benevolence, Respect, Honesty, Honour and Loyalty. Which code of conduct?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	34	A genus of spiders that are roughly 2mm in length, and the square-cube law in biomechanics which is used to explain how water but not land can support gigantic animals like the blue whale, both owe their name to which fictional island?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	35	In 1717 Peter the Great of Russia visited Versailles, where he was impressed by a château that Louis XIV had built as his retreat where he could be alone. When Peter built his own Peterhof, he too included a small out-building named after this retreat. Then, when Catherine the Great built an extension to the Winter Palace, she did the same. What is this extension known as?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	36	The apt name for which class of molluscs, which includes the nautilus, octopuses, squid and cuttlefish, is Greek for 'head-feet' as they are characterized by a large head, no body to speak of, and tentacles?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	37	A three-day event, dubbed 'The Sale of the Century', was held at the Paris Grand Palais in February 2009. It was not really a sale but an auction of the art (including works by Duchamp, Matisse and Mondrian) collected by a famous (now deceased) designer and his business and former life partner Pierre Bergé. Name the designer.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	38	When Emerson, Lake and Palmer were putting their band together as a keyboard-bass-drums trio, they talked about adding one more instrument to the mix. The press was printing articles saying the band would be called HELP, but circumstances of September 1970 came in the way. Who was to be the fourth?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	39	In politics, it is used to describe a small region where political tendencies, such as the result of an election, match those of a wider area. It comes from the practice of placing a certain object around the neck of a ram leading its flock of sheep, so that the flock could be heard well before being sighted. Name the term, which is also used in sociology in a similar way.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	40 *	A common first name for women in the Arab world, and the etymological root of a well known fragrant flower, what is Persian for 'gift from God'?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	41	Most historians trace the origin of these in the US to the frontier artist George Catlin who in 1832, after a tour sketching the tribes of the Great Plains, expressed hope that the government might set aside a vast section of the West for a "_____, containing man and beast, in all the wild and freshness of their nature's beauty!". What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	42	The name comes from the plural of an Arabic word for pepper. It is a fried ball or patty made from spiced fava beans and/or chickpeas, and is a popular form of fast food in the Middle East. It may be eaten whole or crushed, topped with salads, pickled vegetables and sauces, and often filled into flat bread. The Egyptian variation uses fava beans and the Israeli version uses chickpeas. Name the food item.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	43	The first word that Anne Sullivan taught a student in March 1887 was 'doll'. The second was 'water'. Who was that student?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	44	In formal logic, it is an argument whose conclusion does not follow from its premises. In conversations or literature, it is a comment which, due to its lack of meaning relative to the comment it follows, is absurd to the point of being humorous or confusing. Literally, it is Latin for 'it does not follow'. What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	45	Solanaceae is informally known as the nightshade family or potato family. It includes the deadly nightshade, capsicum, potato, tomato, eggplant, tobacco and petunia. Another member of this family has oddly shaped roots which	



		resemble human figures, and used to be associated with magical powers in ancient times. Name it.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	46	According to Vedic myths, this God's first victory was against Vritra, the demon of drought who was holding captive in his mountain fortress a herd of cattle belonging to the Aryans. Mankind entreated the aid of Gods, and he impulsively seized the nectar of the gods, Soma, and drank a deep draught. Then he snatched up his weapon which had been fashioned by the divine artisan Twashtri and went about subduing Vritra. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	47	The name of which blue pigment is Latin for 'beyond the sea' because it used to be imported from Asia by sea?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	48	Nymphaea are the national flowers of Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. They have been the subjects of a series of more than 250 paintings, one of which was sold recently for more than US \$80 million. What is the common name of this flower?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	49	In 1859, a rancher named Thomas Austin released 24 of them in Australia because he noted, "the introduction of a few _____ could do little harm and might provide a touch of home, in addition to a spot of hunting". By 1907, the nuisance caused by their high population had led to more than 2000 miles of fences, as they did not have natural predators in the continent. Fill up the blank.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	50 *	Though he is most associated with Big Bang cosmology and is well known for his popular science writing, in the last years of his life he turned his attention to genetics and came up with the first attempt to decipher the genetic code. Though his system has since then been proved incorrect, it still remains seminal in the field of genetics. Identify the scientist.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	51	This term was first used to refer to experimental plays produced on low budgets in small theatres. Such plays grew in importance after 1952 with José Quintero's productions. Identify this two-word term.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	52	He was a journalist, columnist, cartoonist, short story writer and novelist rolled into one. Early in his career he worked as a cartoonist for Shanker's Weekly. When Parkinson's overtook him in the 1990s, he had been drawing for The Statesman. Identify this Padma Bhushan awardee, whose first novel is considered to divide his state's literature into pre-Khasak and post-Khasak eras.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	53	His father, Y Zhiyuan, is 6' 7" (201 cm); his mother, Fengdi Fang, is 6' 3" (190 cm). The boy's parents were the tallest couple in China at the time of his birth in 1980. Name the child.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	54	In 1998, who was awarded a special silver plaque by the International Mathematical Union, because he was not eligible for the Fields Medal, as he was then more than 40 years old?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	55	He once saved a family of serpents trapped in an ascetic's fire due to which they became his protectors. That is why in sculpture and paintings, this Jain Tirthankara is frequently depicted with a canopy of snake hoods over his head. Name him.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	56	Which giant of science, known for his kinetic theory of gases and an associated constant named for him, probably suffered from bipolar disorder, explaining his rapid mood swings, one of which led to his suicide in 1906?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	57	Kalidasa has written a play and Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar' a Jnanpith award winning poem, both based on a celestial maiden who married Pururavas, an ancestor of the Kauravas & Pandavas. Name her.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	58	Whose F1 career reads as follows: mechanic for March Engineering in 1976, machinist for the new Williams team in 1978, technical director of Benetton in 1991, technical director of Ferrari in 1996, technical director of Honda in 2007 and team owner in 2009?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	59	For thousands of years, a broad treeless land-bridge connected Siberia and Alaska. It was a corridor which enabled early man, fauna and flora to migrate east or west. It is named for a foreign-born navigator who served with the Russian Navy for his entire career. Name him.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	60 **	It is the capital of the Russian Republic of Tatarstan, and takes its name from the Tatar word for 'cauldron'. A 2-time Best Director Oscar winner, whose original surname was Turkish for 'son of a cauldron maker' was better known	



		by this shorter surname meaning just 'cauldron'. So, what is the Tatar / Turkish word?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	61	Anchors are of various sizes. What is the largest of them all called, a phrase often used by cricket commentators to refer to batsmen whose role is to hold the innings together?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	62	He was celebrated in his lifetime for his zoological illustrations. Employed as a draughtsman by the Zoological Society of London, his many paintings include those of several dozens of parrots. His diagrams were extremely accurate and in his honour the Indigo Macaw is now also known by his name. Identify this person.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	63	Departure from Hong Kong: April 4, 1914. Burrard Inlet near Vancouver: May 23, 1914. Arrival into Calcutta: Sep 26, 1914. Plot for Deepa Mehta's new movie, <i>Exclusion</i> . Name the ship.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	64	In the late 1930s, he worked as an assistant in the Buenos Aires Municipal Library. He was dismissed and "promoted" to a lowly position when Juan Perón became President in 1946. In 1955, the new anti-Peronist military government appointed him head of the National Library. He resigned as director when Perón returned from exile to become president in 1973. Name this perennial bridesmaid for the Nobel Prize in Literature.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	65	When Potti Sriramulu undertook a fast-unto-death for the creation of a separate Andhra state, which city did he demand be made the capital of the Andhra state?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	66	A former princely state of the Rajputana, and the collective name for a dozen Tamil poet saints of the 6th to 9th century AD share the same anglicized spelling. What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	67	She has been the subject of a 30-minute Merchant-Ivory documentary titled _____, <i>Queen of the Nautch Girls</i> and a biography titled <i>Life and Times of an H-Bomb</i> . One of her most famous scenes featured an outsized typewriter. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	68	What two-word phrase is used to describe companies that do not produce any goods or services of their own, but exist for the sole purpose of owning shares in other companies?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	69	Give a two-word connection: 1967 – Maushumi Chatterjee, 1976 – Rajni Sharma, 2008 – Avika Gor.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	70 *	Rock singer and drummer Don Henley is involved with quite a few environmental causes, the most notable of which involves the protection of a lake and the forests surrounding it – a lake that has an irrevocable association with a work of literature published in 1854. Which lake?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	71	He has been called the 'Dickens of Detroit' and has written a famous essay featuring his <i>Ten Rules of Writing</i> . Many of his novels have been adapted into movies, as also his short story <i>Three-Ten to Yuma</i> . Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	72	The first model, called the 0 Series, was introduced in 1964 just ahead of the Olympics being staged in the country. Progress of technology led to the latest N700 Series, causing the 0 Series to be withdrawn in 2008. What are we talking about?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	73	Janakpur, a city in Nepal just 20km from the Indian border, takes its name from the most well known mythological king of the Videha kingdom. What was the ancient name of this city?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	74	This composer's works are usually catalogued by a D number, from D1 to D998. He worked like a demon. In just 17 years, he wrote more than 600 songs, at least 10 symphonies (finished or otherwise) and numerous other string quartets, masses, operas, piano sonatas and short dance pieces. He died aged just 31, apparently of syphilis. He was buried next to Beethoven. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	75	The roots of this word ultimately lie in 'venus', thus some etymologists speculate that the original connotation might have been 'love potion'. What's the good word?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	76	Which reptile has a diet made up primarily of snakes, a fact that is reflected in its genus name <i>Ophiophagus</i> ?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	77	This country gets its Latin name from a Celtic tribe that settled in the region more than two millennia ago. Although it now has four other official languages,	



		the postage stamps still use this Latin name. Name the country.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	78	Which artefact, housed at the Louvre, Paris, is the subject of a joke that has endured many generations: "See what will happen if you don't stop biting your fingernails"?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	79	India dominates the world market in the production and export of psyllium. It is mainly used as a dietary fiber (because is not absorbed by the small intestine) and a demulcent (an agent which forms a soothing film over a membrane). In India we know it by a name which is Persian in origin. What?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	80 *	This variety of silk is manufactured using the cocoons of silkworms that are fed on sal, arjuna and saja tree leaves as opposed to mulberry leaves. The Kharsawa / Kuchai area of Jharkhand is the epicentre of the production of this variety of silk. Identify this fabric, which sometimes is also known as Kosa silk.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	81	What is common to the following incidents from Greek mythology – Atalanta's race against Hippomenes, Hercules' eleventh labour, and the judgement of Paris?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	82	Who was the journalist who won a Pulitzer in 1970 for exposing the My Lai massacre? He is a regular contributor to the New Yorker, and has written <i>The Dark Side of Camelot</i> about JFK, <i>The Price of Power: Kissinger in the White House</i> and <i>Chain of Command: The Road from 9/11 to Abu Ghraib</i> .	
<input type="checkbox"/>	83	In 1969, a graduate in sociology was entrusted a job by a committee set up during the Gandhi centenary celebrations in Patna: to liberate scavengers. Though the committee failed to make an impact, the sociologist persevered. He resigned from the committee and designed a flush toilet which functioned without being connected to the sewerage system. The rest, as they say, is history. Name him.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	84	In 1967, after Francis Chichester completed the first English solo circumnavigation of the earth, he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II, who used the same sword that had been used by Queen Elizabeth I about 400 years ago to knight whom for his circumnavigation?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	85	Located in the heart of a capital city of a Southeast Asian country, this park was originally called Luneta because of its lunar shape. It was later renamed as Rizal Park in the honour of Dr. José Rizal who was executed here, making him a hero of the independence movement of this country. Name the capital city where Rizal Park is located.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	86	According to its governing body, there are five recognized non-folk or International disciplines in this sport. Freestyle, Beach, Submission and Sambo are four of them. Name the last one.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	87	Born in Pune, this pretty brown-eyed Jewish girl with olive-coloured skin fulfilled the criteria for the ideal Indian beauty. Name this former telephone operator who was one of the earliest to play Anarkali on screen.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	88	In Forbes' list of the 100 most powerful women, the same person has topped the list in 2006, 2007 & 2008. That person wasn't anywhere in the list in 2005, having come into the public eye only in the last couple of months of 2005. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	89	The passageways of the famous Nataraja temple in Chidambaram are lined with illustrations from which ancient Indian treatise?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	90 **	Charles Dickens hated him because he showed Christ as a snivelling child of a carpenter. But ironically, Charles Dickens' daughter ended up as the model for a few of his paintings. Identify this celebrated British painter, who caused a scandal by running off with the wife of his patron, a famous art critic.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	91	Which painter, who was requested by Rabindranath Tagore to head the newly set up Kala Bhavan in Shanti Niketan, became in 1956 the second person to be elected a Fellow of the Lalit Kala Akademi, after Jamini Roy?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	92	The limited overs team of which English first-class cricket club wear a primarily dark green kit, and call themselves the Outlaws?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	93	<i>Sunlight Surround You</i> was a 1970 novel written by three sisters – Nayantara Sehgal, Chandralekha Mehta, and Rita Dar as a tribute to their mother. Who was their mother?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	94	On his country's independence in 1960, in a ceremony attended by many dignitaries including King Baudouin, he delivered a famous speech after being officially excluded from the event programme, despite being the elected Prime	



		Minister. His was deposed as PM after barely ten weeks, and murdered four months later. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	95	There are many theories for the origin of its name: from the appearance of a rolled up wheat tortilla, which vaguely resembles the ear of a donkey, or from bedrolls and packs that donkeys carried, or from one of its pioneers who used to sell tacos in a street stand, using a donkey as a transport for himself and the food. What is this Mexican food item?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	96	Who is the first in this series: Ruben Studdard, Fantasia Barrino, Carrie Underwood, Taylor Hicks, Jordin Sparks, David Cook?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	97	The recipient had to kneel before the institute's Vice-Chancellor, while this large item, elaborately hued and emblazoned with poetry, was lowered from the upstairs balcony of the Senate House. The person had to carry the item off with him into the distance with as much pathos and equanimity as he could muster. What item?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	98	What geographical feature connects Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	99	He was the second-youngest recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature (after Rudyard Kipling), the first Africa-born writer to receive the award, and the shortest-lived of any literature laureate to date, having died in an automobile accident only three years after receiving the award. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	100 *	Jim Winchester's book <i>The World's Worst Aircraft</i> describes a US defense project that ultimately got cancelled because there was no "valid military use for an aircraft that could be brought down by a well-aimed bow and arrow." Which company constructed the said flying machine?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	101	In 1492 the Moors were driven out and Spain was united by Ferdinand of Aragon & Isabella of Castille. To celebrate this, the local dance called the paloteao was incorporated into a larger pageant called the moresca, and performed at the royal court. To some, this is the origin for the name of a particular English folk practice. Which?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	102	Javed Akhtar, in love with actress Honey Irani, requested his partner Salim Khan to meet her mother Perin Irani on his behalf. The conversation that took place between Salim and Perin was incorporated into which film's script?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	103	This photographer adopted his surname (Hungarian for 'shark') because he felt that it would be recognizable and American-sounding since it was similar to that of a famous film director who himself was famous as "the name above the title". Which photographer?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	104	Though principally known for a sonnet she wrote in 1883, she was an important forerunner of the Zionist movement. Aware of the Russian pogroms against the Jews, she argued for the creation of a Jewish homeland years before Herzl began to use the term Zionism. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	105	Complete the list: Dhanvantari, Kshapanaka, Amarasimha, Shanku, Vetala Bhatt, Ghatkarpara, Varahamihira, Vararuchi and _____.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	106	Capri pants, toreador pants, clam diggers, pirate pants and calypso pants are all similar styles of mid-calf pants that were popular in the 1950s and early 1960s. What other name came from their design, which prevented the pant legs from getting caught in the spokes or the sprocket of a bicycle?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	107	Easily the most overlooked member of a famous trio, the other bands this bassist has played for include Eyes Adrift, Sweet 75, No WTO Combo, The Stinkypuffs, Sky Cries Mary and Aya. He is currently active in politics and even wrote a book titled <i>Of Grunge and Government: Let's Fix This Broken Democracy</i> . Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	108	The first opera to be composed in Kashmiri was _____ <i>ta Yembarzal</i> (meaning 'Bumblebee and Narcissus'), written in 1945 by the Soviet Land Nehru Award winning poet Nadim. Which Shankar-Ehsaan-Loy song brought this popular Kashmiri tune into popular consciousness in the year 2000?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	109	Voldemort's wand; symbol of death; longbows; cancer-fighter. Which evergreen tree?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	110 *	What sweet dish, a staple of the Madhwa sect of Brahmins, is named after a horse-headed deity common to both Hinduism and Buddhism?	





<input type="checkbox"/>	111	On the 31st of December 1600, Queen Elizabeth I granted a Royal Charter to "George, Earl of Cumberland, and 215 Knights, Aldermen, and Burgesses". What came out of this?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	112	Set up in 1835 to protect British settlements and plantations, it was called the Cachar Levy. Which is India's oldest paramilitary force?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	113	Stars; forks and knives ranging from one to five; black or red symbols for an interesting view; grapes for good wine; and coins for those that are below a certain price. Where can one expect to find all of these?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	114	What name is shared by a Spanish explorer who was sent by Francisco Pizarro during the conquest of Peru to meet the Inca leader Atahualpa and a Peruvian economist known for his work on informal economy and property rights?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	115	In 1949 Prof. Naziruddin Ahmed, a member of India's Constituent Assembly, recommended which language as the official administrative language as it was "impartially difficult" for everybody?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	116	He had a problem as director of the film, <i>The Bellboy</i> : he could not view his scenes through the camera while acting. So he mounted a video camera on the motion picture camera which allowed him to simultaneously watch each scene (as a director) and participate (as an actor). His 'Video Assist' system was a hit with most directors and became a mainstay of film production leading to a patent for his innovation, a rarity for artistes. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	117	Dubhe, Merak, Phecda, Megrez, Alioth, Mizar and Alkaid are Arabic words, the first meaning 'bear' and some of the others denoting parts of the animal like 'thigh', 'loins', 'back' and 'tail'. Where will you find them in close proximity to one another?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	118	Many surgical procedures carried out on the eye begin with the prefix <i>kerat</i> from the Greek word for horn. For example, keratomileusis, the 'K' in LASIK surgery. What part of the eye is the subject of these operations?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	119	What phrase owes its origin to the fact that the density of water is 1gm/cc and the density of ice is about 0.92 gm/cc?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	120 **	These are three-line compositions – a unique form attributed to Gulzar. The translation of a typical one: "After ages I took the hat off the hanger, To discover a long strand of hair on the collar, I seem to remember, I wore it last winter." Name such compositions – the name having some connection to Indian rivers.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	121	The Mediterranean Sea contains two island nations. One of them is Malta. Name the other.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	122	In 1974, Giani Zail Singh, the Chief Minister of Punjab, had this person's remains exhumed about 34 years after his death, and brought to India from Pentonville Jail in London. It was ceremonially carried on a tour through Punjab, before being cremated in his hometown of Sunam. Whose remains?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	123	Lord Elgin, the British Viceroy of India, wanted this town to be the summer capital of India. Named after a Lieutenant Governor of Punjab, which town situated at the foothills of the Dhauladhar Range is nicknamed 'Little Lhasa'?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	124	In Hindu mythology, it served as the vehicle for Ganga & Varuna, and also as the insignia of Kamadeva. Identify this creature which was represented in many composite animal forms, with the crocodile and river dolphin as common inspirations?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	125	The name of which peninsula is a corruption of 'Goguryeo', the name of an ancient kingdom that ruled over the region from the 1st Century BC to the 7th Century AD?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	126	Which popular tourist island would you be visiting if you land at the capital town of Denpasar, bargain for paintings at Ubud, play at the Kuta beach and while away the evening watching a Legong dance performance?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	127	Identify based on these facts: winner of the first ever YouTube Visionary Award in November 2008; appointed by her husband to the rank of honorary colonel in her country's army; has worked for Citibank and Apple; she and her husband were on the 'Power Couple' list which came with the 'TIME 100' list for 2006.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	128	<i>For the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field, For the Amelioration of the Condition of Wounded, Sick</i>	



		<i>and Shipwrecked Members of Armed Forces at Sea, Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, and Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.</i> What is the collective phrase used to describe the four documents whose titles are given above?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	129	Which country has a community-based power-sharing system where by law the President has to be a Maronite Catholic Christian, the Prime Minister a Sunni Muslim and the Parliament Speaker a Shia Muslim?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	130 *	The author of a novel described by the Irish Times as "the most important Irish novel since <i>Ulysses</i> ", died in 1981 after choking on a dinner of lamb chops and potatoes. Name the Oscar-winning movie and his autobiography which share a title, derived from an incident in his childhood, about how he picked up a piece of chalk his sister was playing with.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	131	What five-letter word, popularized by George Orwell's 1984, is short for a word first coined by communist authors who borrowed an ancient Roman term for a citizen of the lowest class?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	132	Which mountain range, located at the junction or knot of the Tian Shan, Karakoram, Kunlun, and Hindu Kush ranges, has been known for centuries as 'The Roof of the World', a direct translation of its name?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	133	Recently-hatched fish which have absorbed their yolk sacs and can hunt and consume live food are known by a specific term. We usually come across the word in a 2-word phrase referring to persons or things regarded as unimportant or little. What word?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	134	Henry North Holroyd, 3rd Earl of _____, sponsored and accompanied the WG Grace led England team that toured Australia in 1891-92. At the end of the tour, he donated 150 pounds to the New South Wales Cricket Association as the fund to start something that continues to this day. Fill up the blank.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	135	He was born in the Jura region of France in 1821 and opened a Malletier shop in Paris in 1854. In the same year he created innovative pieces of his art to accommodate the voluminous dresses worn by France's Empress Eugenie, wife of Napoleon III, and his future was assured. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	136	Which familiar logo, whose colours may have been taken from the flag of Spain, is called the Pecten as it is based on the shape of the Great Scallop ( <i>Pecten maximus</i> )?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	137	In the early 1980s James Cameron was writing three screenplays simultaneously: <i>The Terminator</i> , the second Rambo movie and one more. Sylvester Stallone eventually took over the script of the Rambo movie. The third movie earned an Oscar nomination for the leading lady, whose character made it to the cover of TIME magazine and remains a feminist icon. Be precise in naming the movie.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	138	The population of what is divided into Western Lowland, Cross River, Eastern Lowland, Mountain and Bwindi?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	139	Almost fifty percent of the earth's deposit of this element is in the world's largest salt flat of Salar de Uyuni in Bolivia. With this element's importance suddenly growing due to the emerging need for efficient batteries, there is concern that the oil crisis may get duplicated. Which chemical element?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	140 *	Which Hugo, Nebula and Pulitzer prize winning novelist helpfully suggests that people who are confused about how to pronounce his surname should think of Shea Stadium and Bon Jovi?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	141	King Udayana, his queen Vasavadatta, his love interest who uses the pseudonym Sagarika and a talking bird called Sarika, are the main characters in which 7th century Sanskrit drama written by an emperor?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	142	Folklore has it that Henry VIII wrote it for his future queen Anne Boleyn, though the song originated later during the Elizabethan age. In one interpretation the song is about a promiscuous woman, with the title referring to grass stains on her dress as she had made love outdoors. Identify the song, which had a famous version arranged by Ralph Vaughn Williams.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	143	DEKA R&D's aim is to foster innovation. It has designed wheelchairs, personal transport devices, prosthetics and a cheap water purifier which was named a runner-up in TIME magazine's 'coolest invention of 2003' list. Name its founder.	



<input type="checkbox"/>	144	Under pressure from the Jewish lobby, the president of a European country was officially deemed persona non grata by the United States throughout his term (1986-92). Quite ironic, considering the post he held for 10 years starting from 1st Jan 1971. Who?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	145	Large hummingbirds, spiders, monkeys, llamas, fish and lizards sketched in the ground. Unaltered for centuries due to a dry, windless climate. Where?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	146	Educated as a zoologist at Cambridge, his first television success was <i>Zoo Quest</i> . He went on to become the Director of Programmes for all BBC television for a number of years. Full name please.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	147	The 1999 Cricket World Cup was hosted by 5 countries. Name the only host country that is not part of the British Isles?	
<input type="checkbox"/>	148	Balkh (also known as Bactra) was a major city till it was destroyed by the Mongols. The city, located in today's Afghanistan, is near Mazar-e-Sharif. It was here that a king, after conquering Balkh, married Roxana – the first of his wives. She bore him a son after his death but both she and the son were killed later. Identify the king.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	149	On 25 May 1965, in Lewiston, Maine, all that the photographer Neil Leifer heard was the crowd shouting, "Fake, Fake". He prayed, "Stay there, stay still". The outcome was a photograph regarded as the most iconic in that sport. Whom do you see in this photograph? Two names. No half points.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	150 **	What is the Latin word for 'bark' or 'rind' which can mean any of the following: in anatomy, the outermost or superficial layer of an organ; in botany, the outer portion of the stem or root of a plant; in archaeology, the outer layer of rock formed on the exterior of raw materials by chemical and mechanical processes?	

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This quiz was set by Dibyendu Das, Thejaswi Udupa, Ochintya Sharma, Avinash Thirumalai and Arun Hiregange (with Arul Mani as grammarian & guinea pig) of the Karnataka Quiz Association. To contact us, email kqaquizzes@gmail.com.



## Feedback Sheet

1. Please tell us what you thought of the quiz. Your suggestions, if any, are welcome. If you have attempted MahaQuizzer previously, please do tell us how you would rate this year's edition in relation to previous editions.

Based on feedback over the years, we have switched to a larger font and set shorter questions.

2. How did you hear about MahaQuizzer?

3. In your opinion which were the best and worst questions in this edition of Mahaquizzer?

4. If you would like to be added to KQA's mailing lists, please write your email ID here:

Thank you for being part of MahaQuizzer 2009!

DD, Udupa, Ochintya, Gajju, Appu, Arul  
(Karnataka Quiz Association)

