

KQA MAHAQUIZZER

The 2007 edition

Name:

Organisation/Institution:

Category: Open/School/College/Ladies

Rules

No negative marking
Time allowed: 90 minutes
★/★★ed questions will resolve ties
Wait for start signal

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TOTAL

STARS

<input type="checkbox"/>	1. What was created by Royal Charter in 1600, replaced by the British Crown in 1858, and dissolved by an Act of Parliament in 1874?	1.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Which art gallery is named in honour of a sugar refiner who made it big after buying the patent on the manufacture of sugar cubes in 1872?	2.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. The biggest player in this industry runs a wing named <i>Element Six</i> devoted to profitable ways of engineering the product. The best known method is Chemical Vapour Deposition (CVD), by which methane and hydrogen are passed through a chamber containing seed slivers. Heat causes methane to lose hydrogen atoms, thus ensuring that the product is available in weeks rather than in hundreds of years. What is the product?	3.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Many attempts were made to standardize its composition for European kitchens — of these the one that carried the most weight was set by decree at the Universal Paris Exhibition in 1889. The standard thus set was: 34 g tamarind, 44 g onion, 20 g coriander, 5 g chilli pepper, 3 g turmeric, 2 g cumin, 3 g fenugreek, 2 g pepper and 2 g mustard. What?	4.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Patients suffering from a rupture of the biceps tendon may develop a bulge in their arm. This is the retracted muscle bunched up in the arm, and is sometimes referred to as a “_____ Muscle” in medical circles because the muscle is more pronounced than normal. Fill in the blank.	5.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. The use of the term ‘Geyser’ for hot springs began as the result of an 1847 suggestion by the German chemist Robert Bunsen. The word is derived from <i>Geysir</i> , the famous hot springs of which country?	6.
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. What, in 1881, was found to have the following impurities: uncombined alkali: 0.11%; carbonates: 0.28%; and mineral matter: 0.17%?	7.
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Dr. James Maas is a social psychologist who has taught popular <i>Psychology 101</i> courses at Cornell University for many years. He is best known for his work in the field of sleep research, specifically the relationship between sleep and performance. He wrote a best-selling book on sleep in 1997 and is widely known for coining which related two-word term?	8.
<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Its characteristic green colour is due to the formation of verdigris, a copper oxide. The star-shaped enclosure around it is a remnant of Fort Wood, a garrison that was in operation from 1541 to 1877. It bears an inscription that begins “Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame”. What?	9.
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. In 1925, a young American physicist was doing graduate work at Cambridge University. He was depressed as he had just broken up with his girl-friend. In addition, he had been asked to make thin films of beryllium although his interest was really in theoretical physics. In the fall of that year, he dosed an apple with toxic chemicals and put it on the desk of his tutor, Patrick Blackett. Blackett luckily did not eat the apple but the authorities found out about this and put the student on probation. He left at the end of the academic year and joined the University of Göttingen where he made important contributions to quantum theory. Which famous scientist?	10.
<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Provide one word that connects the personification of the rainbow in Greek mythology, a hit song from the soundtrack of <i>City of Angels</i> , a part of the human anatomy, an opera by Pietro Mascagni, the state flower of Tennessee and a 2001 biopic about a British novelist.	11.
<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Although the Kumbha Mela has its origins in mythology, the modern version is said to take its form from the fact that a certain king called for a large conclave to give out alms to ascetics in the 6 th century. Who?	12.
<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Its name comes from a Greek word that denotes both ‘hatred’ and ‘extreme cold’. In the epics of Homer, the Gods swore by this as their most binding oath. Its effects could only be resisted by the hooves of a horse or an ass. What was this?	13.
<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Known as Camphire in the Bible and as <i>Lawsonia inermis</i> to botanists. Its use as cosmetic dates as far back as ancient Egypt — archaeologists report that it was used to stain the fingernails of mummified bodies. Identify plant/product?	14.
<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Whose obituary, written by Thomas Lask for New York Times on August 6, 1975, ended thus: ““Nothing in his life became him like the leaving of it”, to quote Shakespeare, whom he frequently misquoted.”?	15.
<input type="checkbox"/>	16. At the global level, this record is held by the Agricultural Bank of China unit at Naqu. In India, till recently, the record was held by the UTI bank unit at Thegi, but it is to be overshadowed soon by the Union Bank of India unit at Sherathang. What are we talking about?	16.



<input type="checkbox"/>	17. This aviation company built the plane on which Amy Johnson made her famous solo flight from Australia to England in 1930. They also made the <i>Mosquito</i> — a plane built entirely out of wood. In 1952, they launched the <i>Comet</i> , touted as the world's first commercial jet airliner — a venture whose failure plunged them into the red. Name the company.	17.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	18. What word is used to describe the adult, reproductive stage of an insect that has undergone full metamorphosis, especially in relation to butterflies and dragonflies?	18.
<input type="checkbox"/>	19. The islands Baltra, Bartolomé, Darwin, Española, Fernandina, Floreana, Genovesa, Isabela, Marchena, Pinta, Pinzón, Rábida, San Cristóbal, Santa Cruz, Santa Fe, Santiago and Wolf are part of an archipelago. In 1959, the country that administers it declared that 97.5% of the area would become part of a new national park. Identify the archipelago.	19.
<input type="checkbox"/>	20. He was sent to Rugby at the age of 13 — from where he remembers a traumatic morning spent in figuring out how to eat a kipper. At Cambridge, he read History, with an emphasis on Islamic subjects, and developed an interest in acting. After graduating in 1968, he moved to Pakistan, where his parents were now based. He returned within the year to England, after an attempt at staging Edward Albee's <i>The Zoo Story</i> got him into trouble with the censors on account of its references to pork. His first book was published in 1974 and disappeared without a trace. It was not until seven years later that he became something of a sensation. Who?	20.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	21. This general gave each of the men on his small force a trumpet, a torch, and a clay jar. They then surrounded the enemy camp, each with a torch hidden inside the jar. At the general's signal, every man blew his trumpet and broke his jar. The sounds and the torches confused their enemies, the Midianites, and made them turn against one another. An organization founded in the United States in 1899 takes its name from this general and uses a torch within a jar as its logo. Name either the general or the organization.	21.
<input type="checkbox"/>	22. It served as the venue of Julius's Caesar's funeral. It also contains the House of the Vestal Virgins, the Temples of Saturn, Castor and Pollux and the Basilica of Constantine. Renaissance artists rediscovered the principles of classical architecture by studying its ruins. Gibbon was inspired to begin <i>Decline and Fall of Roman Empire</i> after a walk across this location. Identify?	22.
<input type="checkbox"/>	23. The trailing "e" was officially removed by Harold Macmillan in response to a perceived slight by Charles de Gaulle. In 1967, the British Government Minister for Technology, Tony Benn announced that the spelling would be changed back to the original. This created a nationalist uproar that died down when Benn stated that the suffixed "e" represented "Excellence, England, Europe and Entente (Cordiale)." What are we talking about?	23.
<input type="checkbox"/>	24. In this 1973 film, Jaisingh Jadav buys a slave, Kamla (Deepti Naval), and brings her home because he plans to produce her at a press conference to thus prove that the flesh trade still exists. His wife (Shabana Azmi) is horrified by this and wants to take care of Kamla. Her uncle is sympathetic to both sides, but wishes to protect his niece from Jaisingh's domination. The director of this offbeat film was later associated with an entirely different and sort of film, both sensational and controversial. Who was the director??	24.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★★	25. The most famous example of this phenomenon was heard during the 1870s at a small town, now in Bangladesh. Inexplicable booming sounds occurred in groups of two and three from February to October every year, and investigations failed to find a cause. The term <i>brontides</i> , from the Greek words for 'roar' and 'loud noise' is now applied to such phenomena. Some experts describe them as minor seismic events, while others hold that they occur due to disturbances in the upper reaches of the atmosphere. Name either the town, or the two-word term given to the local occurrence.	25.
<input type="checkbox"/>	26. Born as Balaji Janardhan, he served as accountant to the Peshwas. This master of espionage and political intrigue was the chief inspiration for Vijay Tendulkar's play <i>Ghasiram Kotwal</i> . Who?	26.
<input type="checkbox"/>	27. What fruit takes its name after a commune (literally meaning 'song of the wolf') in Sabina, in the Sabine Hills near Tivoli, Italy, a former country seat of the Pope, where it is said to have been first cultivated, following its introduction from Armenia?	27.
<input type="checkbox"/>	28. In 1992, nearly 35 years after his death, he was conferred the Bharat Ratna. And, for the first time, the Government sent the nation's highest civilian award by registered post, to his ailing octogenarian nephew in Calcutta. Which Indian leader?	28.
<input type="checkbox"/>	29. This magazine was launched in 1974 as a spin-off from a page bearing the same name in <i>TIME</i> Magazine. Among its 'notable' contributions to journalism are annual issues devoted to superlatives such as most beautiful, best/worst dressed and sexiest. Identify the magazine.	29.
<input type="checkbox"/>	30. In which country does the population of horses outnumber that of humans?	30.



<input type="checkbox"/> ★	31. The SI unit of electric charge is <i>coulomb</i> , named after Charles-Augustin de Coulomb. The corresponding CGS unit <i>statcoulomb</i> is also called _____, after the 1753 winner of the Copley Medal, the highest award granted by the Royal Society of London for work in any field of science.	31.
<input type="checkbox"/>	32. The case <i>Champakkam Dorairajan vs. State of Madras (1951)</i> concerning admissions of backward classes to educational institutions, led B. R. Ambedkar, then Law Minister, to pilot the first ever what?	32.
<input type="checkbox"/>	33. In 1951, American businessman Samuel Rubin purchased the rights to a famous surname from a pair of brothers who owned a small store in Paris. He had founded a cosmetics firm bearing the same name in 1937. The company, which he sold in 1964, went on to launch the cologne brand <i>Brut</i> . The rights to the surname/company's name now rest with Unilever. What is this surname?	33.
<input type="checkbox"/>	34. Elisha Gray and Johann Philip Reis laid claim to having devised this invention. Who was the author of the patent, titled <i>Improvement in Telegraphy</i> , now regarded as the most valuable single patent ever issued?	34.
<input type="checkbox"/>	35. Whose 2007 novel derives its title from <i>Hutum Pyanchar Noksha</i> , a 19th century Bengali novel written by Kaliprasanna Singha?	35.
<input type="checkbox"/>	36. C. G. Fisher made a fortune out of <i>Prest-O-Lites</i> – a car headlight company. He was also instrumental in building the first coast-to-coast highway in America, from New York to San Francisco, dubbed “America’s Main Street”. However, he is now well-known as one of the co-founders and principal owners of something that began in 1911 and has stood the test of time. What did he found?	36.
<input type="checkbox"/>	37. One part of its name comes from the fact that it makes its home among the boundaries of fields and pastures. The other part comes from its habit of rooting for food like members of the pig family. The adjective ‘erinaceous’ is derived from the Latin name for this animal. What animal?	37.
<input type="checkbox"/>	38. Between the sparkling waters of Guanabara Bay and the Atlantic ocean, in the Southern coast of Brazil, lies a massive 1325 ft outcrop of granite. It is called <i>Pao de Azucar</i> in the native tongue. How do we know it in English?	38.
<input type="checkbox"/>	39. The velocity of light, represented by ‘c’, is 299,792,458 meters per second. A mnemonic used to remember this is “A Way We Remember What Constant Is Light's Velocity”. How does one arrive at the sequence using the mnemonic?	39.
<input type="checkbox"/>	40. In 1897, John McDermott became the first person to win it. From 1991 onwards, it has been won by Kenyans except in 2001 and 2005 when a South Korean and an Ethiopian won. Cosmas Ndeti is a three time winner and set the course record in 1994. That record stood for 12 years until Robert Kipkoech Cheruiyot knocked a whole second off in 2006. Identify the event.	40.
<input type="checkbox"/>	41. Which inventor wrote an account of his best-known invention in a book titled <i>Gum Elastic and its Varieties</i> , published in 1853?	41.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	42. For hundreds of years, this bird has been trained to catch fish for its human masters in China. Identify this bird that derives its name from the Latin for ‘sea crow’?	42.
<input type="checkbox"/>	43. What was invented in 1877 by Robert Koch’s assistant, Julius Richard _____, to grow bacteria on a solid medium rather than by using a liquid broth as was the practice till then?	43.
<input type="checkbox"/>	44. He was one of the nominees for the “Best Beard of the Year” in 2006. The award was eventually won by Monty Panesar. He had earlier made his fortune by launching an adult site called BOMIS in 1996. The money earned thus helped him set up his pet project. That project is a household name today. Who are we talking about/what is this project?	44.
<input type="checkbox"/>	45. This character from a 1940 novel makes a long and difficult journey from the castle of the Duke of Rudling in Scotland back to the Carraclough farm in an impoverished mining village in Northern England. The character has inspired at least eleven movies of which the best known is a 1943 version directed by Fred Wilcox and starring Elizabeth Taylor. This version was remade in 2005. Identify the character.	45.
<input type="checkbox"/>	46. In Indian myth, the fact that Brahma is not worshipped anywhere and the fact that Shiva is worshipped as a <i>Linga</i> both relate to curses by the same sage. Who?	46.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★ ★	47. In 2006, when Apple Computers switched to Intel as their main chip supplier, they started to provide a software module for transparently translating and running software written for their older systems. Identify this software which shares its name with the Anglicized name of the Egyptian port-city of Rashid.	47.
<input type="checkbox"/>	48. Since 1985, ownership of this landmark has been vested with the clans Pitjantjatjara and Yankunyatjara. These clans deeply dislike visitors clambering all over this, calling them <i>minga</i> or ‘ants’. What are we talking about?	48.



<input type="checkbox"/>	49. Seven renowned professors lost their jobs at the University of Göttingen because they protested against the revocation of the liberal Constitution of 1833 by King Ernst Augustus of Hanover. They were W. E. Albrecht, the historian F. C. Dahlmann, the Orientalist G. A. Ewald, the historian Georg Gervinus, the physicist Wilhelm Weber, _____ and _____, both philologists. Name both people.	49.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★ ★	50. The term <i>chain reaction</i> was coined in a paper written by a Hungarian scientist in 1934. He wrote an infamous letter to Roosevelt (also signed by Einstein) urging US investment in the A-Bomb. Who?	50.
<input type="checkbox"/>	51. Complete the list: Dennis Tito, Mark Shuttleworth, Gregory Olsen, Anousheh Ansari, _____.	51.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★ ★	52. The brother of this famous person, Leicester, cobbled together floating platforms off the west coast of Jamaica in 1964 to create a micro-nation. It was dubbed the Republic of New Atlantis and created to house a marine-research society and to help protect Jamaican fishing. Official recognition did not arrive, despite their issue of stamps and overtures to Lyndon B. Johnson. Scavenging fishermen and a big storm ended the project. Undaunted, Leicester went off to found another floating country, Tierra del Mar, near the Bahamas. Name his illustrious brother.	52.
<input type="checkbox"/>	53. The ruins of this city, destroyed in 330 BC, were referred to by the name <i>Chehel Minar</i> (meaning 'the Forty Columns') from the 13 th century onwards. It is now known by the name <i>Takht-e-Jamshid</i> , or the 'Throne of Jamshid'. In 1617, Don Garcia de Silva Figueroa correctly identified this site as the ruins of a fabled city. Which city?	53.
<input type="checkbox"/>	54. Which 16 th century sculptor is remembered today on account of the ornate gold salt-cellars he designed for King Francis I?	54.
<input type="checkbox"/>	55. Which sports personality was named by his/her parents after a Japanese steak they saw on a restaurant menu?	55.
<input type="checkbox"/>	56. Gossip of an affair between Baron Georges d'Anthès and his wife started it all. An anonymous note informed him that he had been elected to 'The Serene Order of Cuckolds'. Although d'Anthès was his brother-in-law, he decided to defend his wife's honour in a pistol duel with him. Fatally wounded in the duel, he died on February 10, 1837 and the Czar had him buried in secret at the monastery near Mikhailovskoye, for fear of popular uprisings. Who?	56.
<input type="checkbox"/>	57. In Arabic, this word denoted an idol. The word traveled to Urdu where it held the same sense for centuries before the lyricist Majrooh Sultanpuri used it as a synonym for 'sweetheart' in a 1940 song. His justification was that one's beloved is like an idol that is worshipped. What word?	57.
<input type="checkbox"/>	58. Zhang Yimou's 2006 movie <i>Curse of the Golden Flower</i> is the most expensive Chinese movie till date. The title refers to a flower that was given a name meaning 'golden flower' in Greek by Carolus Linnaeus. Identify.	58.
<input type="checkbox"/>	59. This UNESCO World Heritage Site stretches for more than 30,000 hectares, between the foothills of a volcano and the valley of the Rio Grande River. It is an exquisitely blue landscape shaped by the cultivation of a plant which has found use since the 16 th century. What product of the plant is the most popular, worldwide?	59.
<input type="checkbox"/>	60. He was one of the few survivors from the U.S Marines' attack on Tarawa atoll during World War II. In his later years, he managed to write about seventy-five sleazy novels such as <i>Black Lace Drag</i> , <i>Hell Chicks</i> and <i>Purple Thighs</i> . Johnny Depp has portrayed him in a 1994 film. Who?	60.
<input type="checkbox"/>	61. Special mobile units of doctors sent out to remote places in China are commonly known as '_____ Teams' in honour of which personality?	61.
<input type="checkbox"/>	62. When the pioneering Scottish photographer John Thomson set out in 1871, it took him two days just to travel the 70-odd, or about 45 miles, kilometers to this structure from the closest major Asian city — with eight mules to carry his camera equipment. He had to process his photos immediately on glass negatives in a tent that served as a mobile darkroom. The images captured by Thomson and other early photographers caused a sensation among those Westerners who saw them. "It was like us going to a lecture and seeing photos of Mars or Venus" quoted an observer. It was known by a name meaning 'the ten thousand-unit-long' in the local language, the unit in question being equal to about half a kilometer. What did John Thomson photograph?	62.
<input type="checkbox"/>	63. This animal is known by a name derived from the Norwegian word for 'destroying'. This name is an allusion to something that happens every four years, according to lore. What animal?	63.
<input type="checkbox"/>	64. <i>The Know-It-All: One Man's Humble Quest to Become the Smartest Person in the World</i> is the title of a book by <i>Esquire</i> editor A. J. Jacobs, published in 2004. It recounts his attempt at something which has been done by very few people. The earliest recorded instance was by Fath Ali, the Shah of Persia in 1797. What did A. J. Jacobs do?	64.



<input type="checkbox"/>	65. What will you make by using one of the following methods: Building, Blending, Muddling, Rolling or Layering (among others)?	65.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	66. Also known as <i>Sabir</i> and <i>Lisan-al-Firang</i> , it died out only by the late 1800s. When the French conquered Algiers in 1830, they found that the locals used it frequently and therefore commissioned a dictionary of what they called <i>Petit-Mauresque</i> to help their soldiers communicate with the populace. Molière's play <i>Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme</i> contains a scene where it is used to carry out a conversion to Islam. What are we talking about?	66.
<input type="checkbox"/>	67. Charles Merivale and Charles Wordsworth were friends and schoolmates at Harrow. Later, Merivale joined St. John's College and Wordsworth joined Christ Church. What tradition, which continues to this day, is supposed to have been started by these friends in 1829?	67.
<input type="checkbox"/>	68. 1939 was one of Hollywood's best years. This was the year that saw the release of <i>Gone With the Wind</i> , as also <i>Stage Coach</i> , <i>Goodbye Mr. Chips</i> , <i>Mr. Smith Goes to Washington</i> and <i>Wuthering Heights</i> . Another landmark film from this year, a book-adaptation directed by Victor Fleming, was marketed as "MGM's Technicolor Triumph". Name this film.	68.
<input type="checkbox"/>	69. In 1925, seven treaties were signed at this Swiss town to guarantee peace across Europe. It now hosts a film festival. Identify this town, located on the banks of the Lake Maggiore.	69.
<input type="checkbox"/>	70. In medicine, a lumbar puncture is a diagnostic procedure that is performed in order to collect a sample of cerebrospinal fluid for analysis. What is its common name which also appeared in the title of a famous 1984 movie?	70.
<input type="checkbox"/>	71. The use of hand-held cameras for non-sports coverage on TV is said to date back to the recording of Elvis Presley's <i>Pit Sessions</i> . This particular event is thought to have been one of the major inspirations for which series that started in 1989 and featured Squeeze, Syd Straw and Elliot Easton in the first edition?	71.
<input type="checkbox"/>	72. X showed his brother how to play the lyre. The brother was so charmed by the music that he gave him something which could work as an instrument of concord. X was curious to see if this claim was true, and so tested it out on a pair of fighting animals. Who? What resulted?	72.
<input type="checkbox"/>	73. This country's largest city is Yaren. It uses the Australian Dollar as its currency. Identify this country which is perhaps the only independent country without an official capital?	73.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	74. ____ is a term coined by Desmond Tutu to describe post-1994 South Africa when apartheid rule officially ended after South Africa's first fully-democratic election. The phrase was elaborated upon by President Nelson Mandela in his first month of office, when he proclaimed: "Each of us is as intimately attached to the soil of this beautiful country as are the famous trees of Pretoria and the trees of the bushveld — a ____ at peace with itself and the world." Give the term.	74.
<input type="checkbox"/>	75. The medical term for it is <i>Cutis anserina</i> , and it occurs due to the pilomotor reflex — essentially a disturbance of the arrectores pilorum muscles. The common term for this condition has also served as the title for a 62-book horror series, written by an American author from 1992 to 1997. What term?	75.
<input type="checkbox"/>	76. What name is shared by the legume scientifically classified as <i>Vigna unguiculata unguiculata</i> and a popular American music- group originally called <i>Atban Klann</i> ?	76.
<input type="checkbox"/>	77. Relief, Incongruity, Brevity, Superiority, Indignation and Phylogenesis are some of the theories that explain why human beings carry out a unique act. What act?	77.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	78. This tributary of the Colorado river is joined by the San Francisco River and the Centennial Wash before it is obstructed by the Coolidge Dam. It served briefly as an international border, but is best known because it has lent its name to a reptile species, <i>Heloderma suspectum</i> , that can grow to about two feet in length. Name this river.	78.
<input type="checkbox"/>	79. Which building's design is supposed to have been inspired by Leinster House in Dublin and Chateau Rastignac in the Dordogne region of France?	79.
<input type="checkbox"/>	80. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif suggested its name, thus taking a cue from Allama Iqbal's poetic symbol, the eagle. He may have also gone by the insignia of the Pakistan Air Force, which is an eagle. Rumour has it that it was built using extensive external help. What was named thus?	80.
<input type="checkbox"/>	81. A company called De La Rue Identity Systems, based in Basingstoke, UK, makes a lot of money periodically out of a product called ES/A Purple, containing silver nitrate and tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol. The product has been marketed as far afield as India, Burundi, Rwanda and Bosnia. What is ES/A Purple used for?	81.

<input type="checkbox"/>	82. In newspaper parlance, it is a format (slightly longer and wider than 'tabloid') used by <i>Le Monde</i> in France, <i>Mint</i> in India and others. In food parlance, it is the name of a doughnut made from sweet yeast dough, with a marmalade or jam filling and usually icing or sugar on top, popular in Germany. It is also the surname of the person who developed the disc record gramophone in 1887. What?	82.
<input type="checkbox"/>	83. In 1902, Lord Curzon visited it with the intention of filing a report on how it would best serve British interests. He went back with the opinion that it was a lifetime experience and that it would be heinous to interfere. But, a little later, the venerable engineer Sir M. Visveswaraiiah scrawled the words "What a waste" in the visitor's book. What location?	83.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	84. Which animal takes its common name from the Maori word for 'spine on the back'?	84.
<input type="checkbox"/>	85. What innocuous looking object is featured with the inscription "Ceci n'est pas une _____" (This is not a _____) in the painting <i>The Treachery Of Images (La trahison des images)</i> by surrealist René Magritte?	85.
<input type="checkbox"/>	86. Complete John Updike's famous poetic lament: "I think that I shall never view / A French film without _____".	86.
<input type="checkbox"/>	87. This game, which originated out of discus-throwing, features players trying to land iron rings around peg-targets. It is similar to horseshoe-pitching and has lent its name to another sport where a ring is used. In myth, the death of Hyacinth (at the hands of Apollo) and that of Acrisius (at the hands of his grandson Perseus) are both said to have occurred while they were playing this game. Identify.	87.
<input type="checkbox"/>	88. What connects a popular tourist landmark in Reykjavik, an artificial island project in Qatar, a Victorian-era literature (!) magazine, a Janis Joplin album and a cell phone model launched last year?	88.
<input type="checkbox"/>	89. When Congress drafted an "act for the preservation of American antiquities" in 1906, the bill had a relatively modest goal: to stop vandalism and theft of ancient Native American artifacts in America's southwest. But legislator's language helped it evolve into something far bigger. The act led to the Presidents of America creating something of lasting value. What are these?	89.
<input type="checkbox"/>	90. She made her acting debut as Neena Lal in the 1988 film <i>The Perfect Murder</i> . This film also starred her mother who has written a book of children's stories titled <i>Seasons of Splendour</i> . In 1991, she starred in a Canadian film titled <i>Krishna</i> , where her father played the role of Lord Krishna. One of her recent film appearances has been <i>The Nanny Diaries</i> . Either identify this actress or name her parents.	90.
<input type="checkbox"/>	91. A hemi-hydrate of Calcium Sulphate (gypsum) is used in a variety of fields such as art, architecture and medicine. It owes its common name to the fact that large quantities of it were found in the quarries of Montmartre. What?	91.
<input type="checkbox"/>	92. His first big break occurred in 1986 when the rock- group <i>Yes</i> assigned him to shoot a full-length concert film for them which eventually earned him a Grammy nomination for the video <i>Yes: 9012 Live</i> . He later went on to make critically acclaimed as well as popular franchises. Identify director.	92.
<input type="checkbox"/>	93. Born in Karnal, he became the first Prime Minister of his country in the 1940s. He was assassinated by a member of the Khaksar, a fanatical organization whose name translates as 'The Children of Dust'. Who?	93.
<input type="checkbox"/>	94. <i>Lodoicea maldivica</i> grows mainly on the Praslin island in Seychelles and may reach up to 25 m in height. Its fruits can weigh up to 22 kg and its seeds are considered to be the largest in the plant kingdom. It is commonly called the double _____ though it is not related to the _____. (Same word fills up both blanks.)	94.
<input type="checkbox"/>	95. _____ located in the Leeward Islands, is a unitary island nation in the Caribbean and the smallest nation in the Americas in both area and population. It is also the newest sovereign nation of the Americas having achieved independence in 1983. Identify the nation.	95.
<input type="checkbox"/>	96. He married in 1926 and added his wife's surname to his own. In 1939, he cornered a good part of the world's supply of heavy water for France. After World War II, he was put in charge of his country's nuclear programme and produced a working atomic pile in 1948. During this period, he also found the time to serve as President of the National Front and to be among the founding members of the French Communist party. He shared a Nobel in 1935 for his contributions to the discovery of artificially induced radioactivity. Who?	96.
<input type="checkbox"/>	97. The first U.S. president to visit a foreign country was Theodore Roosevelt, when he visited this country in 1906 to inspect how far the construction of 'something' now synonymous with the country, had progressed. Identify the country.	97.



<input type="checkbox"/>	98. Unlike other South American countries, including Argentina and Brazil, where they are raised mainly for their hides, in Venezuela the meat is a sought-after delicacy, fetching prices almost double those for beef. The annual hunt comes before Easter. While the Roman Catholic Church generally forbids eating meat during certain days of Lent, many Venezuelans insist that this is more akin to fish than to meat. That may have something to do with how it tastes in its salted form, resembling a mixture of sardines and pork. Legend has it that eating this, known locally as <i>chiguire</i> , got a boost in the 18 th century when the local clergy asked the Vatican to give it the status of fish. Which animal?	98.
<input type="checkbox"/>	99. In ancient Persia, it was taken from the heart of rock by a hunter's misdirected arrow. For the Dakota Indians, it was struck from the earth by the claws of a jaguar-god. For the Aztecs, it originated from the sun. In Polynesia, Maui is said to have brought it up from the bowels of the earth. According to some Australian tribes, it was discovered by women while the men were away hunting — they then hid within their bodies when the men returned. According to the Greeks, it was brought down by somebody who chose not to ally with Olympus. What?	99.
<input type="checkbox"/>	100. Which Indian actor, who has not acted in any movies in his mother tongue, made his debut in the 1975 Kannada movie <i>Katha Sangama</i> by Puttanna Kanagal?	100.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	101. At Princeton, he studied international relations, but also took a class in creative writing under Toni Morrison. An early draft of his first novel, <i>Moth Smoke</i> , has her notes in the margins. His latest novel is an echo of the idea that was propounded in the research done by Alan Krueger and Jitka Maleckova on the Middle East, that contrary to the assertions of anti-poverty activists, poverty does not drive people to terrorism. According to the author: "They (terrorists) are the knights errant of the 21 st century. They are on a quest to slay a dragon." Name the author.	101.
<input type="checkbox"/>	102. This legume originated in Brazil and has since traveled all over the world. It is a significant part of the diet enforced on pigs bred for Virginia ham. It is said to have fascinated the Chinese because its seeds resembled silkworm cocoons. In Southeast Asia, it was combined with chilli to produce <i>satay</i> . In India and Africa it is grown as an oilseed. Half the crop grown in the US goes into the manufacture of one of the few pre-Columbian delicacies to have impressed the modern palate. Identify legume.	102.
<input type="checkbox"/>	103. From which spoken language have the following words entered English: bagel, chutzpah, klutz, maven, schmuck and shtick?	103.
<input type="checkbox"/>	104. <i>Battle Royale</i> , a novel by Koushun Takami, was published in 1999 and is set sometime in the near future. Every two years, a group of randomly chosen students are taken to a secluded, secure island. Once there, the students have three days in which to completely kill each other off. Only one of the children may leave the island alive. If more than one person is alive after this period, the collars around the students' necks will activate, and their heads will go boom. This novel is loosely inspired by which famous English novel published in 1954 written by a Nobel-prize winning author?	104.
<input type="checkbox"/>	105. This civilization is referred to nowadays by the title given to its ruler/s. They preferred to use the name <i>Tawantsinyu</i> , meaning 'the four quarters', while referring to their empire. Who?	105.
<input type="checkbox"/>	106. This mythological character, whose name means 'to think of a man', was chained to a rock to be eaten by a sea monster after boasting that she was equal in beauty to the Nereids. She married Perseus after he killed the monster. Who?	106.
<input type="checkbox"/>	107. According to X, "Y came into existence only because I wanted Daredevil to have a femme fatale." Identify the creator X and his 1981 creation Y.	107.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	108. Edinburgh is served by a railway station that takes its name from an 1814 work of fiction — often described as the first historical novel in English. This novel was also the author's first venture into fiction after many years as a successful poet, and was originally published anonymously. Name the novel.	108.
<input type="checkbox"/>	109. According to one school of thought, this nursery rhyme refers to yellow fever which was supposedly held at bay by flames. Others believe that it refers to an old practice to determine one's luck for the coming year, normally seen at English fairs. Identify.	109.
<input type="checkbox"/>	110. This deity of Egyptian origin was represented wearing a ram's head. The shape of his horns inspired the name for a mollusc fossil while the name for salts extracted from his temple at Siwa led to the naming of a gaseous compound first isolated in 1774. Name this deity.	110.
<input type="checkbox"/>	111. Bernal Díaz del Castillo, a member of Hernán Cortez's troops, wrote in 1521 of Aztecs harvesting it from the Lake Texcoco. Years later, the Franciscan friar Bernardino de Sahagún wrote: "Very soft things are gathered from Mexican lakes. They look like curdles, have a clear blue color, and are used to make bread, it is called <i>Tecuitlalt</i> , which in their language literally means <i>excrement of stones</i> ." What?	111.



<input type="checkbox"/>	112. This 12 th century Indian classic, comprising of couplets arranged in groups of eight, was first translated into English by Sir William Jones in 1792. Barbara Stoler Miller did a critically acclaimed translation under the name <i>Love Song of the Dark Lord</i> in 1977. Identify the work.	112.
<input type="checkbox"/>	113. What is the only mineral that is directly consumed by man?	113.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	114. In Roman times, 9, 11 and 13 May were set aside for rituals in honour of neglected ghosts — those who had no surviving kin to carry out these rituals. The name given to these festivities has also been used for a hypothetical land mass in 19th century geology. What name?	114.
<input type="checkbox"/>	115. It was first described by an English physician in an 1866 study titled <i>Observations on an ethnic classification of idiots</i> . The first international observance in tribute to people with this condition was held on 21 March 2006. This date was chosen because the condition is caused by trisomy on the 21 st chromosome. What?	115.
<input type="checkbox"/>	116. Identify this father-son pair. A country takes its name from one of the names associated with the father, meaning 'having wrestled with God'. The major ethnic group associated with this country derives its name from his fourth son. Both names for points.	116.
<input type="checkbox"/>	117. This name, applied to several plant-species, originated from the Latin word meaning 'to imitate', since these plants were seen as imitating animal response to human contact. This term has been applied to a well-known species from South America, to a variety of the Acacia and to the Persian Silk Tree. The same term is also used or a cocktail comprising champagne and orange-juice in equal parts as also for a garnish of finely chopped, hard-cooked egg yolk. What name?	117.
<input type="checkbox"/>	118. The name of which country was turned into an '-ing' form noun used to denote a 17 th century European craze for imitating Asian lacquerwork, especially with furniture?	118.
<input type="checkbox"/>	119. The genus bears a Greek name meaning 'heal-all'. The species found in the West bear the names <i>quinquefolium</i> and <i>trifolium</i> , meaning 'five-leaved' and 'three-leaved' respectively. There are lesser known species named after Japan and Vietnam; the most well-known Asian species bears an anglicised version of the Chinese name, which refers to the shape of the root. What plant are we talking about?	119.
<input type="checkbox"/>	120. This rodent is found only in North and Central America and takes its name from the French word for 'honeycomb' — a reference to the elaborate underground burrows that it constructs. It has also lent its name to a snake species that preys on it, to a squirrel and to a burrowing turtle. Identify the rodent.	120.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	121. He shares pride of place with the serpent-god Gucumatx in the Quiche Indian narrative Popal Vuh. Often referred to as the 'Heart of Heaven', he vented the anger of the gods upon the first humans by causing a deluge and a thick resinous rain that destroyed them utterly. Identify this deity whose name is familiar to us for other reasons.	121.
<input type="checkbox"/>	122. Singled out by his captors in the mistaken belief that he was the navigator of the British vessel that had supposedly strayed into Iranian waters, Arthur Batchelor was blindfolded, tied and kept in solitary confinement. But what enraged the 20-year-old Royal Navy operator maintainer was his interrogation. "All I could make out in their language were the words '___ ___'. They were laughing at me... making me feel about three inches tall," he later told the <i>Mirror</i> . "I asked the interpreter what was going on and he said: 'They think you look like ___ ___.'" Fill in the blanks — they refer to the persona associated with an English entertainer.	122.
<input type="checkbox"/>	123. Collado Mediano is a town located in the Guadarrama mountains, 48 km north-west from Madrid. Which well-known top-ranked sportsperson, who has been conferred the <i>Jameo do Oro</i> — one of Spain's highest civilian awards given to a foreigner, resides here?	123.
<input type="checkbox"/>	124. The title of this 1960 film was inspired by the title of Nobel laureate Mikhail Sholokhov's epic 4-part novel <i>And Quiet Flows the Don</i> . The story was inspired by the life of Shankar Maharaj, a Gandhian who gave up his job as village school-teacher to work with a tribe classified as criminal by the British administration. Identify.	124.
<input type="checkbox"/>	125. Guru Gobind Singh used the Persian word for victory as the title of his famous 1706 epistle to Aurangzeb, justifying militant activity by Sikhs against the Mughal empire. In the 19 th century, this word became more famous as the pseudonym used by a poet who wrote extensively in 4 languages. What is the word?	125.
<input type="checkbox"/>	126. The title of this American TV programme now has a dictionary entry all to itself — it is normally glossed with the words "to record subjects in a natural, spontaneous, or unposed manner". It owed some part of its origins to the fact that its creator had served as research assistant to psychologist Kurt Lewin at Cornell. It also inspired several Indian clones and is thought to be the very first example of reality television. Identify this programme that had its heyday in the 1960s.	126.

<input type="checkbox"/>	127. When the creator was asked if the naming of his best-known character was meant to suggest divinity in some way, he denied such an intention with much annoyance. He once jokingly remarked that the name may have come from a French slang term for boots, since feet play a major role in all his works. Another story links the origins of this name to a rather slow competitor in the Tour de France. And yet another theory links the name to a Paris street of ill-repute. Just identify this character from a reasonably famous 1952 work.	127.
<input type="checkbox"/>	128. Till late in the 1980s, their activities were controlled by the Office of Special Political Affairs. It was only in 1992 that a separate department was set up to run this important operation. This body, whose members are nicknamed <i>Blue Berets</i> or <i>Blue Helmets</i> , was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1988. Identify.	128.
<input type="checkbox"/>	129. They are often found snagged among tree-branches, prompting some witty soul to dub them 'Witches' Knickers'. San Francisco recently voted to outlaw them in favour of substitutes made from potato starch — a decision that is likely to reduce oil consumption by 800,000 gallons a year. Their use is also banned in Rwanda, Bhutan, Bangladesh, South African, and according to rumour, in the city of Mumbai. What?	129.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	130. "I started India's first <i>Playboy</i> clone, <i>Debonair</i> , with my English friend Anthony Van Braband in 1971. I left the <i>Express</i> to start India's first morning tabloid, <i>The Daily</i> in 1981, left that to become city editor of my homeground newspaper, <i>Free Press Journal</i> . I then became bureau chief of India's newsweekly, <i>The Week</i> ." We've left out the more interesting bits. Who?	130.
<input type="checkbox"/>	131. This character first appeared in a 1934 novel. It is believed that his name was created in a moment of free association by the author — his first name means 'King' in Latin while the character's first name is that of an infamous ruler who spoke Latin. Identify writer and character.	131.
<input type="checkbox"/>	132. Mahavira Nirvana, Buddha Nirvana, Kollam, San, Saka, Vedanga Jyotisa, Vikram Samvat, Tiruvalluvar and Kaliyuga are nine of the better known among a set of thirty that are still in use in India. What are we talking about?	132.
<input type="checkbox"/>	133. This Japanese company makes golf-clubs and tennis racquets but is perhaps best known for sponsoring the All-England championship in another sport altogether. Identify company.	133.
<input type="checkbox"/> ★	134. This person was the subject of a biography by Christine Wallace titled <i>Untamed Shrew</i> . She wrote a gardening column for <i>Private Eye</i> magazine under the witty pseudonym Rose Blight — later collected under the title <i>The Revolting Gardener</i> . She also set up Stump Cross Books to bring to the reading public the work of unrecognized 17 th and 18 th century women poets. Best known for a controversial 1970 best-seller. Also appeared on <i>Big Brother UK</i> in 2005 and staged a walk-out in protest against the bullying it seemed to sanction. Who?	134.
<input type="checkbox"/>	135. The same word is used to describe a diving manoeuvre where the body is bent at 90 degrees to the hips while the knees are straight, a long weapon with a sharp head, a freshwater fish <i>Esox lucius</i> noted for its sharp snout and a mountain with a sharp summit. It is also the surname of an American explorer and the pseudonym used by the author of the novel that inspired the film <i>Bullitt</i> . Ted Hughes has written a poem with this title. What word?	135.
<input type="checkbox"/>	136. This 1938 novel combines elements from romance, the thriller, and the Gothic novel. Described by a critic as a 'romance novel that submits romance to scrutiny, and demonizes desire while evoking its power', the book was turned into a movie in 1940 by a legendary director. Literary historians see a connection between the book and the fact that the author's officer-husband had been involved, prior to marrying her, with an exotic woman named Jan Ricardo. Name the book.	136.
<input type="checkbox"/>	137. This Olympic event was created by Baron Pierre de Coubertin and was introduced in the 1912 Games. It is normally prefaced with an adjective to distinguish it from the ancient Greek version. The elements that make up the contest were based on the skills that a soldier trapped behind enemy lines might have to use to escape to freedom. This event was also contested as a team event at the Olympics from 1952 to 1992. Give the full name of the event for points.	137.
<input type="checkbox"/>	138. This person was one of the flag bearers at the Winter Olympics opening ceremony in Turin, 2006. The Archbishop of Genoa once said that although the Vatican opposed human cloning, "an exception might be made in the case of (her)". Last year, she became the oldest person ever to appear in the <i>Pirelli</i> calendar. Who?	138.
<input type="checkbox"/>	139. What four-letter word connects a feminist publishing house from India, a river in the Himalayas, the abbreviation used for Potassium in homeopathy, a river in Karnataka, the asteroid that menaces Earth in Arthur C. Clarke's <i>Hammer of God</i> , the character played by Christine Anu in <i>Matrix Reloaded</i> and a painting by Tyeb Mehta that made headlines in 2005?	139.

<input type="checkbox"/>	140. While attempts at adapting extracts from his works began as far back as in 1897, it was only in 1912 that the first feature-length movie based on one of his books became available. George Cukor, David O. Selznick and Carol Reed have all based films on his works. David Lean has directed two films based on his works, while Roman Polanski and Alfonso Cuarón have more recent adaptations of his work. Who?	140.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	141. Federico Borrell Garcia died at the age of 24 on 5 September 1936 at the Cordoba front near Cerro Muriano. How has this been immortalised?	141.
<input type="checkbox"/>	142. What's the missing element in this otherwise exhaustive list of African countries that have something in common: The Gambia, Gabon, Niger, Nigeria, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Zambia?	142.
<input type="checkbox"/>	143. Islam holds that the end of the world will be caused by a terrible earthquake. The Arabic term for this climactic event is the title of the 99 th Sura in the Koran. This term is also the title of a cheesy Bollywood flick from 1988, directed by Harish Shah, and starring Dharmendra, Karan Kapoor, Shatrughan Sinha, Kimi Katkar, Vijayeta Pandit and Rati Agnihotri. What is the term?	143.
<input type="checkbox"/>	144. The European system (which is followed in India too) of labelling what item uses a 'degree' scale from H (for 'hardness') to F (for 'fine point') to B (for 'blackness')?	144.
<input type="checkbox"/>	145. He was given the name Kong-sang, meaning 'Born in Hong Kong'. As a child, he trained with the <i>Seven Little Fortunes</i> , a Peking Opera troupe. According to one scholar, "he is a brand-name, to Hollywood, for the kind of spectacle it cannot produce." Who?	145.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	146. The person now acknowledged as India's first woman historian began work on her book in the late 1500s in response to a request from her nephew for information about the lives of his father and grandfather. She modelled her writing on the rough-and-ready style favoured by her father. Annette Beveridge, who put together the first English translation of this book (1902), chose to refer to her as 'Princess Rosebody'. Who?	146.
<input type="checkbox"/>	147. This town in Belgium once attracted visitors anxious about their health from all over Europe. Its name is now a noun in English. The town is also famous for its association with an F1 circuit which used to host the Belgian Grand Prix. Identify town.	147.
<input type="checkbox"/>	148. Which trophy, still in use and nicknamed 'The Holy Grail', is the only one in professional sports that has the name of the winning players, coaches, management, and club staff engraved upon it? Each winning player and team management member gets to take it home for a day to share with family and friends, thus being used as a baptismal font once.	148.
<input type="checkbox"/>	149. Which recent movie, directed by Zack Snyder, was described by Iranian cultural advisor Javad Shamaqdari as "psychological warfare by the United States against Iran"?	149.
<input type="checkbox"/>	150. Which unfortunate 18 th century personality has inspired a pastel-coloured macaroon line from the confectioners Ladurée, the recreation of the n °160 by Swiss watchmaker Breguet, the perfume M.A, created by Francis Kurkdjian for Baccarat, and the reintroduction of the Jatte Téton bowl by the Limoges company, Bernardaud?	150.

This quiz is set by Ochintya Sharma, Dibyendu Das, Kiran Vijayakumar and Arul Mani of the Karnataka Quiz Association. To contact us, email kqaquizzes@gmail.com.



Response 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.

2. How did you hear about MahaQuizzer?

3. If you would like to be added to KQA's mailing lists, please leave your contact details here:

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Ochintya, DD, Kiran and Arul
(Karnataka Quiz Association)