

MAHAQUIZZER

2023 ANSWERS

Rules for the proctor

- Do not open till the end of the 90min
- Make sure all sheets have been collected, and redistributed for corrections
 - Small spelling variations are okay, use your judgement
- For all answers which are names of people, unless mentioned otherwise, just surname is acceptable.
 However, if surname is correct and first name(s) are given wrongly, it is to be considered incorrect
 - No half points for any question, no negative marking
 - For any further clarifications, please email sachin.deshpande.369@gmail.com and expectovenkat@gmail.com or call Sachin on +91 84548 23552

1	What type of embroidery, literally meaning "flower work", comes originally from undivided Punjab of the Indian subcontinent? It involves use of a darning stitch on a cotton cloth with colourful silk threads.	Phulkari	
2	Which popular food brand, whose patented design incorporates the French cross of Lorraine, faced the ire of consumers recently for allegedly downsizing a much-loved ingredient in the product, sparking off speculations about shrinkflation?	Oreo cookies	
3	Six years after defending it in the 1979 documentary <i>It Ain't Half Racist, Mum</i> , the commissioner of which hugely popular British sitcom regretted that a show with such blatant racial stereotypes was ever broadcast? The sitcom also had a successful Indian remake in the 90s.	Mind Your Language	
4	In 1899, whom did Elizabeth Bisland pursue around the world , only to arrive four days later than her competitor as she had to board a slow steamer from Queenstown, Ireland due to a miscommunication?	Nellie Bly	
5	During the Kumbh Mela in Ujjain, the government bans liquor sales for a month except in some shops in front of a famous temple. Name this guardian deity of the city, believed to be an avatar of Shiva?	Kal Bhairav (Accept Bhairav)	
6	Remo Camerota's 2010 book is about a unique form of Japanese urban art, where certain circular objects that one may look down upon are used to showcase cultural symbols and landmarks. Give the title of the book , which is one letter away from the title of a 1996 movie based on an Irvine Welsh novel.	Drainspotting (Photographs of Manhole covers)	
7	Operation was the name given to the Henry Kissinger-designed covert US carpet-bombing campaign conducted in Eastern Cambodia between 1969 and 1970, in which breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack, dessert and supper represented different targets and missions within the country. Fill in the blank.	Operation Menu	
8	Curated by William Dalrymple, "Forgotten Masters" was a 2019-20 exhibition at London's Wallace Collection of which group of Indian painters , known for portraying local scenes, flora and fauna in European style, usually commissioned by European patrons employed with a certain colonial establishment.	Company School	
9	When searching for a nonsense word for his new company in 2004, entrepreneur Robert Kalin came across an Italian phrase meaning "oh yes" while watching Fellini's 8 1/2. The naming of which online marketplace resulted?	Etsy	
10 ★	The first interstellar object passing through the solar system was discovered in 2017. It was initially classified as a comet, then as an asteroid, and finally initiated a new category of interstellar objects. What was this object named, which means 'scout' or 'messenger' in Hawaiian?	Oumuamua	
11	Which country, after independence in 1975, changed the names of its cities from Novo Redondo, Novo Lisboa, and Silva Porto to Sumbe, Huambo, and Menongue respectively?	Angola	
12	Mauritanian women traditionally undergo force-feeding to become fashionably plump and thus eligible for marriage, in a process called 'gavage'. This French term derives from the making of which delicacy along similar controversial lines, leading to a ban on it in many jurisdictions?	Foie gras	
13	After Archimedes' death, his tomb in Sicily fell into obscurity and was thought to be lost. Which Roman statesman and scholar claimed to have rediscovered it in 75 BCE? He writes about this incident in his <i>Tusculan Disputations</i> .	Cicero / Marcus Tullius Cicero	
14	Named after its supposed resemblance to a common culinary herb, this organ was long thought to be vestigial until its role in the production of a type of lymphocyte critical to the body's immune system was discovered in the 1960s. What lymphoid organ , situated in front of the heart?	Thymus (Don't accept Thyme)	
15	The spark that ignited the "Arab Spring" revolts was when an unemployed graduate in Sidi Bouzid immolated himself in despair after police confiscated his fruit and vegetable cart. Which country , referred to as the "Cradle of Arab Spring," did this event take place in?	Tunisia	

	This target was a the highest force of faction, and is last force the constitution to		
16	This term means the highest form of fashion, particularly from the great fashion houses of Paris. What term that is protected and regulated by the Chambre Syndicale de la and can only be used by fashion houses who follow strict guidelines?	Haute couture	
17	In the USA, what official but creative protocol is followed to ensure that the handler is prevented from abusing or mistreating military dogs under their care?	Dogs are always one rank higher than their handlers (Accept similar answers)	
18	In May 2023, the Moldovan Parliament passed a bill to change references to the country's official national language in the constitution and in all legislative texts from Moldovan to which neighbouring language?	Romanian	
19	What word meaning "I will please" in Latin, that was used with the intent of making someone feel good when they actually didn't, is now a part of numerous modern clinical trials?	Placebo	
20 ★	The capital of the German State of Saxony-Anhalt, this city contains the tomb of the Holy Roman Emperor, Otto I. But most would know it from a 17th century experiment that demonstrated the power of atmospheric pressure. Which city?	Magdeburg	
21	Which ancient polymath's disciples, known as the Acousmatics, spent years listening to his lessons behind a curtain and never laying eyes on him due to concerns that his physical presence and gestures might divert attention from the message of his teachings?	Pythagoras	
22	A type of chair with two seats that share a common armrest, and a bathroom connected to two bedrooms are named after which pair of characters? A clue may be in these lines:shall have; Nought shall go ill; The man shall have his mare again, and all shall be well.	Jack and Jill	
23	The use of a large frame with raptor feathers fastened to the armour or the saddle resulted in what epithet for a Polish cavalry unit — best known for their role in lifting the 1683 Siege of Vienna?	The Winged Hussars	
24	Starfish Prime was a high-altitude nuclear test conducted by the USA in 1962, that resulted in artificial radiation belts around the Earth. This in turn caused the failure of what other space object — known for a transatlantic first and one that had sporting equipment named after it?	Telstar - 1	
25	Reizen zonder John is a 2012 travelogue by the Dutch writer Geert Mak where he tries to recreate the route described in a famous work of 1962. Which work by an American Nobel Prize recipient?	Travels with Charley (by John Steinbeck)	
26	What term is used to refer to a policy of neutrality followed by a smaller neighbour of a powerful country, leading to its foreign policy being compromised while allowing for domestic independence? The term derives from a European nation that was nominally neutral during the Cold War.	Finlandisation	
27	To comply with the lead actor's vegan preferences, costume designer David Crossman opted for a fabric made from a Ugandan tree bark instead of wool felt to create a certain item for a 2023 movie. Name both the item AND the character associated with it.	Napoleon's bicorne / hat	
28	To commemorate an anniversary of which legislation did the New York Philharmonic commission and premiere new works by women composers, starting from 2020? There have been 16 premieres till date, with the remaining three scheduled for 2023-24.	19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution / Women's Right to Vote	
29	Coined by T H Huxley, the term refers to the evolution of living matter from complex inanimate chemicals. The Miller-Urey experiment in the 1950s was an attempt to test this theory by simulating the conditions of the early Earth. What theory ?	Abiogenesis	

30 ★★	The mother of one of Dr Benjamin Spock's patients gave him many insights for his book on childcare. Name this person whose reports on sexual practices in South Pacific and Southeast Asian cultures had an impact on the sexual revolution of the 1960s.	Margaret Mead	
31	Which American author is a long-time sufferer of writer's block? While her last published book was in 1994, she has remained in the public eye via two documentaries directed by Martin Scorsese.	Fran Lebowitz	
32	What American supergroup has Julien Baker, Phoebe Bridgers, and Lucy Dacus as its members? The name began as an inside joke referring to an archetype of [a] specifically male artist who has been told since birth that their every thought is not only worthwhile but brilliant.	boygenius (Boy genius)	
33	Commonly heard on TV shows like <i>The Wire</i> , is a slang combining a verb that means "come to have" in its present tense and its past participle. It implies being caught or being killed in certain contexts. What is the two-word alliterative slang?	Get got	
34	In Arthur C Clarke's novel <i>2010: Odyssey Two</i> , the joint Soviet-US mission is conducted aboard a Soviet spacecraft named after which real-life Russian? He was the principal consultant in the 2017 Russian movie <i>Spacewalker</i> .	Alexei Leonov	
35	flies, named for their predatory behavior, are a family of dipteran flies (Asilidae) that capture prey mid-flight using their agile aerial skills and stab them with their short, strong proboscis. Give their common name.	Robber/ Assassin flies	
36	Which naval ship named after a US state capital, was sunk by Japanese torpedoes shortly after delivering atomic bomb components that were later dropped on Japan? Sam Quint in <i>Jaws</i> recounts his survival from this tragedy.	USS Indianapolis	
37	On submitting a story to <i>The Atlantic Monthly</i> in 1861, this author was rejected with the words 'You can't write' and received an unsolicited loan of \$40 instead to open a schoolhouse. Identify the author , who returned the amount nine years later after the wild success of her semi-autobiographical novel.	Louisa May Alcott (Accept Alcott)	
38	What word was used by the historian Ranajit Guha for the general attribute of subordination in South Asian society whether expressed in terms of class, caste, age, gender, and office or in any other way?	Subaltern	
39	Designer Peter Saville collaborated for the 80th anniversary celebrations of a company by creating 80 digitally shattered versions of its reptile logo. He described the logo as only "a It's not the Red Cross or the church; but someone's nickname woven in for fun." Which company?	Lacoste	
40 ★	skiing, named after a region in Norway, is a technique that combines elements of Alpine and Nordic skiing. It is characterised by a distinctive lunging turn, positioning the inside ski ahead of the outside one. What fills the blank?	Telemark	
41	This iconic museum building stands at the site where the founder had taken a 9,000-year lease in 1759. Here, you visit "The Ingredients Room" and "The Cooperage Room" among others. Which is this company , named after its founder and celebrating more than 260 years of success?	Guinness	
42	Elizabeth Best, Joyce Meadowcroft, Ibrahim Arif, and Ron Ritchie are all members of which group in a quartet of best-sellers by Richard Osman?	The Thursday Murder Club	
43	Cricket and I (1933) by Sir Learie Constantine was one of the first books written by a Caribbean author to be published in Britain. Who assisted Constantine in his efforts, three decades before his publication on the same subject?	C L R James	
44	Permanent Black, in association with Ashoka University, publishes a series of academic books. What is the name of this series, probably alluding to two creatures — one who knew one big thing, and the other who knew many things?	Hedgehog & Fox (referring to Isaiah Berlin's essay)	

45	In June 2023, it was announced that the Public Investment Fund (PIF) of Saudi Arabia would control four clubs in Saudi Premier League. This list includes Al Ahli, Al Ittihad, Al Hilal and which other football club, in global limelight since the beginning of 2023?	Al-Nassr FC	
46	When an Als, it produces false information. What is Cambridge Dictionary's word of the year 2023?	Hallucinate (accept hallucination)	
47	Which signature of an iconic fashion item came about when the designer noticed his assistant applying a certain shade of nail polish and used it to colour an area of the prototype he was reviewing? Specific answer needed (designer + design).	Red sole / heel of Christian Louboutin shoes (Accept red soles or red heels. Do not accept red shoes)	
48	The announcement of UAE minister and oil baron Sultan al-Jaber as the president of what global summit has been criticised by activists for "making a hawk oversee the chicken coop"?	COP / Conference of Parties 28 (Accept United Nations Climate Change Conference - UAE or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC or COP Dubai)	
49	The first woman rapper inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is also known by a name that means "an action that is slightly bad or breaks a rule but is not a crime." Give either of her two names.	Missy Elliott / Misdemeanor (Accept Melissa Elliott / Melissa Arnette Elliott)	
50 ★	First used to name Jewish zealots who used small daggers to assassinate Roman officials and sympathisers, it is still used in a similar context in Spain and Latin America. What word , which was also the title of a acclaimed Denis Villeneuve movie on the Mexican drug war?	Sicario (Accept Sicarii)	
51	Which London street and neighbourhood is believed to get its name from a kind of cut-work lace collar that became fashionable in the late 16th century and early 17th century, and is seen in official portraits of the Royals?	Piccadilly	
52	What is the name of the basaltic plateau bounded by the Jordan River and the Sea of Galilee on the west, Mount Hermon on the north, the seasonal Wadi Al-Ruqqād on the east, and the Yarmūk River on the south?	Golan Heights	
53	Ardishír Rustampúr of Hyderabad, Pakistan became one of the highest contributors by donating his savings to the construction of which structure in India completed in the 1980's that attracts an estimated 2.5 to 5 million visitors annually?	Bahai / Lotus temple	
54	What ongoing series of performances in an intimate setting started in 2008, after Bob Boilen and Stephen Thompson were frustrated on not hearing the music over the crowd noise at South by Southwest (SxSW)?	NPR's Tiny Desk Concerts	
55	Which 1978 work by Peter Matthiessen describes his travels in the Dolpo region of Nepal and encounters with mastiffs, wolves, and sheep but not the elusive titular creature itself?	The Snow Leopard	
56	During the 19th century Italian unification movement, what two-word patriotic slogan emerged, using a composer's name as an acronym to signify "Long Live Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy"?	Viva Verdi (Giuseppe Verdi's surname signified "Vittorio Emanuele Re D'Italia")	

57	According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, by what name do some native American tribes refer to the full moon of May that signals the arrival of spring?	<u>Flower</u> Moon	
58	Gamak Ghar, Dhuin, and Pokhar Ke Dunu Paar, three critically acclaimed Indian films of recent years, are all set in which culturally rich district of Eastern India whose name is believed to reflect its historical status as the "doorway to Bengal"?	Darbhanga (believed to be derived from "Dwar-Banga")	
59	This athlete became the first Pakistani to win a medal at the World Athletics Championships, winning the silver medal with a throw of 87.82 m in the 2023 edition held at Budapest, Hungary. Name him.	Arshad Nadeem	
60 ★ ★	An international campaign by John Oliver propelled which 'puking bird' with a burnt- orange mullet to victory in New Zealand's bird of the century poll, beating out the kiwi with more than 10x the votes?	Puteketeke / Australasian crested grebe	
61	While researching for the screenplay of which 2010s film did writer David Seidler discover that his own uncle had sought the services of Lionel Logue, the man whose transformational intervention was the subject of the film?	The King's Speech	
62	JG Farrell was awarded the Man Booker Prize in 2010 for his 1970 work <i>Troubles</i> . Add a four-letter qualifier to describe his special Booker prize which retrospectively corrected the omission of 1970 publications as a result of a change in selection criteria from 1971.	Lost Man Booker Prize	
63	By what collective name were the County of Edessa, the Principality of Antioch, the County of Tripoli, and the Kingdom of Jerusalem known, as they were formed by participants in a major campaign during the late 11th century?	Crusader States (Accept Outremer / Crusade states)	
64	Which four-letter word from the world of science fiction, meaning "to understand profoundly and intuitively" is the name of X's (formerly Twitter) newly launched chatbot?	Grok	
65	The Challenge offers a million-dollar prize to successfully decipher and read hundreds of carbonised scrolls too fragile to be opened, with the first partial prize recently claimed by a student who identified ten characters using Al. Fill in the blank (eight letters).	Vesuvius	
66	English historian and author Tracy Borman's latest book, &: The Mother and Daughter Who Changed History, covers which famous mother-daughter pair? A movie made on the daughter's life in the late 20th century got seven nominations for the Academy Award. Both names required.	Anne Boleyn & <u>Elizabeth</u> I	
67	The act of pretending to hold progressive political views, typically to attract potential dates on online dating apps, is known by what portmanteau word?	Wokefishing	
68	A 1989 overnight meeting in Philadelphia between two people resulted in which trilogy of movies set in Vienna, Paris, and Greece?	The Before Trilogy (Before Sunrise, Before Sunset and Before Midnight - Accept the mention of any of these movies as well)	
69	1953 saw the first commission on this contentious issue, with Kaka Kalelkar as the chairman. Its report was ignored by the government. A second commission then submitted its report in 1980, but its recommendations only saw the light of day in 1990. Who was its chairman?	BP Mandal	
70 ★	The North Hertfordshire Museum in the UK announced in November 2023 its decision to use "she/ her" for which 3rd century CE Roman emperor (empress) of Syrian descent who, before being assassinated at the age of 18, wore traditional women's attire and preferred to be called "domina" (lady)?	Elagabalus, or Heliogabalus, or Marcus Aurelius Antoninus	

71	The brutal War of the Pacific fought between Chile, Bolivia and Peru is also known by what other name , as it was triggered by increased taxes on a particular resource being mined in the Atacama Desert for its important industrial, agricultural and military usage?	Saltpeter / Nitrate / Ten-cents war (do not accept Guano which is different)	
72	What monument did Captain E Fell of the British Army describe as "the ancient and most remarkable building near Bhilsa"? He trekked to this monument in 1819 from Bhopal and wondered if the structure was a circular pyramid with hidden chambers.	Sanchi Stupa	
73	Margaret Court's defeat to which player in May 1973 was, in a sense, avenged by Billie Jean King in September of the same year?	Bobby Riggs	
74	Which real life person inspired the character of Dick Avery, a fashion photographer working for a New York based magazine, in the 1957 film <i>Funny Face</i> ? He was also the special visual consultant for the film.	Richard Avedon	
75	Which iconic address, a building still in use, was originally yellow in colour, but over the years became greyish black because of the smog in the city? It has been painted black since the 1960s to mimic the effect of pollution.	10, Downing Street (Accept UK PM Office + Residence and similar variants)	
76	Which mythical king connects a bowed string instrument used in parts of India with a style of shadow puppetry associated with the state of Odisha?	Ravana (Ravanhatta and Ravanachhaya)	
77	South Asians have the highest level of this neurotoxic metal in their blood, with contaminated turmeric suspected to be a major factor. Used to enhance turmeric's golden-yellow colour, the compound of which metal has been the target of sustained anti-contamination campaigns because of its impact on human cognitive abilities?	Lead / Pb (Accept Lead chromate as well)	
78	This princely state was established by the British East India Company in 1804. Faiz Talab Khan, an Afghan Muslim Pashtun of the Barech tribe, who had aided them in the Second Anglo Maratha War, was made its first ruler. Which princely state , with famous scions in multiple fields?	Pataudi	
79	A US society of specialised enthusiasts ignored protests and refused to drop the name of which individual , a known enslaver and white supremacist? Chapters in several cities went ahead and nixed the tainted proper noun, with the DC chapter opting for a new name, Nature Forward.	John James Audubon	
80 ★	Many famous Jain and Hindu temples in Western India, such as the Jain temple at Dilwara, were built in Maru-Gurjara architecture style in the 11th to 13th centuries. What other name is this style known by, after the name of a ruling dynasty of that region?	Solanki Style (Accept Chaulukya, not Chalukya)	
81	Which Italian-born French designer hosted Bombay's first ever fashion show at the Taj Mahal Palace hotel's ballroom in the 1960s?	Pierre Cardin	
82	Who is the only UK prime minister with a PhD degree? The thesis was titled <i>The Labour Party and Political Change in Scotland, 1918–1929.</i>	Gordon Brown	
83	What is the Hebrew word for "seven", which also signifies the Jewish mourning tradition that starts right after the burial and lasts for a week? The word might remind you of a god from another religion.	Shiva / shiv'ah	
84	About a year ago, a young girl wrote to Cumberland police in Rhode Island asking for a DNA test on food scraps—a partially eaten cookie and carrot. The police amusingly forwarded the remains to the state's Department of Health-Forensic Sciences Unit. The girl sought evidence regarding what?	(Existence of) Santa Claus (Accept variants like Saint Nicholas, Father Christmas)	

85	What twelve-letter name is given to a political formation that emerged in the Indian subcontinent during the 6th century BCE? Various texts of the time usually enumerate sixteen of these units.	Mahajanapada (s)	
86	An AI-generated female singer-songwriter, whose developers believe "Artificial Neural Networks Accelerate Innovative New Developments, Igniting A New Age", recently created her first song. What name (first name + last name), with a nod to a US state, does she go by?	Anna Indiana (Acronym of the description - "Artificial Neural Networks Accelerate Innovative New Developments, Igniting A New Age")	
87	Instituted in 2022 to honour humanitarian work by a champion footballer, Sadio Mane and Vinicius Jr have won which award , named after a former captain and football icon who also possessed a degree in medicine?	Socrates award	
88	The name of which Swiss city can be prefixed to annual art fairs that are held at Hong Kong, Miami Beach, and Paris?	Basel (as in Art Basel)	
89	Who was the first honorary fellow of the Sahitya Akademi? This African poet-politician, the first president of his country, was also a member of the <i>Academie Francaise</i> till his death in 2001.	Leopold Sedar Senghor	
90 ★★	What is the main title used by the heir apparent to the throne of Spain? It is more well known via a series of annual prizes awarded to individuals, entities or organisations from around the world for achievements in the sciences, humanities, and public affairs.	Princess (or Prince) of Asturias	
91	What two-word name connects Alicia Keys's autobiographical musical of 2023, a British culinary reality show whose American version is currently in its 22nd season and a neighbourhood of Manhattan that is home to the Actors Studio Drama School?	Hell's Kitchen	
92	Using what new iPhone feature can users share contacts and videos very fast by tapping the phones together? This feature, which generated security apprehensions, is derived from a term for a boastful tendency to associate oneself with famous people.	NameDrop	
93	According to a popular myth, large volumes of incorrectly addressed mail made embassy officials of which two European nations in Washington DC meet once a month for the express purpose of exchanging letters?	Slovakia & Slovenia	
94	Published in 2023, what is the one-word title of the memoir by Ronnie O' Sullivan covering triumphs, mistakes and the lessons learnt during his Snooker career? The same word is also the title of the autobiography of an Indian Olympic medalist and multiple world champion pugilist.	Unbreakable (Also the name of MC Mary Kom's autobiography)	
95	The International Telecommunication Union has added only one symbol to the official Morse character set in the 21st century. What world-widely used symbol?	@	
96	What two-word term , a play on a name for colonial rule in India, was coined by C Rajagopalachari to deride the strict government control of the economy ostensibly intended to protect Indian industries?	Licence Raj (accept Permit Raj)	
97	Horses feature two tough, hairless skin patches on each leg: the X on the inner thigh and the Y behind and above the hoof. These are vestiges of two of their ancestors' five toes. Named for their appearance, X is also a hard brown nut, while Y is also a fungal disease of rye. Name either X or Y.	X - Chestnut / Y - Ergot	
98	The components of what instrument are mainly a sealed chamber filled with gas, which can then be ionised by high energy particles, and an output display unit? These also have a speaker which emits a click every time an ion pair is created.	Geiger Counter	

99	<i>Djesse</i> is a collection of four music albums by The title, pronounced with a silent D, is a reference to his own initials. All four albums have been nominated for Grammy Awards. Which musician released <i>Djesse</i> ?	Jacob Collier	
100 ★	What eponymous measure did Carl Linnaeus "reverse" when its Swedish inventor died in 1744?	Celsius scale (Celsius had made it 100 to 0 degrees) (Reluctantly accept centigrade scale)	
101	is a 2023 Nat Geo documentary exploring the quest of John Chau, who met his end at the hands of the Indigenous people of the extremely isolated North Sentinel Island. The documentary shares its title with an Oscar-nominated 1986 movie. Fill in the blanks.	The Mission	
102	Sir Henry Wickham is considered to be the first person to successfully smuggle what economically valuable items out of Brazil in the 19th century? This act has been labelled as bio-piracy in some quarters.	Rubber seeds (accept rubber plants as well)	
103	At the Miss Universe 2022 pageant, Miss Thailand Anna Sueangam-iam wore an upcycled dress made of aluminium pull tabs of soda cans interwoven with Swarovski crystals — a tribute to her underprivileged childhood and her parents' profession. What profession ?	Garbage/ Trash collectors (Accept similar answers)	
104	From the moment of his birth in 1935 in Jerusalem, he inherited conflicting identities, as a midwife chanted over him in Arabic and Hebrew. He was raised in an affluent Episcopalian family. His father, having lived in America and valuing fair skin, named him after the Prince of Wales, a name he disliked. Who are we talking about?	Edward Said	
105	This entrepreneur is known to obsessively admire Augustus Caesar. He even styles his haircut similarly and has named his daughter August. His wife once joked that three people went on their honeymoon to Rome: the entrepreneur, Augustus, and herself. Who is this?	Mark Zuckerberg	
106	The Nepal government is attempting to add six more names to which widely accepted list of fourteen entities? Yalung Khang and Lhotse Shar are two of the proposed additions. As on October 2023, the activity's governing body UIAA has resisted this effort.	8000m+ peaks (Eight Thousanders)	
107	Which dubious "professional" services did India's national football team's head coach Igor Stimac seek in 2022 during the process of team selection? They cost the AIFF around Rs 10-15 lakh.	Astrologer / Astrological services (Accept similar answers)	
108	What is the name of the stone coffin that is often seen above ground, adorned with sculptures or paintings of the person inside? It comes from a Greek word meaning "flesh-eating".	Sarcophagus	
109	Today Gwadar Port is a key element of the greater China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Which nearby kingdom did Pakistan pay Rs 5.5 billion to acquire territories of Gwadar in 1958?	Oman	
110 ★	Formulation of the Taniyama-Shimura conjecture on elliptical curves in the 1950s, coupled with the proof of its applicability to a long-standing problem by Ken Ribet in 1990, led to which famous breakthrough five years later?	(Proof of) Fermat's Last Theorem	
111	Mohiniyattam performer Vijayalakshmi's dream project came to life in 2005, when she played Odette, her mother Bharathi Shivaji portrayed the queen, and Mayurbhanj Chhau exponent Santhosh Nair played the prince. Which popular ballet were they presenting?	Swan Lake	
112	Philip Roth's 2004 novel <i>The Plot Against America</i> narrates alternative history set during World War II. As per this book, which American , known for his antisemitic views, defeats Franklin D Roosevelt in the 1940s presidential election?	Charles Lindbergh	

113	Following her 89th overall World Cup win and a historic seventh Alpine World Cup victory in Levi in 2023, what traditional 'award' did skier Mikaela Shiffrin receive after the race in Lapland? The prize is customarily left to stay within the region after the winner names it.	Reindeer	
114	A 2010 single by Taylor Swift, aptly named after a letter written by a man to his romantic partner to end their relationship, is about which of her exes , who went on to respond to it with his own song, <i>Paper Doll</i> in 2013.	John Mayer	
115	Roughly 20 kms off the Northeast coast of Labrador, lies an island that marks the easternmost point of the Canadian landmass along the Labrador coast. The island was spotted in 1976 and was named after its "discoverer," the Who or what confirmed the island's existence?	Landsat 1 Satellite (Accept just satellite) (Blank is Landsat 1)	
116	A desire to avert the horrors witnessed during the great famine of 1876-78 resulted in the championing of which now dietary staple of Kerala by Visakham Thirunal Rama Varma, the Maharaja of Travancore?	Tapioca (Kappa)	
117	The novella by Daribha Lyndem, a coming-of-age story of a young Khasi woman set in Shillong, was shortlisted for the 2021 JCB prize for literature. What is its four-word title , referencing a popular childhood game?	Name Place Animal Thing	
118	What alliterative two-word phenomenon describes a sudden increase in the value of a nation's currency following the discovery of a valuable resource, leading to negative consequences to the overall economy? The term was coined after the discovery of the large Groningen natural gas field in 1959.	Dutch Disease	
119	The Proper Way to Hang a was an art installation at the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science by American artist and activist John Sims. The work depicts a contentious object hanging from a noose on a 13-foot gallows. What fills the blanks?	Confederate Flag	
120 ★★		Franziska van Almsick	
121	For a human, a fingerprint is unique. According to a 2021 study, what equivalent physical feature can be used to differentiate dogs? Some kennel clubs use this feature to register a dog.	Nose print/Nose pattern	
122	The taste of Eleftheria Brunost has been described as a combination of "salted caramel milk fudge with brilliant lingering toffee notes". Eleftheria Brunost was the only one from India that made it to the "world's top 10" list, published by the <i>Guild of Fine Food</i> , of what edible item for 2023?	Cheese	
123	After noticing his sister applying a mixture of vaseline and coal dust to her eyelashes, pharmacist Thomas Williams produced a product for sale which he renamed in honour of his sister. Name this major brand now owned by L'Oreal, also famous for its very recognisable tagline.	Maybelline	
124	A History of Decision-Making in Vietnam 1945-68, commissioned by the US secretary of defense Robert McNamara is better known by what alliterative term? The leaking of this report and the subsequent court case resulted in a landmark decision in favour of freedom of the press in the USA.	Pentagon Papers	
125	Rivals Tansen and Baiju Bawra both belonged to which gharana , considered to be the oldest one in Hindustani classical music and named after a central Indian city whose erstwhile royal family were patrons of the founders of the gharana?	Gwalior	
126	The Greek football clubs AEK Athens and PAOK FC were founded in the 1920s by refugees from what specific place , which is reflected in their full names?	Constantinople / Istanbul / Konstantinople	
127	What name , perhaps inspired by a neighbouring country's history, is given to the period in Japanese history in the 15th and 16th centuries in which internal conflicts and social upheavals took place almost continuously?	Sengoku Period / Warring States Period	
128	What establishment , the largest of its kind, was born out of the collection bequeathed by the Anglo-Irish physician, Sir Hans Sloane, to King George II in 1753 for a sum of £20,000?	The British Museum	

129	The first-ever appearance of a video game character giant balloon at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade was in 1993. It took a troublesome turn when strong winds propelled the balloon into a lamppost causing it to puncture. Which spiny character did it feature?	Sonic the Hedgehog	
130 ★	A feature / bug of this ubiquitous software has led to typos in nearly a third of scientific papers concerning genes, necessitating the renaming of nearly 27 gene names to avoid such problems. Which software , whose maker finally fixed the issue in October 2023?	MS Excel / Excel (Excel must be there in the answer)	
131	Zoroastrianism's principal act of worship, Yasna, consists of reciting seventeen Avestan hymns, believed to have been composed by the prophet Zarathushtra. What is the collective name for these? It might remind us of ancient Buddhist texts recited in a poetic metre.	The Gathas	
132	What generic name for an often inferior, illicit alcoholic drink derives from a corruption of "Xootsnoowú", the Tlingit name for the Admiralty Island in Alaska, USA?	Hooch	
133	In the absence of the identity of the actual suspect, what name did the FBI use for a dreaded individual because their primary targets were universities and airlines in the USA?	Unabomber	
134	What is the hyphenated Arabic word for "healing", also the name of the largest medical complex and central hospital in Gaza Strip that has faced devastating Israeli airstrikes during the ongoing conflict?	Al-Shifa	
135 ★★	Give the name of the indigenous religion of a certain group of the Tani and Tibeto-Burman tribes in Northeast India. The name literally means "Sun-Moon", referring to female and male energy. A train has this name, and so does the main airport of the area, the only airport in India named after celestial bodies.	Donyi-Polo (Itanagar airport)	
136	In May 2022, numerous wedding chapels in Las Vegas unexpectedly received a cease- and-desist letter from Authentic Brands Group asking them to stop whose impersonations?	Elvis Presley (Accept only Elvis or only Presley)	
137	As a tribute to this person who was associated with the phrase 'billions and billions', a fictitious unit has been defined to denote a large number. It is technically at least four billion (two billion plus two billion) of anything. Who?	Carl Sagan	
138	Mondelez plans to shift its production to a nearby country in 2024. Owing to the 2017 "Swissness" law mandating specific criteria for using symbols, which famous Swiss symbol seen on a particular product will no longer be displayed on its packaging?	Matterhorn (on Toblerone) (Accept Cervino/ Cervin)	
139	In Baseball, what term is used to describe a home run with players on first base, second base and third base? It results in four runs being scored. The same term is used to describe different achievements in Tennis and Golf.	Grand Slam	
140 ★	Barbara Stoler Miller's 1977 work, <i>Love Song of the Dark Lord:</i> is a translation of which 12th century work from India ? Goethe used to love this work of erotic poetry and describes it as "extremely varied motives by which an extremely simple subject is made endless".	Gita Govinda (by Jayadeva)	
141	A hungry customer once asked restaurateur Fernand Lachance to put cheese curds and finger chips together in a paper bag because he was in a hurry, to which Lachance replied, "Ça va faire une maudite!" Which dish, believed to have gotten its name from a Quebecois slang for a "mess"?	Poutine	
142	"Masterji" is a collaborative work by Dayanita Singh and Mark Morris. The installation consists of photos of a Bollywood personality, taken during the 1990s, set to music. Who is the subject of this series of photos? Full name required .	Saroj Khan	
143	A rivalry with which author led the 19th century US politician and author Thomas Dunn English to create a character called Marmaduke Hammerhead, a dishonest and alcoholic critic who has written a poem called <i>The Black Crow?</i>	Edgar Allan Poe (The allusion is to <i>The Raven</i>)	
144	Which UNESCO World Heritage Site showcases the Mayadevi temple, a pillar edict, and a Pushkarini tank, which going by archaeological evidence, can be attributed to the Buddhist emperor Ashoka?	Lumbini	

145	With the 2024 Olympics scheduled for the last week of July, which annual event will not have its finale in Paris for the first time in its history, instead finishing at Nice?	The Tour de France (TdF)	
146	Several attendees of a recent Bored Ape NFT event in Hong Kong were affected by laser stage lights and diagnosed with photokeratitis, an eye condition caused by unprotected exposure to UV radiation. What six-letter profession fills in the blank in the common name of this condition – "''s eye"?	Welder (Welder's eye)	
147	What nine-letter word fills the blank in this list of entrances one encounters while visiting a UNESCO World Heritage Site – Yongdingmen, Zhengyangmen, Daqingmen,, Duanmen and Wumen?	Tiananmen	
148	This creature's spongy skull bones and long tongue bone wrapped around its brain are theorised to stop it from getting brain damage and have inspired the design of black boxes and football helmets. What creature named after its very characteristic action?	Woodpecker	
149	Gulzar revealed in an interview that one of the possible filming locations for the song <i>Kajra Re</i> from the 2005 movie <i>Bunty aur Babli</i> was a highway dhaba, which inspired him to write lyrics based on creative lines that one might encounter at such a setting. What was the inspiration?	Lines/ writings on trucks / lorries	
150	The Kannada version of the play <i>The Dreams of</i> by Girish Karnad was staged for the first time in the precincts of the Daria Daulat, the summer palace of the ruler who is the subject of the play. Which ruler?	Tipu Sultan / Tipoo Sultan / Tippu	