

MindSweep 2025

ANSWERS

Part II - Music, Sciences, Social Sciences, Sports and Games

Rules for the proctor

- Do not open till the end of the 60min
- 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 expectovenkat@gmail.com or call Venkat on +91 8050588973

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MindSweep 2025 | Music

1	At the Maverick Concert Hall, in Woodstock, Americans watched the pianist David Tudor close the keyboard lid and then open it. He repeated this sequence twice. What are we talking about?	Premiere of John Cage's 4;33.
2	Castanets and cymbals, which work by bringing two parts together, are known by what medically alarming name of 10 letters?	Concussion instruments
3	Players of the ghumat, mhaddalem and kanjira have found it difficult to repair instruments or source new ones because of the strict provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act. From which species did instrument makers source the raw material needed?	Monitor Lizard
4	Cole Sear spoke these four words to Dr. Malcolm Crowe some 25 years ago, but these words have received renewed attention since May 2024. Either give us these four words, or tell us what brought them back into prominence.	I See Dead People, Kendrick Lamar's Not Like Us
5	Which appropriate musical number was used to wake up Dorothy Metcalf- Lindenburger when she was aboard space shuttle mission STS-131 in April 2010 in honor of the day's planned extra vehicular activity?	Defying Gravity
6	A barcarolle is a traditional folk song sung by people who are engaged in a certain profession unique to a particular lagoon. It is also used while referring to a piece of music composed in that particular style. Which profession?	Venetian Gondolier
7	During his 2025 Coachella performance, Hanumankind invited a group of musicians who performed on a traditional instrument associated with Kerala. Which instrument?	Chenda
8	As the result of a feud between Jay-Z and Naz in 2001, the title of a song by Naz entered the hip hop lexicon as a slang expression, meaning to 'ruthlessly humiliate an opponent'. Name the song.	Ether
9	Charlotte Emma Aitchison began posting on MySpace in 2008. Her stage name, which some speculate to mean 'Kiss, Kiss," is actually just an MSN Messenger screen name she picked because it looked cool and sounded catchy. ID the artist who describes her look as "Disney Grunge."	Charlie XCX
10	Several claims to the invention of this brightly coloured, inexpensive plastic instrument, which when played by a stadium full of fans sounds like a "swarm of bees." Freddie Maake claims that they were first known as Boogieblasts, until he changed their name to a Zulu word meaning "welcome," "unite," and "celebration." What?	Vuvuzela
11	Hirandas Murali grew up in a neighbourhood called Swapnabhoomi in Thrissur. You might know him by his stage name which he adopted because the people of his community were village hunters "who got hunted." ID the rapper who last year collaborated with Sushin Shyam on the track "Kuthanthram" for Manjummel Boys.	Vedan
12	Minnie Riperton's best-known song <i>Lovin'</i> You was originally written as a lullaby for her daughter. Although the lyrics themselves are those of a love song, you can hear her softly sing her daughter's name repeatedly at the end of the song in unedited versions of it. Name the daughter, famous in her own right as an actress and former SNL cast member.	Maya Rudolph
13	In his musical-comedy special Alex in Wonderland, Alexander Babu, says the simple ruled Tamil cinema for over fifty years, thanks to M S Viswanathan who used it as the primary rhythm instrument in most of his songs. FITB with a paired instrument that is labelled as 'male' and 'female'	Double Bongos/ Bongo Drums
14	In April, 2025, the White House used a one-hit wonder from the 90s for a post showing a person being deported while the words, "You don't have to go home, but you can't stay here." played. The original band condemned the use, saying the White House had 'missed the point' of the song. Just ID the one-hit wonder.	Closing Time

15	Described as "the first ever rock star" by the Rock and Roll hall of fame, this legendary Blues musician is rumoured to have made a faustian bargain. George Ball, a cousin, described listening to his music as an "out of body experience". All this despite only a seven-month recording career. Who? Or tell me what 2025 result his story inspired.	Robert Johnson ; Sinners
16	In a teaser shared by her before the song's release, she appears with a tiny key placed on her tongue much like Kate Bush's 1982 song of the same name. It also came with the cryptic caption: 4 8 9 9 14 15 21. Which song?	Houdini
17	This genre of music is in principle similar to Karnatic music with numerous ragas and talas. However, the style of rendering is different. The text of the play or the ballad is sung by two singers in the background. The lead singer is called the ponnani and the assistant the shinkiti. The singers must synchronise their music to the movements and emotions of the actor. Music related to which dance form ?	Kathakali
18	Tracy Chapman's 1988 song 'Why?' has the lines "Why are the missiles called s / When they're aimed to kill?" The song refers to the ICBM LGM- 118 produced and deployed by USA from 1986 to 2005. Fill in both blanks with the same 11-letter word that could also mean a UN appointee.	PEACEKEEPER
19	He met Queen Elizabeth II in the Leeds Arts Festival in 1958. In 1959 he composed 'The Queen's Suite', had a single pressing made of the recording and sent it directly to the Queen. Name this jazz musician who died in 1974 and got his noble 'title' from a childhood friend.	Duke Ellington
20	2016's most viral video on Youtube was this singer's appearance on Carpool Karaoke with James Corden'. The episode starts with the singer's hit song that has the lines ', can you hear me/ I'm in California dreaming about who we used to be'. Name this singer who is now 37 and released her last studio album when she was 33. (Yes,33).	Adele (The song was Hello. She released the album 30 when she was 33)
21	Which Carnatic raga, the 29th in the Melakarta system, has seven notes in it which allude to Sarpa, Rudraksha, Ganga, Mrga, Pushpa, Damaru, and Nishakara, thus giving the raga its name?	Dheera shankarabharanam (The ornaments of Shiva)
22	Whose words serve as the libretto for Sir Peter Maxwell Davies's monodrama Eight Songs for a Mad King?	King George III
23	Saint-Saëns hurriedly wrote his <i>Piano Concerto No 2</i> in 17 days, just in time for the concert. He ignored convention and opened it not with the orchestra but with a solo piano prelude and replaced the usual fast-slow-fast sequence with a slow-fast-faster progression. This gave rise to the quip that it "begins with and ends with" Fill in the blanks with two surnames.	Bach; Offenbach
24	Anti-Brexit campaigner Steve Bray blasted which track outside the Parliament when Boris Johnson announced that he was resigning as prime minister? It was played after a request from Hugh Grant, who tweeted: <i>Do you by any chance have the music to hand?</i>	Yakety Sax/ Benny Hill theme
25	Which UK comedy-musical group website's "About" reads "Five outstanding musicians and one non-musical stand-up the six-headed musical comedy band where freewheeling, ridiculous, and surprisingly satisfying music happens," led by the co-host and creator of the BAFTA and National Comedy Award-winning TV show X?	The Horne Section (Alex Horne; X - <i>Taskmaster</i>)

MindSweep 2025 | Sciences

1	It may take its name from the Greek word for 'head', or their word for 'stupor' because its malfunction was said to have this effect. What line of supply in the human body?	Carotid artery
2	Jay McLean was a second-year medical student when he identified an anticoagulant in liver tissue from dogs in 1916. It was given a 7-letter name on account of where it was first observed and is now a key medication in treating heart disease. What is this name?	Heparin
3	Called GFP or GFk, this material was discovered by accident in 1932. Games Slayter directed a jet of compressed air at molten glass. Owens Corning, the company formed to market this discovery gave it a trade name which became familiar the world over. What is this familiar name, all of 10 letters?	Fibreglass
4	He created a cholera vaccine and tested it on himself before bringing it to India. He later created a plague vaccine by adding coconut oil or ghee to media containing the bacillus. Name this researcher.	Waldemar Haffkine
5	Camera traps have revealed that the yellow-billed oxpecker, found in Africa, has solved a logistical problem very elegantly. It feeds on ticks, found on hosts who travel great distances quickly, and so it roosts on the host's groin. What is this host species?	Giraffes
6	American malacologist Alan Solem named both the genus and the species of the land snail that he found on the Fijian island of Viti Levu. He chose the generic name after Ba District, situated on the north western part of Viti Levu. What word did he alter and use for the species name?	Humbug (The snail is called Ba Humbugi)
7	These creatures are born with two identical eyes, but as they develop into juveniles the left eye begins to surge ahead in size. By the time they reach adulthood, the left eye can be more than twice as big as the right one. It also develops a semi-tubular structure and often has a striking yellow lens. Which creature?	Cockeyed Squid (Histioteuthis heteropsis)
8	Diamond is the hardest mineral on the Mohs hardness scale. Which mineral , once commonly used in households, is the softest?	Talc
9	Serotinous trees (mainly certain types of conifers and angiosperms) store their seeds in the canopy via cones or pods, where they are usually sealed shut with resin, and release them only in response to an external trigger. What is the most commonly seen trigger for such trees?	Fire
10	Originally conceived as a public outreach facility in Trinity College Dublin in 2005, this venture now has multiple centres globally, including one in Bangalore. Located on Bellary Road, the building's black and brick facade is modelled after the YSL Museum in Marrakesh, and they showcase one themed exhibition annually. What?	Science Gallery Bangalore
11	It began as an attempt at creating textured wallpaper. But when Alfred Fielding and Marc Chavannes put two pieces of plastic shower curtain through a heat-sealing machine, the product was something peculiar. Which accidental invention, which helped IBM bring its computers to customers, soon revolutionised the packaging industry?	Bubble Wrap
12	The boric acid formulation has an elephant as its logo, inspired by the Hindu deity Ganesha. Launched in 1929 by Gour Mohan Dutta and sold, even today, in distinct dark green tubes, what is it?	Boroline
13	Gints Zilbalodis' <i>Flow</i> is an animated fantasy-adventure film where a black cat, the protagonist, journeys through a drowned post-apocalyptic world in a boat with a labrador retriever, ring-tailed lemur, secretary bird, and a Fill in the blank with a Tupi word for the largest living rodent, meaning "one who eats slender leaves."	Capybara

14	The ancestor to the Cetaceans, this wolf-like creature hung around eating plants that grew at the water's edge before permanently moving into it. Its first fossil was found in Pakistan in 1981, which gives its genus name. Which animal?	Pakicetus
15	This artefact was found in Iraq in 1936, and consisted of three things: A ceramic pot, a copper tube, and an Iron rod. Theories flew as to what it did with many suggesting it was used for electroplating. Which led to its alliterative misnomer. Just ID.	Baghdad Battery
16	In 2006, researchers identified a compound called Opiorphin in human which worked better than Morphine in relieving pain while being less addictive and having stable tolerance. While it is naturally produced by the body, there's very little, and it breaks down in the digestive tract so it doesn't stick around and relieve pain. FITB.	Saliva/ Spit
17	Kong Linghua, son-in-law to Mao Zedong, was really keen on replacing modern bourgeois science with a new proletariat one. So, in 1968, he formed a group, Criticizing Study Class: CRSC, aimed at arguably the most popular idea from the 20th Century because its abstract ideas made it possible for the existence of a god. FITB.	Relativity
18	As per a 2023 study at the University of Antwerp, paper straws were found to contain more polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) than plastic straws. What two-word term did Harvard professor Joseph G. Allen coin in 2018 to describe PFAS and other such toxic substances, to indicate that they never fully degrade?	Forever Chemicals
19	Malnutrition-related diabetes was first described in Jamaica in 1955 and classified as J-type diabetes; it was de-classified in 1999 for lack of causal association. However, in April 2025 the International Diabetes Federation officially recognised this as a distinct form of the disease, typically affecting malnourished teens and young adults in lowand middle-income countries, and designated it as Type- <number> diabetes. Give the number.</number>	5 (Type 5 diabetes)
20	Referred to collectively as "The Family Portrait" by NASA, which spacecraft took the first and only images of six planets of our solar system- even though only one of the images became iconic?	Voyager 1 (Don't accept just Voyager)
21	Galaxy Gas, an American culinary brand which produces flavored whipped-cream chargers and dispensers containing this gas, is now being accused of marketing their product to young people, as the gas could be a recreational drug. Name the gas , which was the subject of 'inhale sessions' hosted by chemist Humphry Davy in the early 19th century?	Nitrous Oxide / laughing gas
22	What instrument is displayed both in the central hall beneath the large bronze National Emblem in New Delhi's new Parliament building and in the lobby of the United Nations General Assembly in New York?	Foucault pendulum
23	What is a complex system of magnetic fields that confine the plasma of reactive charged particles in a hollow, doughnut-shaped container, whose name comes from a Russian acronym roughly meaning "toroidal chamber with magnetic coils"?	Tokamak
24	What was the first-ever chatbot program, created in 1966 by MIT professor Joseph Weizenbaum was and named after a character from <i>Pygmalion</i> by George Bernard Shaw due to its ability to mimic human conversation, called?	Eliza (after Eliza Doolittle)
25	Who was the first woman to be elected to the French Académie des Sciences? She discovered an element and named it after her country.	Marguerite Perey (Francium)

MindSweep 2025 | Social Sciences

1	Both senses of this English word come from a Latin word meaning to cutone meaning refers to a sequestered space for sacrifices, while the other refers to a flat surface amid bones. What six-letter word often seen as synonymous with Hinduism while also found in anatomy?	Temple
2	Radcliffe Brown coined the term relationships' for a kind of ritualised banter which could be symmetricalwhere both parties could say what they want, or asymmetricalwhere only could speak freely. One of the kinds he described was found to exist between men and their mothers-inlaw in several indigenous South African communities. What six-letter word fills the blanks?	Joking
3	His advocacy of revolution became an election issue in 1945 with Churchill claiming that he would be the grey eminence backseat-driving the UK on a Marxist agenda. Name this academic who served as Labour Party chairman during this crucial period.	Harold Laski
4	The Representation of People Act, 1951, was passed in the Provisional Parliament ahead of the first elections in India. It provided for setting up an Election Commission to run polls at various levels. Who introduced this legislation as a bill for approval?	BR Ambedkar
5	The now practically defunct G5S was created in 2014 to establish a framework for the coordination of regional cooperation in development policies and security matters that concerned Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger. What does the 'S' in G5S stand for?	Sahel
6	Sociologists Robert K. Merton and Harriet Anne Zuckerman coined the termX effect, borrowing the concept from a parable in the Blble, to describe how eminent scientists often get more credit than comparatively unknown researchers, even if their work is similar. X?	Matthew
7	Which socially relevant 2025 show was made free for viewing in UK secondary schools after the idea receiving backing from Prime Minister Keir Starmer?	Adolescence
8	First applied to pirates who pillaged the Spanish colonies in the West Indies, in the mid-19th century, the term denoted American adventurers who incited revolution in several Latin American states. Today the term is most often seen with reference to a tactic employed in the US Senate. What term?	Filibuster
9	From December 1960 through the end of 1962, more than 14,000 unaccompanied children were sent by their parents from Cuba to Miami on the basis of unsubstantiated rumors propagated by the US, that Fidel Castro and the Communist party were planning to terminate parental rights and place minors in alleged "communist indoctrination centers". With what suitably altered name from literature did Miami Herald's Gene Miller dub the operation when he ran a story about it?	Operation Pedro Pan
10	Representatives of Henry Taylor, who worked on Blackpink singer Lisa's outfit at a recent funraising festival came out with a clarification after internet outrage at a face plastered across the crotch of the outfit: "The faces seen on this look are all drawn from Henry's personal life. None of the individuals depicted in any of the garments are or other well-known figures from Black cultural history." FITB.	Rosa Parks
11	The effect is a kind of cognitive bias where a person overvalues something they helped create. The idea being that "labour alone can be sufficient to induce greater liking for the fruits of one's labour." FITB with the name of a Scandinavian conglomerate.	IKEA
12	The company also sells fashion accessories called Jibbitz, small decorative charms that can be inserted into the ventilation holes of their bestselling "clogs." ID the company that in 2005 redesigned its logo and ran the "Ugly Can Be Beautiful" campaign.	Crocs

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Hypatia

MindSweep 2025 | Sports and Games

1	The five-letter form is a verb in English meaning to rebound or move wildly. A six-letter form is the name for an indoor board game. The five-letter form is also a compact form of billiards, associated with France. Give either form.	Carom/ Carrom
2	This eight-letter word is used both for a team sport that relies on an underhand action as also for the slower British version of a racket sport. What term are we looking for?	Softball
3	According to 1990s legend, many of his compatriots from the town of Limonar used to have the number 2.45 etched on a wall in their houses in tribute to his achievement in Salamanca. Who were they paying tribute to?	Javier Sotomayor
4	What terminal sounding German word has travelled from chess to describe a situation where any possible response can lead to damage of some kind?	Zugzwang
5	Badrutt's Palace in St. Moritz is associated with the creation of multiple winter sports. If bobsleigh and luge are two of them, name the third.	Skeleton
6	When English cricketer Natalie Sciver-Brunt hit a cricket ball through her legs during a game, the shot was given a rather creative name. What?	Natmeg
7	Ítalo Ferreira from Baía Formosa, Brazil and Carissa Moore from Honolulu, USA were the first winners (in the men's and women's categories, respectively) of which sport that was added in the Summer Olympics in 2020?	Surfing
8	Juan Carlos Ceriani Gravier, a teacher in Montevideo, Uruguay, created a version of indoor football for the YMCAs in the 1930s, incorporating aspects of association football, basketball, handball and water polo. By what name is this game known?	Futsal
9	The 2018 French Open saw Serena Williams get flak for a black ensemble with a red waistband because it did not "respect the game and the place." What attire , which helped with post-pregnancy blood clots, did Williams sport on court? OR Name the 2018 movie that she cited as her inspiration for it.	Catsuit / Bodysuit; Black Panther
10	Named so because it resembles a snake with its hood raised, this sporting structures are 30-40 metres in length and built according to instructions in the Sthapatya Veda. Usually, each village has one that they sometimes worship as a deity. What am I talking about?	Chundan Vallam / Kerala Snake Boat
11	While the concept had been around a long time, a modern execution came in 1936 when George Nissen, inspired by trapeze artists, invented what he called a 'tumbling device.' Several patents later, the device was trademarked, from the Spanish word meaning 'diving board.' At one point, the military used it to train pilots to reorient themselves post difficult air maneuvers. FITB.	Trampoline
12	First mentioned in 1928 book, this game can be played on any bridge over running water. When the referee shouts "drop" or "twitch," players drop their sticks, made of willow or other organic material, on the upstream side of the bridge. The person whose stick appears on the downstream side of the bridge first is the winner. Name the game OR the writer who invented it.	Poohsticks; A.A. Milne
13	Upon closely inspecting <i>Winter Landscape with a Bird Trap</i> and <i>The Hunters in the Snow</i> , both paintings by Pieter Bruegel the Elder, you will spot depictions of this sport but without brooms. Also known as the 'roaring game' in some parts due to the rumbling granite sound that persists through it, which sport do the paintings capture?	Curling

14	This game is called "La Peregrina" in Cuba and Puerto Rico which translates to "Pilgrim girl", named so because the nine portions that one has to get through represent another famous set of nine from a 13th century work of literature. How do we know La Peregrina?	Hopscotch
15	This particular variant works by players using "throws". It probably developed in Indian school classrooms, given that it doesn't need any equipment or space, unlike the original. There are at least two versions within the variant, one where the maximum score per throw is six, and a more ambitious version where the maximum goes up to ten. What game?	Hand Cricket
16	's thumb is an injury of the thumb's UCI which occurs because participants wrap the rope around their hand to secure the grip. The forceful jerks once it begins then make it almost impossible to hold on, often causing the thumb to hyperextend. Just FITB or ID the sport its associated with.	Bull rider/ Bull riding/ Rodeo bull riding
17	This region of Russia is famous for producing fighting talent unlike any in the world. Lyubimov, owner of a fighting rink in New Mexico puts it like this: "So many of them take up fighting out of a despair in life, there is no other option, there are cauliflower ears everywhere". ID the region.	Dagestan
18	Running was a key part of the ancient Olympics, although long distance races were not initially included. A short sprint run on a straight track that measured approximately 192 metres, was the most ancient race—and indeed the only event at the first 13 Olympiads. What was this race called , from which we get the word for a kind of sporting venue?	The stadion / or 'stade' (from where we get the modern word 'stadium')
19	Scheduled to take place in July 2025. which quadrennial event will be Amazon's first sponsorship of a major international sports tournament?	UEFA Women's Euro 2025
20	Even though Stockholm 1912 and Paris 1924 tried in a small way, it is generally agreed that pictograms on signages were introduced on a major scale in these summer Olympic Games. As the hosts anticipated communication problems, they created an internationally understood visual language that designers across the world began to use as a reference. Provide the year and host city.	Tokyo 19 64 (No part points)
21	Invented in Mexico in 1969, and said to be the fastest growing sport in the world, name the sport that is a mashup of tennis and squash played within a meshand-glass caged court with what look like oversized table-tennis bats.	Padel (not pickleball)
22	The effect is the significant surge in popularity of women's basketball, particularly the WNBA, attributed to the star power and impact of which player, dubbed the "GOAT of TV Ratings" by <i>The Wall Street Journal</i> ?	Caitlin Clark
23	Which sports commentator with a trophy named after him, known for his fast-paced Geordie speech and playful use of big words, was often mistaken for having Tourette's or being under the influence when he started his career in 1977?	Sid/ Sidney Waddell
24	Who was cast without a dispute to portray the Ukrainian MMA legend Igor Vovchanchyn in the upcoming Mark Kerr biopic titled <i>The Smashing Machine</i> ?	Oleksandr Usyk
25	"Fourteen is the age at which Michelangelo was chosen to join Lorenzo de Medici's sculpture school and, the age at which Mozart composed his opera Mitridate." This is taken from an article on <i>The Observer Sport</i> about the individual talent of which teen sensation?	Vaibhav Suryavanshi