

LANDMARK QUIZ 2009 BANGALORE PRELIMS

1. **TODAY:** An important political treaty was formalized on November 1, 1993. The treaty is referred to by the city where it was signed. The city's name is derived from Latin *Mosae Trajectum*, ("Mosa-crossing"), referring to a Roman bridge over the river Meuse built during Augustus Caesar's reign. Name the city.
 - a. **Maastricht**
2. **LOCAL:** According to the Archaeological Survey of India, the most visited monument in India is the Taj Mahal. Which monument is the second?
 - a. **Amba Vilas Palace / Mysore Palace**
3. **ENTERTAINMENT:** Which TV series documents the bizarre adventures of Stan Marsh, Kyle Broflovski, Eric Cartman, and Kenny McCormick, in and around their town in Colorado?
 - a. **South Park**
4. **FOOD:** What species of wheat got its name its hardness and ability to be stored for several decades without spoiling? It was the chief wheat grown in the Muslim Mediterranean lands and was used to make semolina / couscous.
 - a. **Durum wheat** (dura = hard) whose powdered form used to make macaroni/pasta
5. **INDIA / POLITICS:** What two words did Indira Gandhi insert into the preamble of the Indian Constitution that were not present when the Constitution first came into effect?
 - a. **Socialist / Secular** (42nd Amendment).
6. **GEOGRAPHY:** The first volume of the book subtitled *Cosmographic Meditations on the Creation of the World and the Image of Creation* by Gerard de Cremer of Flanders appeared in 1585. What was the single word title of this series which was the first to be given such a name?
 - a. **Atlas**
7. **SPORTS:** The hockey legend Dhyan Chand was born on August 29, 1905. How is his birth anniversary officially remembered each year?
 - a. **National Sports Day / Presentation of the Arjuna Awards**
8. **CURRENT AFFAIRS / BUSINESS:** What "export" of Andhra Pradesh got a GI (geographical indication) certification under international patent laws, in September 2009?
 - a. **Tirupati laddoo**
9. **BUSINESS:** Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876. "The Telephone Directory" published by the New Haven District Telephone Company appeared in 1878. Eight years later a Chicago businessman Reuben Donnelley issued the first classified directory, with companies listed according to the type of

- business. According to legend what did the printer do when he ran out of ordinary paper used for printing?
- a. **He used yellow pages.**
10. **INDIA / SCIENCE:** In nuclear weapons, what word is used to describe a nuclear test that fails to meet its expected yield as was alleged to have happened during Pokharan 2?
- a. **Fizzle.**
11. **MYTHOLOGY:** The story of Narakasura has a feminist angle to it in South India where it is believed that the demon met his death by which avatar of his mother Bhudevi, when his father Krishna momentarily closed his eyes in exhaustion?
- a. **Satyabhama**
12. **WILDLIFE:** The largest of the four surviving subspecies of elk in North America is named after which famous conservationist and 1906 Nobel Peace Prize winner?
- a. **Theodore Roosevelt**
13. **SPORTS:** Which cricketer is (a) the fastest Indian to score 1000 Test runs, and, (b) the youngest Indian to score 1000 Test runs
- a. **(a) Vinod Kambli (b) Sachin Tendulkar**
14. **LITERATURE:** The 2009 Hugo Award for Best Novel was won by a British-born author for his story about an orphan named Nobody Owens who is brought up by ghosts in an old cemetery. Name author and the novel whose premise and title was inspired by Kipling's Jungle Book.
- a. **The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman**
15. **HISTORY:** The Domino Theory, which argued that if one country fell to communist forces, then all of the surrounding countries would follow, was first proposed as policy by the Eisenhower administration. To which country did it originally apply?
- a. **Vietnam.**
16. **SCIENCE:** This eight-year old child prodigy, later known as the Prince of Mathematics, was asked to calculate the sum of all the integers from 1 to 100 in his mathematics lesson, and he did it within seconds. His name is immortalized in the field of statistics. Who is he and what is the answer to the math problem?
- a. **Carl Friedrich Gauss.**
17. **FILM:** Which David Lean film was forbidden to be screened at the same time in Israel for anti-Semitism, and in Egypt for being sympathetic to Jews?
- a. **Oliver Twist.**
18. **GEOGRAPHY:** Which river is known by these names during its course: Abbasin, Senge Tsampo, Gemstuh, and Purali?

a. Indus

19. ✪ **ENVIRONMENT:** One way of saving energy and 'going green' is to fit low energy light bulbs but they have one drawback in that they contain a poisonous element which therefore mandates that they be disposed properly and not end up in a landfill. What is this substance?

a. Mercury.

20. ✪ **ENTERTAINMENT:** In 1936, Dr MV Gopaldaswamy, a professor of philosophy, Mysore installed a private 50 watt radio transmitter at Vittal Vihar, his residence at Vontikoppal. What did he call it?

a. Akashvani. It was later taken over by the Mysore City Corporation in 1941 and then merged with AIR. Akashvani was adopted as the official name of All India Radio in 1957.

21. **CURRENT AFFAIRS:** Which “eccentric looking” musician was stopped recently by US police after he was spotted “acting suspiciously” while taking an afternoon walk in New Jersey?

a. Bob Dylan

22. **COMPUTERS / IT / PRELIMS:** What was the end result of this exchange on a bulletin board...

17-Sep-82 10:58 Neil Swartz at CMU-750R Elevator posts Maybe we should adopt a convention of putting a star (*) in the subject field of any notice which is to be taken as a joke.

17-Sep-82 14:59 Joseph Ginder at CMU-10A (%)* I believe that the joke character should be % rather than *.

a. The first smiley emoticon. *19-Sep-82 11:44 Scott E Fahlman :-)* From: Scott E Fahlman <Fahlman at Cmu-20c> I propose that the following character sequence for joke markers: :-) Read it sideways. Actually, it is probably more economical to mark things that are NOT jokes, given current trends. For this, use :-(
:-)

23. **SPORTS:** The current men's world record of 9.58 s is held by Usain Bolt of Jamaica, set at the 2009 World Athletics Championships final on 16 August 2009. Who holds the current women's world record of 10.49 s?

a. Florence Griffith-Joyner, USA, in Indianapolis, Indiana, on 16 July 1988.

24. **COMICS:** In Walt Disney's Silly Symphony series, which three characters are named Fifer, Fiddler, and Practical?

a. The Three Little Pigs

25. **SCIENCE:** DNA contains codes for protein synthesis inside the cell. Which intracellular body is responsible for translating the DNA sequence into a protein sequence?

- a. **Ribosome.** The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2009 was awarded to Drs Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, Thomas A. Steitz and Ada E. Yonath "for studies of the structure and function of the ribosome".
26. **BANGALORE / BUSINESS:** During World War One, large reserves of a particular commodity accumulated in Karnataka because they could not be exported to Europe. On the advice of Sir M Visweshwariah, Nalvadi Krishnaraja Wodeyar, the Maharaja of Mysore established a factory in 1916 to manufacture what brand of products?
- a. **Mysore Sandal Soap.**
27. **LANGUAGE:** The most famous riddle in history possibly is "Which creature in the morning goes on four legs, at mid-day on two, and in the evening upon three, and the more legs it has, the weaker it be?" What is the answer and who first asked this riddle?
- a. **Man / The Sphinx**
28. **LIFESTYLE:** The alkaloid theobromine is sometimes used as a drug to treat high blood pressure. Its effects are similar to caffeine but on a smaller scale. However it can be poisonous to dogs because they metabolize this compound very slowly. What commonly enjoyed food contains theobromine and thus should not be given to dogs?
- a. **Chocolate**
29. **ART:** Giorgio Vasari in his biography of Leonardo da Vinci published in 1550, was the first to give the artist's most famous work its name – Mona Lisa. He wrote, "*Leonardo undertook to paint, for Francesco del Giocondo, the portrait of Mona Lisa, his wife....*" The word "Mona" is a contraction of what Italian word that is a polite form of addressing a married lady?
- a. **Madonna**
30. **FILMS:** The film *Sholay* saw many cast changes before the classic final line-up. Who turned down the role of Gabbar Singh that catapulted an unknown Amjad Khan to fame?
- a. **Danny Denzongpa**
31. **VISUAL:** Name this Hindu ritual of worship common in Northern Kerala.
- a. **Theyyam**
32. **VISUAL:** With reference to the first pair of sportspersons, whose picture would best fit the blank space?
- a. **Lewis Hamilton**
33. **VISUAL:** Identify the fastest fish in the ocean.
- a. **Sailfish**
34. **VISUAL:** What asana is this?
- a. **Bhujang asana**

35. **AUDIO:** Who wrote, composed, and sang this song?
a. **Raghu Dixit (Quick Gun Murugan)**
36. **AUDIO:** (a) Name the singer, and (b) Which band sang the original in 1985?
a. **Mariah Carey (b) Foreigner**
37. **AUDIO:** With which character would you associate this theme music?
a. **Indiana Jones**
38. **VIDEO:** This Motocross stunt, called a “seat grab” is named after _____?
a. **Superman**
39. **VIDEO:** This scene from *Ice Age 3: Dawn of the Dinosaurs* is inspired by which classic?
a. **Moby Dick**
40. **VIDEO:** What effect is being demonstrated here?
a. **Meissner Effect.** When a material makes the transition from the normal to superconducting state, it actively excludes magnetic fields from its interior; the magnet is repelled from and floats above the superconductor.