



## VIC SKEPTICS

### Bonus Puzzles December 2019

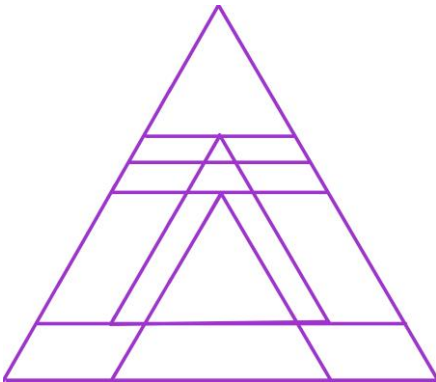
#### 1. **BACKWORDS**

Each of these groups of words can become new words by adding the same word after them in each case. For example, "out, set, draw, cut" all form a new word when you add "back". The answer would therefore be "back"

Find the appropriate add-on word which will turn each set of words into a new set.

- a) Hot, hammer, fore, over
- b) Home, house, fire, team
- c) High, sun, night, spot
- d) Gear, post, ice, juke

#### 2. **How Many Triangles?**



What is the total number of triangles in this figure?

3.



**A N A G R A M M I E  
W I N N E R S**



Unjumble the following to find four male singers popular since the 1990s

*Mine me  
I try rinc mac  
Is genial esquire  
I blew a limbo, sir*

4.



## mountain ranges

Below are lists of both mountain ranges and countries in alphabetical order. Link mountain range to its correct country. Answer in the form A1, B2 etc.

- |   |              |    |                   |
|---|--------------|----|-------------------|
| A | Appalachians | 1  | Argentina / Chile |
| B | Cordillera   | 2  | Afghanistan       |
| C | Columbia     | 3  | Australia         |
| D | Hindu Kush   | 4  | Brazil            |
| E | Dolomites    | 5  | Canada            |
| F | Hardanger    | 6  | Italy             |
| G | Mato Grosso  | 7  | New Zealand       |
| H | Spenser      | 8  | Norway            |
| I | St Gothard   | 9  | Switzerland       |
| J | Warrego      | 10 | USA               |

5.

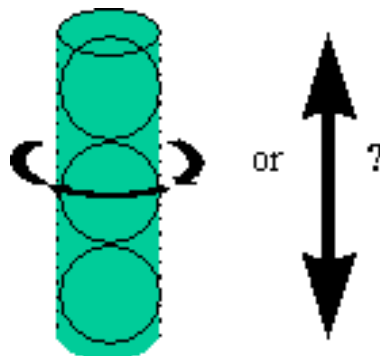


## Figure It Out

You have a cylindrical container just big enough to hold three tennis balls. Now you want to make a label for the container, and you have to decide whether to wrap the label around the cylinder or up the side. Which direction is longer:

For your answer, write either "**lengthways**" or "**wraparound**"

Assume that the container wall is so thin as to be negligible.



6.



# CONVOLUTED CAROLS



Can you decipher the titles of these Christmas songs?

- a) *Jubilation to the Global Ecosystem*
- b) *Youthful percussionist of diminutive stature*
- c) *Festoon the Corridors*
- d) *A triad of vessels was beheld by an individual whose identity is best described by recourse to the use of the perpendicular pronoun*
- e) *The spectator in the previous part of the question was also witness to an act of osculation involving that person's maternal parent and a yule-tide related mythic hirsute personage of considerable girth*
- f) *Nocturnal period characterised by a total dearth of aural stimuli*
- g) *The phrase "Personages of regal rank and Asian derivation with numerical extent equivalent to that of the lowest odd prime number" aptly defines us*

7.



## Code Cracker

Here are some well-known phrases which have been shortened to just letters and numbers.

For example, 26 = L of the A means "26 letters in the alphabet"

Write the phrase suggested by each of the following:

- a) 26 = M in a M
- b) 6 = S to a C
- c) 5 = L in a L
- d) 9 = L of a C
- e) 24 = B in a P
- f) 1 = H on a U

## Animals Collectively

8.



Link each group of animals with a bona fide collective term. Write your answer in the form A1, B2 etc

- |   |             |   |         |
|---|-------------|---|---------|
| A | Bears       | 1 | Barrel  |
| B | Bees        | 2 | Bloat   |
| C | Ferrets     | 3 | Charm   |
| D | Finches     | 4 | Fesnyng |
| E | Hippopotami | 5 | Grist   |
| F | Kittens     | 6 | Kindle  |
| G | Locusts     | 7 | Sleuth  |
| H | Monkeys     | 8 | Pladge  |

9.

## LETTER LINK

What simple rule includes the letters

**a, e, f, h, i, k, l, m, n, t, v, w, x, y** and **z**

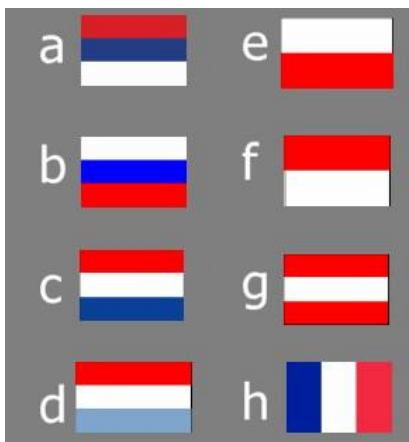
and excludes the letters

**b, c, d, g, j, o, p, q, r, s** and **u** ?

10. Which word is an anagram of itself?

11.

## Flags



Link each flag to its country in the form a1, b2 etc.

List of countries in alphabetical order:

1. Austria;
2. France;
3. Indonesia;
4. Luxembourg;
5. Netherlands;
6. Poland;
7. Russia;
8. Serbia

12.

## How Old Is Granny?

Tom asked his Granny how old she was. Rather than giving him a straight answer, she replied:

*"I have 6 children, and there are 4 years between each one and the next. I had my first child (your Uncle Peter) when I was 19. Now the youngest one (Your Auntie Jane) is 19 herself. That's all I'm telling you!"*

How old is Tom's Granny?

13.

## I've Got Your Number

(a) I am thinking of a whole number between 1 and 20, inclusive.

- If my number is less than 10, then it is even.
- If my number is not divisible by 3, then it is prime.
- If my number is not a factor of 60, then it is a factor of 102.
- If my number, divided by 7, leaves a remainder greater than 4, then my number is greater than 14.
- If one less than my number is a square number, then the reciprocal of my number is less than  $\frac{3}{7}$ .
- If one more than my number is a square number, then my number is not divisible by 5.

What is my number?

- (b) I am thinking of another whole number between 1 and 20, inclusive.
- Either my number is greater than the hypotenuse of a right triangle with sides of 5 and 12, or it is less than the diameter of a circle with an area of 48.
  - My number is less than the longest possible side of a triangle with sides of 7 and 11, and greater than the shortest possible side of the same triangle.
  - My number is either odd or a multiple of five, but not both.
  - My number is the smaller of the two numbers that fit all of the above requirements.

What is my number?

- (c) I am thinking of a whole number between 1 and 20, inclusive.
- If my number is even, then it is also a multiple of 3.
  - If my number is not a multiple of 3, then it is greater than the length of the diagonal of a square with an area of 81.
  - If my number is not greater than the length of the diagonal of a square with an area of 81, then it is square.
  - If my number is not square, then it is one greater than a multiple of 5.

What is my number?

You might find this useful for working out purposes

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

14.



## Round Ball Code



Unjumble the following English Premier Football League Teams.

- Eel Cash
- Vain Atolls
- Humans to top
- Seal Ran
- Urine Detachments
- Squarer Gene Pranks

15.

## Reversible words

Example: Caress, stroke / Faucet, spigot would be PAT / TAP

- Ship's bottom / Vegetable 4 LETTERS
- Sweets / Undergoing tension 8 LETTERS
- Nappy (American) / Made financial restitution 6 LETTERS
- Sliding container / Payoff 6 LETTERS
- Students / Mistake
- Royal / Beverage
- Spies / Items of cutlery
- Dry grass stems / skin blemishes

16. *On the subject of reversibility.....*

LETS, MARGE, MISSES, NO, NORAH, ORDERED, ROSES, SEE, SHARON'S, SIMON, TELEGRAM,

You can use these eleven words above to make two palindromic sentences – in other words, sentences which (once you ignore punctuation and spacing) read the same forward as they do backwards. One sentence has five words in it, one has six.

17.  **Figure It Out**

Three men check their hats at the theatre, but the attendant mixes up the checks as she hands them out.

When the three men return after the performance to claim their hats, what is the chance that all three will get the correct hat back?

18. **That's what it said in the brochure....**

What piece of equipment is being described here?

***"It's a graphic pre-electronic media emulator and high-resolution flat-screen monitor that produces near-perfect virtual images of all three-dimensional objects. Used primarily in cosmetic analysis."***

19.  **CROSSWORD CLUES** 

**SET A**

- (a) A favour **B \_ \_ N**
- (b) Scottish: "child" **B \_ \_ \_ N**
- (c) Element number five **B \_ \_ \_ N**
- (d) Insincerity, superficiality **\_ \_ \_ B N \_ \_ \_**
- (e) Matrimonial notices **B \_ \_ N \_**
- (f) Greater part of a burden **B \_ \_ N \_**
- (g) Hackneyed **B \_ N \_ \_**
- (h) Very annoying **\_ B N \_ \_ \_ \_ \_**
- (i) Associate with the socially desirable **\_ \_ B N \_ \_**
- (j) Suave **\_ \_ B \_ N \_**

**BONUS WORD (TWO POINTS)**

Renounce rights **\_ B N \_ \_ \_ \_ \_**

## SET B

- (a) Combine or merge **M \_ \_ D**  
(b) *Dispensed or allotted* **M \_ \_ \_ D**  
(c) *Quieted* **M \_ \_ \_ D**  
(d) *Considered thoughtfully* **M \_ \_ \_ D**  
(e) *Alter* **\_ M \_ \_ D**  
(f) *To assign members of the Press to accompany military units during conflict.*  
**\_ M \_ \_ D**  
(g) *Wanderer* **\_ \_ M \_ D**  
(h) *French Tuesday* **M \_ \_ D \_**  
(i) *Gnat-like fly* **M \_ D \_ \_**  
(j) *Soft-nosed bullet* **\_ \_ M D \_ \_**

### BONUS WORD (TWO POINTS)

*Middle finger* **M \_ D \_ \_ \_**

## SET C

- (a) *Closed sac* **\_ Y S \_**  
(b) *Unicellular fungus* **Y \_ \_ S \_**  
(c) *Person of Romany origins* **\_ Y \_ S \_**  
(d) *Chasm* **\_ \_ Y \_ S**  
(e) *Assignment* **\_ \_ Y S \_**  
(f) *Esoteric, magic, supernatural* **\_ Y S \_ \_ \_**  
(g) *bivalve mollusc* **\_ Y S \_ \_ \_**  
(h) *Ancient writing implement* **\_ \_ Y \_ \_ S**  
(i) *Mineral calcium sulfate* **\_ Y \_ S \_ \_**  
(j) *Crooked lawyer* **\_ \_ Y S \_ \_ \_**

### BONUS WORD (TWO POINTS)

*American Indian's pony* **\_ \_ Y \_ S \_**

## SET D

- (a) *Japanese school of martial arts* **D \_ J \_**  
(b) *Pilgrimage to Mecca* **\_ \_ D J**  
(c) *Supernatural being in Arab folklore* **D J \_ \_ \_**

- (d) *Improve by slight alteration* \_ **D J** \_ \_ \_
- (e) *Earnestly request* \_ **D J** \_ \_ \_
- (f) *African country* **D J** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- (g) *Downhearted* **D** \_ **J** \_ \_ \_ \_
- (h) *Discontinue with the intention of resuming later* \_ **D J** \_ \_ \_
- (i) *Make a formal judgment to settle a dispute* \_ **D J** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- (j) *Lacking a coherent sequence* **D** \_ \_ **J** \_ \_ \_ \_

**BONUS WORD** (TWO POINTS)

*Included as an unessential component; Having an auxiliary connection*

\_ **D J** \_ \_ \_

**SET E**

- (a) *Lock of matted or dung-coated wool* **D** \_ **G**
- (b) *Historical chief magistrate of Venice* **D** \_ **G** \_
- (c) *Motherless or neglected calf* **D** \_ **G** \_ \_
- (d) *(British Slang) to keep out of sight; hide* **D** \_ **G** \_ \_
- (e) *Orthodoxy* **D** \_ **G** \_ \_
- (f) *Act beneath one's dignity* **D** \_ \_ **G** \_
- (g) *Proverb* \_ **D** \_ **G** \_
- (h) *Compilation or summary of material or information* **D** \_ **G** \_ \_ \_
- (i) *Slowly* \_ **D** \_ **G** \_ \_
- (j) *Dish of flaked fish, boiled rice and eggs* \_ \_ **D G** \_ \_ \_

**BONUS WORD** (TWO POINTS)

*dome-shaped shrine containing relics of the Buddha or a Buddhist saint*

**D** \_ **G** \_ \_ \_



## 20. Identify these people / characters

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36

37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50 51 52 53

Table	Score

## ANSWERS:

1. a. Head      b. Work      c. Light      d. box

2. 10 triangles

3. Eminem, Ricky Martin, Enrique Iglesias, Robbie Williams

4. A 10 ; B 1 ; C 5 ; D 2 ; E 6 ; F 8 ; G 4 ; H 7 ; I 9 ; J 3

5. wraparound ("lengthways" is three tennis ball diameters. "wraparound: is the circumference of one tennis ball or  $\pi$  tennis ball diameters or about 3.14 tennis ball diameters)

6. a. *Joy to the World*    b. *The Little Drummer Boy*    c. *Deck the Halls*  
d. *I Saw Three Ships*    e. *I Saw Mummy Kissing Santa Claus*    f. *Silent Night*  
g. *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

7. a. 26 Miles in a marathon      b. 6 sides to a cube    c. 5 lines in a limerick  
d. 9 lives of a cat      e. 24 Blackbirds in a Pie    f. 1 horn on a Unicorn

8. A7, B5, C4, D3, E2, F6, G8, H1

9. When written as capitals, a, e, f, h, i, k, l, m, n, t, v, w, x, y and z are formed with only straight lines. The capitals of b, c, d, g, j, o, p, q, r, s and u contain curves.

10. Technically, **every** word is an anagram of itself. However, the word ITSELF has STIFLE as an anagram.

11. a8; b7; c5; d4; e6; f3; g1; h2

12. 58

13. (a) 17    (b) 7    (c) 9

14. a. Chelsea    b. Aston Villa    c. Southampton    d. Arsenal  
e. Manchester United    f. Queen's Park Rangers

15. A. Keel / leek      B. Desserts / Stressed      C. Diaper / Repaid  
D. Drawer / Reward    E. Pupils / slipup    F. Regal / lager  
G. Snoops / spoons    H. Straw /warts

16. MARGE LETS NORAH SEE SHARON'S TELEGRAM.  
NO MISSES ORDERED ROSES, SIMON.

17. One chance in six or 5:1

18. It's a mirror

19. **SET A** a. boon; b. bairn; c. boron; d. glibness; e. banns; f. brunt;  
g. banal; h. obnoxious; i. hobnob; j. urbane    BONUS: abnegate

**SET B** a. meld    b. meted    c. muted    d. mused    e. amend    f. embed  
g. nomad    h. Mardi    i. midge    j. dumdum    BONUS: medius

**SET C** a. cyst    b. yeast    c. Gypsy    d. abyss    e. tryst    f. mystic    g. oyster  
h. stylus    i. gypsum    j. shyster    BONUS: cayuse

**SET D** a. dojo b. hadj c. djinn d. adjust e. adjure f. Djibouti  
 g. dejected h. adjourn i. adjudicate j. disjointed  
 BONUS: adjunct

**SET E** a. dag b. doge c. dogie d. doggo e. dogma f. deign  
 g. adage h. digest i. adagio j. kedgereee BONUS: dagoba

20.

1	Anna Kourniakova	21	Tony Abbott	41	Garry Sweet
2	Peter Costello	22	Cameron Diaz	42	Joanna (Griggs) Sweet
3	David Beckham	23	Greg Norman	43	Jennifer Lopez
4	Chris Evert	24	Britney Spears	44	John Clarke
5	Mary Koustas	25	Audrey Hepburn	45	Peter Allen
6	Kim Clijsters	26	Max Gillies	46	Delta Goodrem
7	Sir John Kerr	27	Ingrid Bergman	47	Georgie Parker
8	Ed O'Neill	28	Ruth Cracknell	48	Slim Dusty
9	Wendy Harmer	29	Adam Sandler	49	Rodney Rude
10	George Lazenby	30	Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf	50	Senator Hill
11	Rita Hayworth	31	Alan Ladd	51	Willie Nelson
12	Brad Magee	32	Danni Minogue	52	Phil Silvers
13	Toni Collette	33	Arnold Schwarzenegger	53	Chris Grant
14	Bridgette Bardot	34	Jane Seymour	54	John Anderson
15	Heath Ledger	35	Burgess Meredith	55	Robert Stack
16	Humphrey Bogart	36	Kate Blanchett	56	George Clooney
17	Gina Riley	37	Bob Hope	57	Betty Cuthbert
18	Jane Turner	38	Bobby Skilton	58	Raelene Boyle
19	Lisa McCune	39	Elton John		
20	Brad Pitt	40	Barry Manilow		