

# ***SPECIAL April 2020 – PUZZLES Number 20***

## ***- TRUE or FALSE?***

### **True or false?**

1. A gallinaceous person is someone who behaves like a Frenchman.
2. According to a law which still exists, all English males over the age 14 are required to practice the longbow at least two hours a week, under the supervision of the local squire.
3. Slazenger is the official ball at Wimbledon.
4. Danish pastries were invented in Copenhagen in the 19th Century.
6. There are 259 steps up to the 'Whispering Gallery' in St Paul's Cathedral.
7. The reverse of the Nobel Peace Prize shows three naked men.
8. The world record for a human to hold their breath underwater is just under 8½ minutes.
9. Olympus Mons (a.k.a. Mount Olympus) on Mars is taller than Mount Everest.
10. The world's oldest known tree is over 9000 years old.
11. A cross between a horse and a zebra is called a hobra.
12.  $111,111,111^2 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
13. Muscle turns to fat if you stop exercising.
14. Olympic gold medals contain more silver than gold.
15. Your body only produces lactic acid during intensive physical activity.
16. Elite male 100m sprinters average about 30 km/h (18.64 m/h).
17. Not counting bonuses, the word TWELVE is worth 12 Scrabble points.
18. The collective noun for a group of barracuda is a "battery".
19. William Claude Dukenfield said: "*I cook with wine, sometimes I even add it to the food*".
20. Popeye the sailor man used the nautical sayings of '*Blistering barnacles*' and '*Coddling catfish*'.
21. Billy Connolly said: "*Don't worry about the world coming to an end today. It's already tomorrow in Australia*".
22. Fred Flintstone's shout of '*Yabba dabba do*' originated from the Brylcreem slogan of '*A little dab'll do ya*'.

23. Dusty Springfield died on the day she was to receive her OBE.
24. The anticoagulant found in the saliva of vampire bats is called draculin.
25. Bob Hope said: *The trouble with nude dancing is that not everything stops when the music stops*"
26. Our nose, eyes and ears never stop growing until the day we die.
27. The infinity sign ( $\infty$ ) is called a 'lemniscate'.
28. The maximum number of consecutive vowels in any English word is four.
29. Tigers have striped skin as well as striped fur.
30. People drive on the left-hand side of the road in only 25 countries world-wide.
31. The can-opener was invented in the same year as the canning of food.
32. Bullfighting is practised in France.
33. Warrnambool used to have trams.
34. It was illegal for ancient Romans to marry their slaves.
35. Taphephobia is the fear of losing your teeth.
36. The letter "t" is the second most common letter occurring in the English language.
37. Thomas Edison, who invented the light globe, was afraid of the dark.
38. "*Copyrightable*" is the longest word in the English language that can be written without repeating a letter.
39. An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
40. The electric chair was invented by a dentist.
41. Ice cream was first made in Italy.
42. Bizet was a French composer.
43. Socrates, the Greek philosopher, never wrote anything down.
44. Antarctica contains 70% of the world's fresh water.
45. Scorpions have ten legs.
46. King John signed the *Magna Carta*.
47. The word "dinosaur" is derived from the Greek for "terrible lizard".
48. *Titus* and *Philemon* are two books of the New Testament.
49. Big Ben is the clock in the tower of the Houses of Parliament.
50. In computing, a kilobyte is 1,000 bytes.

51. The dogfish is actually a shark.
52. Prince is the real first name of "*The artist formerly known as Prince*".
53. Camels store water in their humps.
54. Women have one fewer ribs than men.
55. Maggie's first word in *The Simpsons* was voiced by Elizabeth Taylor.
56. There are 36 possible outcomes on a roulette wheel.
57. Giraffes have blue tongues.
58. Charles Rolls of Rolls-Royce fame died in a car crash.
59. Caesar Salad is a recipe going back to Ancient Roman times.
60. In Shakespeare's play, Hamlet commits suicide.
61. The ancient Romans ate focaccia.
62. Hurricanes and typhoons are the same thing.
63. *The Godfather: Part II* (1974) is the only film sequel to have won an Academy Award for best picture.
64. The Four "C"s of diamond grading are cut, clarity, colour and cost.
65. China's "Forbidden City" is in Beijing.
66. Franklin Roosevelt is one of the presidents depicted on Mount Rushmore.
67. Bangalore is called the "Silicon Valley of India."
68. The Red Sea is named for a massacre that occurred in biblical times.
69. The "dark side of the Moon" is the same as the "far side of the Moon."
70. Lightning never strikes the same place twice.
71. Coffee originated in Brazil.
72. Ancient Olympic athletes competed nude.
73. Labrador retrievers were originally bred to retrieve fishing nets.
74. As a human body ages, the number of bones decreases.
75. Warts can be caused by touching certain animals, especially toads.
76. The Oscar-winning film *A Beautiful Mind* deals with schizophrenia.
77. Veins look blue because the oxygen-depleted blood in them is blue.
78. Death Valley is the lowest, hottest, and driest area of North America.
79. Tutankhamen was one of the longest-reigning kings of ancient Egypt.
80. Volleyball was invented as a game for businessmen.

81. The tango originated in Argentina.
82. Sandwich, the food item, is named after a person.
83. Fencing is one of the sports of the modern pentathlon.
84. In the battle between Captain Ahab and Moby Dick, the whale wins.
85. Brazil has won the most World Cup (soccer) championships of any country.
86. Chocolate can be lethal to dogs.
87. *Triumph of the Will*, by pioneering film-maker Leni Riefenstahl, helped expose the horrors of the Holocaust.
88. The hottest part of Earth (its core) is solid.
89. A monk named Dom Perignon invented Champagne.
90. Corn is the world's most produced crop.
91. Vincent van Gogh sold only one painting during his lifetime.
92. Russia has the largest area of any country.
93. The name "Wall Street" stems from the row ("wall") of banks that greeted visitors to New York City's financial district in the 1800s.
94. Other than water, coffee is the world's most popular drink.
95. Louis Braille, creator of the Braille system of writing for the blind, was himself blind.
96. The "China Syndrome" is what hostages experience when they begin to feel empathy for their captors.
97. A five cent piece dropped from a tall building can reach sufficient velocity to kill a pedestrian below.
98. The blue whale has teeth up to 30 cm long.
99. Kryptonite is the source of Superman's power.
100. The Apgar Score measures body fat.

# ANSWERS

1. False: A gallinaceous person resembles a chicken.
2. False: it's the local priest who does the supervising.
3. True: (has been since 1902)
4. False: Danish pastries were invented in Vienna.
6. True.
7. True: they're standing with their hands on each other's shoulders.
8. False: in 2010 a Swiss diver named Peter Colat held his breath underwater for 19 minutes and 21 seconds.
9. True: Olympus is approximately 22km tall; Everest is just under 9 km.
10. True: In 2008 a tree calculated to be 9550 years old was found in Sweden.
11. False: the offspring of a male zebra and a female horse is called a 'zorse', the other way around is called a 'zonkey'.
12. True.
13. False: muscle cells and fat cells are two different types of cell.
14. True: at least 92.5% silver.
15. False: It's produced all the time.
16. False: They average over 36 km/h.
17. True.
18. True.
19. True: (as WC Fields).
20. False: That was Captain Haddock in the *Tin Tin* stories.
21. False: That was Charles M. Schulz who wrote the *Peanuts* comic strip.
22. True.
23. True.
24. True.
25. False: That was Sir Robert Helpmann.
26. False: Ears and nose continue to grow: eyes remain the same size.
27. True.
28. False: QUEUEING has five.
29. True.

30. False: It's about 50.
31. False: the can was invented in 1813; the can-opener in 1858.
32. True: (Although the bull is not deliberately killed.)
33. True.
34. False: They could and did.
35. False: It's the fear of being burned alive.
36. True.
37. True.
38. False: *Uncopyrightable* is.
39. True.
40. True.
41. False: (China).
42. True.
43. True.
44. True.
45. False: 8 legs; they're arachnids, related to spiders.
46. False: He used his seal instead, because he was illiterate.
47. True.
48. True.
49. False: It's the bell.
50. It depends! In SI units  $1\text{kB} = 10^3 = 1000$  bytes. However, the Microsoft operating system (for one example) defines  $1\text{kB}$  as  $2^{10}$  or 1,024 bytes.
51. True.
52. True: (Prince Rogers Nelson).
53. False.
54. False.
55. True.
56. False: counting a single zero, as on European-style wheels, or a double zero as in America, it's 37 or 38 respectively.
57. True.
58. False: He died in a plane crash.

59. False: It is named after restaurateur Caesar Cardini who is credited with its invention in 1924.
60. False: Poisoned by a sword-tip.
61. True.
62. True: Two different names for an intense tropical cyclone.
63. False: *Lord of The Rings II* was the next film to achieve that feat.
64. False: (cut, clarity, colour and carat weight)
65. True.
66. False: But Theodore Roosevelt is.
67. True.
68. False: It's probably due to the colour of algal blooms.
69. False: The dark side is the side not currently lit by the sun; the far side is the side facing away from the Earth.
70. False.
71. False: (probably in Ethiopia)
72. True.
73. True.
74. True: Some adjacent bones fuse together: newborn babies have 305 bones, adults only 206.
75. False.
76. True.
77. False.
78. True.
79. False: He died about age 19.
80. True: Invented by William G. Morgan, a YMCA physical education director, mainly for businessmen who found basketball too vigorous.
81. True.
82. True: John Montagu, 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of Sandwich.
83. True.
84. True.
85. True.
86. True.

87. False: The film glorified Hitler and Nazism.
88. True.
89. False: (although he did a lot to develop it).
90. True.
91. False: In early life van Gogh was an art dealer, selling paintings by other artists. It is true, however that he only sold one of his own paintings (*The Red Vineyard*) in his lifetime.
92. True.
93. False: It is named after an actual wall built by the Dutch to defend against native American Indians.
94. True.
95. True.
96. False: This is the "Stockholm Syndrome"; the "China Syndrome" refers to a meltdown of the core of a nuclear reactor.
97. False: Air resistance limits the terminal velocity such that a lethal strike is extremely unlikely.
98. False: Blue whales do not have teeth. Instead, they have 270 - 395 plates of baleen on either side of their jaw.
99. False.
100. False: It's a measure of a new-born baby's health devised by Dr Virginia Apgar. (The summary of criteria as **A**ppearance, **P**ulse, **G**rimace, **A**ctivity, **R**espiration is a back formation).