

Round 1 – 2010

1. What was the name of the series of wide-ranging protests and rebellions which began to sweep the Middle East and North Africa?
2. What did Apple release the first of on 3 April?
3. An explosion on which oil rig caused a spillage of more than 4 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico?
4. Where is the Eyjafjallajokull volcano which caused the ash cloud that disrupted international flights in April?
5. The world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa, opened in which city?
6. Which British company was taken over by Kraft Foods in a \$10 billion deal?
7. In which country were a group of miners trapped underground for 67 days?
8. Which author's autobiography was published, 100 years after his death, as instructed?
9. What is the name of the capital city of the country which suffered a huge earthquake that killed 220,000 people?
10. Downton Abbey first appeared on our TV screens in 2010 – what was the name of the butler?

Answers

1. The Arab Spring
2. iPad
3. Deepwater Horizon
4. Iceland
5. Dubai
6. Cadbury
7. Chile
8. Mark Twain
9. Port-au-Prince
10. Carson

Round 2 – 2011

1. Where is the Japanese nuclear power plant which had several of its reactors damaged by an earthquake and tsunami?
2. Which new African country came into being?
3. Which European country finally had a government after managing a record-breaking 589 days without one?
4. Prince William and Kate Middleton married in April – what is Kate's middle name?
5. Which newspaper published its final issue?
6. Who swam the River Thames for Sport Relief?
7. President Obama produced his birth certificate as proof that he was actually born in which part of the USA?
8. Which Co-Founder and former Chief Executive of Apple died at the age of 56?
9. 'Game of Thrones' was first broadcast in 2011. What is the name of the series of epic fantasy novels by George R R Martin on which it was based?
10. A series of riots broke out after police shot dead a man in which part of London? (something more precise than North, South, East or West)

Answers

1. Fukushima
2. South Sudan
3. Belgium
4. Elizabeth
5. News of the World
6. David Walliams
7. Hawaii
8. Steve Jobs
9. 'A Song of Ice and Fire'
10. Tottenham

Round 3 – 2012

1. Three members of which female punk rock band were sentenced to two years in prison in Russia for performing a song critical of President Vladimir Putin?
2. Usain Bolt won the 100 and 200 metres sprint gold medals, as well as the relay, at the London Olympics representing which country?
3. The botched restoration of a decaying fresco of Jesus attracted huge international publicity and boosted local tourism – in which country?
4. A last-minute winner on the final day of the season saw Manchester City win the Premiership title. Who scored it?
5. Whose supposed remains were discovered under a car park in Leicester around 500 years after his death?
6. Wikileaks founder Julian Assange was granted political asylum by which country?
7. Who resigned from his post as Government Chief Whip after an altercation with a police officer in Downing Street?
8. London became the first city to host the Olympic Games three times - which were the first two years? (both required)
9. The existence of what was proposed in 1964, but only discovered in 2012?
10. Which three British athletes won gold medals on Super Saturday? (all 3 required)

Answers

1. Pussy Riot
2. Jamaica
3. Spain
4. Sergio Aguero
5. Richard III
6. Ecuador
7. Andrew Mitchell
8. 1908 and 1948
9. The Higgs-Boson particle

10. Jessica Ennis, Greg Rutherford and Mo Farah

Round 4 – 2013

1. Super Typhoon Haiyan reportedly killed 6,000 people when it struck the eastern seaboard of which country?
2. Lance Armstrong admitted using an array of performance-enhancing drugs to win which sporting event seven times?
3. Who did Andy Murray beat to win his first Wimbledon Men's Singles Final?
4. Francis became the new Pope – from which country does he come?
5. Which woman became the first to conduct The Last Night of the Proms?
6. Hassan Rouhani was elected President of which country?
7. Which two world leaders died in April and December of that year at the age of 85 and 87? (both required)
8. Who revealed himself as the source of leaks of the US National Security Agency's surveillance programme?
9. What nationality is Mark Carney, who was appointed as the new Governor of the Bank of England that year and will shortly be standing down from that post?
10. The Rana Plaza building collapsed, killing over 1,000 people and injuring over 2,500 others, in which country?

Answers

1. Philippines
2. Tour De France
3. Novak Djokovic
4. Argentina
5. Marin Alsop
6. Iran
7. Nelson Mandela and Margaret Thatcher
8. Edward Snowden
9. Canadian
10. Bangladesh

Round 5 – 2014

1. The deadliest outbreak on record of which disease broke out in West Africa?
2. Flight 370, which disappeared without trace from radar screens, and Flight 17, shot down over Ukraine, both belonged to which country's national airline?
3. International human rights lawyer Amal Alamuddin married which famous Hollywood actor?
4. A huge amount of money for medical research was raised over the summer of 2014 by thousands of people taking part in what activity? (specific name required)
5. Chiwetel Ejiofor won the Best Actor award at the BAFTAs for his role in which film?
6. Which peninsula in Ukraine was annexed by Russia?
7. Pro-democracy protests erupted in Hong Kong – what four-word phrase has stood as the operating principle for Chinese rule in Hong Kong since 1997?
8. Which space agency's Rosetta spacecraft succeeded in lading a probe on a comet travelling between Jupiter and Mars at nearly 40,000 miles an hour?
9. Relations between which two countries unexpectedly improved after 18 months of secret talks which included the influential support of Pope Francis?
10. 'Frozen' became the highest-grossing animated film of all time and won Oscars in 2014 for Best Animated Feature and Best Original Song – which song?

Answers

1. Ebola
2. Malaysia
3. George Clooney
4. Ice Bucket Challenge
5. '12 Years A Slave'
6. Crimea
7. One country, two systems
8. European Space Agency
9. USA and Cuba

10. 'Let It Go'

Round 6 – 2015

1. Which magazine's Paris office was attacked by gunmen?
2. What was the name of the long-awaited third album released by Adele?
3. Which Eastenders character, who appeared in the very first episode, came 'back from the dead'?
4. 'Go Set a Watchman' was the newly released novel by which writer?
5. Who tripped and fell off the stage while performing at the BRIT Awards?
6. Who resigned as President of FIFA?
7. A vintage Hawker Hunter jet crashed at which air show?
8. Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg announced that Facebook had reached a landmark number of users – how many?
9. Which car company was ordered to recall 482,000 diesel cars in the United States after it was caught using software to cheat on emissions tests?
10. What was the name of the craft that discovered water on the surface of Mars?

Answers

1. Charlie Hebdo
2. 25
3. Kathy Beale
4. Harper Lee
5. Madonna
6. Sepp Blatter
7. Shoreham
8. One billion
9. VW / Volkswagen
10. Curiosity

Round 7 – 2016

1. On which date in 2016 did the British people vote to leave the European Union?
2. Which country's senate voted to impeach its president, Dilma Rousseff?
3. Which anniversary of William Shakespeare's death fell in 2016?
4. Antonio Guterres was appointed as the head of which international organisation?
5. Can you list these 5 countries in descending order of the number of gold medals they won at the 2016 Olympics – China, Germany, Great Britain, Russia, USA?
6. Which musician won the Nobel Prize for Literature?
7. Leicester City Football Club, shock winners of the Premiership title, are known by what nickname?
8. MPs voted to strip which businessman of his knighthood, following the collapse of his retail empire with a huge pension deficit?
9. A public health emergency was declared after which virus broke out in South and Central America?
10. The largest ever data leak, revealing the offshore dealings of the rich and famous, was declared after 11.5 million files were published from which law firm's database?

Answers

1. 23 June
2. Brazil
3. 400th
4. United Nations
5. USA, Great Britain, China, Russia, Germany
6. Bob Dylan
7. Foxes
8. Philip Green
9. Zika
10. Mossack Fonseca

Round 8 – 2017

1. A group of American footballers sought to bring attention to social injustices by doing what during the playing of the American national anthem?
2. The 2017 Oscar for Best Picture was incorrectly awarded to which film?
3. Where did a Government decide that rock-climbing should be banned from October 2019? (country and specific location required)
4. Who had to resign as International Development Secretary after holding unauthorised meetings with Israeli officials?
5. What peaked at \$19,783 in December of that year?
6. Donald Trump was inaugurated as President of the United States - what number is he in the list of those who have held this position?
7. Emmanuel Macron was elected President of France – what is the name of the political party he stood for? (English or French will do)
8. Which regional parliament in Europe declared independence after a referendum, but was then dissolved by the national government imposing direct rule?
9. Sir Mo Farah was voted Sports Personality of the Year – where was he born?
10. Who wrote 'The Handmaid's Tale', which was turned into a TV series?

Answers

1. Kneeling
2. La La Land
3. Australia and Uluru / Ayers Rock (either name will do)
4. Priti Patel
5. The value of Bitcoin
6. 45th
7. En Marche / On the Move
8. Catalonia
9. Somalia
10. Margaret Atwood

Round 9 – 2018

1. 12 young members of a football team and their coach were trapped in a cave for more than two weeks in which country?
2. Who did Prince Harry marry on 19 May? (exact spelling required) and what new titles were conferred on them?
3. Which two countries marched together under a unified flag at the opening ceremony of the 2018 Winter Olympics?
4. The Prime Minister of New Zealand became the first head of state to do what?
5. The memoir of former American first lady Michelle Obama was published with what single-word title?
6. Who became the latest person to play the role of Doctor Who?
7. Climate activist Greta Thunberg began her protest outside the parliament building of which country?
8. What is the name of the French protest movement which sprang up in 2018? (French or English name will do)
9. Greece and the Republic of Macedonia agreed a deal which resulted in what word being added to the name of the latter?
10. Former Russian operative Sergei Skripal and his daughter were poisoned in which English city?

Answers

1. Thailand
2. Meghan Markle, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex
3. North Korea and South Korea
4. Take maternity leave (Benazir Bhutto was the first to have a baby)
5. Becoming
6. Jodie Whittaker
7. Sweden
8. Gilet Jaune / Yellow Jacket
9. North

10. Salisbury

Round 10 – 2019

1. Donald Trump became the third American president to be impeached in December. Who were the first two? (both names required)
2. How did Christina Koch and Jessica Meir make history in October?
3. Who was the England wicketkeeper who broke the stumps to run out a New Zealand batsman and win the men's World Cup cricket final in July?
4. What was the original time and date set for Brexit? (both required)
5. The 2019 election was the first to be held in the UK in December since when?
6. Which company bought 555 holiday shops from Thomas Cook after it went bust?
7. Which hymn did viewers of BBC's 'Songs of Praise' vote as their favourite?
8. Who was elected Speaker of the House of Commons, twice?
9. Who directed the film 'The Irishman'?
10. What is the name of the new streaming service launched by BBC and ITV?

Answers

1. Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton (though neither were removed from office – Richard Nixon resigned)
2. They completed the first ever all-female spacewalk
3. Jos Buttler
4. 11.00 pm on 29 March 2019
5. 1923
6. Hays Travel
7. Jerusalem
8. Lindsay Hoyle
9. Martin Scorsese
10. BritBox