This week's quiz is set by the Merchants, we do hope that it's enjoyable, balanced and not too specific. Required answers are in BOLD CAPITALS.

ROUND 1 Connections In all cases you need to supply a one-word answer.

For example: What links the location of the skycraper One Canada Square in east London with the island group that includes Tenerife and Lanzarote? Ans: **CANARY** (Canary Wharf/ Canary Islands)

1a. What shape links a sporting venue in the Kennington area of London with a significant room at 1600 Pennsylvannia Avenue NW in Washington DC?

OVAL (The Kia Oval; the Oval Office).

1b. Which major European river shares its name with one of the Tellytubbies?

PC

What links a permanent resident of Fawlty Towers with the surname of a post war c20th UK prime minister?

MAJOR (Major Gowen; John Major)

3b. What name is both the surname of one of Henry the Eighth's wives and the first name of a member of Take That?

HOWARD (Catherine Howard; Howard Donald)

3a. What kind of building appears in the title of a Jane Austen novel of 1817 and the title of a Beatles LP of 1969?

ABBEY (Northanger Abbey; Abbey Road)

What links the only one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World that is still largely intact with Glastonbury Music Festival?

PYRAMID (Great Pyramid of Giza; Pyramid Stage)

4a. What exclamation links Alan Partridge with the Norwegian singer and musician Morten Harket?

AHA

4b What links the TV game show *3-2-1* with a Saudi-born man who was killed by US forces in Pakistan in May 2011.

BIN (Dusty Bin; Osama Bin Laden)

SPARE

What name connects one of the Men from UNCLE and one of the pigs from Orwell's *Animal Farm*? **NAPOLEON**

ROUND 2 The works of JJ Abrams

Each answer refers directly or indirectly to the oeuvre of JJ Abrams.

JJ Abrams directed the recent Star Wars Film to general plaudits, but what is the title of the worst Star Wars film (to clarify it's unquestionably Episode One)?

The **PHANTOM MENACE**

1b. Name the upcoming TV series based on a 1973 Michael Crichton film starring Yul Bryner set in a futuristic theme park

WESTWORLD

2a. In which state of the USA was the Island in the TV series Lost shot?

HAWAII

2b The head of which famous statue crashes down the street in monster movie Cloverfield?

STATUE OF LIBERTY

3a. Which actor who played Julian Assange and Alan Turing in recent films, also played Khan in Star Trek Into Darkness?

BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH

3b. Which British actor stars in Mission Impossible and in Star Trek Into Darkness as Scotty?

SIMON PEGG

4a. What famous event is at the centre of the mini-series 11.22.63

JFK ASSASINATION (accept anything similar!)

4b. Which actor played a lead role in Star Trek 1966 and 2009 and died last year?

LEONARD NIMOY

Spare

Popularised by Alfred Hitchcock, The Rambaldi Device in Alias, is a plot device that refers to a goal that has little or no importance to the plot – other examples being the priceless statue in the Maltese Falcon or Rosebud in Citizen Kane – what is the plot device called?

MAGUFFIN

Round 3 A long-winded round

You will be given a long-winded version of the title of a well-known song, film, book or TV show plus the date of its release. Please give the actual title (no need to give names of authors, directors, performers etc).

For example: Question: "Are they conscious of the fact that it is currently yuletide?" (Song, 1985). "DO THEY KNOW IT'S CHRISTMAS?"

1a "Bony structures forming the framework of the mouth". (Film, 1975).

JAWS

1b. "Young women hailing from the most populous state of the USA". (Song, 1965).

CALIFORNIA GIRLS

2a "Concerning small rodents and adult males". (Book, 1937).

OF MICE AND MEN

2b "Exclusively daft people and equine creatures" (TV show 1981-1991 plus more recent one-offs).

ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES.

3a. "The optical organ of the large feline predator" (Song, 1982).

EYE OF THE TIGER.

3b. "Patriarch's military force" (TV show, 1968-1977 and 2016 Film)

DAD'S ARMY

"Recreational area associated with the years between the Triassic and the Cretaceous Periods" (Film, 1993).

JURASSIC PARK

4b. "Sizeable male sibling" (TV show, 2000-present).

BIG BROTHER

SPARE

"To destroy an avian creature of the Mimidae family" (Book, 1960).

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

Round 4 General

Who refused the BBC permission to broadcast her 1923 wedding on the radio because "disrespectful people might hear it while sitting in public houses with their hats on".

Accept either THE QUEEN MOTHER OR ELIZABETH BOWES-LYON

1b. Which dead c20th politician did David Bowie controversially describe as a 'marvellous morale booster', 'a perfect figurehead', and 'the main man'?

ADOLF HITLER

2a. The titles of the vast majority of episodes of the US sitcom Friends begin with which two words?

THE ONE

Which 3D animated dog is a graduate of 'Dogwarts University' with a first-class degree in 'Engineering for Dogs'?

GROMIT

3a. The Tory MP Crispin Blunt recently admitted to using which legal recreational drug?

POPPERS (also accept ALKYL NITRITE and AMYL NITRITE)

3b. 24 million pounds' worth of luxury cars were destroyed in the making of which 2015 movie?

SPECTRE

4a. In which year were most cheques written in the UK (3 years either way).

1990 (anything between 1987-1993)

In which year did the number of colour TV licences in the UK exceed the number of black and white licences for the first time? (3 years either way).

1977 (anything between 1974-1980).

SPARES

What is the technical term for an area of grassland where trees are sufficiently widely spaced so that the canopy does not close?

SAVANNA

In which country is the world's largest active volcano?

USA

ROUND 5 Small Countries

All questions are about small countries. "Small" in this context means in the smallest fifth of countries by area.

1a. Some villagers in the Pacific nation of Vanuatu worship a famous, living Briton as a type of deity. Who is that Briton?

PRINCE PHILIP

1b. Which Pacific Island nation is the most obese country in the world?

TONGA

2a. What is the smallest independent state in the world?

VATICAN City

2b. Which other tiny state is an enclave of Italy?

SAN MARINO

3a. There are only two doubly landlocked countries in the world. One is Uzbekistan, the other is a small European nation. What is it?

LIECHTENSTEIN

3b. What is the world's only island city-state?

SINGAPORE

4a. Which European country, which calls itself a republic, is still claimed by Serbia?

KOSOVO

4b. Which partially recognised small state is split into two areas which are completely separated by another country?

PALESTINE

SPARE

The tiny island nation of Cape Verde changed its name in 2013 to reflect the official Portuguese language. What is it now called?

CABO VERDE

Round 5 Large Countries

All answers reference the name of a large country. "Large" in this context means in the 25 largest countries by area.

The first four answers are songs or movies referencing large countries.

1a. Hit single from David Bowie's Let's Dance album

CHINA GIRL

1b. Massive 80s hit for Kim Wilde

KIDS IN AMERICA

2a. Terry Gilliam movie featuring Robert de Niro as a plumber

BRAZIL

2b. 1995 movie based on a Michael Crichton novel starring Laura Linney and featuring a talking gorilla

CONGO

The next two answer have the names of large countries hidden inside (in the same way as the word Roman contains the country Oman)

3a. Hit BBC comedy featuring a tall, ungainly woman

M-IRAN-da

3b. Home of a very famous car race in the USA

INDIA-napolis

The final two answers are countries containing the names of larger countries.

4a. The world's newest sovereign state

South SUDAN

4b. State notorious for its pirates

So-MALI-a

Spare for questions 1-4:

Historical romance movie starring Nicole Kidman

AUSTRALIA

Spare for questions 5-8:

Historic kingdom of north-east Europe and allies against the French at Waterloo.

P-RUSSIA

Round 7 An Education

All questions are a quote from a book. For the first four question, name the book from the educational quote. For questions 5-8, name the educational establishment.

Name the book:

1a. "The education bestowed on Flora Poste by her parents had been expensive, athletic and prolonged."

COLD COMFORT FARM

1b. "Humility is a Christian grace, and one peculiarly appropriate to the pupils of Lowood"

JANE EYRE

2a. "I shall remain at this education factory. There must be a leaven in the lump. Give me a girl at an impressionable age, and she is mine for life."

THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE

2b. "Well. . . they'll be pretty irritated about it," I said. "They really will. This is about the fourth school I've gone to." I shook my head. I shake my head quite a lot. "Boy!" I said. I also say "Boy!" quite a lot."

THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

Name the educational establishment:

3a. "The Owl of the Remove blinked out at the Remove master, quivering like a fat jelly with terror. 'What does this mean, Bunter?' snapped Mr Quelch."

GREYFRIARS

3b. "Acktually fotherington-tomas is worse than me he is goalie and spend his time skipping about he sa Hullo clouds hullo sky..."

ST CUSTARD'S

4a. "...there appeared at my window the face I knew to be Sebastian's, but not, as I had formerly seen it, alive and alight with gaiety; he looked at me for a moment with unfocused eyes and then, leaning forward well into the room, he was sick."

OXFORD University (accept **HERTFORD** College)

4b. "When Tom came back into school after a couple of days in the sick-room, he found matters much changed for the better, as East had led him to expect. Flashman's brutality had disgusted most even of his intimate friends"

Rugby School

Spare

Name the book from the quote

"Mildred Hubble was in her first year at the school. She was one of those people who always seem to be in trouble."

The Worst Witch

ROUND 8 Goth and Post-Punk Music

Each question or answer refers to the important musical genre that is Goth Rock or more broadly post-punk. Please don't discuss your extensive knowledge of the genre between questions.

Which band was named after the 1930s German art school and design movement founded by Walter Gropius?

BAUHAUS

1b. Bauhaus first single was named after which black and white film star, famous for playing Dracula?

BELA LUGOSI ('s) dead

2a. Pete Murphy from Bauhaus went on to form a band named after which Catalan artist who was born in Figueres, what is the name of the artist?

DALI ('s) Car

The Cure single Killing an Arab is based on a novel by which French writer, philosopher and goalkeeper?

CAMUS

3a. Sex Gang Children's hit single was named after a saint who is commonly thought to have been tied to a tree and killed by arrows?

SEBASTIAN

3b. This Mortal Coil's first single was about the song of which mythological creatures that drew ships onto the rocks?

Song to the **SIREN**

4a. Which band was named after the 1645 Parliamentary military force whose commander in chief was Thomas Fairfax?

NEW MODEL ARMY

4b. Susan Janet Ballion went on to form her band the Banshees (as well as appearing on the show that lost Bill Grundy his job), but what is her stage name?

SIOUXIE Sioux

Spare

David Vanian, Rat Scabies, Brian James and Captain Sensible were members of which band?

THE DAMNED