

Monday 27th October 2025

This quiz is set by The Merchants – we do hope that it's enjoyable, balanced and not too annoying.

Required answers are in **BOLD CAPITALS**.

Round 1 Jack of All Trades

There seem to be famous Jacks in every profession. Given a clue, and the profession, can you give the surname of the famous Jack?

- 1a. Which novelist Jack created the characters Dean Moriarty and Sal Paradise?

Jack **KEROUAC**

- 1b. Which musician Jack took his current, famous surname when he was married to his bandmate of the same name Meg?

Jack **WHITE**

- 2a. Which actor Jack rips off his wig and says "I'm a man!" and receives the reply "Well, nobody's perfect" in a famous 1950s film?

Jack **LEMMON**

- 2b. Which golfer Jack is nicknamed The Golden Bear?

Jack **NICKLAUS**

- 3a. Which England footballer Jack set a new record for transfer fees for a British player when he moved from Aston Villa to Manchester City in 2021?

Jack **GREALISH**

- 3b. Which businessman Jack founded both the Twitter and Bluesky social networks?

Jack **DORSEY**

- 4a. politician Jack served as both Home Secretary and Foreign Secretary under Tony Blair?

Jack **STRAW**

- 4b. Which artist Jack, largely self-taught, gained international fame, if not critical acclaim, for his work The Singing Butler?

Jack **VETTRIANO**

Spares

Which doctor Jack was a euthanasia proponent known as Dr. Death?

Jack **KEVORKIAN**

Round 2 Politics

A challenging round about politicians from the UK and abroad.

- 1A. In 1868, the UK had three Prime Ministers. Both Benjamin Disraeli and William Ewart Gladstone held the office in that year, but who was the third Prime Minister?

THE EARL OF DERBY

- 1B. In 1885, who became the last Prime Minister to lead a government from the House of Lords?

ROBERT GASCOYNE-CECIL, 3RD MARQUESS OF SALISBURY (also known as **LORD SALISBURY**)
(accept Gascoyne-Cecil, or Marquess of Salisbury, or Lord Salisbury)

- 2A In 2024, a member of which band, that first had a hit in 1990, stood as the Labour candidate in Mid Sussex?
BLUR (Dave Rowntree – the drummer)
- 2B James Donald Bowman is the birth name of which currently serving member of the US Government?
JD VANCE
- 3A Since its modern founding in 1948, which Asian country has seen no Prime Minister serve a full five year term?
PAKISTAN
- 3B In 2018, 95 year old Mahathir Mohamed became the oldest man ever to become a head of Government. He was elected Prime Minister of which country in that year?
MALAYSIA
- 4A Oliver Cromwell represented the same constituency as which 20th century Prime Minister?
JOHN MAJOR (Huntingdon)
- 4B During a long Parliamentary career, this MP for a Derbyshire constituency was famous for heckling Black Rod, and in 2017 became the oldest MP in the Commons.
DENNIS SKINNER

SPARES

Who was the first woman to be sworn in as a Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom?

NANCY ASTOR (The first woman to be elected to the Commons was Constance Markievicz, in 1918. As a member of Sinn Fein, she did not take her seat).

If elected as Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, Lucy Powell would become the second Deputy Leader to serve outside of Cabinet whilst Labour were in Government. Who was the first?

GEORGE BROWN (1968-1970)

Round 3 What year? Given three events name the year.

- 1a. Release of Beatles film A Hard Day's Night – Harold Wilson becomes Prime Minister – Tokyo Olympics
1964
- 1b. Food Rationing ends in UK – West Germany wins football World Cup – Roger Bannister runs sub-four-minute mile
1954
- 2a. Margaret Thatcher becomes leader of Tory party – Death of Spanish dictator Francisco Franco – End of the Vietnam war
1975
- 2b. First ITV broadcasts – Rosa Parks arrested for travelling in the front of the bus in Montgomery, Alabama – Albert Einstein dies
1955
- 3a. First commercial Concorde flight – Founding of Apple computer company – Jimmy Carter elected US president
1976

- 3b. Bill Clinton elected US president – A major fire at Windsor castle – First text message sent
1992
- 4a. Nelson Mandela released from prison – Stefan Edberg and Martina Navratilova win Wimbledon singles titles – Reunification of Germany
1990
- 4b. Woodstock festival – First human landing on the moon – Début of Monty Python's Flying Circus on TV
1969
- Spare
- Death of Elvis Presley – First Star Wars film released – Mull of Kintyre Christmas number 1
1977

Round 4 – Side Hustles – famous people who have a sideline that makes them money

- 1a. Comedian who starred in TV 90's comedy the Detectives and Cofounder of Celador, the production company that created Who wants to be a millionaire?
Jasper **CARROT**
- 1b. Famous Actor, married to an international human rights lawyer and founder of Casamigos tequila which he sold for \$1 billion dollars in 2017 –
George **CLOONEY**
- 2a. Actress and founder of Goop! –
Gwyneth **PALTROW**
- 2b. Actor famous for his salad dressing –
Paul **NEWMAN**
- 3a. Actor, founder of Aviator Gin and Football club owner –
Ryan **REYNOLDS**
- 3b. Actress, founder of Fabletics leisureware and daughter of Goldie Hawn -
Kate **HUDSON**
- 4a. The writer of the musical Hamilton also owns a bookstore called the Drama Bookshop.
LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA
- 4b. Italian American actor, vocal critic of Donald Trump and cofounder of Nobu, hotel and restaurant chain.
ROBERT DE NIRO

Spares

- 5a. Actress and inventor in the field spread spectrum technology during the 1940s that is behind Bluetooth –
HEDY LAMAR
- 5b. Three action stars were behind the Planet Hollywood Restaurant chain, Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger and who?
BRUCE WILLIS

Round 5 – A round of Davids – Forename and Surname Required

- 1a. Director of Naked Lunch, Crash and eXistenz
DAVID CRONENBERG
- 1b. Actor who played Illya Kuryakin in the Man from Uncle
DAVID McCALLUM
- 2a. Designer of Princess Diana's Wedding Dress - along with Elizabeth
DAVID EMANUEL
- 2b. Actor who played Kwai Chang Caine in Kung Fu and Bill in Kill Bill
DAVID CARRADINE
- 3a. Lead singer of the Talking Heads
DAVID BYRNE
- 3b. Musician and actor Born David Robert Jones
DAVID BOWIE
- 4a. Lead actor in the X Files
DAVID DUCHOVNY
- 4b. Actor who played Ross in Friends
DAVID SCHWIMMER

Spares

Actor, raconteur and author of The Moon's a Balloon

DAVID NIVEN

Round 6 Famous Buildings

- 1a. In which US state is the Pentagon?
VIRGINIA
- 1b. In which US state is Fort Knox?
KENTUCKY
- 2a. St Basil's Cathedral is a celebrated landmark in which European capital city?
MOSCOW
- 2b. Which UK city has a cathedral nicknamed 'Paddy's Wigwam'?
LIVERPOOL
- 3a. Which 1988 action movie is largely set in a fictional skyscraper named Nakatomi Plaza?
DIE HARD
- 3b. The Utzon Room, the Yallamundi Rooms and the Joan Sutherland Theater are part of which famous building?
SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

4a. By what nickname is the Beijing National Stadium better known?

BIRD'S NEST

4b. Arjumand Ban Begum is commemorated by which famous building?

TAJ MAHAL

Spare:

What is the nickname for the GCHQ building in Cheltenham?

THE DOUGHNUT

Round 7 Round 6 Not-so-current current affairs

A round on stories that were making the news in Autumn 2024. All the events mentioned took place in September, October or November 2024.

1a. Claudia Sheinbaum was sworn in as the first female president of which country?

MEXICO

1b. Who became the first US president to reach the age of 100?

Jimmy **CARTER**

2a. Which former senior BBC news presenter was given a suspended jail sentence for possession of child abuse images?

Huw **EDWARDS**

2b. Which former First Minister of Scotland died suddenly in North Macedonia?

Alex **SALMOND**

3a. Andy Murray announced that he was going to be coaching which of his major rivals, an arrangement that has since ceased?

Novak **DJOKOVIC**

3b. The UK government announced it would hand over sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to which nation?

MAURITIUS

4a. Which notorious ex-civil servant resigned as Downing Street Chief of Staff?

Sue **GRAY**

4b. Which religious leader announced his resignation after a review of his handling of child abuse allegations?

Justin **WELBY**

Spare

Which multi-Olympic gold cycling medalist and Knight of the Realm announced that he had terminal cancer?

CHRIS HOY

Why was former labour MP Mike Amesbury the subject of a criminal charge, for which he was subsequently jailed?

PUNCHED A CONSTITUENT

Round 8 Pucker Up: A general round about kisses

- 1a. *The Kiss* (1882) is a celebrated marble sculpture by which French artist?

RODIN

- 1b. In the Bible, who identifies Jesus to the authorities by kissing him?

JUDAS

- 2a. The Blarney Stone, which reputedly gives the gift of the gab to anyone who kisses it, is in a castle in which Irish county?

CORK

- 2b. Which infection is nicknamed the 'kissing disease'?

Accept **INFECTIOUS MONONUCLEOSIS** or **MONO** or **GLANDULAR FEVER**

- 3a. Which twentieth-century British writer described his novels as "bang bang, kiss kiss fantasies"?

IAN FLEMING

- 3b. The Cole Porter musical *Kiss Me Kate* is based on which Shakespeare comedy?

The **TAMING OF THE SHREW**

- 4a. In which animated film of 1955 do the main characters end up kissing after eating opposite ends of the same strand of spaghetti?

LADY AND THE TRAMP

- 4b. In which Sam Raimi film of 2002 does Toby Maguire share an upside-down kiss with Kirsten Dunst?

SPIDER-MAN

Spare:

Which six words complete the following line from a famous song of 1949: "A kiss on the hand may be quite continental but..."?

DIAMONDS ARE A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND