

## Set by Boot and Shoe 'C'

## Required answers are in BOLD CAPITALS

Tonight's quiz boldly goes where no quiz has gone before – to the outer limits of the Solar System. All rounds are general and the title of each round appears in either the question or the answer.

**ROUND ONE: SUN**

- 1A Which ruler of France, who lived 1638-1715, was known as the Sun King? **LOUIS XIV**
- 1B The song *Here comes the Sun* appears on which Beatles album? **ABBEY ROAD**
- 2A What was the name of the god of the Sun in Egyptian mythology? **RA**
- 2B What was the name of the Chinese physician, revolutionary, statesman and philosopher who founded the Republic of China and its first political party? **SUN YAT-SEN**
- 3A Which British car manufacturer produced models called the Alpine and the Rapier in the 1950s/60s? **SUNBEAM**
- 3B The origin of which art movement was considered to have been a picture of the French port of Le Havre painted at sunrise in 1872? **IMPRESSIONISM**
- 4A Who wrote the music and lyrics for *Sunday in the Park with George*, a musical inspired by a painting by the French artist Georges Seurat in 1885? Stephen **SONDHEIM**
- 4B Which former captain of the Indian national cricket team played one season (1980) in English county cricket for Somerset? **SUNIL GAVASKAR**
- Spare:* What is the distance from the sun to the earth in millions of miles? **93**

**ROUND TWO: MERCURY**

- 1A Who won the 2025 Mercury prize for his album *People Watching*? **SAM FENDER**
- 1B Which scientist, born in Poland in 1686, invented the mercury thermometer? Daniel **FAHRENHEIT**
- 2A In the vertical glass tube of a standard barometer to what height in inches will air pressure at sea level support a column of mercury? (allow two inches either way). **30 (28-32)**
- 2B What is the common name of *Mercurialis perennis*, a low-growing plant with small, greenish flowers often carpeting the ground in woods and shady places? **DOG'S MERCURY**
- 3A On which island was the singer Freddie Mercury born? **ZANZIBAR**
- 3B Mercury Bay is a large V-shaped bay on the eastern coast of the Coromandel Peninsula in which Pacific Ocean country? **NEW ZEALAND**
- 4A In the 1960's science-fiction TV series *Supercar* created by Gerry Anderson, who was the driver of the titular vehicle? **MIKE MERCURY**
- 4B What is the chemical symbol for mercury? **Hg**
- Spare:* In the 1960's children's TV series *Thunderbirds* what was the family surname of Scott, Virgil, Alan, John and Gordon, characters who were named after the early US astronauts of the Project Mercury human spaceflight programme? **TRACY**

### **ROUND THREE: VENUS**

- 1A Venus blood is deoxygenated blood which is pumped by the heart to the lungs via which artery? **PULMONARY**
- 1B Ruler of the warlike Treens on the planet Venus, the Mekon was the arch-enemy of which space hero who first appeared in the *Eagle* comic in 1950? **DAN DARE**
- 2A How is the carnivorous plant *Dionaea muscipula* better known? **VENUS FLY TRAP**
- 2B Who captained the ship taking a scientific expedition to Tahiti in 1769 to observe an astronomical event known as the Transit of Venus? **JAMES COOK**
- 3A Which Italian artist painted *The Birth of Venus* around 1480, showing the goddess standing on a floating giant scallop shell? Sandro **BOTTICELLI**
- 3B What was Venus wearing in the title of a song by Mark Wynter which reached number four in the UK Singles Charts in 1962? **BLUE JEANS**
- 4A In sport, the winner of which annual competition is awarded the Venus Rosewater Dish? **LADIES SINGLES at WIMBLEDON**
- 4B Better known for a children's book series, which author wrote the 1943 science-fiction novel *Voyage to Venus*? He was played by Anthony Hopkins in the 1993 film *Shadowlands*. **C.S. LEWIS**
- Spare:* Who is the Greek counterpart of the Roman goddess Venus? **APHRODITE**

### **ROUND FOUR: EARTH**

- 1A What one word title was given to a picture taken from lunar orbit by astronaut William Anders on December 24<sup>th</sup> 1968 during the Apollo 8 mission? It was described as 'the most influential environmental photograph ever taken'. **EARTHRISE**
- 1B To the nearest 1,000 miles what is the circumference of the Earth at the equator? **24,000**
- 2A Which European capital city was almost totally destroyed by an earthquake in 1755? **LISBON**
- 2B What term is used to describe the group of chemically similar metallic elements comprising the Lanthanide series and usually Scandium and Yttrium? **RARE EARTH**
- 3A Which medium-sized, nocturnal, burrowing animal of South Africa gets its name from the Afrikaans word meaning Earth Pig? **AARDVARK**
- 3B Who directed the 1952 film *The Greatest Show on Earth*? **CECIL B. DEMILLE**
- 4A Who wrote the 1802 poem *Composed on Westminster Bridge*, which opens ...  
'Earth has not anything to show more fair:  
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by  
A sight so touching in its majesty.'  
**William WORDSWORTH**
- 4B The name of which primordial Greek goddess did scientist James Lovelock adopt for his hypothesis that the Earth functions as a self-regulating living system? **GAIA**
- Spare:* Born in Bohemia in 1860, which composer of nine symphonies wrote the orchestral work *Das Lied von der Erde* or *Song of the Earth* two years before his death in 1911? Gustav **MAHLER**

### **ROUND FIVE: MOON**

- 1A The 1957 film *Ill Met by Moonlight* starring Dirk Bogarde takes its title from a line in which Shakespeare play?? **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**
- 1B *Bring on the Empty Horses* is the title of actor David Niven's follow-up book to which best-selling memoir from 1971? **THE MOON'S A BALLOON**
- 2A What, in the nautical world, is a Moonraker? **SAIL**
- 2B What was the nationality of the politician and diplomat Ban-Ki-moon who served as Secretary-General of the United Nations between 2007 and 2016? **SOUTH KOREAN**
- 3A Who wrote the 1919 novel *The Moon and Sixpence*, loosely based on the life of the artist Paul Gauguin? **SOMERSET MAUGHAM**
- 3B In which Nick Park short film do Wallace and Gromit visit the Moon? **A GRAND DAY OUT**
- 4A What is the title of the song which includes the lines...  
'Let me play among the stars  
And let me see what spring is like on Jupiter and Mars' ?' **FLY ME TO THE MOON**
- 4B Which group reached the top of the UK Singles Charts in 1969 with the song *Bad Moon Rising*? **CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL**
- Spare:* In what year did man last walk on the Moon? **1972**

### **ROUND SIX: MARS**

- 1A Who went from working as a chemist for the confectioner Mars in Slough in 1989 to conducting experiments on the *Mir* Space Station two years later? **HELEN SHARMAN**
- 1B By what name is the Mars bar known in the USA? Oddly, it is the same name as that of another British chocolate bar. **MILKY WAY**
- 2A What five word question did David Bowie ask on a record which reached number three in the UK Singles Charts in 1973? **IS THERE LIFE ON MARS?**
- 2B What was the title of the TV fantasy crime drama which was the sequel to the earlier series *Life on Mars*? **ASHES TO ASHES**
- 3A Name the two moons of Mars (one point for one, both needed for a pass). **DEIMOS PHOBOS**
- 3B The Modern Architectural Research Group, known as MARS, was set up in 1933 by architects and critics to showcase the modernist style of building coming into Britain from the Continent. One of its members was a writer on architecture who would become Poet Laureate in 1972. Who was he? **JOHN BETJEM AN**
- 4A The American singer-songwriter Bruno Mars was born in 1985 in Honolulu on which Hawaiian island? **OAHU**
- 4B The largest known volcano in the Solar System is on Mars. What is its name? **OLYMPUS MONS**
- Spare:* Which sports commentator, who died aged 97 in 2021, was credited with having coined the slogan 'A Mars a day helps you work, rest and play' when working for an advertising agency (although he later denied the attribution)? **MURRAY WALKER**

**ROUND SEVEN: JUPITER or SATURN**

- 1A Which composer's Symphony Number 41 in C major, completed in 1788, is known as the Jupiter? **MOZART**
- 1B The planet Saturn is composed mainly of which two gases? (one point for one, both needed for a pass). **HYDROGEN  
HELIUM**
- 2A What was the name of the ancient Roman Winter festival of feasting and general merrymaking which ran from 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of December? **SATURNALIA**
- 2B In which state of the USA is the town of Jupiter, home to the Palm Beach Cardinals baseball team? **FLORIDA**
- 3A Which British motor manufacturer, originally based in Bradford, produced a sports car called the Jupiter between 1950 and 1954? **JOWETT**
- 3B Which company introduced the Saturn video games console in 1994? **SEGA**
- 4A Which ex-German scientist was the chief designer of the Saturn V rocket which launched the Apollo astronauts to the Moon? **Wernher VON BRAUN**
- 4B Slightly bigger than the planet Mercury, what is the largest moon of Jupiter? **GANYMEDE**
- Spare:* Which 2018 science-fiction TV series featured the spaceship Jupiter 2 with the Robinson family on board? **LOST IN SPACE**

**ROUND EIGHT: URANUS or NEPTUNE**

- 1A Which astronomer discovered the planet Uranus in 1781 while searching for stars with a self-made telescope in his garden in Bath? **William HERSCHEL**
- 1B In Gustav Holst's *Planets Suite* Mars was called the Bringer of War. What epithet did Holst give to Uranus? It is also the nickname of snooker player Shaun Murphy. **The MAGICIAN**
- 2A Named after the planet Uranus, the chemical element Uranium has what Atomic Number - the highest of all the elements not first discovered in a laboratory? (allow a margin of two either way). **92 (90-94)**
- 2B Nominally speaking, what have most of the moons of Uranus got in common? **CHARACTERS from SHAKESPEARE**
- 3A Star of the 1949 film *Neptune's Daughter*, Esther Williams was also an elite-level competitor in which sport? **SWIMMING**
- 3B Neptune's Staircase is a flight of locks on Scotland's Caledonian Canal. It was built by which civil engineer who also designed the Menai Suspension Bridge? **Thomas TELFORD**
- 4A Where in Morecambe could you see a painting of the sea god Neptune seated on a throne and being attended by his son Triton and two sea nymphs or mermaids? **MIDLAND HOTEL**
- 4B What is the chemical symbol for Neptunium, the first transuranic element? **Np**
- Spare:* Who is the Greek counterpart of the Roman god Neptune? **POSEIDON**