

ONLINE QUIZ LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL CULTURE CHALLENGE

SEASON NINE WEEK ONE QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS BEGIN ON THE NEXT PAGE

Tie-break questions are found after the main quiz
Ties for first only need to be broken

Spares are found after the tie-break questions

Please check with the players that they are expecting the
International Culture Challenge questions to ensure you are
reading the correct set for your match.

ROUND ONE

PLAYER ONE

QUESTION ONE

Jesús Galíndez was a Basque writer and activist who was murdered in 1956 by the Servicio de Inteligencia Militar (SIM), the secret police of **which country**? This country had earlier perpetrated the Parsley Massacre against its French-speaking neighbour.

ANS: Dominican Republic or República Dominicana

Danish: Dominikanske Republik
Dutch: Dominicaanse Republiek
French: République dominicaine
German: Dominikanische Republik
Mandarin: duō míng ní jiā

Norwegian: Den dominikanske republikken
Polish: Dominikana or Republika Dominikańska
Romanian: Republica Dominicană
Swedish: Dominikanska republiken

QUESTION TWO

Although Metro Manila is much larger, Manila proper is not the most populous city in the Philippines. **Which planned city**, named after the country's second president and built with the intention of replacing Manila as capital, is the most populous?

ANS: Quezon City

Mandarin: kuí sōng shì

QUESTION THREE

Which European chemist gives his name to an equation that uses temperature and activation energy to calculate the rate constant for a chemical reaction, and contains a pre-exponential factor denoted A? According to this equation, the reaction rate will double with every 10 °C increase in temperature.

ANS: Svante Arrhenius (accept Arrhenius equation)

Mandarin: sī wàn tè · ā ruì ní sī

PLAYER TWO

QUESTION ONE

With a name meaning “black sand”, **what desert** occupies about 70% of the land area in Turkmenistan?

ANS: Karakum or Qaraqum or Garagum

French: Karakoum

Mandarin: kǎlā kùnmǔ

QUESTION TWO

In the first part of Dante Alighieri’s poem, *Divina Commedia* (*The Divine Comedy*), Virgil guides Dante through the nine circles of Hell. **What is the name given to the first circle?** This circle contains unbaptised children and those who neither sinned nor accepted Jesus.

ANS: limbo

French: limbes

German: Limbus

Mandarin: líng bó yù

QUESTION THREE

Who wrote the 1967 novel *A Grain of Wheat*, which takes place in the aftermath of Kenyan independence, and in which Mugo and Kihika are symbolically compared to the titular plant?

ANS: Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o (accept James Ngugi)

Mandarin: ēn gǔ jí · wǎ · tí áng gē

PLAYER THREE

QUESTION ONE

The 2025 Pritzker Prize was awarded to the Chinese architect Liu Jiakun at the Abu Dhabi branch of **which famous European art museum?** This building was designed by previous Pritzker winner Jean Nouvel.

ANS: Louvre

Mandarin: **lúfúgōng** bówùguǎn

QUESTION TWO

What is the name of the Japanese music that developed in the Kyoto Imperial Court? Its repertoire includes Shinto ceremonial music as well as certain types of folk songs.

ANS: gagaku

Mandarin: **yǎyuè**

QUESTION THREE

The Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array in New Mexico is among the telescopes that use **what portion of the electromagnetic spectrum?** That telescope is named after Karl Guthe Jansky, who first observed these waves – which have the lowest frequencies and longest wavelengths – emanating from the constellation of Sagittarius in 1932.

ANS: radio waves

Mandarin: **wúxiàndiàn**
Polish: fale **radiowe**

In all other languages, the required word, ‘radio’, is the same, even if the word for ‘wave’ differs.

PLAYER FOUR

QUESTION ONE

Which **director** of the Neuer Deutscher Film (New German Cinema) is known for epic drama films such as *Aguirre, der Zorn Gottes* (*Aguirre, the Wrath of God*) and *Fitzcarraldo*?

ANS: Werner **Herzog**

Mandarin: wéi nà · hé suǒ

QUESTION TWO

Which **Greek philosopher, general, and historian** wrote the *Cyropaedia*, a fictionalised biography of the young life of Cyrus the Great, in which the author laid out his political and moral philosophy?

ANS: **Xenophon**

Mandarin: sè nuò fēn

Polish: **Ksenofont**

QUESTION THREE

Adherents of **which faith** observe a fasting period from sunrise to sunset for nineteen days in a month called 'Alá' (from March 2nd to March 20th in the Western calendar)?

ANS: **Bahá'í**

French: **Bahaïsme**

German: **Bahaitum**

Mandarin: Bā hā yī

Polish: **Bahaizm**

Romanian: Credința **Bahá'í**

ROUND TWO

PLAYER ONE

QUESTION ONE

Which Baptist minister and civil rights activist delivered his famous “I Have a Dream” speech in Washington D.C. in 1963?

ANS: Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mandarin: mǎdīng · lùdé · jīn

QUESTION TWO

Which mountain range has its highest point, Jengish Chokusu, at 7349 metres (which is also Kyrgyzstan’s highest peak), and its lowest point at the Turpan Depression in the Chinese Xinjiang region, 154 metres below sea level?

ANS: Tian Shan or Tengri Tagh or Tengir-Too

Dutch: Tiensjan

Norwegian: accept Tianfjellene

Polish: Tienszan

Romanian: Tian-Şan

QUESTION THREE

One of the instruments prominently used in *gagaku* is a stringed instrument similar to a European zither. The modern form of this instrument is a 13-string half tube, 6 feet in length, which evolved from the Chinese *guzheng*. This is **which instrument**, considered the national instrument of Japan?

ANS: koto

Mandarin: riběn zhēng

PLAYER TWO

QUESTION ONE

What service – typically government-operated – is indicated by the Arabic word *barid*, which was first used for this purpose during the reign of the Umayyad caliph Mu'awiya? Due to his years of work in this field, Benjamin Franklin was made the first head of this service in the United States.

ANS: postal service or post or mail

Danish: postvæsen

Mandarin: yóuzhèng

Norwegian: postvesen

Polish: poczta

Romanian: poșta

QUESTION TWO

The murder of Jesús Galíndez was carried out on the orders of **which man**, who served as the dictator of the Dominican Republic from 1930 until his assassination in 1961?

ANS: Rafael Trujillo

Mandarin: lǎfěiěr · tè lǚ xī luè

QUESTION THREE

In her letters to Abelard, Héloïse cites **which philosopher's** conversations with Xenophon, as described in the dialogues of the Attic orator, Aeschines [esk-in-EEZ]? This Miletus-born Athenian is remembered for her skill as a rhetorician, and some scholars have argued that Plato based the character of Diotima, in his *Symposium*, on her.

ANS: Aspasia

French: Aspasie

Mandarin: ā sīpà jì yǎ

PLAYER THREE

QUESTION ONE

The Akagera National Park is one of several places in Africa home to both the black and white species of **what very large mammals**? Three further species of these mammals are found in India, Java, and Sumatra, and all species are vulnerable to poachers due to their valuable horns.

ANS: rhinoceroses

Danish: næsehorn

Dutch: neushoorn

French: rhinocéros

German: Nashorn

Mandarin: xīniú

Norwegian: nashorn

Polish: nosorożec

Romanian: rinocer

Swedish: noshörning

QUESTION TWO

Alice in den Städten (*Alice in the Cities*) was the first film in **which director's** "Road Movie trilogy"? This man's 1984 English-language film *Paris, Texas* marked the end of the Neuer Deutscher Film (New German Cinema) in the eyes of some critics.

ANS: Wim Wenders

Mandarin: yún · wēn dāsī

QUESTION THREE

Brussels is the largest metro area in Belgium, but it is not the country's largest city when only inhabitants of the city proper are included. That honour goes to **which city**, the country's largest port?

ANS: Antwerp or Antwerpen or Anvers

Mandarin: āntèwèipǔ

PLAYER FOUR

QUESTION ONE

The Boltzmann Constant and the Planck Constant appear in **which equation**, an extension of the Arrhenius equation, that relates the reaction rate constant with Gibbs free energy?

ANS: **Eyring** equation (accept **Eyring–Polanyi** equation)

Mandarin: ài lín

Polish: równanie **Eyringa**-Polanyi’ego

QUESTION TWO

Mauvais sang (Bad Blood), *L’impossible* (The Impossible); and *Delirium* parts I and II are sections of *Une saison en enfer* (A Season in Hell), an extended poem by **which French writer**? It was published in 1873, shortly after this man was shot by his lover, Paul Verlaine.

ANS: Arthur **Rimbaud**

Mandarin: ā diěr · lánbō

QUESTION THREE

In **which Nigerian novel** does the title refer to the plants in Auntie Ifeoma’s garden symbolizing freedom, love, freewill, and happiness? This plant is contrasted with the same plants that have turned red in Papa Nnukwu’s flower garden.

ANS: **Purple Hibiscus** (by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie)

Danish: **Lilla hibiscus**

Dutch: **Paarse hibiscus**

French: **L’Hibiscus pourpre**

German: **Blauer Hibiskus**

Mandarin: zǐ mùjīn

Norwegian: **Dyprød hibiskus**

Polish: **Fioletowy hibiskus**

Romanian: **Hibiscus purpuriu**

Swedish: **Lila hibiskus**

ROUND THREE

PLAYER ONE

QUESTION ONE

Some of the best-known works in the Neuer Deutscher Film (New German Cinema) movement dealt with LGBT issues, such as Rosa von Paurheim's *Nicht der Homosexuelle ist pervers, sondern die Situation, in der er lebt* (It Is Not the Homosexual Who Is Perverse, But the Society in Which He Lives) and **which director's** 1977 made-for-television film *Die Konsequenz* (The Consequence)? This man is probably best-known for his 1981 war film *Das Boot*.

ANS: Wolfgang **Petersen**

Mandarin: wòěrfū gāng · **bǐdésēn**

QUESTION TWO

Learning from the infrastructural ideas developed during the interregnum imposed by Sher Shah Suri's rebellion, Akbar the Great introduced the office of *Daroga-i-dak-chauki*, or postmaster general, to **what Muslim empire** in India?

ANS: **Mughal** Empire or **Mogul** Empire

Danish: **Mogul**riget

Dutch: **Mogul**reich

French: Empire **moghol**

German: **Mogul**reich

Mandarin: **mò wò er** dìguó

Norwegian: **Mogul**riket or **Mughal**riket

Polish: Państwo Wielkich **Mogołów**

Romanian: Imperiul **Mogul**

Swedish: **Mogul**riket or Storm**moguls** rike

QUESTION THREE

The Pritzker Prize-winning architect Frank Gehry has designed the as yet-unopened Guggenheim Abu Dhabi. Among Gehry's most acclaimed works is his design of the branch of the Guggenheim in **which Spanish city**?

ANS: **Bilbao** or **Bilbo**

Mandarin: **bǐěrbāè**

PLAYER TWO

QUESTION ONE

The aforementioned Karl Jansky is considered one of the founding fathers of radio astronomy, after he discovered a radio signal coming from somewhere near the centre of the Milky Way in 1933. Today, the source of this signal is known as Sagittarius A, of which the component Sagittarius A* [A-star] is **what type of astronomical object**, one of only two ever directly imaged?

ANS: black hole

Danish: **sort hul**

Dutch: **zwart gat**

French: **trou noir**

German: **Schwarzes Loch**

Mandarin: **Hēidòng**

Norwegian: **sort hull, svart høl, svart hull**

Polish: **czarna dziura**

Romanian: **gaură neagră**

Swedish: **svart hål**

QUESTION TWO

Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered the “I Have a Dream” speech on the steps of a memorial to **which American President?** King opened his speech with a reference to the Emancipation Proclamation delivered by this man 100 years earlier.

ANS: Abraham Lincoln

Mandarin: yàbólāhan · **línkěn**

QUESTION THREE

The Arrhenius equation is derived by integrating an expression similar to an equation named after **which Dutch scientist?** This chemist’s namesake equation gives the value of the rate of change of the natural logarithm of the equilibrium constant.

ANS: Jacobus Henricus van ‘t Hoff (accept **van ‘t Hoff** equation)

Mandarin: yǎgè bùsī · hēng lǐ kèsī · **fàn tuō fū**

PLAYER THREE

QUESTION ONE

Rafael Trujillo caused international outrage in 1960 with the attempted assassination of Rómulo Betancourt, a centre-left politician and leader of **which country**? The assassination attempt came about because of Trujillo's personal dislike of Betancourt, who had denounced him as a dictator.

ANS: Venezuela

Mandarin: wěi nà ruìlǎ

Polish: Wenezuela

QUESTION TWO

George Bernard Shaw's play *Man and Superman* contains four acts; the third act is set in Hell and focuses on a philosophical debate between the Devil and **what character**, who names that act? This character has also been the subject of an epic poem by Byron and a Mozart opera.

ANS: Don Juan (accept Don Giovanni)

Mandarin: tánghuáng

QUESTION THREE

In **which religion** is Paryushana an eight-day festival celebrated annually for spiritual reflection and self-purification? The festival is marked by fasting and prayer and one sect in this religion celebrates it over ten days and calls it Das Lakshana.

ANS: Jainism

Danish: Jainisme

Dutch: jaïnisme

French: jaïnisme or jinisme

German: Jainismus

Mandarin: Qí nà jiào

Polish: dżinizm

PLAYER FOUR

QUESTION ONE

Gagaku has several foreign-influenced styles in its repertoire. One such style, *Togaku*, is influenced by the music of another country, specifically a period defined by the ruling dynasty of that country. If 'gaku' means 'music', to **which ruling dynasty** of the 7th to 10th centuries CE, does the prefix 'To' refer?

ANS: Tang Dynasty

Croatian: T'Ang, Tan

French: accept Ten

QUESTION TWO

The Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in southern Uganda is one of the few places where **which two great apes coexist**? Another species of African ape, the bonobo, lives exclusively south of the Congo River.

ANS: (eastern or mountain) gorilla and (common) chimpanzee

Danish: gorilla og chimpanse

Dutch: gorilla en chimpanse

French: gorille et chimpanzé

German: Gorilla und Schimpanse

Mandarin: dàxíngxíng hé hēixíngxíng

Norwegian: gorilla og sjimpanse

Polish: goryl i szympanś

Romanian: gorilă și cimpanzeu

Swedish: gorilla och schimpans

QUESTION THREE

Although the *de jure* capital city is Porto-Novo, the much larger city of Cotonou serves as the *de facto* capital and seat of government in **which West African country**?

ANS: Benin

Mandarin: bèiníng

ROUND FOUR

PLAYER ONE

QUESTION ONE

Aspasia also featured in the dialogues of **which pupil of Socrates** who was considered the founder of cynicism by Diogenes Laertius? The famous cynic, Diogenes of Sinope, is sometimes called the 'faithful hound' of this man.

ANS: Antisthenes

French: **Antisthène**
Mandarin: **ān tí xī ní**

Polish: **Antystenes**
Romanian: **Antisthene**

QUESTION TWO

In **which Nigerian novel** does the life of the central character revolve around the consumption of an intoxicating beverage fermented from the sap of a local tree? He is so obsessed with the drink that when the man who brews his drink dies, the central character follows him into the land of the dead.

ANS: The *Palm-Wine Drinkard* (by Amos Tutuola)

Danish: ***Palmevinsdrankeren***
Dutch: ***Palmevinsdrankeren***
French: ***L'Ivrogne dans la brousse***
German: ***Der Palmweintrinker***
Mandarin: ***zōnglú jiǔguǐ***

Norwegian: ***Palmevinsdrikkaren***
Polish: ***Smakosz wina palmowego***
Romanian: ***Băutorul de vin de palmier***
Swedish: ***Palmvindrinkaren***

QUESTION THREE

Southern Florida is the only place in the world home to **which two large semi-aquatic predatory reptiles**?

ANS: (American) *crocodile* and (American) *alligator*

Danish: ***krokodille* og *alligator***
Dutch: ***krokodil* en *alligator***
French: ***crocodile* et *alligator***
German: ***Krokodil* und *Alligator***
Mandarin: ***èyú* hé *měizhōu* è**

Norwegian: ***krokodille* og *alligator***
Polish: ***krokodyl* i *aligator***
Romanian: ***crocodil* și *aligator***
Swedish: ***krokodil* och *alligator***

PLAYER TWO

QUESTION ONE

Which Brazilian city has a population which is by some measures almost four times the size of the country's capital, Brasília? By some measures, this city is the most populous in the Southern Hemisphere.

ANS: São Paulo

Mandarin: shèngbǎoluó

QUESTION TWO

Which Pritzker Prize-winning Chinese-American architect designed the steel-and-glass pyramid that stands outside of the Louvre in Paris?

ANS: I. M. Pei

Mandarin: bèiyùnmíng

QUESTION THREE

Members of **which Hindu denomination** keep a fast with no food or water on Ekadashi days, which occur twice a month? Devotees take a single meal in the afternoon a day before Ekadashi and break the fast only on the third day after sunrise. **You may also answer with the name of the deity considered the sole supreme being by followers of this denomination.**

ANS: Vaishnavism or **Vaiṣṇavasampradāyaḥ** or **Vaishnavites** or **Vaishnavas** or **Vishnu** followers or **Narayana** or **Hari**

Mandarin: also accept píshīnú

Romanian: also accept Viṣnu

PLAYER THREE

QUESTION ONE

Which lake, the 11th largest in the world by volume, and a Ramsar site of globally significant biodiversity, lies in the western Tian Shan mountains, in the northeast of Kyrgyzstan?

ANS: Issyk-Kul or **Ysyk-Köl**

Mandarin: **yī sāikè hú**

QUESTION TWO

Unlike the Arrhenius equation, the Eyring equation is derived from a theory named after **what structures**? These structures, the highest potential energy species within the activated complex of a particular reaction, are denoted by a double dagger (‡).

ANS: transition states (accept **transition state** theory)

Danish: **overgangsfase**
Dutch: **overgangstoestand** or **transitietoestand** or **overgangscomplex**
French: **état de transition**
German: **Übergangszustand**
Mandarin: **guòdùtài**

Norwegian: **overgangstilstanden**
Polish: **stan przejściowy**
Romanian: **starea de tranziție**
Swedish: **övergångstillstånd**

QUESTION THREE

Martin Luther King, Jr. helped organise two of the three protest marches between Selma and **which city**, the state capital of Alabama?

ANS: Montgomery

Mandarin: **ménggēmǎlì**

PLAYER FOUR

QUESTION ONE

The imaging that, in 2022, confirmed Sagittarius A* as a black hole, was done with a global network of radio observatories named after **what boundary** around a black hole, within which its escape velocity is greater than the speed of light?

ANS: event horizon

Croatian: **dogadžni obzor, horizont**
dogadžaja, obzor dogadžaja
Dutch: **waarnemingshorizon,**
gebeurtenissenhorizon
French: **horizon des événements**

German: **Ereignishorizont**
Mandarin: **shìjiàn shìjiè**
Norwegian: **hendelseshorizont**
Romanian: **orizont de evenimente**
Swedish: **händelsehorizont**

QUESTION TWO

Trujillo's standing was weakened at home after he ordered the murder of three sisters with the first names Patria, Minerva, and María Teresa, who shared **what surname**? Minerva and María Teresa were important opposition figures, and they are memorialised by the UN by the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

ANS: Mirabal

Mandarin: **mǐ lāwǎěr**

QUESTION THREE

Navigated by *chasqui* who bore messages in the form of knotted cords termed *quipu* [kee-poo], the Qhapaq Ñan [ka-pak-nyan] was the road system of **what empire** governed from Cuzco?

ANS: Inca Empire (or Tawantinsuyu or Realm of the Four Parts)

Danish: **Inkariget**
German: **Inkareich**
Mandarin: **Yīnjiā dìguó**
Norwegian: **Inkariket**

Polish: Państwo **Inków**
Romanian: Imperiul **Inca**
Swedish: **Inkariket** or **Inkaimperiet**

ROUND FIVE

PLAYER ONE

QUESTION ONE

“Hell is other people” is a famous quote from **what Jean-Paul Sartre play**? In it, three sinners are locked forever in a single room, acting as one another’s own punishment.

ANS: Huis Clos or No Exit or In Camera or No Way Out or Vicious Circle or Behind Closed Doors or Dead End

Danish: Lukkede døre

German: Geschlossene Gesellschaft

Mandarin: Jiàngé, Mìshì

Norwegian: Ingen utgang

Polish: Przy drzwiach zamkniętych

Romanian: Cu uşile închise

Swedish: Inför lyckta dörrar

QUESTION TWO

Sagittarius A* is to date the second black hole ever imaged. The first was the one at the centre of a supergiant elliptical galaxy in the constellation Virgo. This galaxy was discovered and numbered in 1781 by **which French astronomer**, who first catalogued it as a nebula?

ANS: Charles Messier

Mandarin: xiàěr · méixī yē

QUESTION THREE

Which day of commemoration in Islam occurs annually on the tenth of Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar? While Shia Islam marks it with mourning rituals and food donation, it is usually observed as a day of non-obligatory fasting in Sunni Islam.

ANS: Ashura

Mandarin: ā · shūlā

PLAYER TWO

QUESTION ONE

What are the two largest species of cat (Felidae)? The only place where both species can be found is Gujarat, which is also home to leopards. The Gir Forest in Gujarat is home to the only non-African population of one of these species.

ANS: lion and tiger (accept Bengal tiger)

Danish: løve og tiger

Dutch: leeuw en tijger

French: lion et tigre

German: Löwe und Tiger

Mandarin: shīzi hé lǎohǔ

Norwegian: løve og tiger

Polish: lew i tygrys

Romanian: leu și tigru

Swedish: lejon och tiger

QUESTION TWO

Which short-necked wooden lute, commonly used in *gagaku*, originated in China – where it evolved from the *pipa* – before arriving in Japan during the Nara period? Played with a pick called a *bachi*, rather than with the fingers, this instrument is associated with recitals of *Heike Monogatari* (*The Tale of Heike*).

ANS: biwa

QUESTION THREE

The films of **which major figure** of the Neuer Deutscher Film (New German Cinema) include *Angst essen Seele auf* (*Ali: Fear Eats the Soul*) and *Die Ehe der Maria Braun* (*The Marriage of Maria Braun*)? This man's death at the age of 37 in 1982 coincided with the decline of the Neuer Deutscher Film movement.

ANS: Rainer Werner Fassbinder

Mandarin: lài nà · wéiěrnà · fǎsibīndé

PLAYER THREE

QUESTION ONE

In **which of Plato's dialogues**, a parody of an Athenian funeral oration, does Socrates deliver a speech to the title character which he claims to have learned from Aspasia? The title character of this dialogue, who also appears in the *Lysis* and the *Phaedo*, should not be confused with Socrates' son of the same name.

ANS: **Menexenus**

Mandarin: **měi niè kè sāi nǚ**

QUESTION TWO

Who wrote the 1960 novel *Les bouts de bois de Dieu* (*God's Bits of Wood*), telling the fictionalised story of a real-life railroad strike in colonial Senegal during the 1940s? The novel's huge cast of characters serves as a symbol for the lack of value placed on individual African lives by colonial powers.

ANS: Ousmane **Sembène**

Mandarin: wū sīmàn · **sāi mǔ bān**

QUESTION THREE

Traversed by riders who bore a signal of authority known as a *paiza*, the *yam* was the postal system of **what empire**? Expanded under Ögedei Khan, the *yam* network gave the military of this empire a substantial information transfer advantage.

ANS: **Mongol** Empire (accept **Mongolian** or Ikh **Mongol** Ulus)

Danish: **Mongolske** kejserdømme
Dutch: **Mongoolse** Rijk, **Mongolië**
French: Empire **mongol**, **Mongolie**
German: **Mongolisches** Reich, **Mongolei**
Mandarin: **Ménggǔ** Guó, **Ménggǔ** Dìguó

Norwegian: **Mongol**riket, **mongolske** riket
Polish: Imperium **mongolskie**
Romanian: Imperiul **Mongol**,
Swedish: **Mongol**väldet, **Mongoliet**

PLAYER FOUR

QUESTION ONE

Ten years prior to the Selma to Montgomery marches, the city of Montgomery had experienced a high-profile bus boycott, which had begun after **which woman** was arrested for her refusal to surrender her bus seat to a white person?

ANS: Rosa Parks

Mandarin: luóshā · pàkèsī

QUESTION TWO

The MAXXI Museum in Rome is among the best-known works of **which Iraqi-born British architect** who, in 2004, became the first woman to win the Pritzker Prize?

ANS: Zaha Hadid

Mandarin: sàhā · hā dì

QUESTION THREE

Which river originates in the Tian Shan Mountains in Kyrgyzstan, and flows west and north-west for over 2,000 km, into the northern remnants of the Aral Sea?

ANS: Syr Darya or Sirdaryo or Jaxartes (do not accept 'Amu Darya' or 'Oxus')

Danish: Syrdarja

Dutch: Syr Darja

French: accept Cach or Shash or Sirr

German: Syrdarja

Mandarin: Xī ěr hé

Norwegian: Syr-Darja

Polish: Syr-daria

Romanian: Sirdaria

Swedish: Syr-Darja

TIEBREAKER ONE

QUESTION ONE

Which author of the novels *Beloved* and *Song of Solomon* became the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature?

ANS: Toni **Morrison**

Mandarin: **tuō nī · mòlǐsēn**

QUESTION TWO

Which double-membrane-bound organelles, found in eukaryotic cells, are the site of respiration and oxidative phosphorylation, processes that produce energy for the cell in the form of ATP?

ANS: **mitochondria** (or **mitochondrion**)

Danish: **mitokondrie**

French: **mitochondrie**

German: **Mitochondrium**

Mandarin: **Xiànlǐtǐ**

Norwegian: **mitokondrium**

Polish: **mitochondrium**

Romanian: **mitocondrie**

Swedish: **mitokondrie**

QUESTION THREE

Often considered the origin of the modern state of Afghanistan, **which empire** – sometimes known colloquially as simply the Afghan Empire – was founded at Kandahar in 1747 by the eponymous Pashtun military commander?

ANS: **Durrani** Empire (accept **Saddozai** Kingdom)

Mandarin: **dù lánní dìguó**

TIEBREAKER TWO

QUESTION ONE

In chemistry, **what name** from the Greek for ‘same place’ is given to any of two or more species of atom with the same atomic number, hence constituting the same element, but differing in mass number?

ANS: isotope

Danish: **isotop**

Dutch: **isotoop**

German: **Isotop**

Mandarin: **tóngwèisù**

Norwegian: **isotop**

Polish: **izotopów** or **isotopy**

Romanian: **izotop**

Swedish: **isotop**

QUESTION TWO

When Namibia gained independence in 1990, **which coastal city** – today one of Namibia’s three largest – remained an exclave of South Africa? In 1994, the city’s sovereignty was finally transferred to Namibia.

ANS: Walvis Bay (or **Walvisbaai**, or **Walfischbucht** or **Walfischbai**, or **Ezorongondo**)

QUESTION THREE

In March 1916, while crossing the English Channel between Britain and France, the passenger ferry SS Sussex was damaged by a German torpedo attack, killing at least fifty passengers, including **which Catalan pianist and composer**, who wrote the operas *María del Carmen* and *Goyescas*?

ANS: Enrique Granados

Mandarin: ēnlǐkè · **gé lānà duōsī**

TIEBREAKER THREE

NEAREST THE BULL

Not including derived forms such as *ilāh*, **how many times** does the proper noun Allah (الله) appear in the Quran?

ANS: 2,699

SPARES

In the event of a spare being required, ask the player to pick a number between 1 and 3 and read the corresponding question

SPARE ONE

The largest part of the wider Pannonian Plain, the Great Alföld is a large plain occupying the majority of the territory of **which European country?**

ANS: Hungary

Danish: **Ungarn**

Dutch: **Hongarije**

French: **Hongrie**

German: **Ungarn**

Mandarin: **xiōngyáli**

Norwegian: **Ungarn**

Polish: **Węgry**

Romanian: **Ungaria**

Swedish: **Ungern**

SPARE TWO

He needs no sleep and his senses are so good that he can hear grass grow and see to the end of the world. It is said that he will mark the onset of Ragnarök by sounding the Gjallarhorn and will kill and be killed by Loki. **Who is this member** of the Æsir, the son of Odin, who guards the Bifrost Bridge that links Midgard and Asgard?

ANS: Heimdall or Heimdallr (accept Rig, Hallinskiði, Gullintanni, Vindlér or Vindhlér)

Danish: **Hejmdal**

Mandarin: **hǎimǔ dǎěr**

Polish: **Hajmdal**

SPARE THREE

In perhaps the most famous of all their projects, Christo and Jeanne-Claude used more than 100,000 m² of fireproof polypropylene fabric and 15 km of rope to wrap up **which world-famous building** in 1995?

ANS: German Reichstag building

Mandarin: **déguó guóhuìdàshà**

Polish: Gmach **parlamentu Rzeszy**