

# THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_

**Straight, simple, to the point. The object of this quiz is to fill in the blanks on 50 questions. The answers to each of these queries is always in the same format, “The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_”. Each blank contains exactly one word.**

**Good luck!**

- 1) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Shakespeare play where two women in drag use tortuous logic to thwart the machinations of a usurer intent on extracting his “pound of flesh”.
- 2) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Comic strip that features such characters as Sir Rodney, Bung and Spook.
- 3) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Radio and TV show starring William Bendix as an factory worker with the famous catchphrase, “What a revoltin’ development this is!”
- 4) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Period in Russian history following the death of Ivan the Terrible marked by anarchy and instability.
- 5) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: 1983 hit song for the group “Re-flex”, their only US top 40 hit.
- 6) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Name given to the controversial goal scored by Maradona in the deciding final game of the 1986 World Cup.
- 7) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Epic Robert Jordan fantasy fiction series that had its last installment released earlier this month, years after Jordan’s death.
- 8) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Expression based on an ancient Greek tale with a similar meaning to “Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown”.
- 9) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Nickname of Kal-El and English translation of the pseudonym of Ioseb Besarionis dze Jughashvili.
- 10) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Depending on the method used, this film is somewhere between third and fifth in the top grossing films all-time (inflation adjusted, US and Canada), along with *Gone with the Wind*, *Avatar*, *Titanic* and *Star Wars*.

- 11) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Trigger event for the Thirty Years War that involved four Catholic noblemen being hurled from a third-story window, which they miraculously survived by landing in a pile of horse manure. Strangely enough, this is the second such event with this name!
- 12) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Poe tale in which the narrator gets revenge on his drunkard friend by luring him into the catacombs with promises of wine, and then seals him chained within the walls to die a gruesome death.
- 13) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera containing the famed *Major-General's Song* (the Major-General would no doubt be quite good at Williams Trivia).
- 14) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Swashbuckling Victorian adventure novel that begat the "Ruritarian Romance" literary genre. Made into films numerous times, including a comic version starring Peter Sellers.
- 15) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Subtitled *A Fistful of Quarters*, this film chronicles the quest to achieve the world record score on a beloved 1980's arcade game.
- 16) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Teller of Chaucer tale with the moral of the story being that what women most desire is to rule over their husbands.
- 17) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Film for which Paul Newman won his only Best Actor Oscar.
- 18) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Common title of the landmark Smith work upon which much of Western economic thought is based.
- 19) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Gambler and statesman who is immortalized in both the name of a common food staple and the nickname of a US state.
- 20) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: A song of this title hit #1 in the US on the Hot 100 for both Huey Lewis and the News and Celine Dion (different song, though).
- 21) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Updike novel later made into a film starring Jack Nicholson, Cher, Susan Sarandon, and Michelle Pfeiffer.

- 22) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Illuminated manuscript of the four Gospels, on display at Trinity College, and a national treasure of Ireland.
- 23) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: 1982 animated film that depicts super-intelligent rats living under a rosebush.
- 24) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Sequel to *Pitch Black*, this film follows the main character (played by Vin Diesel) as he escapes from Crematoria and battles the Necromongers.
- 25) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: 1996 book that promulgates the theory, proposed by political scientist Samuel Huntington, that people's cultural and religious identities will be the primary source of conflict in the post-Cold War world.
- 26) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Modern version of a game first invented by Milton Bradley, it was released in 1960 and endorsed by Art Linkletter, whose portrait appeared on the \$100,000 bill within.
- 27) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: *Preacher* character who murderously gunned down both the Devil and God (obviously taking Nietzsche entirely too seriously).
- 28) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Term used by George W. Bush to describe the nations of Iraq, Iran and North Korea.
- 29) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Founded in Connecticut in 1882, this is the world's largest Roman Catholic fraternal organization.
- 30) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: 1992 P.D. James novel that describes a world of mass infertility, with humanity nearing the verge of extinction.
- 31) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Name given to ancient Babylonian laws inscribed upon clay tablets and stone steles; it contains one of the first examples of the concept of "innocent until proven guilty".
- 32) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Founded in the aftermath of World War I, it was the first international organization whose primary function was to maintain world peace. Unfortunately, it failed.
- 33) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Ancient Chinese treatise written by Sun Tzu that has influenced military, political and business leaders even to the present day.

- 34) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Name given to the forced relocation of Native American tribes from the Southwest to the Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma.
- 35) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Name of the newspaper with the largest English-language circulation in the world.
- 36) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Early silent film serial that made a star out of Pearl White, and may have inspired the term “cliffhanger”, due to its filming on location at the New Jersey Palisades, with the main character dangling from a cliff at the end of one chapter.
- 37) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Northern arm of the South China Sea; an incident there in 1964 precipitated the Vietnam War.
- 38) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Immensely popular video game franchise that was the first inductee into the SpikeTV Video Game Hall of Fame in 2011.
- 39) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Nickname for the girl, first burned at the stake for heresy, only to be found innocent of the crime after death and later canonized. The nickname is based upon the site of her most famous battlefield triumph.
- 40) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Mythological name given to the promontories that flank the Strait of Gibraltar.
- 41) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: 1962 (highly fictionalized) film dealing with the life of criminal Robert Stroud.
- 42) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Noble-sounding nom de guerre of English Bob in the 1992 film *Unforgiven* (alternatively, the much less noble-sounding version of the name given to him by Little Bill Daggett).
- 43) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Frequent ally of Sir Guy of Gisbourne and Prince John in medieval English legends.
- 44) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Literary work upon which the Woody Guthrie song *The Ballad of Tom Joad* is based.
- 45) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: Those who would cross this must answer me these questions three, ere the other side he see. (Oops, 50 questions ... AAARGHH!)

*As I plummet to my doom, please identify these five works of art:*

46) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_:



47) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_:



48) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_:



49) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_:



50) The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_:

