ULTIMATE SCOTTISH QUIZ

So, you think you know Scotland?

From Castles to Celebrities put your knowledge to the test!

Find the answers further down the page.

Question 1
A ‘Munro’ is the name for a Scottish mountain above which height?

- □ 1,000 feet
- □ 2,000 feet
- □ 3,000 feet
- □ 4,000 feet

Question 2
Where did President Eisenhower of the United States have a residence in Scotland?

- □ Culzean Castle, Ayrshire
- □ Glamis Castle, Angus
- □ Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh
- □ Edinburgh Castle
Question 3
The Gaelic for whisky is Uisge Beatha. What is its literal meaning?

☐ Spirit of Scotland
☐ Heart-warming liquid
☐ Good Health
☐ Water of Life

Question 4
Where do the smoked haddock known as ‘smokies’ come from?

☐ Aberdeen
☐ Oban
☐ Arbroath
☐ Peterhead

Question 5
Which famous US novel based its title from a poem by Robert Burns?

☐ ‘Catcher in the Rye’ by J.D. Salinger
☐ ‘Catch 22’ by Joseph Heller
☐ ‘One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest’ by Ken Kesey
☐ ‘The Grapes of Wrath’ by John Steinbeck

Question 6
Roughly, how many golf courses does Scotland have?

☐ 250
☐ 350
☐ 450
☐ 550
Question 7
This castle is said to be one of Scotland’s most haunted. What is it?
- Fyvie Castle near Aberdeen
- Glamis Castle in Angus
- Brodick Castle on the Isle of Arran
- Eilean Donan Castle in the Scottish Highlands

Question 8
In the Scots language what does it mean to ‘haver’?
- Talk profoundly
- To boast
- Brood in silence
- Talk nonsense

Question 9
Gerard Butler is one of Scotland’s most successful actors, but what did he originally train to become?
- A lawyer
- A doctor
- A teacher
- An accountant

Question 10
The first ever Scotland football team was made up entirely of players from which club?
- Inverness Caledonian Thistle
- Queen’s Park
- Heart of Midlothian
- Motherwell
Question 11
Which famous Scottish figure was depicted in the film Braveheart by Angus Macfadyen in 1995?

- [ ] William Wallace
- [ ] Rob Roy
- [ ] Thomas Muir
- [ ] Robert the Bruce

Question 12
Towards the end of the Victorian era, Dundee was famous for its three Js - Jam, Jute and what?

- [ ] Jokes
- [ ] Joinery
- [ ] Jigsaws
- [ ] Journalism

Question 13
Slains Castle in Aberdeenshire is said to have inspired which tale of horror?

- [ ] ‘Frankenstein’ by Mary Shelley
- [ ] ‘Dracula’ by Bram Stoker
- [ ] ‘The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde’ by Robert Louis Stevenson
- [ ] ‘The Fall of the House of Usher’ by Edgar Allan Poe

Question 14
What is the longest river in Scotland?

- [ ] River Tay
- [ ] River Clyde
- [ ] River Don
- [ ] River Dee
Question 15
What Scottish title was given to Prince William and Kate Middleton once they married?

- Lord and Lady of Balmoral
- Duke and Duchess of Glamis
- Earl and Countess of Strathearn
- Count and Countess of Linlithgow

Question 16
St Andrews is Scotland’s oldest university. When was it founded?

- 1413
- 1513
- 1613
- 1713

Question 17
Andrew Carnegie made his fortune in the USA. But where was he born?

- Dunfermline, Fife
- Glasgow
- Blantyre, Lanarkshire
- Greenock

Question 18
McCaig’s Tower overlooks which Scottish town?

- Pitlochry
- Peterhead
- Oban
- Rosyth
Question 19
On which Scottish Island did George Orwell write his novel 1984?

- Iona
- Islay
- Jura
- Skye

Question 20
What are curling stones traditionally made of?

- Granite
- Limestone
- Iron
- Marble
HOW DID YOU DO IN THE ULTIMATE SCOTTISH QUIZ?

ANSWERS

Question 1
A ‘Munro’ is the name for a Scottish mountain above which height?

Answer
The correct answer is 3,000 feet

Munros are named after Sir Hugh T. Munro who in 1891 surveyed all the country’s mountains above 3,000 feet. Currently, there are 283 Munros in Scotland.

Question 2
Where did President Eisenhower of the United States have a residence in Scotland?

Answer
The correct answer is Culzean Castle, Ayrshire

In 1945 when the owners of Culzean Castle in Ayrshire donated it to the National Trust for Scotland they requested that the top floor be given to General Eisenhower as a thank you from Scotland for America’s support during World War II. General Eisenhower and members of his family stayed there on several occasions.

Question 3
The Gaelic for whisky is Uisge Beatha. What is its literal meaning?

Answer
The correct answer is Water of Life

Whisky is Scotland’s national drink and is enjoyed the world over. The law dictates that Scotch Whisky must be matured for a minimum of three years in Scotland to earn the name. Most Scotch whiskies are aged for much longer.

Question 4
Where do the smoked haddock known as ‘smokies’ come from?

Answer
The correct answer is Arbroath

An Arbroath Smokie is a haddock smoked over a beech wood fire and is unique to Arbroath in Angus.

Question 5
Which famous US novel based its title from a poem by Robert Burns?

Answer
The correct answer is ‘Catcher in the Rye’ by J.D. Salinger

J.D. Salinger’s famous 1951 novel ‘Catcher in the Rye’ based its title from a poem by Robert Burns ‘Comin’ Thro’ the Rye’.

Question 6
Roughly, how many golf courses does Scotland have?

Answer
The correct answer is 550

Scotland has more than 550 golf courses.
Question 7
This castle is said to be one of Scotland’s most haunted. What is it?

Answer
The correct answer is Glamis Castle in Angus

Glamis Castle, the former family home of the late Queen Mother, is said to be one of Scotland’s most haunted. Alleged sightings include child ghosts, a Lady in White and an old lady wandering the grounds at night.

Question 8
In the Scots language what does it mean to ‘haver’?

Answer
The correct answer is Talk nonsense

In spite of its popularity among Scots speakers today, haver or haiver is a relative newcomer to the language, the earliest quotation in the Dictionary of the Scots Language dating from as late as 1776. (Scots Language Centre)

Question 9
Gerard Butler is one of Scotland’s most successful actors, but what did he originally train to become?

Answer
The correct answer is a lawyer

Paisley-born Gerard Butler trained as a lawyer at Glasgow University and turned to acting in the mid-nineties.

Question 10
The first ever Scotland team was made up entirely of players from which club?

Answer
The correct answer is Queen’s Park Football Club

Formed in 1867 Queen’s Park are the oldest Association football club in Scotland.

Question 11
Which famous Scottish figure was depicted in the film Braveheart by Angus Macfadyen in 1995?

Answer
The correct answer is Robert the Bruce

Born in 1274, Robert the Bruce became King of Scotland in 1306 and went on to defeat Edward II’s armies at Bannockburn in 1314. He died in 1329.

Question 12
Towards the end of the Victorian era, Dundee was famous for its three Js - Jam, Jute and what?

Answer
The correct answer is journalism

Dundee is synonymous with jute, jam and journalism on account of the industries that once dominated the region. Dundee is also famous as the City of Discovery: it’s here that you will find the Royal Research Ship Discovery in which the explorers Scott and Shackleton sailed to Antarctica at the beginning of the 20th Century.

Question 13
Slains Castle in Aberdeenshire is said to have inspired which tale of horror?

Answer
The correct answer is Dracula by Bram Stoker

The Irish writer Bram Stoker wrote Dracula in 1897 while staying at the Kilmarnock Arms Hotel at Cruden Bay. Nearby ruined Slains Castle is said to have inspired Stoker’s gothic vampire horror.

Question 14
What is the longest river in Scotland?

Answer
The correct answer is River Tay

At 119 miles long the River Tay is the longest in Scotland.
Question 15
What Scottish title was given to Prince William and Kate Middleton once they married?

Answer
The correct answer is Earl and Countess of Strathearn

The royal couple were given the title the Earl and Countess of Strathearn by the Queen to mark their marriage in April 2011. Strathearn, which means Valley of the River Earn, stretches from the central lowlands to the Highlands.

Question 16
St Andrews is Scotland’s oldest university. When was it founded?

Answer
The correct answer is 1413

St Andrews is Scotland’s first university and the third oldest in the English-speaking world, founded in 1413.

Question 17
Andrew Carnegie made his fortune in the USA. But where was he born?

Answer
The correct answer is Dunfermline, Fife

Andrew Carnegie (1835 – 1919) is the most famous example of a Scot who made his fortune in the USA. Born in Dunfermline, Fife, Carnegie arrived in America as a poor weaver’s son but built a fortune in the steel industry.

Question 18
McCaig’s Tower overlooks which Scottish town?

Answer
The correct answer is Oban

McCaig’s Tower was built in 1897 by local banker John Stuart McCaig who’s aim was to provide work for local stonemasons and a lasting monument to the McCaig family.

Question 19
On which Scottish Island did George Orwell write his novel 1984?

Answer
The correct answer is Jura

Eric Blair, better known as George Orwell, moved to Jura where he lived between 1946 and 1948. He stayed in a remote farmhouse called Barnhill, at the northern end of the island, which he had visited for the first time in 1945. It was during his stay that Orwell penned his most famous novel 1984, which was published in 1949.

Question 20
What are curling stones traditionally made of?

Answer
The correct answer is granite

Curling stones are traditionally fashioned from granite. The first stones were made in the 1750s, the original source being Ailsa Craig in Scotland.