**Trivia Week 1**

1. What is the origin of the expression “Cowabunga!”? **A: The Howdy Doody** TV show in the 50’s (It was the greeting exchanged by Buffalo Bob Smith and Chief Thunderthud) or B: from the “Gidget” surfer movies.
2. In Herman Melville’s famous novel Moby Dick, what was Captain Ahab’s peg leg made from? A: Wood or **B: Ivory** (from the jawbone of a whale, Ahab’s leg had been snapped off during an encounter with the whale Moby Dick.)
3. How many syllables are there in a Japanese haiku poem? A: 20 ( 5,10,5 of a limerick) or **B:** **17** (arranged in 3 lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables)
4. In what comic strip did the onomatopoeia “ZAP” originate? **A:** **Buck Rogers**(in 1929, cartoonist Philip Francis Nowlan used it to describe the sound of Buck’s paralyzing ray gun.) or B: Flash Gordon
5. What did writer Edgar Allan Poe and rock n’ roller Jerry Lee Lewis have in common? **A: each married a 13 year old cousin** or B: each had a drug addiction
6. What was the name of the only horse to beat Man O’War in his incredible 21 race career? **A:** **Upset** (in 1919) or B: Seabiscuit (was Man O’ War’s grandson who beat War Admiral in 1938)
7. Whom did Olive Oyl go out with before she met Popeye? A: Bluto or **B:** **Ham Gravy**
8. What was the name of the first miniature golf course in the United States? A: Munchkin land Golf course or **B:** **The Tom Thumb Golf Course** (It was build tin 1929 in Chattanooga, Tennessee by John Garnet Carter.)
9. By what score was Mudville defeated in Ernest Thayer’s classic poem *Casey at the Bat*? **A:** **4 to 2** or B: 5 to 3
10. For what career was Western novel writer Zane Grey trained? A: Optometry or **B:** **Dentistry**
11. What American literary classic was labeled “downright socialistic” and banned from the U.S. Information Service libraries in 1954? **A: Walden Pond** (by Henry David Thoreau) or B: Animal Farm (by George Orwell)
12. Dorothy Parker wrote: “Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses.” Did she? **A:** **Yes** or B: No
13. What was Huck Finn’s remedy for warts? A: Using a spider poultice or **B:** **Swinging a dead cat in a graveyard at midnight**
14. What was the building in the background of Grant Wood’s classic painting American Gothic? A: afarmor **B: a dentist office** (in Eldon, Iowa)
15. How was the couple depicted in the painting American Gothic related? A: Husband and wife or **B: Father and daughter**
16. How many knights could be seated around King Arthur’s Round Table A: 12 or **B:** **150**
17. Prudence Pimpleton is the wife of what comic strip character? **A:** **Fearless Fosdick** or B: Dick Tracy (Tess Trueheart)
18. In the game of jacks, how many prongs are on each jack? **A:** **6** or B: 8
19. What were Cinderella’s slippers made of in Charles Perrault’s 1697 version of the fairy tale classic? **A: Fur** or B: Glass
20. What was the name of the cat featured with Dick, Jane and their dog Spot in the old school primer *Now We Read*? **A:** **Puff** or B: Kitty
21. In H.G. Wells’ science-fiction classic *War of the Worlds*, how did the Martian invaders get to Earth? A: They came in flying saucers or **B:** **they were shot to Earth in giant projectiles**.
22. Who was the first professional football player to run for more than 2000 yards in a season? **A:** **O.J. Simpson** (who racked up 2003 yards for Buffalo in 1973) or B: Jim Brown (with 1863 yards set 1963)
23. What book was the best-seller of the year in America in 1794? A: Gulliver’s Travels by Jonathan Swift or **B:** **Benjamin Franklin’s autobiography** (which had been published in England the year before, 3 years after his death.)
24. In what year was George Orwell’s chilling political satire “Nineteen Eighty-four” published? **A:** **1949** or B: 1959
25. Who was Sir Galahad’s father? A: Sir Gawain or **B: Sir Lancelot**
26. What is upset on the table in Leonardo da Vinci’s famous painting of the Last Supper? **A:** **a spilled salt container** (near Judas Iscariot’s elbow) or B: a broken bread loaf
27. In the Ernest Hemingway classic “The Old Man and the Sea”, what famous athlete does the old man say he would like to take fishing? A: Babe Ruth or **B: Joe DiMaggio** (“The great”)
28. According to Forbes, whose fortune was worth more at the time of their death? A: Howard Hughes(1.6 Billion) or **B: Scrooge McDuck** (5.6 Billion, Donald Duck’s uncle)
29. What is the chief oil in the oil paint used by artists? **A: Linseed** or B: Poppy seed
30. What happened to the parents of Batman’s sidekick, Robin, aka Dick Grayson? A: Killed in a car accident or **B:** **died in a trapeze accident** (The Flying Grayson’s)
31. Who owned the land on Walden Pond, where Henry David Thoreau built a cabin and wrote the essays that became his book, Walden, or Life in the Woods? A: Walt Whitman or **B: Ralph Waldo Emerson**
32. What was the medical specialty of Sherlock Holmes’s creator, Arthur Conan Doyle? **A:** **an** **Ophthalmologist** or B: Dentist
33. How did baseball superstar Leroy “Satchel” Paige get his nickname? A: from the sack he used to carry his clothes or **B:** **from his size 14 shoes**, (which were “as big as satchels.”)
34. How many players compete on a water polo team? A: 11 or **B: 7**
35. Does Leonardo Da Vinci painting, “Mona Lisa” have eyebrows? A: Yes or **B:** **No**
36. Benjamin Franklin drew the first cartoon published in an American newspaper. What was it? **A: a drawing of a severed snake** (each piece representing one of the colonies—appeared with the motto “Unite or Die” in the Pennsylvania Gazette on May 9, 1754) or B: of a caricature of the King of England
37. When they play tric-trac in France, what game are they playing? **A: Backgammon** or B: Checkers
38. Did Ian Fleming, creator of British secret agent James Bond also write the children’s book Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang, the Magical Car? **Yes** or No
39. Who was the first American to have plumbing installed in his house, in 1840? **A:** **poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow** or B: Andrew Jackson at Hermitage
40. How many Olympic gold medals in swimming did aquatic movie star Esther Williams win? A: One or B: **None**. (In 1940, the year in which she was to compete, the Olympic Games schedule for Finland were canceled because of World War II.)
41. Did science fiction writer Jules Verne ever fly? **A: Yes**( he made one balloon ascension in 1873) or B: No
42. What Mark Twain book was the first submitted to a publisher as a typewritten manuscript? A: “Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” or **B:** **“The Adventures of Tom Sawyer”**(The year was 1876, the typewriter was a Remington)
43. What fruit did early Greek Olympians eat for their health? **A:** **Figs** or B: Olives
44. What is the state sport of Alaska? A: Fishing or **B: Dog mushing**
45. Puff was the name of the kitten in the classic children’s books that feature Dick and Jane and their dog Spot. What color was Puff? A: Tabby or **B:** **Orange and White**