James Medhurst's Christmas Quiz 2016

There are three parts this year. The first part is a straightforward quiz, which consists of fifty general knowledge questions. The second and third parts require puzzle-solving skills as well as knowledge.

Teamwork is encouraged. Looking things up on the internet is discouraged, especially for Part 1, but it might be necessary if you get stuck, especially for Part 2. And cheating too early makes it less fun!

Part 1

1) What has the varieties "hard", "soft", "clean", "smooth", "grey", and "red, white and blue"?

2) Who created the character of James Bond, having served as a naval intelligence officer?

3) Who made the famous "I Have a Dream" speech?

4) Who is this?

5) Which word means both a male kangaroo and a person born shortly after World War II?

6) Which pop star's first single was "I Kissed a Girl"?

7) The international airport of Delhi is named after which assassinated Prime Minister of India?

8) For which film did James Cameron win an Oscar for Best Director?

9) Who is the CEO of Facebook?

10) What was the surname of the sergeant played by John Le Mesurier in "Dad's Army"?

11) The Red Hot Chilli Peppers song "Under the Bridge" is about which city?

12) Who wrote the novel "Dracula"?

13) The name of which religious figure is used as student slang for a lower second class degree?

14) Who was the Governor of Alaska between 2006 and 2009?

15) Which Marx Brother communicated only through sound, and had a nickname reflecting this?

16) Who painted this?

17) The rabbit in "The Magic Roundabout" is named after which singer songwriter?

18) In 2016, who was widely reported to be dating the American actress Meghan Markle?

19) The ship "Monte Rosa" took immigrants from Jamaica to the UK after being renamed what?

20) Which film starred Jim Carrey as a person whose entire life is a reality TV programme?

21) Who held the record for the most home runs in Major League Baseball, until it was beaten by Hank Aaron in 1974?

22) Which city was previously known as "Edo"?

23) Who wrote the musicals "Kiss Me Kate" and "Anything Goes"?

24) Who is this?

25) Apart from Tarantino himself, who is the only person to appear onscreen in five of the nine films directed by Quentin Tarantino?

26) Which famous explorer had the middle name "Falcon"?

27) Who co-wrote the sitcom "The Royle Family" and played the character Denise?

28) What noise did Nellie the Elephant make after saying goodbye to the circus?

29) Who promoted the use of antiseptic in surgery, and had a brand of mouthwash named after him, even though it had nothing to do with him?

30) Paul Young sang the opening line on behalf of which bestselling musical ensemble?

31) Who is this?

32) Which British city shares its name with cities in Ontario and Kentucky, and with a settlement on Christmas Island?

33) Who wrote the poem "The Waste Land"?

34) Who was known by the initials LBJ?

35) Who won a gold medal for Great Britain in 100m breaststroke at the 1988 Olympic Games?

36) Who presented the TV shows "Game for a Laugh" and "You've Been Framed"?

37) Which word for an expedition is derived from Old French meaning "a day's travel"?

38) Who is this?

39) Which musician released the 2016 album "Blackstar"?

40) The football clubs Flamengo, Fluminense and Botafogo are based in which city?

41) Who was the Prime Minister of the UK immediately before Margaret Thatcher?

42) Which scientist discovered the atomic nucleus and appears on the New Zealand $100 note?

43) Which actor was married to Jane Wyman and then to Nancy Davis?

44) Who hosted an eponymous chatshow on BBC1 between 1982 and 1992?

45) Who performed duets with Tammi Terrell, including "Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing"?

46) Who set world speed records in boats called "Blue Bird" before his son Donald did the same?

47) Who was the Russian director of the film "Battleship Potemkin", featuring a bloody massacre in which a pram rolls down the Odessa Steps?

48) What were the names of the two youth subcultures which fought with each other at seaside resorts, including Clacton, Brighton and Margate?

49) Which European capital city is built on 14 islands, connected by 57 bridges?

50) In 1986, it was the revealed that the whole of the ninth season of "Dallas" had been what?

Part 2

The fifty answers can now be sorted into six unequal sized categories, in which four of the categories contain five answers each, and the other two categories contain fifteen answers each. The same fifty answers can also be sorted into five equal sized themes containing ten answers each. The categories and themes should intersect with one another so that the answers fit into the grid on the next page.

For example, only one of the fifty answers will fit into both category 1 and theme 1, while there will be three answers which can fit into both category 5 and theme 1, and so on, until every box is filled.

It should be apparent that most of the fifty answers are people, so a good place to start is to look at those answers which are not people, from which it should be possible to find at least two categories.

Once some of the categories and themes have been identified, it may be possible to answer more of the general knowledge questions, which in turn may help with the remaining categories and themes.

When all eleven of the categories and themes have been found, it will be time to move onto Part 3.

	Theme 1	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 4	Theme 5
Category 1					
Category 2					
Category 3					
Category 4					
Category 5					
Category 6					

Part 3

Below is a seemingly random jumble of 90 characters (including both the letter "O" and a zero ("0")):

HTWO9VEAI1NMLS+Y9R7SIXCES1TSM9EVERMINYTRA2AHMAEL1ILTTERMTY4SIXETY9U02I9SMXTWO9DANARHTWOCVT

The names of the five themes identified in Part 2 can be removed from this jumble, although some of them will have to be modified for this to be possible. This will leave just 37 characters remaining.

The 37 remaining characters can then be rearranged, in order to reveal a hidden seasonal message.