

# JUNE TRIVIA

## Boats and Ships

- 1. Built in 1869, the *Cutty Sark* carried crates of what cargo from China?**  
Tea. The *Cutty Sark*, a clipper ship, sailed from China to London, racing to arrive with the first tea of the year. One of only three remaining original clipper ships from the nineteenth century in part or whole, she is preserved in Greenwich, London.
- 2. What was the name of Aristotle Onassis famous yacht, named after his daughter?**  
*Christina*. The Greek shipping magnate acquired the yacht in 1954 and spent over \$4 million to convert the ship into his "floating home" until his death in 1975. On the yacht, Onassis entertained world leaders such as JFK and Winston Churchill, along with celebrities such as Marilyn Monroe and Frank Sinatra.
- 3. The Nautilus plumbs the depths in what 1870 Jules Verne novel?**  
*Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*. The classic science fiction novel tells the famous story of Captain Nemo and his submarine Nautilus. Verne took the name "Nautilus" from Robert Fulton's submarine, one of the earliest successful submarines, which was built in 1800.
- 4. What are buntlines, downhauls, or sheets on a sailing ship?**  
Ropes
- 5. In 1960, country singer Johnny Horton had a No. 3 hit with a song about the sinking of what German battleship?**  
The Bismarck. Country music singer Johnny Horton wrote "Sink the Bismarck," a song based on the sinking of the *Bismarck* in May 1941, during World War II. Do you know the *song*?

6. **What historic 15th century ship got its name from its owner, Juan Nino de Moguer?**  
The Nina. Juan was one of the four **Nino brothers**, a family of sailors from the town of Moguer in Spain who actively participated in Columbus' voyages to the New World.

## Flags of the World

7. **What island nation in East Asia has a flag that features a solid red disk on an all-white background?**  
Japan. Bangladesh also has a red disk in the center of their flag, but its background is green.
8. **What religion does the four golden Bo leaves on Sri Lanka's flag represent?**  
Buddhism. Bo leaves are from a Bodhi (or Bo) tree, a sacred fig tree. Buddhists believe that **Gautama Buddha** achieved enlightenment under a Bo tree at Bodh Gaya.
9. **What is the most common bird on world flags?**  
The eagle
10. **Until 2002, the flag of what African nation had a large "R" in the middle?**  
Rwanda. The **flag** is now blue, green, and yellow, with a sun in the right corner. Blue represents happiness and peace, yellow symbolizes economic development, and green symbolizes the hope of prosperity. The sun represents enlightenment. The former flag was retired because it was associated with the **Rwandan Genocide** of 1994.
11. **The flag of Lebanon prominently displays what type of tree, representing survival?**  
Cedar tree. In historic times, cedars of Lebanon were plentiful throughout the area.
12. **The term "Star-Spangled Banner" was first used for the U.S. flag during what war?**  
**The War of 1812**. Soldiers at Baltimore's Fort McHenry raised a huge American flag on September 14, 1814, in celebration of a

victory over the British during the War of 1812. The sight inspired Francis Scott Key to write what would become the U.S. national anthem. The original "Star-Spangled Banner" flag that Francis Scott Key wrote about is displayed at Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

## At the Wedding

13. **Superstition says that to ensure good luck, a bride must wear what four items?**  
"Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue." The origin of the saying, many sources say, dates back to the Victorian era. The final line of the original saying is "And a silver sixpence in her shoe."
14. **The name of what Mexican dance music may come from a word for "marriage," as it was performed at weddings?**  
Mariachi. The word "mariachi" is said to be an adaptation of the French word mariage for marriage or wedding. This traces from the 19th century during the reign of Maximilian I of Mexico and the influence of Napoleon III over Mexico.
15. **What do guests traditionally shout at the end of a Jewish wedding ceremony?**  
"Mazel tov!" (Good luck). It is also a Jewish custom to have the groom break the wedding glass, crushing it with his right foot.
16. **According to etiquette writer Emily Post, if the father of the bride is divorced, he should sit in what pew after walking the bride down the aisle?**  
The third pew
17. **What is the traditional conclusion of the pre-vow line "If anyone can show just cause why they may not be joined together...?"**  
"Let him speak now or forever hold his peace." The saying can be traced back to the Book of Common Prayer from 1662.
18. **What is the term for any member of the wedding party, such as a bridesmaid or best man?**

Attendant. Other attendants might include a maid of honor, groomsman, flower girl, and ring bearer. Have you ever been an attendant in a wedding party?

## Back to the Beach

19. **What famous beach is just northeast of Ipanema in Rio de Janeiro?**  
**Copacabana.** Located in the southern zone of Rio, Copacabana's 2.5-mile (4 km) beach is one of the most famous in the world.
20. **What actor rolled on the sand and in the surf with Deborah Kerr in 1953's *From Here to Eternity*?**  
Burt Lancaster. Lancaster and Kerr's iconic beach scene was filmed at Halona Cove, Oahu, Hawaii. The idea to film with the waves hitting them was a last minute inspiration from director Fred Zinnemann. Along with its Best Picture win, the **film** won eight Academy Awards out of 13 nominations.
21. **What popular diet bears the name of a neighborhood in Miami Beach, Florida?**  
**South Beach Diet.** It replaces "bad carbs" and "bad fats" with "good carbs" and "good fats." It was originally designed to prevent heart disease in the 1980s, but gained popularity in the early 2000s as a way to lose weight. Kraft Foods licensed the South Beach Diet trademark for use on a line of packaged foods in 2004.
22. **What beach sport made its Olympic debut in 1996?**  
Beach volleyball. The Olympic sport is played with two teams of two players. At the 1996 Atlanta Games, the U.S. men's team and Brazil's women's team won the gold. At the last Games, 2008 Beijing, both the U.S. men's and women's teams took home the gold.
23. **What playwright's Brighton Beach Memoirs is semi-autobiographical?**  
Neil Simon. The coming-of-age play, which takes place in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, New York, in 1937, is the first in Neil

Simon's **Eugene Trilogy**. Brighton Beach Memoirs opened in 1983 on Broadway at Alvin Theatre, which was renamed the Neil Simon Theatre with the opening of the play.

24. **Advertised in face creams as well as beach products, what does SPF stand for?**

Sun Protection Factor. SPF indicates how effectively a sun cream protects the skin from the harmful rays of the sun. The numbers on a package can range from as low as 2 to as high as 100. Dermatologists strongly recommend using a sunscreen with an SPF 15 or greater year-round for all skin types.

## Weather Together

19. **What are the two most commonly used temperature scales, each named for its inventor?**

Fahrenheit and Celsius

20. **An anemometer is an instrument most often used to measure what?**

Wind speed. The **anemometer** is a common weather station instrument. It's believed that the first anemometer dates back to around 1450.

21. **An old weather adage says "Red sky at morning, sailors" do what?**

"Take warning." Do you know the rest? ("Red sky at night, sailor's delight.")

22. **What is defined as the amount of water vapor in the air?**

Humidity

23. **According to the National Weather Service, how long must a storm have heavy snow and winds greater than 35 mph to be called a blizzard?**

3 hours or longer

24. **What U.S. state reports more tornadoes per year than any other state?**

Texas. The **Texas Panhandle** is part of "**Tornado Alley**," with a

core consisting of Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, eastern South Dakota, and the Colorado Eastern Plains. (However, there is much debate about what exact regions make up "Tornado Alley.") Kansas and Oklahoma come in second and third, respectively, in tornado reports.

## Sounds Fishy!

25. **The Walking, Electric, and Pencil species of what fish have "whiskers"?**

Catfish. The "whiskers" are technically called barbels. It's an organ that houses the fish's taste buds. Other fish that have barbels are carp, sturgeon, and even some species of shark.

26. **Like humans, the lungfish has a heart with how many chambers?**

Four

27. **What large game fish can be seen on the logo of a Miami-based Major League Baseball team?**

Marlin. The **Florida Marlins** were established in 1993. They currently play at the Sun Life Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida (also home to the Miami Dolphins), however, a new ballpark will open in 2012. As part of the deal, the team's name will be changed to the Miami Marlins.

28. **What fish shares its name with a long wooden spear used by medieval foot soldiers?**

Pike

29. **What dark fluid is secreted by cuttlefish and other cephalopods?**

Ink. There are around 800 species of **cephalopods**. They release the ink from an ink sac, expelling a cloud of dark ink, and confusing their predators.

30. **The prey of what snakelike fish is stunned by a shock of up to 600 volts?**

Electric eel. The electric eel is not actually an eel, but rather a **knifefish**, native to South America. Its powerful shocks are used

in hunting and self-defense.