LLAS calendar 2012 (downloadable version)

**Quiz questions and answers (January – December 2012)**

**January: Icelandic**

Q.1. What is unusual about Icelandic family names?

Q.2. What is Eyjafjallajökull?

Answers:

1. The family names of children come from the first names of their fathers or mothers. For example, a boy called Stefan Gunnarsson will have a father whose first name is Gunnar. Stefan’s family name is literally ‘son of Gunnar’ while a girl would have the family name Gunnarsdóttir – literally ‘daughter of Gunnar.’
2. An Icelandic volcano that erupted in March 2010 and caused disruption to air travel in Europe.

**February: Gaelic**

Q.1. In which part of Scotland is Gaelic most commonly spoken?

Q.2. What do these Gaelic words mean in English?

* 1. Loch
  2. Fàilte

Answers:

1. Outer Hebrides
2. ‘Lake’ and ‘Welcome’

**March Urdu**

Q.1. Urdu is the national language and lingua franca of which country?

Q.2. Approximately, how many speakers of Urdu are there in the world: 10 million, 30 million or 60 million?

Answers:

* + 1. Pakistan
    2. 60 million.

**April: Spanish**

Q.1. What is the name of the mountainous region that separates Spain from France?

Q.2. In Spain people sometimes eat Churros for breakfast. What are they?

Answers:

1. Pyrenees
2. A pastry snack (sometimes called a Spanish doughnut) usually served with hot chocolate

**May: Persian**

Q.1. Many countries have Persian speakers but which country is Persian most commonly associated with?

Q.2. By what other name is Persian sometimes known?

Answers:

1. Iran
2. Farsi

**June: French**

Q.1. Can you name 3 countries other than France where French is spoken?

Q.2. France has a particularly advanced transport system. What do the letters TGV stand for?

Answers:

1. Algeria Belgium, Canada, Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Mauritius, Switzerland and others
2. Train de grande vitesse (high-speed train)

**July Punjabi**

Q.1. The geographical region known as the Punjab straddles the border between which two countries?

Q.2. The Punjabi city of Amritsar contains a famous golden – what ?

Answers:

1. India and Pakistan
2. Temple

**August: Estonian**

Q.1. Which three colours are used in the Estonian flag?

Q.2. What is the capital city of Estonia?

Answers:

1. Blue, black and white
2. Tallinn

**September: Malay**

Q.1. The name of which endangered animal translates directly from Malay as ‘man of the forest?’

Q.2. Which Malay-speaking country is the richest in Asia?

Answers:

1. Orang-utan
2. Brunei. This is the richest country in Asia (by Gross Domestic Product per capita).

**October: Hungarian**

Q.1. Hungary is bordered by 7 countries. Can you name them?

Q.2. Hungarian inventor, Ernő Rubik, created which popular, colourful puzzle toy?

Answers:

1. Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania.
2. The Rubik’s cube.

**November: Welsh**

Q.1. Why is a railway station in Anglesey, Wales, famous?

Q.2. What would you do with a Welsh rarebit?

Answers:

1. It has the longest name of any station in the UK (51 letters): Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch.
2. Eat it. It is cheese on toast.

**December: German**

Q.1. Many German words are used in English, for example ‘Doppelgänger’ and ‘Zeitgeist’ – but what do they mean?

Q.2. In which winter sport has Germany won more Olympic medals than any other nation?

Answers:

1. Doppelgänger: a look alike, or double, of a living person. Zeitgeist: the spirit, attitude or general outlook of a particular time period
2. Bobsleigh. Germany is the only country in the world to have four bobsleigh, luge, and skeleton tracks. They have achieved great success in these sports.

References: <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/doppelganger> <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Zeitgeist>