TEN SECONDS SMARTER · QUIZ NIGHT KIT FREE SAMPLE

Born in 1986 Quiz Night

50 fact-checked questions about 1986 — 5 rounds

Made for milestone birthdays, class reunions and anniversaries. Family-friendly

Host script



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1 1986 Headlines
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How to run this quiz FREE SAMPLE

This free sample is one complete round. Allow about **20 min** for the whole night. Everything you need is in this kit: show the slides, read from this script, hand out the answer sheets, and keep score in the spreadsheet.

Before the night

- Print one set of answer sheets per team (one page each) and a few spares. Have pens ready.
- Open the slides on the laptop connected to your screen or projector. They work in PowerPoint, Keynote and Google Slides.
- Use **Presenter View** so you see the answers in the speaker notes while the room sees only the question. Test this before guests arrive.
- Open the scoreboard spreadsheet and type in the team names as they arrive.
- Skim this script once so you know how to pronounce everything.

Running order

Welcome, teams and rules	**5 min**
Round 1: 1986 Headlines	**12 min**
Wrap-up	**3 min**
Total (approx.)	**20 min**

Each round

1. Show the round title slide and read the line under **Read out**.
2. Show each question and read it aloud twice. Allow about 30–45 seconds per question.
3. On the **Pens down** slide, collect the sheets (or have teams swap with a neighbour to mark).
4. Click through the answers. Read the fact after each one: it keeps the energy up while you mark.
5. Enter the round scores in the spreadsheet before the next round starts.

Marking

- One point per correct answer (10). No half points.
- Check the **Accept** notes under each answer: they list alternatives to allow and near-misses to reject.
- Be generous with spelling if the answer is clearly the right one.
- The quizmaster’s decision is final. Disputes can wait for the break.

Ties and prizes

- Still tied? Ask a number question of your own (e.g. “How many minutes did tonight’s quiz last?”). Closest answer wins.
- Prizes don’t need to be big: bragging rights, a round of drinks, or chocolate.

Answer key at a glance FREE SAMPLE

For quick marking. Full questions, accepted alternatives and facts follow, round by round.

Round 1 · 1986 Headlines

1. Statue of Liberty
2. Vancouver
3. Hands Across America
4. The Phantom of the Opera
5. Fox
6. Voyager
7. The Economist
8. Musée d'Orsay
9. Nevada
10. Cleveland

ROUND 1 · FREE SAMPLE

1986 Headlines

Write your answer

READ OUT

Ten things that made the news in 1986: openings, firsts and record-breakers.

1 EASY

In July 1986, which famous New York landmark reopened to the public after a major restoration, in time for its 100th birthday?

ANSWER **Statue of Liberty**

Accept / notes: Lady Liberty

Say: *Its centennial was marked by a four-day celebration called Liberty Weekend, from 3 to 6 July 1986.*

2 EASY

Which Canadian city hosted the 1986 world's fair, Expo 86?

ANSWER **Vancouver**

Say: *The fair ran from May to October 1986 and coincided with the city's own 100th birthday.*

3 EASY

In May 1986, a charity event tried to create one continuous human chain of people holding hands across the United States. What was it called?

ANSWER **Hands Across America**

Say: *It was held on Sunday 25 May 1986, over the Memorial Day weekend.*

4 MEDIUM

Which Andrew Lloyd Webber musical opened in London's West End in 1986, two years before it reached Broadway?

ANSWER **The Phantom of the Opera**

Accept / notes: Phantom of the Opera; Phantom

Say: *Michael Crawford played the title role and Sarah Brightman played Christine.*

5 MEDIUM

In October 1986, which new US television network began broadcasting as a fourth rival to ABC, CBS and NBC?

ANSWER **Fox**

Accept / notes: FOX; Fox Broadcasting Company; the Fox network; Do NOT accept Fox News (launched 1996)

Say: *It was launched by News Corporation on 9 October 1986.*

6 MEDIUM

In December 1986, an aircraft designed by Burt Rutan became the first to fly around the world without stopping or refuelling. What was it called?

ANSWER **Voyager**

Accept / notes: Rutan Voyager; Rutan Model 76 Voyager

Say: *Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager flew it nonstop for 9 days, 3 minutes and 44 seconds.*

7 MEDIUM

In September 1986, which publication introduced the 'Big Mac Index' as a light-hearted way to compare currencies?

ANSWER **The Economist**

Accept / notes: Economist

Say: *It began as a semi-humorous illustration and has been published every year since.*

8 **Which Paris art museum, housed in a former railway station, opened in 1986?** HARD

ANSWER **Musée d'Orsay**

Accept / notes: Orsay; Orsay Museum; Musee d'Orsay

Say: *It holds the world's largest collection of Impressionist and post-Impressionist masterpieces.*

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9 **Great Basin National Park, home of the Lehman Caves, became a US national park in 1986. In which state is it?** HARD

ANSWER **Nevada**

Accept / notes: Do NOT accept Utah (the park is near, but not in, Utah)

Say: *The Lehman Caves had been protected as a national monument since 1922 and were folded into the new park in 1986.*

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10 **In 1986, which US city was chosen as the permanent home of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame?** HARD

ANSWER **Cleveland**

Accept / notes: Cleveland, Ohio

Say: *The museum, designed by architect I. M. Pei, was dedicated in 1995.*

End of Round 1: show the **Pens down** slide, collect sheets, then reveal the answers.

Sources

Every answer in this kit was checked against the page below.

Round 1 · 1986 Headlines

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statue_of_Liberty
2. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expo_86
3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hands_Across_America
4. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Phantom_of_the_Opera_(1986_musical)
5. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fox_Broadcasting_Company
6. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rutan_Voyager
7. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Mac_Index
8. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mus%C3%A9e_d'Orsay
9. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Basin_National_Park
10. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_and_Roll_Hall_of_Fame