

THE NEWS QUIZ OF THE WEEK (Jan. 20, 2023)

1. When did China's population decline?

- ☐ During the Great Leap Forward.
- ☐ During the first COVID-19 outbreak.
- ☐ During the one-child policy.
- ☐ Never before.

2. How old was Jacinda Ardern when she became New Zealand's PM?

- ☐ 27 Years-old.
- ☐ 37 Years-old.
- ☐ 47 Years-old.
- ☐ 57 Years-old.

3. How long was Matteo Messina Denaro, the notorious Mafia boss, on the run?

- ☐ 13 years.
- ☐ 30 years.
- ☐ 47 years.
- ☐ 60 years.

4. What charge was Nobel winner Maria Ressa acquitted of in the Philippines?

- ☐ Libel.
- ☐ Terrorism.
- ☐ Tax evasion.
- ☐ Assault.

5. Who was the first NBA player to score 38,000 career points?

- ☐ Wilt Chamberlain.
- ☐ Magic Johnson.
- ☐ Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.
- ☐ Shaquille O'Neal.

6. How is My First Barbie different from the traditional Barbie?

- ☐ She's smaller.
- ☐ She's taller.
- ☐ She has a smaller waist.
- ☐ Her limbs are movable.

7. How old was Lisa Marie Presley when her father, Elvis, died?

- ☐ 9 Years-old.
- ☐ 11 Years-old.
- ☐ 25 Years-old.
- ☐ 37 Years-old.

8. What was Gina Lollobrigida's first English-language movie?

- ☐ Buona Sera, Mrs. Campbell.
- ☐ Trapeze.
- ☐ The Hunchback of Notre Dame.
- ☐ Beat the Devil.

9. How many films have reached \$2 billion in box office history?

- ☐ 3 films.
- ☐ 4 films.
- ☐ 5 films.
- ☐ 6 films.

10. Who will narrate "Avatar 3"?

- ☐ Lo'ak.
- ☐ Jake Sully.
- ☐ Neytiri.
- ☐ Neteyam.

11. In HBO's "The Last of Us," what's causing zombie-like behavior?

- ☐ A global pandemic.
- ☐ Alien body snatchers.
- ☐ Dehydration.
- ☐ A mind-controlling fungus.

12. Who will produce the TV adaptation of "The Chronicles of Amber"?

- ☐ George R.R. Martin.
- ☐ Stephen Colbert.
- ☐ Conan O'Brien.
- ☐ David Benioff.

13. What is the name of Madonna's 2023 world tour?

- ☐ The Madonna Experience.
- ☐ The Queen's Retirement.
- ☐ Madonna's Truth and Dare.
- ☐ The Celebration Tour.

14. Who plays the villainous Moff Gideon in "The Mandalorian"?

- ☐ Battlestar Galactica's "Starbuck."
- ☐ Game of Thrones' Oberyn Martell.
- ☐ Breaking Bad's Gus Fring.
- ☐ Rocky's Apollo Creed.

ANSWERS

1. Before 2022, when was the last time China recorded a population decline?

- During the Great Leap Forward.

The [Great Leap Forward at the end of the 1950s](#) was Mao Zedong's campaign for collective farming and industrialization, which led to [a massive famine that killed tens of millions](#). On Jan. 17, 2023, [China's National Bureau of Statistics reported a population decline of 850,000 as of the end of 2022](#). The reasons: The expense of raising kids in cities and changing attitudes in East Asia, where birthrates have fallen in previous years.

2. How old was Jacinda Ardern when she became New Zealand's Prime Minister?

- 37 Years-old.

Announcing her resignation on Jan. 19, 2023, [Jacinda Ardern will not run in New Zealand's Oct. 14, 2023, general election](#). She'll be a lawmaker until then. Ardern was a role model for women worldwide after [becoming Prime Minister in 2017 at 37](#). Despite being [lauded globally for her handling of the Coronavirus pandemic](#), Ardern faced growing criticism at home.

3. How long had Matteo Messina Denaro, the notorious Mafia boss, been on the run before his arrest in Sicily?

- 30 years.

The notorious [Cosa Nostra Mafia boss Matteo Messina Denaro was arrested in Sicily on Jan. 16, 2023, after 30 years on the run](#). Nicknamed "Diabolik" and "U Siccu," Messina Denaro was also known as the last "secret keeper" of Cosa Nostra. He is believed to hold "all the information and names of those involved in high-profile crimes by the Mafia. More than 100 armed forces members were involved in the arrest of Italy's most wanted Mafia boss.

4. What charges was Maria Ressa, the founder of Rappler, acquitted of in the Philippines?

- Tax evasion.

On Jan. 18, 2023, [Maria Ressa, a veteran journalist and Nobel laureate, was acquitted of tax evasion charges in the Philippines](#), where she is regarded as the "face of the free press." In what's considered a silencing campaign, [Ressa has been charged with several civil and criminal offenses since 2018](#). In 2021, she [won the Nobel peace prize for "safeguarding freedom of expression."](#)

5. In Jan. 2023, LeBron James became the second player in NBA history to score 38,000 career points, but who was the first?

- Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

Lakers legend [Kareem Abdul-Jabbar scored 38,387 points in his career](#). LeBron James [became the second NBA player to score 38,000 career points on Jan. 15, 2023](#). He also broke the record for being [the youngest player to ever reach every career scoring milestone from 21,000 to 38,000 points](#). If the Lakers star keeps his current rate, [he could become the top all-time scoring player as early as February](#).

6. How is My First Barbie different from the traditional Barbie?

- She's taller.

My First Barbie [launched on Jan. 12, 2023, ahead of July's live-action Barbie movie](#). Two inches taller than the traditional doll, My First Barbie is \$19.99 and comes with four shades of skin and hair textures. It has [a bigger waist that de-emphasizes her bust line and flesh-tone modesty undergarments permanently attached](#). The limbs are moveable, like in previous versions, but with [connected fingers and thumbs](#).

7. How old was Lisa Marie Presley when her father, Elvis, died?

- 9 Years-old.

Lisa Marie Presley, the singer-songwriter and [only child of Elvis Presley, died on Jan. 12, 2023, in Los Angeles](#). She was 54. In 1977, [at age nine, she lost her father, one of the most celebrated performers in music history](#). In 2020, her only son, Benjamin Keough, [committed suicide](#). She [married the singer and songwriter Danny Keough in 1988](#). From 1994 to 1996, [Presley was married to Michael Jackson](#). In 2002, [Presley married Nicolas Cage](#), and in 2006, [she married Michael Lockwood, a guitarist who produced her 2005 album](#). The two divorced in 2021. She leaves her daughter with Keough, actress Riley Keough, and her twin daughters with Lockwood, Harper, and Finley.

8. What was Gina Lollobrigida's first English-language movie?

- Beat the Devil.

One of the post-World War II era's first major European sex symbols, [Gina Lollobrigida, died on Jan. 16, 2023, in Rome, at 95](#). Lollobrigida's [first English-language movie was John Huston's 1953 camp drama, "Beat the Devil," in which she played Humphrey Bogart's wife and partner in crime](#). Lollobrigida also had [a diverse second career as an artist and a filmmaker and ran unsuccessfully for the European Parliament in 1999](#).

9. How many films have reached \$2 billion in box office history?

- 5 films.

By Jan. 18, 2023, [James Cameron's blockbuster sequel "Avatar: The Way of Water" had grossed \\$1.928 billion worldwide](#). It overtook "Spider-Man: No Way Home" (\$1.91 billion) as the sixth-highest-grossing picture in box office history and [the highest-grossing picture released during the pandemic](#). Historically, only five pictures have crossed \$2 billion: Avatar, Avengers: Endgame, Titanic, Star Wars: The Force Awakens, and Avengers: Infinity War.

10. Who is planned to be the narrator of "Avatar 3"?

- Lo'ak.

James Cameron revealed in an interview that [each of the remaining three "Avatar" sequels would feature a different narrator](#). Jake Sully, played by Sam Worthington, was the narrator in "Avatar" and "Avatar: The Way of Water." For the upcoming and still-untitled "Avatar 3," Lo'ak (Britain Dalton) will take over as narrator.

11. In HBO's adaptation of the video game "The Last of Us," what's causing humans to behave zombie-like?

- A mind-controlling fungus.

HBO premiered its [big-budget version of gaming sensation "The Last of Us"](#) on Jan. 15, 2023. The series' creators, Craig Mazin ("Chernobyl") and Neil Druckmann (a creator of the video game), [incorporated a scene before the opening credits](#) in which a scientist explains that a mind-controlling fungus could thrive on a warming planet.

12. Who will executive produce the TV series adaptation of “The Chronicles of Amber”?

- Stephen Colbert.

The TV series adaptation of [Roger Zelazny’s “The Chronicles of Amber”](#) is [being executive produced by Stephen Colbert through his Spartina production company](#). “Game of Thrones” was influenced by these books, according to George R.R. Martin, [who has previously stated that The Chronicles of Amber deserves adaptation](#).

13. What is the name of Madonna’s 2023 world tour?

- The Celebration Tour.

On Jan. 16, 2023, [Madonna announced “The Celebration Tour,” which will take fans on Madonna’s artistic journey through four decades](#). Tickets go on sale on Jan. 20. [Starting in Vancouver, BC, on July 15, 2023, the tour will stop in Detroit, Chicago, New York, Miami, and Los Angeles before wrapping in Amsterdam in Dec. 2024. It’s Madonna’s 12th concert tour](#).

14. Who plays the villainous Moff Gideon in “The Mandalorian”?

- Breaking Bad’s Gus Fring.

Giancarlo Esposito, who was the unforgettable Gus Fring on Breaking Bad, [plays the main antagonist of The Mandalorian, Moff Gideon](#). The [third season starts on Disney+ on Mar. 1, 2023](#). Minari’s Lee Isaac Chung and Black Panther’s Rachel Morrison will [helm some new episodes](#).