

Weekly Quiz - Answers

- Who has just agreed to host the 2026 Commonwealth Games?
 - Glasgow - Glasgow will host the 2026 Commonwealth Games after a deal was backed by the Scottish government. A scaled-down version of the event, will feature fewer sports and athletes and will be partially funded by the Australian state of Victoria. The Australian state of Victoria was originally chosen to stage the multi-sport event but withdrew as host due to rising costs. Glasgow last hosted the games in 2014.
- Who is introducing new "teen accounts" in the UK, US, Canada and Australia?
 - Instagram - Anyone under 18 who signs up for Instagram in the U.S., UK., Canada and Australia will be placed into a teen account. The teen accounts will be private by default and "Sensitive content" will be limited. Teens will also get notifications if they are on Instagram for more than 60 minutes. While these settings will be turned on for all teens, 16 and 17-year-olds will be able to turn them off. Kids under 16 will need their parents' permission to do so.
- Where was Donald Trump when a second assassination attempt against him was foiled by Secret Service agents last week?
 - On a golf course - Trump was playing golf when Secret Service agents stationed nearby noticed the muzzle of a rifle sticking through the shrubbery that lines the course. An agent fired and the suspect fled in an SUV. He was later stopped by law enforcement in a neighbouring county.
- Why was the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff in the news last week after revelations that she...?
 - is paid more than the Prime Minister - Sue Gray received a pay rise after the election which means she's now paid more than the prime minister. She receives a salary of £170,000, which is £3,000 more than the PM's own salary. Her salary exceeds that of any cabinet minister, or that of her predecessor.
- What has been interfering with the radio telescopes that scientists use to look into the universe?
 - Elon Musk's Starlink satellites - Elon Musk's growing network of satellites are blocking scientists' ability to peer into the universe, according to researchers in the Netherlands. They say the new generation of Starlink satellites, which provide fast internet around the world, are interfering more with radio telescopes than earlier versions.
- The World Health Authority has just approved the first vaccine against ...?
 - Mpox - The World Health Organisation says it has cleared Bavarian Nordic's mpox vaccine, the first such vaccine to be approved by the agency for containing the spread of the disease in badly hit African countries.
- Which member of the royal family has just turned 40?
 - Prince Harry - Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex, has just celebrated his 40th birthday. Despite the ongoing strains within the royal family, the official royal social media accounts marked the occasion with birthday wishes for him.
- An inquiry is being held into the deep water submarine that imploded last year. What was the name of the vessel?
 - Titan - The Titan was an experimental deep-sea submersible operated by OceanGate. It tragically imploded during a deep dive to the wreck of the Titanic in June 2023, resulting in the deaths of all five people on board. The ongoing inquiry by the US Coast Guard has revealed serious concerns about the safety and design of the sub.
- Why has UEFA suggested that England may be excluded from the 2028 European Championship, even though it is a host?
 - Concerns about the UK government's interference in football - UEFA has expressed concerns that the UK government's plan to introduce an Independent Football Regulator could be seen as government interference in the sport. This might lead to England being excluded from Euro 2028, despite being one of the hosts, as it would conflict with UEFA's requirement for the autonomy of football governance.
- "IYKYK" is an abbreviation that has been added to the Cambridge Dictionary. What does it stand for?
 - If you know you know - IYKYK is used to suggest there is shared knowledge or a shared joke with the reader that others might not understand. It is among the more than 3,200 words, terms, and phrases added to the Cambridge Dictionary this year.
- In what unusual way did the leader of the Liberal Democrats arrive at his party conference recently?
 - He arrived on a jet ski - Sir Ed Davey made a splashy entrance at the party's annual conference in Brighton by arriving on a jet ski. This stunt was in keeping with his reputation for eccentric political gestures and delighted his supporters as they celebrated their historic election success of winning 72 seats.
- What unusual natural event occurred in the Hampshire town of Aldershot last week?
 - A tornado swept through the town - Last week, a tornado passed through Aldershot, Hampshire, causing significant damage to properties and uprooting trees. The Tornado and Storm Research Organisation confirmed that the tornado travelled about 1.2 miles, but fortunately, no injuries were reported.
- What is different about a new perfume released by Italian fashion house Dolce & Gabbana?
 - It is a perfume for dogs - Fashion house Dolce & Gabbana has launched a new alcohol-free perfume for dogs called Fefé. Not all vets and pet owners agree it's safe or appropriate as dog perfumes may interfere with the animal's sense of smell and cover up bad odours that could be a symptom of diseases.
- While much of Europe is suffering under Storm Boris, which country is currently dealing with large-scale wildfires?
 - Portugal - Portugal has been battling severe wildfires across the country, particularly in the northern and central regions. The fires have claimed the lives of at least seven people, including three firefighters, and have led to the destruction of large areas of land and property. Thousands of firefighters have been deployed to control the blazes, which are being fuelled by high temperatures and dry conditions.
- What has Amazon ordered their staff to do?
 - Work in the office five days a week - Amazon is ordering staff back to the office five days a week as it ends its hybrid work policy. Previously they could work from home twice a week. Amazon employs more than 1.5 million people globally in full-time and part-time roles.

VISUAL ANSWERS

- Czech Republic** - Storm Boris wreaked havoc across Central and Eastern Europe. Some of the worst rainfall has been in the Czech Republic, where some areas have seen around three months' rainfall in just three days.
- Oprah Winfrey** - Vice-President Kamala Harris and television icon Oprah Winfrey held a star-studded event in Michigan, one of the seven crucial battleground states that will decide the US election on 5 November.
- Stonehenge** - New research revealed that the Altar Stone at Stonehenge likely originated from northeast Scotland, about 435 miles away, rather than Wales as previously thought. This discovery suggests that Neolithic people transported the massive stone over a great distance, possibly using open water routes.
- Greece**
- a. Capybara** - A capybara called Cinnamon went missing for a week in the wild after escaping Hoo Zoo & Dinosaur World in Telford. The giant rodent was eventually found in a pond.