

## ABSENT FRIENDS

## Part 1 (Table)

The (given) names of four absent friends are to be deduced. In each group they form part of a sequence to be generated from the answers to the questions. Many questions refer to initials of people; the full versions of either *x* (given names) or *y* (surnames) are required for the links.

### GROUP ONE

- 1 *Absent Friend*
- 2 Question In literature, what first name links East End pork pies, an overweight bird of prey, Napier's calculator, a Plymouth Argyle supporter and a barefoot runner?
- 3 Pictures of Tony Greig (5), Eire outline (4) and a pogo stick (4). Question: Anagram of *which* yellow pecker? (*x*)
- 4 Question: Name the alliterative actress. (*x*)
- 5 Question: Who is missing from the original line-up: NH, LP, LT and ZM? (*x*)

### GROUP ONE answers

- 1 Absent Friend: CHARLIE
- 2 BILLY..... Liar (lies), Bunter (Fat Owl), Bones, Pilgrim (nickname)/(Zola) Budd  
(*Billy Bones: Treasure Island; Billy Pilgrim: Slaughterhouse 5; Billy Budd: sailor in novel by Herman Melville, also Britten opera*)
- 3 GEORGIE Porgie ..... (Tony) GREIG/EIRE/POGO (stick)
- 4 LOTTE Lenya..... as Rosa Klebb in *From Russia with Love*
- 5 HARRY Styles ..... One Direction  
(*others: Niall Horan, Liam Payne, Louis Tomlinson, Zayn Malik*)

Link: Derived/diminutive names of Royals in order of line to the throne — CHARLES, WILLIAM, GEORGE, CHARLOTTE, HENRY

## GROUP TWO

- 1 In a circle, i.e. a moon shape: NA BA *xy* AB AS EM DS JI JY CD EC HS  
Question: Who's missing? (*y*)
- 2 Question: Who heads the list of champions in which SV, LH and AP are joint third and JMF is second? (*x*)
- 3 *Absent Friend*
- 4 Question: Who (start date 2015) is currently doing the sporting job previously held by CW (1997), AR (2004), BA (2007), MJ (2008) and SL (2011)? (*x*)
- 5 Question: What name and numbers fill the gaps: ... S, H II \_\_, J, H III, E I, E II, E III, \_\_, H IV, ...? (*x*)

## GROUP TWO answers

- 1 Pete CONRAD ..... 3<sup>rd</sup> to walk on the moon
- 2 MICHAEL Schumacher ..... F1 Drivers' Championships won  
(*others: Sebastien Vettel, Lewis Hamilton, Alain Prost, Juan Manuel Fangio*)
- 3 *Absent Friend:* MIKE
- 4 EDDIE Jones ..... England RU Head Coaches  
(*others: Clive Woodward, Andy Robinson, Brian Ashton, Martin Johnson, Stuart Lancaster*)
- 5 RICHARD I/RICHARD II ..... Kings of England/England & Wales

Link: CONRAD Hilton, MICHAEL Wilding, MIKE Todd, EDDIE Fisher, RICHARD Burton (×2) – the first five (six) husbands of Elizabeth Taylor

### GROUP THREE

- 1 Pictures of: Mr Spock (the character, 5), a Hans Holbein pic (the artist, 4) and a BED (3). Question: Anagram of *which* item of popular culture?
- 2 Picture, map of New York divided into boroughs: Brooklyn highlighted (the borough)
- 3 *Absent Friend*
- 4 Question: Who's missing from this 2001 film cast list? (y)
  - Nicolas Cage as Captain Antonio Corelli
  - \_\_\_\_\_ as Pelagia
  - John Hurt as Dr. Iannis
  - Christian Bale as Mandras
  - David Morrissey as Captain Günther Weber
- 5 Question: After *TKAM*, *who* kept us waiting 55 years for *GSAW*? (x)

### GROUP THREE answers

- 1 POSH AND BECKS ..... SPOCK/HANS Holbein/BED
- 2 BROOKLYN ..... New York
- 3 *Absent Friend*: ROMEO
- 4 Penelope CRUZ..... *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*
- 5 HARPER Lee ..... *To Kill a Mockingbird/Go Set a Watchman*

Link: The Beckham family, by decreasing age

## GROUP FOUR

- 1 **Question:** What's missing from this original TV list: WALTZ, CHA CHA CHA. QUICKSTEP, RUMBA, TANGO, JIVE, PASO DOBLE, SAMBA?
- 2 **Question:** Name the establishment in which, "...in the master's chambers,/ They gathered for the feast/They stab it with their steely knives,/But they just can't kill the beast..."
- 3 *Absent Friend*
- 4 **Question:** What properly (i.e. according to the IBA) belongs in a Manhattan or an Old Fashioned, but not in a Rusty Nail?
- 5 **Question:** What six-letter word is represented here for the better?

## GROUP FOUR answers

- 1 FOXTROT..... Strictly Come Dancing
- 2 "HOTEL California" ..... Eagles song
- 3 *Absent Friend:* VICTOR
- 4 WHISKEY ..... Irish/US spelling, *not* Whisky (Scotch)
- 5 YANKEE bet..... 6 doubles, 4 trebles, 1 quadruple

Link: NATO codes for letters that score 4 in Scrabble

## ABSENT FRIENDS

## Part 2 (Mic)

- 1 Which of the Paris airports is the busiest in France for domestic traffic?
- 2 Formerly the home arena of the French national football and rugby teams, at *which* stadium does Paris Saint-Germain FC play its home games?
- 3 With Frankie Dettori in the saddle, the Oaks winner Enable won the 2017 Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at *which* racecourse?
- 4 What is the longest-running show in Broadway history?
- 5 Which fictional Paris street is the titular location of what is generally accepted as the world's first detective story?
- 6 "When the pressure on a sample of dry gas is held constant, the Kelvin temperature and the volume will be directly related" – a statement of *what* principle named after a French scientist and balloonist who died in Paris in 1823?
- 7 Known as "the heart of Paris", what is the city's oldest settlement? It includes the city square from which all road distances in France are measured.
- 8 In his first full-length work, published in 1933, *which* English author was *Down and Out in Paris and London*?
- 9 A member of the "27 Club" buried in Père Lachaise Cemetery, the musician aka "Mr Mojo Risin' " co-founded *which* legendary rock band in 1965?
- 10 What is the only station (Ligne 3) on the Paris Metro that shares its name with a station on the London Underground (District & Circle Lines)?

Alternately, first and last letters of correct answers spell the name of our final Absent Friend, for whom we'd please like teams to write a normal cryptic clue to be judged for the Crass Basket.

- 1 ORLY
- 2 PARC DES PRINCES
- 3 CHANTILLY (Longchamp was closed for refurb)
- 4 (*The*) PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
- 5 RUE MORGUE (*The Murders in the Rue Morgue*)
- 6 CHARLES'S LAW (Jacques Charles)
- 7 ÎLE DE LA CITÉ
- 8 GEORGE ORWELL
- 9 (*The*) DOORS (Jim Morrison)
- 10 TEMPLE