Formula 1 Trivia

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Which circuit hosted the opening race of the inaugural Formula 1 World Championship in 1950?

A. Silverstone
B. Monza
C. Spa-Francorchamps
D. Bremgarten

Correct answer: A. Silverstone
The championship began with the British Grand Prix at Silverstone on May 13, 1950. Giuseppe Farina won that race.

2. In Formula 1, what does pole position refer to?

A. The first available space in the pit lane
B. The fastest lap recorded during the race
C. The front spot on the starting grid
D. The top place in the season standings

Correct answer: C. The front spot on the starting grid
Pole is the first spot on the grid, ahead of all the other starting positions.

3. Which Formula 1 team is associated with the Prancing Horse emblem?

A. McLaren
B. Ferrari
C. Williams
D. Lotus

Correct answer: B. Ferrari
Formula 1’s history of Ferrari identifies the Prancing Horse as the team’s distinctive badge.

4. Which Grand Prix has raced through the streets of Monte Carlo?

A. Austrian Grand Prix
B. Canadian Grand Prix
C. Dutch Grand Prix
D. Monaco Grand Prix

Correct answer: D. Monaco Grand Prix
Monte Carlo is part of the Monaco Grand Prix route. Monaco appeared on the World Championship calendar in 1950.

5. Which driver won the Formula 1 drivers’ title and the Indianapolis 500 in 1965?

A. Graham Hill
B. Jim Clark
C. Jackie Stewart
D. Dan Gurney

Correct answer: B. Jim Clark
Jim Clark earned his second Formula 1 championship in 1965 and also won that year’s Indianapolis 500.

6. Which team won the first Formula 1 constructors’ championship in 1958?

A. Vanwall
B. Ferrari
C. Cooper
D. BRM

Correct answer: A. Vanwall
Vanwall won the inaugural teams’ title in 1958. Formula 1 had already been awarding a world title to drivers since 1950.

7. Who finished sixth and was awarded half a point at the 1975 Spanish Grand Prix?

A. Jean-Pierre Jarier
B. Jacky Ickx
C. Carlos Reutemann
D. Lella Lombardi

Correct answer: D. Lella Lombardi
The official race result lists Lella Lombardi sixth, driving a March Ford, with 0.5 points.

8. Which team finished at the top of the official 2009 constructors’ standings with 172 points?

A. McLaren Mercedes
B. Red Bull Racing Renault
C. Brawn Mercedes
D. Ferrari

Correct answer: C. Brawn Mercedes
Brawn’s 172 points placed it first. Red Bull Racing finished second, followed by McLaren.

9. Who won the first Formula 1 Sprint, held at the 2021 British Grand Prix weekend?

A. Max Verstappen
B. Lewis Hamilton
C. Valtteri Bottas
D. Charles Leclerc

Correct answer: A. Max Verstappen
Verstappen won the inaugural Sprint at Silverstone. Hamilton and Bottas finished second and third in that event.

10. What country hosted the 1982 Swiss Grand Prix at Dijon-Prenois?

A. Austria
B. Switzerland
C. Italy
D. France

Correct answer: D. France
The official result carries the Swiss Grand Prix name and identifies the host circuit as Dijon-Prenois in France.

11. A caption says Lewis Hamilton and Fernando Alonso shared second in the 2007 standings. Which revision matches the official positions and point totals?

A. Hamilton scored 110 points and Alonso scored 109. Hamilton placed second.
B. Both scored 109 points. Alonso placed second and Hamilton placed third.
C. Both scored 109 points. Hamilton placed second and Alonso placed third.
D. Hamilton scored 109 points and Alonso scored 108. Hamilton placed second.

Correct answer: C. Both scored 109 points. Hamilton placed second and Alonso placed third.
The McLaren teammates each finished on 109 points, one behind champion Kimi Räikkönen. The official table ranks Hamilton second and Alonso third.

12. After the 2012 Brazilian Grand Prix, Sebastian Vettel had 281 points and Fernando Alonso had 278. They gained 8 and 18 points in that race, respectively. What were their totals before it?

A. Vettel 263, Alonso 270
B. Vettel 273, Alonso 260
C. Vettel 289, Alonso 296
D. Vettel 273, Alonso 278

Correct answer: B. Vettel 273, Alonso 260
Subtract Vettel’s 8 from 281 and Alonso’s 18 from 278. The official pre-race totals were 273 and 260.

13. The 2018 team standings list Mercedes on 655 points, Ferrari on 571, and Red Bull on 419. How does the Mercedes–Ferrari gap compare with the Ferrari–Red Bull gap?

A. It is 152 points larger.
B. It is 68 points larger.
C. It is 84 points smaller.
D. It is 68 points smaller.

Correct answer: D. It is 68 points smaller.
Mercedes led Ferrari by 84 points. Ferrari led Red Bull by 152 points, so the first gap was 68 points smaller.

14. Which caption about Juan Manuel Fangio’s five titles matches the team credits in Formula 1’s Hall of Fame?

A. Five titles with four teams, including two with Mercedes.
B. Five titles with four teams, including two with Ferrari.
C. Five titles with four teams, including two with Maserati.
D. Five titles with five teams, with one title for each.

Correct answer: A. Five titles with four teams, including two with Mercedes.
The Hall of Fame credits Fangio’s titles to Alfa Romeo, Ferrari, Maserati, and Mercedes. It credits two of the five to Mercedes.

15. In 1988, Alain Prost earned 105 points across all races to Ayrton Senna’s 94, yet Senna won the drivers’ title. Which scoring distinction explains the result?

A. The team combined both totals and awarded half to each driver.
B. Only the first half of each driver’s race results counted toward the title.
C. Only a set number of each driver’s best results counted toward the title.
D. Race wins were used to break a tie in the drivers’ championship points.

Correct answer: C. Only a set number of each driver’s best results counted toward the title.
The scoring system counted a limited set of each driver’s results. Senna led in credited championship points, 90 to 87.