General Knowledge Quiz

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. Which artist painted the Mona Lisa?
   A. Leonardo da Vinci
   B. Raphael
   C. Michelangelo
   D. Sandro Botticelli

2. Which month gains an extra date in a Gregorian leap year?
   A. March
   B. January
   C. February
   D. December

3. Which quantity would a meteorologist read from a barometer?
   A. Wind speed
   B. Air pressure
   C. Relative humidity
   D. Rainfall total

4. Which system represents letters with groups of short and long signals commonly called dots and dashes?
   A. The phonetic alphabet
   B. Braille
   C. Semaphore
   D. Morse code

5. Which stone gives the main mausoleum of the Taj Mahal its pale exterior?
   A. Light sandstone
   B. White marble
   C. Pale limestone
   D. White granite

6. The Odyssey is traditionally attributed to which ancient Greek poet?
   A. Homer
   B. Sappho
   C. Hesiod
   D. Pindar

7. Which ocean receives the Amazon River as it reaches Brazil's coast?
   A. Southern Ocean
   B. Pacific Ocean
   C. Indian Ocean
   D. Atlantic Ocean

8. Which sport began as a YMCA game called Mintonette?
   A. Basketball
   B. Badminton
   C. Volleyball
   D. Table tennis

9. What does a flying buttress chiefly do on a Gothic cathedral?
   A. Transfers force from a high wall to an outer support
   B. Channels rainwater into a cistern
   C. Lets bell ropes reach the floor
   D. Supports temporary boards for painters

10. When a scientist reports a quantity in joules, what quantity can that unit express?
   A. Pressure
   B. Power
   C. Electric current
   D. Energy

11. Which language on the Rosetta Stone helped scholars interpret the two Egyptian scripts?
   A. Aramaic
   B. Latin
   C. Ancient Greek
   D. Old Persian

12. What does dendrochronology compare to date historic timbers?
   A. The thickness of bark
   B. Patterns in tree rings
   C. The color of tree sap
   D. Counts of branch scars

13. Which traditional navigation instrument uses mirrors to sight the horizon and a star at once?

A. Barograph
B. Magnetic compass
C. Marine chronometer
D. Sextant

14. Which composer's Ninth Symphony is commonly called From the New World?

A. Antonín Dvořák
B. Johannes Brahms
C. Gustav Mahler
D. Jean Sibelius

15. Which mineral typically forms the thin plates in the shell lining called mother-of-pearl?

A. Gypsum
B. Quartz
C. Aragonite
D. Mica