The Ultimate Family Trivia Challenge

Use this key to check answers and read the explanations.

1. Which fruit is traditionally the main ingredient in guacamole?
   A. Avocado
   B. Mango
   C. Lime
   D. Tomato
   Correct answer: A. Avocado
   Avocado supplies guacamole's creamy base; lime and tomato may be added.

2. In standard Monopoly, passing GO normally earns how much?
   A. $250
   B. $100
   C. $200
   D. $500
   Correct answer: C. $200
   The standard rules award $200 for passing or landing on GO.

3. What substance do bees collect from flowers to make honey?
   A. Tree bark
   B. Nectar
   C. Dew alone
   D. Leaf sap only
   Correct answer: B. Nectar
   Bees process nectar and reduce its water content to make honey.

4. In soccer, which player may normally use their hands inside their own penalty area?
   A. Any defender
   B. Striker
   C. Winger
   D. Goalkeeper
   Correct answer: D. Goalkeeper
   Special handling permission applies to the goalkeeper, with additional restrictions.

5. Who wrote the Harry Potter novels?
   A. Roald Dahl
   B. J. K. Rowling
   C. C. S. Lewis
   D. Rick Riordan
   Correct answer: B. J. K. Rowling
   Rowling created the seven-book Harry Potter series.

6. An acid such as vinegar reacts with baking soda to release which gas?
   A. Carbon dioxide
   B. Oxygen
   C. Nitrogen
   D. Hydrogen
   Correct answer: A. Carbon dioxide
   The acid–bicarbonate reaction produces carbon dioxide bubbles.

7. Which instrument is played using a bow and normally rests between the player's knees?
   A. Trumpet
   B. Violin
   C. Flute
   D. Cello
   Correct answer: D. Cello
   A cello is larger than a violin and is usually played seated with an endpin on the floor.

8. Which country's flag features a red maple leaf?
   A. Austria
   B. Switzerland
   C. Canada
   D. Denmark
   Correct answer: C. Canada
   Canada adopted its maple-leaf flag in 1965.

9. Which spice consists of the dried flower buds of a tree?
   A. Cloves
   B. Cinnamon
   C. Ginger
   D. Cumin
   Correct answer: A. Cloves
   Cloves are unopened flower buds; cinnamon is bark and ginger is a rhizome.

10. The smallest bones in the human body are found where?

A. Toes
B. Fingertips
C. Nose
D. Middle ear

Correct answer: D. Middle ear
The ossicles transmit sound vibrations; the stapes is the smallest bone.

11. Why do you usually see lightning before hearing its thunder?

A. Clouds block all sound at first
B. Thunder starts several minutes later
C. Light travels faster than sound
D. Lightning pulls sound upward

Correct answer: C. Light travels faster than sound
Both originate from the lightning event, but sound reaches you much later.

12. In standard tic-tac-toe, if both players play perfectly, what is the result?

A. The first player always wins
B. A draw
C. The second player always wins
D. A random winner

Correct answer: B. A draw
Perfect play prevents either player from forcing a win.

13. Vanilla flavoring traditionally comes from the fruit of what type of plant?

A. Fern
B. Palm
C. Cactus
D. Orchid

Correct answer: D. Orchid
Vanilla pods are fruits of climbing orchids, most commonly Vanilla planifolia.

14. Which part of a beaver's body is chiefly used as a warning signal by slapping water?

A. Tail
B. Front paws
C. Incisors
D. Whiskers

Correct answer: A. Tail
A tail slap alerts other beavers to danger.

15. At sea level, adding ordinary salt to water raises which of these, compared with pure water?

A. Molecular size of every water molecule
B. Freezing point
C. Boiling point
D. Amount of hydrogen in each molecule

Correct answer: C. Boiling point
Dissolved salt raises boiling point and lowers freezing point; ordinary cooking amounts make only a small difference.