**MIMIR FINALS 2022 – questions by Dinah**

**Round One**

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| 1a | Which bird of prey, a summer visitor to Britain, is agile enough to catch swallows and swifts? | **Hobby** |
| 1b | What was the currency of Estonia before replacing it in 2011 with the euro? | **Kroon** |
| 1c | Which musician co-wrote, with Billy Strayhorn, a 12-part jazz suite in 1957 based on the works of William Shakespeare entitled ‘Such Sweet Thunder’ ? | **Duke Ellington** |

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| 2a | What is the name of the traditional German fruit bread of nuts, spices and candied fruit eaten during Christmas time? | **Stollen** |
| 2b | Which American writer described Ronald Reagan as “a triumph of the embalmers art”? | **Gore Vidal** |
| 2c | In which decade did Herschel discover Uranus, the Derby was first run and a mutiny took place on HMS Bounty. | **1780’s** |

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| 3a | What is measured using a Campbell-Stokes recorder? | **Hours of daily sunshine** |
| 3b | What is the name for the organised criminal groups that originated in and around Naples in the 17th century and still thrive today? | **Camorra** |
| 3c | In which county is Woolsthorpe Manor where Sir Isaac Newton was born and grew up? It is now a National Trust run property. | **Lincolnshire** |

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| 4a | What is the literal meaning of Ciabatta, the Italian bread made with olive oil? | **Slipper** |
| 4b | Which bird is a close relative of the Chaffinch, with a variety of different markings, is mainly a winter visitor to Britain | **Brambling** |
| 4c | What is the actual first name of UK Prime Minister, Boris Johnson? | **Alexander** |

**Round Two**

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| 1a | Which National Trust property in East Sussex, known as Batemans, was the home for the last 32 years of which English author? | **Rudyard Kipling** |
| 1b | In gardening what name is given to a type of hoe on which two prongs are joined by a two-edged cross-blade? | **Dutch hoe** |
| 1c | Of which actress did the satirist, Dorothy Parker say “she ran the whole gamut of emotions from A to B”? | **Kathryn Hepburn** |

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| 2a | Which Canadian /American jazz arranger collaborated with trumpeter Miles Davis on his albums ‘Porgy and Bess’ and ‘Sketches of Spain’? | **Gil Evans** |
| 2b | Which country led the medal table at the 2022 Winter Olympic Games with 37 medals? | **Norway** |
| 2c | Which bird, a close relative of the Goldcrest, is a rare breeder in broadleaf and coniferous woodland? | **Firecrest** |

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| 3a | The M4 motorway crosses the M5 just north of which city? | **Bristol** |
| 3b | In which decade was General Custer killed by the Sioux, the Tay Bridge collapses in a storm and Alexander Graham Bell patents the telephone. | **1870’s** |
| 3c | Of which constituency was Boris Johnson MP from 2001 to 2008 in succession to Sir Michael Hestletine? | **Henley** |

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| 4a | Which European country’s currency before adopting the euro in 1999 was divided into 100 groschen? | **Austria (the Schilling)** |
| 4b | What is the title of the 1919 novel by Somerset Maugham that was inspired by the life of the painter, Paul Gauguin? | **‘The Moon and Sixpence’** |
| 4c | What name does a gardener give to broken pieces of terracotta clay pots put in the bottom of flowerpots to help drainage? | **Crocks** |

**Round Three**

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| 1a | Which event did the Norwegian athlete Karsten Warholm win at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics just after breaking the world record that had stood for 29 yrs? | **400 m Hurdles** |
| 1b | What was the name of Spain’s right-wing nationalist party formed in 1937 by General Franco and then abolished after his death in 1977? | **Falange** |
| 1c | Which vanity project of Boris Johnson, originally an idea of Joanna Lumley, was abandoned in 2017 at a cost of £53 million? | **Thames Garden Bridge** |

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| 2a | What is the title of 1944 novel by Joyce Carey about an eccentric artist named Gulley Jimpson? | **‘The Horse’s Mouth’** |
| 2b | Of which periodical was Boris Johnson editor from 1999 to 2005? | **The Spectator** |
| 2c | The 2021-2022 Ashes Test series award for man of the series was won by Australian Travis Head. Name either cricketer after whom the award is named? | **Denis Compton or Keith Miller** |

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| 3a | The chemical, metaldehyde has largely replaced methiocarb as a safer and more selective control against which particular garden pest? | **Slugs (and snails)** |
| 3b | Which film director, when making his movie ‘Kiss Me Stupid’ in 1964, on hearing one of his actors singing, said “he has Van Gogh’s ear for music”? | **Billy Wilder** |
| 3c | Apart from Manchester United, which other British football club did Ole Gunnar Solskjaer manage doing so in 2014? | **Cardiff City** |

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| 4a | In which decade did the composer JS Bach die, Benjamin Franklin invented the lightning conductor and Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar. | **1750’s** |
| 4b | In which English county is the M20 motorway? | **Kent** |
| 4c | Which American bandleader often referred to as the ‘King of Jazz’ commissioned George Gershwin to write ‘Rhapsody in Blue’ in 1924? | **Paul Whiteman** |

**Round Four**

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| 1a | What is the title of the 1934 novel by Irving Stone that is based on the life of the artist Vincent van Gogh? | **‘Lust for Life’** |
| 1b | Who was the only English batsman to score a century in the 2021-2022 Ashes Test series? | **Jonny Bairstow** |
| 1c | What is the name for a motorway in Spain? | **Autopista** |

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| 2a | In science what does a spirometer measure? | **Air capacity of the lungs** |
| 2b | Which 1940’s invention by American Charles Scanlon was first used in the UK in 1958 when the M6 motorway opened? | **Traffic cones** |
| 2c | In gardening, what is the name for a shallow basket made of strips of wood and used for carrying flowers or fruit? | **Trug** |

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| 3a | Which indigenous Australian bowler took 18 wickets during the 2021-2022 Ashes Test series and returned the best average? | **Scott Boland** |
| 3b | Set in 17th century Delft and inspired by the work of local artist Vermeer, who wrote the 1999 novel ‘Girl with a Pearl Earring’? | **Tracy Chevalier** |
| 3c | Which European country’s currency before adopting the euro in 2002 was the markka made up of 100 pennis? | **Finland** |

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| 4a | What disease did Louis Pasteur find a cure for in 1885? | **Rabies** |
| 4b | What is the name of the National Trust property in Dorset that was the home of T. E. Lawrence until his death in 1935? | **Clouds Hill** |
| 4c | Which Norwegian marathon runner became in 1979 the first woman to run the marathon in under two and a half hours? | **Grete Waitz** |

**Round Five**

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| 1a | For inventing what did the Hungarian-British electrical engineer, Denis Gabor receive the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1971? | **Hologram (accept Holography)** |
| 1b | In which decade did Rowland Hill introduce the penny post, Marx and Engel published the communist manifesto and Brunel launched the SS Great Britain. | **1840’s** |
| 1c | What is the chocolate sponge cake named after an Austrian confectioner and still sold exclusively by a hotel in Vienna with the same name? | **Sachertorte** |

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| 2a | The National Trust property Hughenden Manor, near High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire was once the home of which British Prime Minister? | **Benjamin Disraeli** |
| 2b | Which French overseas territory in North America uses the euro has its official currency? | **Saint Pierre and Miquelon** |
| 2c | What was the popular name for communist Romania’s state police that existed from 1948 until being dissolved in 1989? | **Securitate** |

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| 3a | Which member of the thrush family of birds is a summer visitor to Britain and is distinguished from the blackbird by a white crescent across its breast? | **Ring Ousel** |
| 3b | Which classical composer wrote a Suite for Jazz Orchestra in 1938 and an orchestral transcription of ‘Tea for Two’ entitled ‘Tahiti Trot’ in 1927? | **Dmitri Shostakovitch** |
| 3c | What in Indian cuisine is Kulfi? | **Ice cream** |

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| 4a | Of which film actress did Sir John Gielgud once say that “she speaks five languages and can’t act in any of them”? | **Ingrid Bergman** |
| 4b | The final test of the 2021-2022 Ashes series was played at the Bellerive Oval in which city? | **Hobart, Tasmania** |
| 4c | What was the name of the Greek nationalist organisation led by Giorgios Grivas that fought for the end of British rule in the 1950’s? | **EOKA** |

**Spare Questions**

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| 1 | Who is the only jockey to win the Derby and the Kentucky Derby? | **Steve Cauthen** |
| 2 | How long does it take, to the nearest Earth year, for the planet Jupiter to orbit the sun? | **12 years** |
| 3 | In which German city are the Pinakothek art museums? | **Munich** |

**Tie Break One**

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| 1 | The Albacore is a type of which fish? | **Tuna** |
| 2 | On which river did the 2021 University Boat Race take place? | **Great Ouse** |
| 3 | By what other name is the singer Graham McPherson also known? | **Suggs (of Madness)** |

**Tie Break Two**

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| 1 | Name either of the two US Presidents to be buried in the state of California. | **Richard Nixon or Ronald Reagan** |
| 2 | Who has replaced Nicholas Parsons as host of BBC Radio 4’s, ‘Just a Minute’? | **Sue Perkins** |
| 3 | In which range of hills are the Wookey Hole Caves and the Cheddar Gorge to be found? | **Mendips** |

**Tie Break Three**

**ULTIMATE TIE BREAKER (Nearest wins)**

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| According to the Guinness Book of Records, the longest rail journey without changing trains goes from Moscow to Pyongyang in North Korea. In miles, how long is the one-way trip? | **6,346 miles** |