

ROYAL
STATISTICAL
SOCIETY

Christmas
QUIZ



2021

Devised by Dr Tim Paulden (RSS Quizmaster)

Entries will be accepted until
21:00 GMT on 31 January 2022

For full rules, solving tips, and details of prizes,
please visit the quiz webpage via the link below:

<https://rss.org.uk/news-publications/all-news/>

Puzzle 1: EVENLY MIXED [14 points]

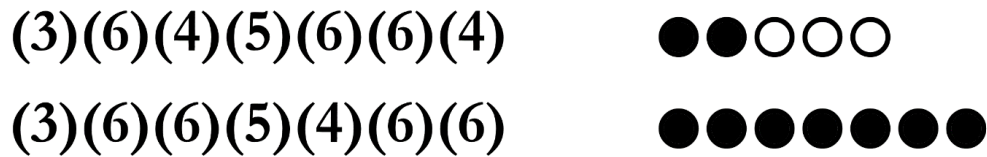
Identify the eight items below, each of which contains a deliberate error. What special name connects them, and which words appearing in #2/#7/#8 are often regarded as the origin of the name (loosely speaking, in the case of #7)?

Finally, continuing the theme of #2, which four of the individuals (taken in order) reveal another much-loved ground-dwelling creature with a distinctive morning cry?

1. “**D₂ W₄ B₅ P₆ H₄ A₁ G₄ T₄ D₄ B₂ B₈ W₄ C₁₁ A₃ P₆ O₈ A₃ A₃
T₃ M₁₁ G₈ T₄ C₇ U₂ L₄”**
2. “**A₁ L₆ B₄ T₄ M₂ T₄ Y₃ L₄ M₂ I₂ I₁ B₇ T₄ Y₃ D₂”**
3. “**A₃ I₂ E₇ B₃ L₄ R₅ S₅”**
4. “**W₈ M₇ I₁ T₃ A₃ T₃ P₇ O₂ M₂ O₃ H₄ W₄ A₃ N₇ E₄”**
5. “**I₁ D₁₀ O₂ W₄ Y₃ S₃ B₃ I₁ W₄ D₆ T₂ T₃ D₅ Y₄ H₄ T₂ S₃ I₂”**
6. “**I₁ L₄ T₃ S₇ O₂ D₇ V₁₀”**
7. “**N₆ C₃ L₄ I₂ T₃ P₄ O₂ T₃ F₆ W₇ A₃ S₉ O₂ A₁ N₃”**
8. “**A₅ A₃ I₂ I₂ T₅ W₃ H₄ A₁ D₄ A₃ R₄ I₅ L₄ W₃ A₃ B₄ A₄ T₂ D₄
W₄ T₃ I₁₀ Y₃ O₂ O₅ L₄”**

Puzzle 2: ICSAR [7 points]

Explain the diagram below:



Puzzle 3: LAWFULLY RELATED [7 points]

The twelve items listed below fall naturally into two groups of six – how, and what’s the connection to the title?

BAT

ECHO

PO

SAILBOAT

FEARLESS

CHRISTMAS

ARSENAL

EDDY

HATE

JUSTICE

DUSTY

OWL

Puzzle 4: BEAT IT [4 points]

Identify the next two elements of the sequence represented below:

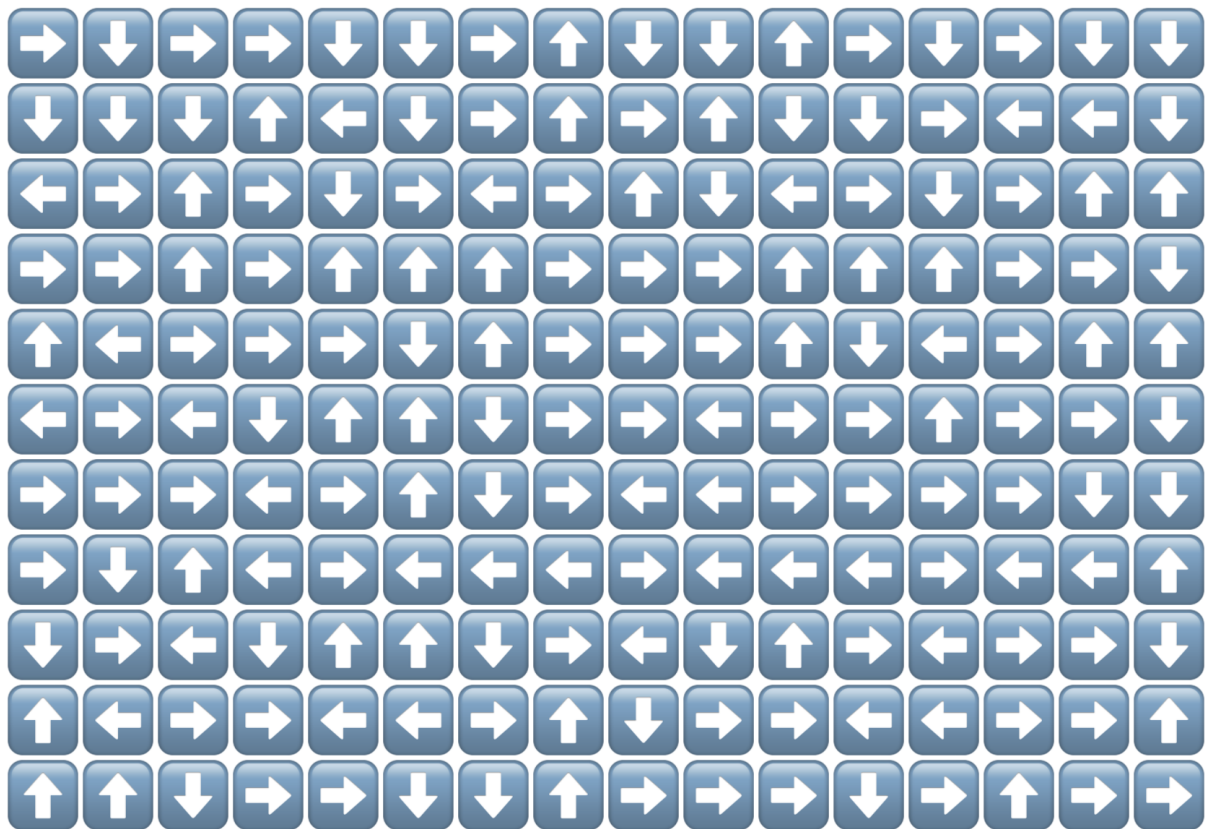
..., B, S, M, C, Q, S, ...

Puzzle 5: GREAT WHITE (2021) [5 points]

Identify the collection of numbers shown below. (The two hidden numbers represent England.)

3, 6, 9, 12, 18, 23, 42, 44, 49, 52,
56, ■, 67, 71, 76, 80, 81, 82, ■, 88

Puzzle 6: USELESS RULES [20 points]



- Actress who played Betty in a festively titled comedy film (based on a play named after a beverage), and who has the same first name as someone in an earlier puzzle
- Alternative album released in 2008 that was livestreamed in January 2021, with the recording being released under another name (often used to describe those whose power is superficial)
- Celebrated footballer with a body part located at `///those.bitters.landed`
- Children's author whose 1957 book features a green creature who steals Christmas gifts and decorations
- Engineer who won a prestigious award in the 1950s, a few years after Kermit and Orville
- European country where a special 'Christmas juice' dominates December's soft-drink sales

- Former Le Mans coach who represented France in Switzerland, a few days before turning 24
- German city whose mayor has the same surname and first initial as a famous mathematician
- K-pop song with nearly 1.8 billion views on YouTube, from a group whose name combines (0,0,0) and (255,192,203)
- Mid-80s computer game whose inlay card features a rhyme of ten lines ending with the following words: take, make, dare, lair, will, fill, fast, past, slow, go
- Mythical apprentice rumoured to have broken a textile apparatus in the late 18th century
- Norwegian ice hockey defender who executed a stick-breaking tackle in May 2021
- Pop song whose video features the singer drawing a heart on a steamed-up mirror, touching a light-blue phone, and standing on the surface of a swimming pool
- Three-syllable song title that links Lennon, Duffy, and Milburn
- Title shared by a Canadian mockumentary and an episode of Star Trek: Discovery
- UK city whose high street features an 8ft bronze statue of a cartoon character (plus his sidekick)
- Widely derided film starring JT (RF), GA (RS), and BA (IB)

Who's left over – and how are they connected to Bethlehem?

Puzzle 7: HOT N COLD (35) [9 points]

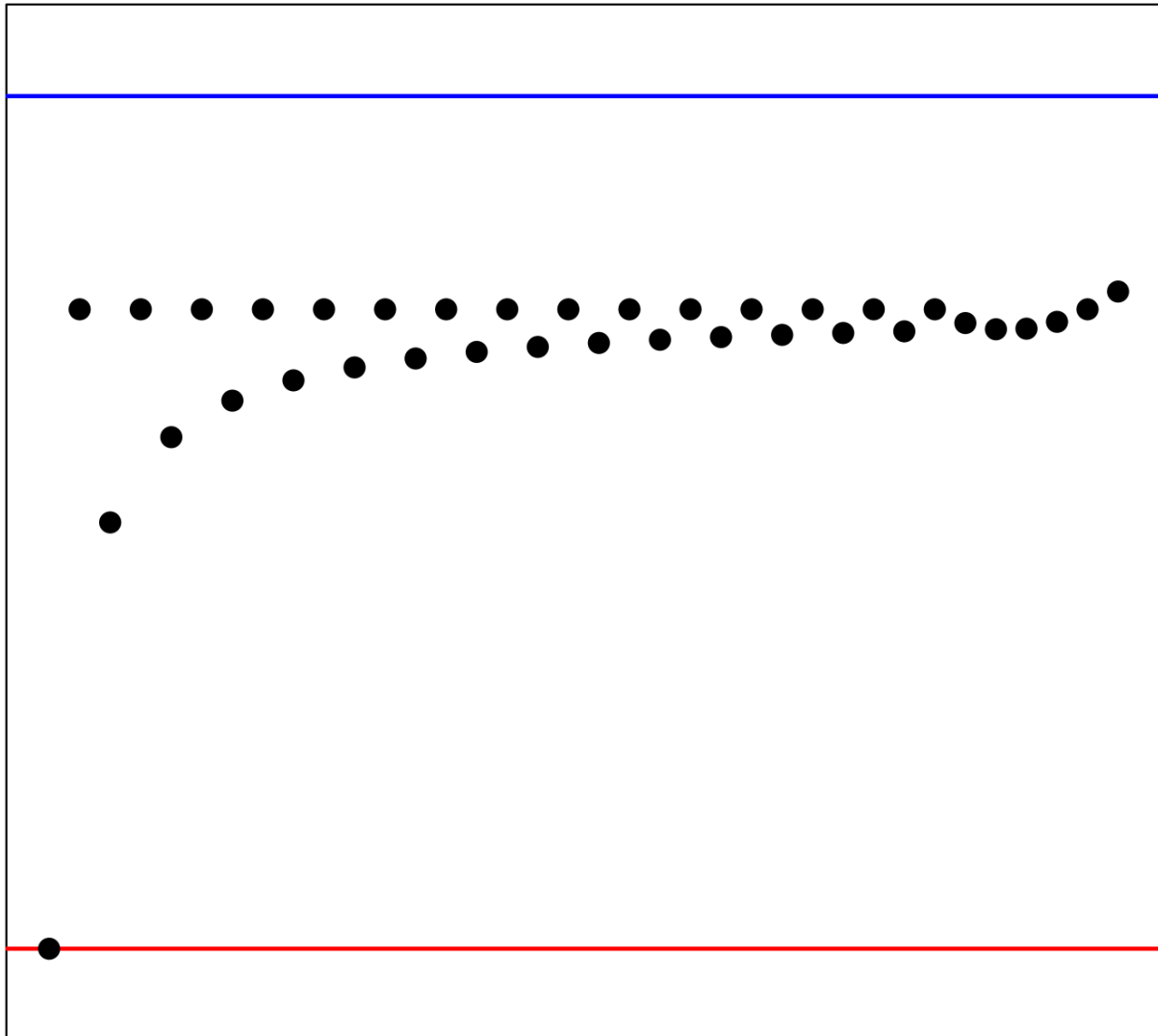
Identify the following from their title appearances...

- ...in 690 only (though a related term appears in 8, 30, and 168)
- ...in 509 (but not in 219, 294, 472, 539, or 621)
- ...in 54, 283, and 467
- ...in 10, 76, 82, 132, 140–151, and dozens of others
- ...in 556 (but not in 215, 216, 504, or 598)
- ...in 163, 400, and 504 (but written here in the singular)
- ...in 110

Where would you find all seven together, in the order above?

Puzzle 8: BAYES OPTIMIZATION [9 points]

Explain the figure shown below:



Continuing the theme, what ten-letter word is revealed by the instances below – and how is this word relevant to an even greater achievement recorded in August 2021?

**03/14, 04/19, 11/18, 03/89, 05/13, 08/16, 11/08, 11/13,
11/92, 09/20**

Puzzle 9: CHRISTMAS RESTUFFING [12 points]

The list of items below has become all mixed up – can you fix it?

For full credit, you should identify each of the three hidden items along with its associated number – one point will be awarded for each. One of the hidden items features somewhere in an earlier puzzle, one has a particular form that projects a festive message, and one will provide plenty of entertainment on Christmas Day.

ARTHUR MELVILLE [-68]

BEN RIPLEY [-46/-30]

CHRIS ABBOTT [-66]

EDITH SELIG [-26]

GLYPHOPSYCHE [-23]

HAO GE [-54]

HOCH [-13]

LOONEY TUNES CARTOONS [-47]

MELVIN RADER [-60]

MOHAMMAD WAHEED [-18]

██

MURDER BAY [-28]

OKAY YOKUSLU [-38]

POLJOT [-4]

████████████████

ROBERT PAPE [-35]

████████████████

SHOTTON SNOWFIELD [-20]

SMILETS DYNASTY [-31]

TOBICO MARSH [-24]

Puzzle 10: PUZZLE OF THE CENTURY? [6 points]

Identify the century-old puzzle that was personified using a 5-letter adjective and 4-letter female name, and later found to have over 370,000 solutions – rather more than the two known to the inventor.

How are the numbers {72, 106, 132, 146, 166, 168, 192, 194} connected to the puzzle, and in what sense are the numbers {26, 7, 1, 14, 8, 19, 5, 35, 31, 26, 4, 10} irrelevant?

Puzzle 11: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS [7 points]

190	730	762	366	513	665
221	303	704	322	373	440
115	656	771	236	337	880
091	551	583	028	623	■

Total available points: 100