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163 TOPICS: AROUND 4000 QUIZZES

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Email: info@vspublishers.com • Website: www.vspublishers.com

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*This book is dedicated to  
my youngest brother Chico and family  
for their care and support  
and for being on call when needed.*

## Acknowledgement

This book would never have got written but for the encouragement of my youngest brother, his wife Shantha and their two children, Shanthini and Ajit, in Chennai, who encouraged me to start on my second 'Brain Teasers' while I was recovering from my Viral fever. My grateful thanks to all of them especially for arranging the completion of the typing when my resources failed.

My thanks are also due to

- ❑ Miss Emaculate Mary, one of my old Y.W.C.A. Colleagues, who was excited about my starting a new Quiz book and brought me her large collection of Indian Express Quizzes and Gokulam Magazines for Ideas and for Quizzes.
- ❑ To my friend Mrs Rani Dharmaraj, someone like me, who had one or two scrap books crammed with most interesting Quizzes, Proverbs and Quotations. These two books, very precious to her, she very generously loaned to me.
- ❑ To my young friend Thomas James, who had always come to my aid when I wanted help with my writings. It was he who gave me the Manorama Year Book, the Film Magazines from which I have never contributed.
- ❑ To young S. Prashanth, my next door neighbour, whose general knowledge books, Children's Encyclopedia and copies of Mahabharatha and Ramayana were immense help to compose Quizzes and I used several from his general knowledge books.
- ❑ My sister-in-law Mrs E.A. Ambat arrived just in time to check the numbering of the Index with me and to correct the numbering of the pages which I had inadvertently numbered wrongly. My grateful thanks to her.
- ❑ At last, but not the least, to my friend Mrs Ranjini Victor who gladly agreed to write a foreword for this book.

**GLADYS AMBAT**

## Foreword

Intelligent people of all ages love to participate in Quizzes. Isn't it true that no matter whether you win or lose you still look forward to the next quiz? Remember, how it feels to await your turn? You are keyed up, you are tense, and sitting on the edge of your chair..... yet enjoying yourself immensely!

Quiz kids are training themselves all 24 hours of the day. They are always alert to collecting new and exciting bits of information..... and everything interests them! No one tells them to "prepare" for a quiz. They do it consciously and unconsciously all the time. And whatsmore, they are having fun and they sure are amongst those this book is going to help.

Do you enjoy organising party games at Youth groups or Clubs? Do you like to entertain friends who come home by giving them something to think about as they sit around together? Choose a set of brain teasers carefully to suit your friends and your party will be a big hit.....something they will remember for a long, long while.

Gladys Ambat is a person that anyone would like to meet. She is a charming, gracious lady, with a keen mind of infinite variety. She just bubbles over with good cheer and vitality. Spending an hour with her is an enriching experience for both young and old.

And if you have the good fortune to spend more time with her, you will catch a glimpse of a person with not only a keen mind, but a large heart as well, a visionary who steered the Y.W.C.A. of Chennai for more than 30 years, first as a Programme Secretary and then General Secretary whose wholesome sense of values, indomitable courage in facing illness and vibrant faith in God continue to challenge and bless those who meet her.

I have no doubt that this book will give you many long hours of entertainment and pleasure. You will get interested in many new things and acquire new skills. I trust you will yourself become a lively, exciting person stretching your mind to new horizons of thought and learning.

**Ranjini Victor**

*M.A. M.Phil., Cert in Ed (Birm)*

*Head of Dept. of Physics (Retd.)*

*Women's Christian College,*

*Chennai.*

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## Preface

When I published “Brain Teasers and Quiz fun for all” in 1994, I promised myself and those who bought the book, that I would add to one fourth of the Quizzes in my 60–odd–year old scrap book, which I had not used last time and publish a second Brain Teasers and a Bible Quiz as well. The interest aroused in the general public in the Brain Teasers far exceeded my wildest expectations. I still get constant phone calls from friends enquiring, where the book could be bought from.

I was hospitalised in 1996 and was seriously ill. I came home after a while for a long convalescence.

I was in a state of depression, irritability and lethargy. I owe the compiling and composing of about 4000 quizzes to my brother and family and my sister who challenged me to come out of my lethargy and work on my Quizzes which they knew had always been my favourite hobby. I finished the quizzes in 8 months. I used every available reference book in my library—History books, Book of Knowledge, Encyclopedia, my Chambers dictionary and General Knowledge books of the children of my friends—to get ideas to make up Quizzes.

Every time I have written a book it had been a learning experience for me. There is nothing like a goal to make life interesting and worth living. This book meant a lot of checking and rechecking, so that there are no duplications from “*Brain Teasers and Quiz Fun for All.*” If there are a few, kindly overlook the error.

I hope you will have fun with this book and it will add to your knowledge as it did for me.

**GLADYS AMBAT**

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# **QUESTIONS**

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# 1. Age and Ages

1. An old saying or proverb.
2. Superior over another - to benefit or gain.
3. To soften, to allay or abate or diminish.
4. Not outstanding, just ordinary.
5. The tents and provisions of the army and suitcases and bags of travellers.
6. The strip of cloth or lint to bind round a wound.
7. A continuous shower of firing or an artificial bar across a river.
8. A pleasant soothing drink, could be cider, tea, coffee or any such.
9. A not particularly tasty, whitish, green, leafy vegetable like lettuce.
10. A box with wire mesh or bars to keep captured animals or birds.
11. Mass laying or slaughter of him begins.
12. A fine road vehicle drawn by horses or a railway passenger car.
13. A bouquet to be worn on a lady's dress, bodice or waist.
14. A small dwelling house.
15. The quality of bravery to face fear and danger.
16. A pledge or contract to secure for service.
17. The facade or front part of a building.
18. A household kitchen refuse or other worthless matter.
19. A very sweet variety of green plum.
20. A statue or idol or a reflection in a mirror.
21. What age do we call today's supersonic way of air travel.
22. The organisation formed to help the old and the feeble.
23. The tie that binds a man and a woman for life.



24. A packet or parcel.
25. Where one parks the car in the house when not in use.
26. To spoil or ruin something by design or accident.
27. Where plays and dramas and concerts are enacted or conducted.
28. Which people in their second childhood are said to be in.
29. Confused sound of voices which became human speech at Babel.
30. To rush, move or act furiously or violently.

## **2. Animals and Birds - Facts-I**

1. Which animal has the longest pregnancy period.
2. Why is the South American tamandua called a collared ant-eater?
3. What is the food of the vampire bats?
4. What in the Phalanger James Cook captured during his travels?
5. What do peccaries, the South American hog-like animal use their rubbery snouts for?
6. What kind of an animal is a deer hound or a stag hound?
7. What kind of animal is an apodan?
8. What is the colour of hippopotamus' perspiration?
9. For how many years has a hog been in existence?
10. Where would one find a bearded pig?
11. Which primates play tug-of-war?
12. Why do hamsters have large pouches in their cheeks?
13. Which Brazilian animal of the rain forest now exists only in Zoos?
14. Which is the fastest of the hare family?
15. Which bird can suspend itself in mid air while feeding?
16. Is salamander a reptile or a an amphibian?
17. This dog was introduced to Britian by William the Conqueror?
18. Spotted dicks, carriage dog, coach dog. What is its normal name?
19. Cavy is another name for which popular pet?

20. Tumblers, tipplers and rollers are what kind of birds?
21. Guppies and mollies are what kind of pets.
22. What is a terrapin?
23. What is a chipmunk?
24. What is a water moccasin?
25. What is a female rabbit called?

### **3. Animals and Birds - Facts-II**

1. What are animals that sleep in winter called?
2. The whale is not a fish - but it lives in the sea. What is it?
3. Are there poisonous snakes in Britain?
4. What is meant by a “marsupial animal”?
5. What is the peculiarity of the cuckoo bird regarding its nesting habits?
6. What is unique about the British stoat?
7. What is the more famous name of the laughing Jackass?
8. What are the two stages in the development of the frog?
9. What does ‘Carnivore’ mean?
10. How does fish breathe?
11. What are the two types of elephants?
12. What is the Australian flightless bird called?
13. How does a ‘prehensile’ tail benefit a monkey?
14. What is the largest member of the deer family?
15. Which animal is known not to drink water?
16. Which animal is the source of the catgut used for tennis rackets?
17. Which bird did Shelly mean when he wrote “Hail to the blithe spirit”?
18. What is an oriole?
19. What is the largest type of penguins called?
20. A small island off the S.E. Coast of Anglesey is named after a sea bird of the auk family with bright coloured parrot like beak. Which bird?
21. Animals of this town are proverbial fighters. Which animal- and what are they called?

22. What does a fisherman use a creel for?
23. Herpetology is the study of what animals?
24. Legend says Prometheus was chained to a rock and a bird fed on his liver. Which bird?
25. In “the wild west” which animal is called a Bronco?
26. What in cowboy language does ‘the horse is bust’ mean?
27. What in cowboy language does a ‘dogie’ mean?
28. Which cuttle fish can change colour to match the background- and squirt an inky fluid?
29. Why is a sea urchin so called?

#### **4. Animals and Birds - Facts-III**

1. What are Mother Carey’s chickens?
2. What colour is the common lobster when alive?
3. Which fish found in the English rivers belongs to the Sovereign?
4. Is there such an animal as a sea dragon?
5. What is a sea robin?
6. What is the soft roe of a male fish called?
7. What animals foal their young?
8. What animals farrow their young?
9. What are young female pigs called?
10. What is the place where bees are kept called?
11. What is the place where fish are kept called?
12. What is the plural of a) Ox b) Sheep?
13. What is a Portuguese man-of-war?
14. Where are the eyes of a snail?
15. A certain type of bird is trained by the Chinese to catch fish. Can you give its name?
16. Which legs does a cow use while getting up from the ground?
17. How many humps does a Bactrian camel have?
18. Complete the phrase “as dead as the——”.
19. Complete the phrase “as sly as a——”.
20. What was the name of Alexander the Great’s war horse?

21. Which mammal can truly fly?
22. Which animal is known to live at the highest altitude?
23. What was the name of Maharana Pratap's horse?
24. What are mandibles of a bird?
25. What is striking about the bill of a moorhen?
26. What breed is a cat with a cream colour body and deep chocolate face, paws and tail and blue eyes?
27. What is the native country of a budgerigar?
28. Is panther, a lion, a leopard or a tiger?
29. A stickle back fish has something in common with birds. What is it?
30. Which mammal discovered only in 1870 lives largely on bamboo shoots and at an altitude between 11,000 to 14,000 feet on the eastern Himalayas?

## **5. Animals and Birds - Their Wisdom and Abilities**

1. How can owls see at night?
2. Which animal does a peccary resemble?
3. What are hoofed animals with even number of toes on each foot called?
4. Why do pangolines (a kind of ant eater) swallow insects whole?
5. Which is the only ape that can stand upright and walk?
6. What is a Gorbeak?
7. Which is the world's largest animal?
8. Which is the only bird that can fly backwards and forwards?
9. When a pangolin rolls into a tight ball, which two animals can unlock it?
10. What is a Guenon?
11. Which is the largest reptile?
12. How does a pronghorn (a kind of antelope) warn its fellow pronghorns of a danger?
13. Which is India's largest deer?
14. What is the N. American marmot known as?

15. What does a mink do when threatened by an owl?
16. In which countries are Agoutis (a kind of rodents) found?
17. How many neck bones does a Giraffe have?
18. What type of animals are Geckos, Iguanas and Monitors?
19. Which is the largest land animal?
20. What is a Jackanapes?
21. Which animal lays the largest egg?
22. What is the colour of a silver fox's hair?
23. Which Scandinavian animal sometimes is said to commit mass suicide?
24. Why does an arctic fox follow a polar bear?

## **6. Animals and Birds - Their Homes**

What are the homes or dwelling places of the following called?

- |            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. Ant     | 2. Bee         |
| 3. Bird    | 4. Chicken     |
| 5. Clam    | 6. Horse       |
| 7. Lion    | 8. Mule        |
| 9. Spider  | 10. Snail      |
| 11. Dog    | 12. Dove/Sheep |
| 13. Rabbit | 14. Tiger      |

## **7. Animals and Birds - Cry or Call**

What is the cry or call made by the following called?

- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Ape         | 2. Bear      |
| 3. Tiger       | 4. Geese     |
| 5. Grasshopper | 6. Bees      |
| 7. Calves      | 8. Cats      |
| 9. Chickens    | 10. Cock     |
| 11. Dogs       | 12. Dolphins |
| 13. Fox        | 14. Hyena    |
| 15. Lambs      | 16. Mice     |
| 17. Puppies    | 18. Peacocks |

## 8. Animals and Birds - Nature Versus Man

For a number of man's inventions there is a parallel in nature. Below is a scrambled list. Match the counterparts animals with the inventions.

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Humming bird    | a. Parachute      |
| 2. Bat             | b. Snow shoes     |
| 3. Chameleon       | c. Anaesthetic    |
| 4. Fish            | d. Suction cup    |
| 5. Squid           | e. Helicopter     |
| 6. Flying squirrel | f. Radar          |
| 7. Snake           | g. Hypodermic     |
| 8. Scorpion        | h. Camouflage     |
| 9. Abalone         | i. Jet propulsion |
| 10. Caribou        | j. Tank           |

## 9. Animals and Birds - Quiz Medley

1. The home of which animal is called a drey?
2. What living creatures will you find in an apiary?
3. What's the story about werewolf?
4. What is unique about Galapagos Islands, 950 K.M. off the coast of Ecuador?
5. Monkeys are not nocturnal creatures. True or false?
6. What are animals adapted to live on trees called?
7. Why do elephants flap their ears frequently?
8. Bats use echo-location while flying - what does it mean?
9. How are chameleons able to change their skin colour?
10. What is a flying fox?
11. What is or was a woolly mammoth?
12. Which country has almost all the Marsupials in the world?
13. Which is the only country in which Kiwis are found?
14. Where was the first police dog squad in India set up and when?
15. What is a Wallaby?

## **10. Animals and Birds - A Zoological Quiz**

Each answer's first part is the name of an animal or bird.

1. Can hit a target.
2. Adorns a man's chin.
3. Can throw stones.
4. What animal is moved with strings.
5. Always embarrassed.
6. Of dubious nature.
7. Sung by a church choir.
8. Found in the abode of a Muslim prince.
9. A flamboyant flower.
10. A colourful insect.
11. An unwanted insect in the house.
12. A sudden attack.

## **11. Animals and Birds Associated with Humans and Places**

1. What bird do you associate with Elijah who was fed for days?
2. Which is the huge bird mentioned in the Story of Sindbad?
3. What are the two animals mentioned in connection with Jesus on Palm Sunday?
4. What animal is connected to the rise of share prices in the stock exchange?
5. What animal is connected to the fall of share prices?
6. What game are Birdie and Eagle connected?
7. Turkey, Bunny and Grissly are connected with a mode of entertainment. Which one and when?
8. Hitting dead centre in darts is called what?
9. What is the name of the dog who was always with Peter Pan and Wendy?
10. What is the name of the dog who pined away and died at his master's grave and whose statue is in the city of Edinburgh?

11. If these birds leave the Tower of London it is believed that ill luck or worse would come upon Britain?
12. The grave of this dog is a tourist attraction in Wales who was killed by his master when he saw him blood stained, thinking he had attacked his baby. The dog had in fact saved his baby and killed a wolf to save the baby. What is the dog's name?
13. What is the animal associated with St. George of England?
14. What reptile is associated with St. Patrick of Ireland?
15. Who was the messenger for Nala and Damayanti?
16. What animals are always found on the rock of Gibraltar?
17. What was the animal which started off Alice to her wonderland?
18. Graham Green created a delightfully pompous character who considered himself as 'the Squire'.
19. What is the most well-known dog in films?
20. What is the name of Dennis the Menace's dog?

## **12. "Ata" Words**

Every word has ATA somewhere in it.

1. A musical narrative by one person with a single instrument.
2. Facts listed and given.
3. A well-known shoe company.
4. Fit for eating.
5. Appointed by fate—causing ruin or death.
6. Which can't be defeated.
7. A sudden calamity.
8. Flagrant or vulgar.
9. A raft of logs lashed together.
10. The chemical influence of a substance without itself undergoing change.
11. A subterranean excavated burial place in Rome.
12. A systematic list of names, books etc.
13. A small forked stick with elastic string -favourite of boys for throwing stones.
14. An officer of the papal court.
15. Liable to be disputed.



16. A Syrian tobacco from a place which gives it its name.
17. The Spanish bull fighter.
18. Connected with birth.
19. Floating or swimming.
20. Pleasant to the taste.
21. A flavouring essence made from almonds.
22. The devil or the chief evil spirit.

### **13. "Ate" in all of Them**

Every answer ends with an "ATE".

1. To debase or profane or treat sacrilegiously.
2. To revile, abuse with hard words.
3. To tear or rend or mangle.
4. To lay waste or ravage after wars and riots.
5. To reason earnestly with a person, or to demand vehemently.
6. To destroy completely or reduce to nothing.
7. To reprove severely (Latin ) to correct.
8. To reject, or disclaim, disown or renounce.
9. To connect or charge with a crime.
10. To chide vehemently.
11. To return like for like or tit for tat. Usually return evil for evil.
12. To conquer or subdue.

### **14. Some Important Awards**

1. Which is the highest national award given for exceptional and distinguished service to the nation in art, literature, science and public service?
2. The most prestigious award of Indian film Industry.
3. The highest award for bravery, for daring or pre-eminent act of valour, at risk to life in presence of the enemy.
4. The second highest award, a decoration for gallantry and bravery in the presence of the enemy.
5. The honour awarded for an act of most conspicuous bravery, valour and self-sacrifice. This honour is divided into three

categories. The second honour is Kirti Chakra, and the Shaurya Chakra. Which is the first honour.

6. Award started in 1961 given to sportsmen and sportswomen of the country for.
7. A cultural society founded in 1944 gives this award for outstanding contribution to Indian literature in various Indian languages.
8. What are the awards for films and those associated with films called?
9. Which one of Asia's Top awards is given in memory of a President of Philippines who died in an air crash in central Philippines in 1967?
10. The most prestigious awards given by Academy of Motion Pictures, America (Hollywood) for actors, directors etc.

## 15. A Bony Collection

Every answer either has the word bone in it, or has something to do with bones.

1. Pulverised bones used in agriculture.
2. A fool or a blockhead.
3. A person who never works and is lazy is described as.
4. A lace woven on bobbins.
5. Spineless- figuratively speaking.
6. Where in the human body will one find the hammer the anvil and the stirrup?
7. What is the collar bone called?
8. What did Samson use as a weapon in battle?
9. An American species of hemp.
10. A familiar name for an old type of cycle or for crazy old vehicles.
11. An ancient flute or pipe as well as a bone.
12. The outer bone of the forearm.
13. The inner and larger bone of the forearm.
14. The projecting joint of the finger.