

The News Quiz

a quiz in English from nutid.nu



Advanced: X22 111 211 XXX

Basic: XXX 22X 1X2 2

Commentary to News Quiz

1. Monterrey, Mexico (X). Local people have protested against the drug syndicates and the arson attack. Read a report from the Associated Press and Google.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5juUjCo4behYRS0crHLtqFh0e7rw?docId=7d27df915af74b3a88d5ea9079e8b9f7>

2. Congo-Kinshasa (2). Thomas Lubanga Dyilo was a warlord in the country which is now known as Congo-Kinshasa, but at the time was called the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The country has also been known as Zaire. Lubanga is the first person to stand trial at the International Criminal Court in The Hague. (The ICC is not an organ of the United Nations should not be confused with the UN's International Court of Justice, ICJ, which is also based in The Hague.) For reports of the proceedings in the Lubanga trial, background articles and introductions to the case and the accused visit this site.

<http://www.lubangatrial.org/>

For more on the International Criminal Court.

<http://www.icc-cpi.int/Menus/ICC>

3. Libya (2). Many international news services are currently offering in-depth reporting from Libya, which gives an opportunity for students to compare the news and analysis being offered. Take a look, for example, at the reporting from Al Jazeera.

<http://english.aljazeera.net/indepth/spotlight/libya/>

Compare with CNN.

<http://edition.cnn.com/AFRICA/>

Do they appear to be reporting the same events? What facts do they report that are the same, and what facts do they give that are different? Do they have the same interpretation of the facts? If they offer different interpretations, how do they differ? Why do you suppose they differ?

4. China (1). *Juramaia sinensis* is about twice as old as the oldest previously known placental mammal. A placental mammal is an animal that carries its children in a womb before giving birth. Most modern mammals from mice to men are placental mammals, but in Australia there are several species of mammal that are not placental. Marsupials, like kangaroos, give birth to their babies before they are fully developed and carry them to term in a pouch, for example, or the platypus which lays eggs. *Juramaia sinensis* (which means "Jurassic mother from China") seems to have looked rather like a modern shrew (*näbbmus*) and lived among treetops at the same time as the giant dinosaurs walked the Earth. Read a popular science report from LiveScience.com and Yahoo News.

<http://news.yahoo.com/skinny-shrew-oldest-true-mammal-173403411.html>

5. 50,000 (1). The announcement of Chinese sales targets for the year was made recently in Beijing by Stefan Jacoby, Volvo's President and Chief Executive Officer. The investment plan was reported in February of this year. Read a report from CNN about the investment plans.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/BUSINESS/02/27/volvlo.geely.china/index.html>

And a brief report of the Chinese sales targets from Reuters.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/23/volvo-china-idUKB9E7H905B20110823?type=companyNews>

6. IKEA (1). Ingvar Kamprad, who founded IKEA in 1943 and who is still actively involved in the company, admitted his association with Swedish Nazis as a teenager during the war more than 20 years ago.

He apologised then for what he described as his youthful stupidity. The new revelations suggest that Kamprad's involvement with the Swedish Nazis went deeper than just an association and lasted longer than the war. In 2010 he appears to have expressed his continuing admiration for Per Engdhal, a significant figure on the extreme right of Swedish politics well into the 50s. Read a report from the BBC.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-14661582>

7. A journalist (2). Dawit Isaak was born in Eritrea in 1964 while the country was under the control of Ethiopia. In 1987 he came to Sweden as a refugee and eventually became a Swedish citizen. When Eritrea became independent in 1993, Dawit Isaak returned home to become a journalist on his country's first independent newspaper. On 23rd September 2001 he was arrested, apparently for his support for democratic reformers in conflict with the sitting President. He's never been tried, and is regarded by Amnesty International as a prisoner of conscience. Visit the English language Free Dawit Isaak Internet site here.

<http://www.freedawit.com/aboutDawit?lang=eng>

Read a report from *The Local* here.

<http://www.thelocal.se/34730/20110704/>

8. Lord of the Flies (1). The author of *The Lord of the Rings* was JRR Tolkien. *Lords of Dogtown* is a film directed by Catherine Hardwicke. Sir William Golding was born on the 19th September 1911 and died on the 19th June 1993. He is most known as a novelist, but also wrote poetry, plays and biography. In 2008 *The Times* rated Golding one of the best writers in English since the Second World War. His first novel, *Lord of the Flies*, was published by Faber and Faber in 1954 and became the novel that was most closely associated with him. It has been taught in English classes around the world, translated into many languages, turned into a film twice and into a stage play at least once. Read a good short biography of Golding on this Finnish books site.

<http://kirjasto.sci.fi/wgolding.htm>

9. The Netherlands (1). The Netherlands is famous as the land of tulips but the Dutch national football team prefer the symbol of a crowned orange lion. See the FIFA world rankings by following this link.

<http://www.fifa.com/worldfootball/ranking/lastranking/gender=m/fullranking.html>

10. Yohan Blake (X). The surprise disqualification will cause the IAAF to review the disqualification rules, or so *The Guardian* believes.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2011/aug/29/iaaf-false-start-rule-usain-bolt>

11. Back to Black (X). *21* was the second album by the English singer Adele. *Rockferry* was the debut album from Welsh singer-songwriter Duffy. Amy Winehouse was only 27 when she was found dead at her home in July. Her debut album, *Frank*, was released in 2003 and was a critical success. *Back to Black* was released in 2006 and brought her five Grammy awards including Best New Artist, Record of the Year and Song of the Year. Amy Winehouse's Wikipedia page is here.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amy_Winehouse

12. Fjällbacka (X). In March 2009 as the wave of Nordic crime writers was breaking over the English-speaking world, *The Guardian* asked Camilla Läckberg to pick her top 10 Nordic crime stories for British readers. Read her selection here.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/mar/11/camilla-lackberg-swedish-crime-best>

- 1 At least 53 people died when a casino was attacked last week. A dozen men poured petrol all over the casino and set it alight. The arsonists are believed to belong to a drug syndicate. Where did this happen?
- 2 The trial of Thomas Lubanga has started in The Hague. Lubanga is principally accused of having recruited up to 30,000 children to fight in a civil war in his country. The civil war was fought in the eastern part of the country for five years and came to an end in 2003. Which is the country in question?
- 3 For more than 40 years this country's official flag was plain green but nowadays we see more often a flag that was used before 1969. This flag has three horizontal bars: from top to bottom red, black and green. In the middle of the black bar there is a white symbol. Over which country does this flag once again fly?
- 4 The earliest mother of all mammals may have been discovered. The fossil skeleton of a placental mammal 160 million years old that has been given the name *Juramaia sinensis* was announced recently. In which country was the fossil discovered?
- 5 Volvo plans to invest up to 11 million US dollars over the coming five year period. The investment will be made in countries like China where Volvo sold a little more than 30,000 cars in 2010. How many cars is Volvo aiming to sell in China this year?
- 6 This company is once again sailing into stormy weather after new revelations were made about its founder's links with Nazism during the 1940s and more. Which Swedish-based international company is in question?
- 7 In about a month Dawit Isaak will have been imprisoned without trial and held in isolation in Eritrea for 10 years. Isaak holds dual Swedish and Eritrean citizenship. When he was arrested Dawit Isaak worked as . . . what?
- 8 British writer William Golding, who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1983, would have celebrated his 100th birthday this year. To mark the occasion his publisher is bringing out a special edition of his first novel. With which famous book did William Golding debut?
- 9 Sweden has advanced to eighteenth place in the men's football world ranking. In first place is the national team from the land of tulips. Which country is that?
- 10 Usain Bolt is the world record holder and was favourite to win in the World Cup final of the 100 meters that was run in South Korea at the weekend, but he was disqualified for a false start. Who did win?
- 11 Recently the acclaimed young singer Amy Winehouse passed away. In her short career she only released two albums, but one is currently at the top of the British charts. What is the name of the record?
- 12 A total of 280 million Swedish crowns is being invested in 10 television movies and two feature films based on books by Camilla Läckberg. What is the name of the place in Bohuslän which is the site of most of the action?

1. Cali, Colombia
- X. Monterrey, Mexico
2. Caracas, Venezuela

1. Ivory Coast
- X. Namibia
2. Congo-Kinshasa

1. Syria
- X. Egypt
2. Libya

1. China
- X. The USA
2. Russia

1. 50,000
- X. 70,000
2. 90,000

1. IKEA
- X. AGA
2. Securitas

1. A politician
- X. A photographer
2. A journalist

1. *Lord of the Flies*
- X. *The Lord of the Rings*
2. *Lords of Dogtown*

1. The Netherlands
- X. Brazil
2. Germany

1. Kim Collins
- X. Yohan Blake
2. Walter Dix

1. 21
- X. *Back to Black*
2. *Rockferry*

1. Strömstad
- X. Fjällbacka
2. Marstrand

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THE NEWS QUIZ

BASIC ENGLISH

2011 - week 35

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1 By the end of this year there will be more than 7 billion people alive on earth, and 3.5 billion will live in just seven countries. Six are: China, India, the USA, Indonesia, Brazil and Pakistan. Which country in West Africa is missing from this list?

2 Because of the civil war that is going on in Libya, it has become much more difficult for Libyans to produce the most important thing that the country exports. Production of this thing (this export commodity) is now only about one-sixteenth of what it was before the war. What is this most important commodity that Libya sells abroad?

3 Forbes magazine has published a list of who they think are the world's most powerful women. In third place is the President of Brazil Dilma Rousseff, and in second place is the US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. At the top of the list is Angela Merkel. What is her job?

4 Ten states from North Carolina in the South to Maine in the North declared a state of emergency and 65 million people were told to seek shelter as hurricane Irene swept across the USA. Which part of the USA was affected by the hurricane?

5 Saab's continuing economic crisis means that no cars are being made in the company's factories. The company's Chairman is travelling around the world trying to find people with money to support the company. He's been in the USA, China and in several other countries. Who is Saab's Chairman?

6 On 10th July this year the "litter law" came into force in Sweden. Now, if you drop litter or trash (but not chewing gum or cigarette butts) in public places, then you can be fined. How much can you be fined?

7 During the summer, Lars Ohly said he will give up his post as party leader in January 2012. He has been leader of his party since 2004. In the 2010 election Lars Ohly's party, together with the Christian Democrats, got the smallest number of votes of any of the parliamentary parties. Which is the party that Lars Ohly leads?

8 Everyone who is interested in the Swedish Royal Family was delighted at the recent news. Crown Princess Victoria and her Prince Daniel are expecting a baby. When is this new member expected to join the Royal Family?

9 This year's Swedish football champions didn't manage to get a place in the Champions League. They lost in the qualifier against Dinamo Zagreb. A strong effort at home was still not enough to reverse the 4-1 loss of their first meeting in Zagreb. Which team are Swedish football champions this year?

10 Lady Gaga will make an appearance in this American satirical animated TV series. The programme in which she will take part will be called "Lisa Goes Gaga". What is the name of this series that is immensely popular in many parts of the world?

1. Ethiopia
- X. Nigeria
2. Tanzania

1. Coffee
- X. Oil
2. Tobacco

1. Managing director of Coca-Cola
- X. Chancellor of Germany
2. Vice President of the USA

1. The Pacific coast
- X. The centre of the USA
2. The Atlantic coast

1. Stephen Odell
- X. Jan Åke Jonsson
2. Victor Muller

1. 400 Skr
- X. 800 Skr
2. 1200 Skr

1. The Left Party (V)
- X. The Green Party (Mp)
2. The Moderates (M)

1. In December 2011
- X. In March 2012
2. In June 2012

1. Helsingborg
- X. IFK Göteborg
2. Malmö FF

1. *Family Guy*
- X. *South Park*
2. *The Simpsons*

THE NEWS QUIZ

Ett kopieringsunderlag som fritt får användas på prenumererande skola. Skickas ut varje onsdag (oftast redan tisdag) 18 gånger per termin. Alla prenumeranter får det till **två** mailadresser. Det är inte möjligt att få materialet med post eller fax.

The News Quiz - Advanced

är tolv 1X2-frågor om sådant som varit aktuellt senaste veckan. Frågorna bygger på vårt material "Veckans Nutidsfrågor" och de lite svårare B- och C-frågorna som i första hand riktar sig till äldre elever på grundskolan, gymnasie och vuxenutbildning. Till de 12 frågorna finns även kommentarmaterial (även det på engelska) samt länktips. I först hand är kommentarerna till för att ge läraren intressant bakgrundsinformation.

The News Quiz - Basic

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Om ni vill pröva våra material finns på vår hemsida www.nutid.nu exempel som ej är skyddade med lösenord.

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THE NEWS QUIZ

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