

1980's music trivia questions and answers

1980's music trivia questions and answers offer a fascinating glimpse into one of the most vibrant and diverse decades in music history. The 1980s were marked by the rise of new wave, synth-pop, glam metal, and the early days of hip-hop, making the era rich with iconic artists, groundbreaking albums, and unforgettable hits. This article explores a wide range of trivia questions and answers that test knowledge about the decade's biggest stars, influential albums, and memorable moments in music. From legendary bands like Queen and U2 to solo superstars like Michael Jackson and Madonna, the 1980s shaped the soundscape of modern music in profound ways. Whether for casual fans or serious music buffs, these trivia questions provide an engaging way to revisit the decade's musical milestones. The following sections cover general trivia, artist-specific questions, genre highlights, and challenging queries to deepen understanding of 1980's music culture.

- General 1980's Music Trivia Questions and Answers
- Iconic Artists and Bands of the 1980s
- Popular Music Genres and Their Influence
- Challenging 1980's Music Trivia for Experts

General 1980's Music Trivia Questions and Answers

This section presents a broad selection of general 1980's music trivia questions and answers that cover popular songs, albums, and notable music events from the decade. These questions highlight the decade's most memorable and influential musical moments, providing a solid foundation for anyone interested in 1980s music history.

Popular Songs and Hits

The 1980s produced numerous chart-topping hits that continue to resonate today. Questions in this category focus on identifying these songs and their artists, as well as interesting facts about their release and success.

1. Q: Which Michael Jackson album, released in 1982, became the best-selling album of all time?

A: Thriller

2. Q: Who sang the 1984 hit “Like a Virgin”?

A: Madonna

3. Q: What 1983 song by The Police features the lyrics “Every breath you take, every move you make”?

A: “Every Breath You Take”

4. Q: Which band is known for the 1987 anthem “Livin’ on a Prayer”?

A: Bon Jovi

Music Events and Milestones

Important music events and milestones from the 1980s offer rich trivia material. This includes major concerts, award ceremonies, and technological advancements in music production and distribution.

- Q: What was the name of the first globally televised music event in 1985 that raised funds for African famine relief?

A: Live Aid

- Q: Which 1980s music video helped launch the popularity of MTV?

A: “Video Killed the Radio Star” by The Buggles

- Q: What groundbreaking music format, introduced in the 1980s, revolutionized how music was consumed?

A: The Compact Disc (CD)

Iconic Artists and Bands of the 1980s

The 1980s gave rise to numerous iconic artists and bands whose influence remains strong today. This section delves into trivia questions and answers related to these legendary figures, exploring their careers, hits, and unique contributions to the decade’s sound.

Michael Jackson and the King of Pop

Known as the King of Pop, Michael Jackson’s impact on 1980s music is unmatched. Trivia questions here highlight his albums, music videos, and cultural significance during the decade.

- Q: In which year was Michael Jackson’s album “Bad” released?

A: 1987

- Q: Which 1983 music video featured Michael Jackson's iconic moonwalk?
A: "Billie Jean"
- Q: How many Grammy Awards did Michael Jackson win in 1984?
A: Eight

Madonna and the Queen of Pop

Madonna emerged as one of the most influential female pop artists of the 1980s. Trivia questions focus on her breakthrough hits, albums, and impact on fashion and music videos.

1. Q: Which 1985 Madonna song became an anthem for empowerment and independence?
A: "Material Girl"
2. Q: What was Madonna's debut studio album called?
A: Madonna (1983)
3. Q: Which movie starring Madonna was released in 1985?
A: Desperately Seeking Susan

Other Notable Bands and Artists

The 1980s music scene was diverse, with influential bands and artists spanning multiple genres. This subtopic covers trivia about groups such as U2, Queen, Duran Duran, and others who defined the decade.

- Q: Which Irish rock band released the album "The Joshua Tree" in 1987?
A: U2
- Q: Name the British band famous for hits like "Hungry Like the Wolf" and "Rio."
A: Duran Duran
- Q: Which Queen song featured in the 1980 movie "Flash Gordon" became a cult classic?
A: "Flash's Theme"

Popular Music Genres and Their Influence

The 1980s was a decade of musical experimentation and genre blending. This

section explores trivia questions and answers related to the various music styles that emerged or evolved during the era, including synth-pop, glam metal, hip-hop, and more.

Synth-Pop and New Wave

Synth-pop and new wave dominated much of the early 1980s music scene, characterized by electronic sounds and innovative production techniques. Trivia questions focus on key artists and songs within these genres.

1. Q: Which band had a hit in 1981 with "Don't You Want Me"?
A: The Human League
2. Q: What synthesizer-heavy band released the album "Dare" in 1981?
A: The Human League
3. Q: Name the lead singer of the band Depeche Mode.
A: Dave Gahan

Glam Metal and Rock

The glam metal genre combined flashy aesthetics with hard rock sounds during the mid to late 1980s. Trivia questions highlight the most popular bands and their signature songs.

- Q: Which band is known for the anthem "Sweet Child o' Mine"?
A: Guns N' Roses
- Q: Name the lead vocalist of Mötley Crüe.
A: Vince Neil
- Q: What 1987 album by Bon Jovi features "You Give Love a Bad Name"?
A: Slippery When Wet

Hip-Hop and Rap Emergence

The 1980s saw the rise of hip-hop and rap as major musical forces. Trivia questions in this category focus on pioneering artists, landmark tracks, and the cultural impact of these genres.

1. Q: Which group released the influential 1984 album "Run-D.M.C."?
A: Run-D.M.C.
2. Q: What 1982 single by Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five became a

socially conscious anthem?

A: "The Message"

3. Q: Who is known as the "Godfather of Hip-Hop"?

A: DJ Kool Herc

Challenging 1980's Music Trivia for Experts

This section presents more difficult 1980's music trivia questions and answers aimed at experts and enthusiasts who want to test their deep knowledge of the decade's musical nuances, lesser-known facts, and rare details.

Obscure Facts About Albums and Songs

These questions focus on lesser-known details about popular albums and songs that require advanced familiarity with 1980s music history.

- Q: Which 1986 album by Peter Gabriel was accompanied by a groundbreaking interactive video game?

A: So

- Q: What was the original title of the song "Eye of the Tiger" by Survivor?

A: "Survivor" (same as band name; no original different title)

- Q: Which 1980s hit was inspired by a dream of its songwriter about a dystopian future?

A: "Sweet Dreams (Are Made of This)" by Eurythmics

Rare Band Lineup and Collaboration Questions

Trivia relating to unusual band member changes, collaborations, and guest appearances during the 1980s present a real challenge for aficionados.

1. Q: Which iconic guitarist joined David Bowie's band for the "Let's Dance" album?

A: Stevie Ray Vaughan

2. Q: Name the lead singer who replaced Peter Gabriel in Genesis during the 1980s.

A: Phil Collins (who was already lead singer since 1975 but became more prominent in the 80s)

3. Q: Which 1980s collaboration featured Queen and David Bowie?
A: "Under Pressure"

Trivia on Music Videos and Awards

The emergence of MTV and music videos brought new dimensions to 1980s music culture, spawning trivia about iconic videos and award ceremonies.

- Q: Which artist won the first-ever MTV Video Music Award for Best Male Video in 1984?
A: David Bowie for "Let's Dance"
- Q: What 1985 music video featured a star-studded cast including Cyndi Lauper and Huey Lewis?
A: "We Are the World"
- Q: Which 1980s music video was directed by John Landis and featured a horror-comedy style?
A: Michael Jackson's "Thriller"

Frequently Asked Questions

Which 1980s artist is known as the 'King of Pop'?

Michael Jackson

What was the name of the debut album by Madonna released in the 1980s?

Madonna

Which 1980s band released the hit song 'Eye of the Tiger'?

Survivor

What iconic 1980s music video featured a zombie dance?

Thriller by Michael Jackson

Which 1980s British band is famous for the song 'Every Breath You Take'?

The Police

Who sang the 1984 hit 'Like a Virgin'?

Madonna

Which 1980s rock band had a famous song titled 'Livin' on a Prayer'?

Bon Jovi

Additional Resources

1. Totally 80s: The Ultimate Music Trivia Guide

This book dives deep into the vibrant world of 1980s music, offering fans a fun and challenging collection of trivia questions and answers. Covering genres from pop to rock and new wave, it highlights iconic artists, hit songs, and memorable music moments. Perfect for party games or solo quizzes, it brings the decade's soundtrack to life with fascinating facts and insights.

2. Back to the 80s: A Decade of Music Trivia

Explore the unforgettable sounds of the 1980s with this comprehensive trivia book focused on music from the era. Featuring questions about chart-topping hits, legendary bands, and one-hit wonders, it's designed for both casual listeners and hardcore fans. Each answer section provides additional context, making it an educational and entertaining read.

3. Electric 80s: Music Trivia and Fun Facts

Electric 80s offers a lively collection of trivia questions that celebrate the eclectic and electric music scene of the 1980s. From synth-pop pioneers to glam metal icons, the book covers a wide range of artists and trends. With detailed answers and fun facts, it's a great companion for anyone looking to test or expand their 80s music knowledge.

4. Flashback 1980s: Music Trivia You Should Know

Flashback 1980s is packed with engaging trivia questions about the decade's most influential songs, albums, and artists. The book emphasizes the cultural impact of music during the 80s, including MTV's rise and the birth of music videos. Readers will enjoy revisiting classic tunes and discovering lesser-known facts about their favorite stars.

5. Hit Rewind: 1980s Music Trivia and Answers

Hit Rewind is a must-have for 80s music enthusiasts seeking a challenging yet enjoyable trivia experience. It encompasses a variety of questions, from easy

to difficult, covering everything from Michael Jackson's moonwalk to the emergence of hip-hop. Detailed answers provide context and background, making it a great resource for music lovers and trivia buffs alike.

6. *Neon Nights: The 80s Music Trivia Challenge*

Neon Nights captures the colorful and dynamic spirit of the 1980s music scene through a series of trivia challenges. The book highlights influential bands, breakthrough albums, and unforgettable music festivals of the decade. Its engaging format encourages readers to test their knowledge and learn intriguing tidbits about 80s pop culture.

7. *Radical 80s: Music Trivia for True Fans*

Radical 80s is crafted for die-hard fans who want to dive deep into the trivia of the decade's biggest music moments. The book includes questions on everything from underground hits to mainstream success stories, shining a light on the diversity of 80s music. Each answer segment offers detailed explanations, enhancing appreciation for the era's musical innovation.

8. *Mixtape Memories: 1980s Music Trivia Collection*

Mixtape Memories compiles a nostalgic set of trivia questions that transport readers back to the golden age of cassette tapes and radio hits. Covering a broad spectrum of artists and genres, it reflects the era's unique blend of styles and sounds. This collection is perfect for reminiscing or discovering new facts about 80s music legends.

9. *Pop and Rock 80s: Trivia Questions and Answers*

Pop and Rock 80s focuses on the two dominant genres that defined much of the decade's music landscape. The book challenges readers with questions about chart successes, band lineups, and iconic music videos. With well-researched answers, it provides a rich overview of the decade's musical achievements and cultural milestones.

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