

A Gilbert and Sullivan Quiz

1) In the 1999 biopic *Topsy-Turvy*, scenes from which Gilbert and Sullivan operetta are shown in live performance?

- a) *H.M.S. Pinafore*
- b) *Pirates of Penzance*
- c) *The Mikado*
- d) *The Gondoliers*
- e) *Yeomen of the Guard*

2) Which character from which Gilbert and Sullivan operetta sings the line “Good morrow, good mother”?

- a) Strephon, *Iolanthe*
- b) Edwin, *Trial by Jury*
- c) Alexis Pointdextre, *The Sorcerer*
- d) Prince Hilarion, *Princess Ida*
- e) Richard Dauntless, *Ruddigore*

3) How many Gilbert and Sullivan Societies are currently operating in Canada?

- a) 5
- b) 7
- c) 9
- d) 11
- e) 13

4) Arthur Sullivan had aspirations of being a _____ composer of _____ music.

- a) Part-time, salon
- b) Serious, classical
- c) Avant-garde, contemporary
- d) Traditional, nostalgic
- e) Devoted, sacred

5) Which of the following celebrities did not appear in the 1983 film version of *Pirates of Penzance*?

- a) Linda Ronstadt
- b) Rex Smith
- c) Julie Andrews
- d) Kevin Kline
- e) Angela Lansbury

6) Which of the following is not true about the Savoy theatre, in which Gilbert and Sullivan's operettas were premièred?

- a) It was the first public building in the world to be entirely lit by electricity.
- b) It also hosted the premières of Oscar Wilde's *Salome* and Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit*.
- c) It stands on the site of a former hospital for the poor, erected by King Henry VII.
- d) It was completely gutted after a fire in 1990.
- e) It seats 1400 audience members.

7) Which of the following does not belong in this group of characters? Queen of the Fairies, Duchess of Plaza-Toro, Dame Hannah, Lady Blanche...

- a) Katisha
- b) Ruth
- c) Lady Jane
- d) Patience
- e) Little Buttercup

8) Arthur Sullivan wrote the tune for which one of these patriotic English hymns?

- a) Jerusalem
- b) Onward Christian Soldiers
- c) I vow to thee my Country
- d) I feel the winds of God today
- e) Land of Hope and Glory

9) Before his collaborations with Arthur Sullivan, W.S. Gilbert wrote:

- a) Burlesques
- b) Pantomimes
- c) Farces
- d) Music Hall dialogue
- e) Melodramas

10) The famous lawsuit over theatre expenses that ended the collaboration of Gilbert and Sullivan was called:

- a) The Light bulb Feud
- b) The Set Spat
- c) The Table Squabble
- d) The Pencil Row
- e) The Carpet Quarrel

ANSWERS: 1) c 2) a 3) e 4) b 5) c 6) e 7) d 8) b 9) a 10) e

Congratulations! According to the number of questions you got right, you are a Gilbert and Sullivan:

1-2: Philistine

3-4: Fan

5-6: Devotee

7-8: Expert

9-10: Scholar