

# BELGIUM

An hour's worth of questions about everyone's favorite small, muddy, frequently invaded Western European country!

## Fictional Belgians



Hercule Poirot

1. What is M. Poirot's favorite beverage?
2. Like Sherlock Holmes, Hercule Poirot has a less famous but similarly intelligent brother. Name him.
3. In one of his best-known cases, Poirot's new next-door neighbor woefully underestimates him by assuming that he is not a detective, but rather a retired member of what profession?
4. What was the first notable case in Poirot's career?
5. What portion of his anatomy, in Poirot's own words, is the key to his success?
6. In the space below, please draw a room that M. Poirot would be happy to relax in. (You will not be graded on artistic ability.)



## Tintin

1. What two word phrase is commonly used to describe the drawing style of Hergé and the slew of artists he influenced?
2. Tintin is a roving reporter. What's the biggest story we see him write during the entire series?
3. According to Thomson and Thompson, how long have they worn mustaches?
4. What two recurring characters in the storylines have drinking problems?
5. Describe the submarine piloted by Tintin.
6. Tintin faces many bad guys such as General Tapioca, Mull Pasha, and the Fakir. Who is the only real-life person to be a Tintin villain?



## The Smurfs

1. What were the Smurfs originally called?
2. How does a blue Smurf become a purple Smurf, and what noise do purple Smurfs make?
3. How tall are Smurfs?
4. What does Gargamel describe as “a ruthless curse that will make [the Smurfs] beg for mercy”?

## Real Belgians



1. Who is this actor?
2. What is his well-known nickname?
3. What 1994 hit made him a household name?
4. By his own account, how did he learn to speak English?



1. Who is this performer?
2. What well-known off-Broadway show was based on his work?
3. What Broadway musical was he responsible for bringing to France?
4. What song about death (which frequently appears on lists of the “worst songs ever”) is actually a translated and somewhat mangled version of one of his songs?



1. Who is this musician?
2. What was her most famous song, and what was it about?
3. What notable song did she record four years later, and what was it about?
4. How did she die?



1. Who is this musician?
2. What happened to him when he was 18 years old, and why did it have a significant effect on his musical style?
3. In what famous movie trilogy is his music prominently featured?
4. In what recent animated film does he make a cameo appearance?

## Belgian Painting

Identify the title and artist of each of the following works.





## Belgian Statuary

1. The Mannekin-Pis, the most famous statue in Brussels, depicts a small boy engaged in what activity?
2. And what does the less famous Jannekin-Pis depict?
3. Okay, so statues in Brussels are kind of strange. But what is the most famous statue in Antwerp doing?
4. Okay, so statues in major Belgian cities are kind of strange. But what is the most famous statue in the town of Leuven doing?

## Belgium In History

1. What affectionate (if slightly patronizing) phrase was frequently used to describe Belgium during WWII?
2. Many African nations were taken over by Europeans in the colonialist era, but what was unusual about Belgium's relationship with its major African colony in the 1800s?
3. What flower should one wear in one's lapel on Armistice Day, and to what poem is this flower a reference?
4. According to the Duke of Wellington, where was the battle of Waterloo won? How about according to Babe Ruth?

## Belgian Miscellany

1. What Belgian was the first person to mass-produce and sell globes?
2. What streaker is the namesake of a brand of Belgian chocolates?
3. What notable invention was Belgian Leo Baekeland responsible for?
4. What Belgian wrote seventy-five novels about a French police detective?
5. What Belgian is a highly successful fashion designer and ex-CEO of a Fortune 500 company?
6. What misnamed Belgian invention and staple of local cuisine was renamed as a political statement a few years ago?
7. What notable scientific theory was proposed by Belgian Georges Lemaitre?
8. The name of the oldest city in Belgium is oddly evocative to us here at Williams Trivia. What is it?
9. What movie villain describes himself as the son of a Belgian boulangerie owner and a French prostitute?
10. One recurring "Doonesbury" character is represented by a well-known Belgian food product. Who's the character, and what's the food?
11. The real-life equivalent of the above "Doonesbury" food item gained some extra publicity in 1992 thanks to his use of the eponymous creation of a 19<sup>th</sup>-century Belgian designer and inventor. Name this Belgian and his invention.

12. The Belgian branch of UNICEF recently ran a controversial television advertisement showcasing the horrors of warfare. In the commercial, what town is shown being destroyed by bombs?

13. According to Monty Python, what's the best derogatory term for the Belgians?

Extra credit: Correctly answer this question: "Why would I go to Belgium?"