

Speak the Culture: France

April 2008

Notes

Quiz Questions

Q. The last living French veteran of the First World War, Lazare Ponticelli, passed away on March 12. How old was he?

A.

Q. Which author (living or dead) has sold more books in France than any other?

A.

Q. When did France begin her Fifth (and current) Republic?

A.

Q. Who painted *Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe* in 1863, shocking the art establishment with its challenging nude figure?

A.

Q. Which French philosopher said: "If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent him"?

A.

Q. Which French rugby player scored a first half hat-trick of tries in the recent 2008 Six Nations win over Ireland?

A.

Q: Who directed *À bout de souffle*, one of the formative films of French New Wave cinema?

A:

Q. Why did Coco Chanel spend the decade after the Second World War in self-imposed exile in Switzerland?

A.

Q. Which French composer of the early 20th century wrote such works as *Things Viewed from the Right and the Left (Without Spectacles)* and *Dried up Embryos*?

A.

Q. What did the mayor of Sarpourenx, near Pau, ban residents from doing recently?

A.

Quiz questions written
by Andrew Whittaker
of speaktheculture.net

In association with
thisfrenchlife.com

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Quiz Questions and Answers

Q. The last living French veteran of the First World War, Lazare Ponticelli, passed away on March 12. How old was he?

A. 110

Q. Which author (living or dead) has sold more books in France than any other?

A. Agatha Christie. Around 40 million Christie novels have been sold in France, nearly twice the amount of her nearest rival, Emile Zola.

Q. When did France begin her Fifth (and current) Republic?

A. In 1958, instigated by Charles de Gaulle.

Q. Who painted *Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe* in 1863, shocking the art establishment with its challenging nude figure?

A. Edouard Manet.

Q. Which French philosopher said: "If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent him"?

A. Voltaire.

Q. Which French rugby player scored a first half hat-trick of tries in the recent 2008 Six Nations win over Ireland?

A. Vincent Clerc.

Q: Who directed *À bout de souffle*, one of the formative films of French New Wave cinema?

A: Jean-Luc Goddard.

Q. Why did Coco Chanel spend the decade after the Second World War in self-imposed exile in Switzerland?

A. An affair with a Nazi officer made her unwelcome in France.

Q. Which French composer of the early 20th century wrote such works as *Things Viewed from the Right and the Left* (Without Spectacles) and *Dried up Embryos*?

A. Eric Satie.

Q. What did the mayor of Sarpourenx, near Pau, ban residents from doing recently?

A. They're not allowed to die in his territory unless they already own a plot in the overcrowded village cemetery.

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