HOST SHEET — ANSWERS INSIDE Do not hand this sheet to the players.

Cricket Trivia Questions

3 rounds · 31 question · about 45 min

How to run it

1. Print one host sheet for yourself and one team answer sheet per team. The host sheet has the key on it — keep it face down.
2. Three to five people per team, mixed if you can: a casual fan and a superfan remember different things.
3. Read each question twice, then give about thirty seconds.
4. Teams swap sheets at the end of each round and mark each other while you read the answers. One point for each correct answer.
5. The line under each answer on the host sheet is there to be read out once the answer is in.

ROUND 1 — Easy: The Basics

1. How many players does each team have on the field in a standard cricket match?

- A 9
- **B 11**
- C 10
- D 12

Answer: B — 11

Worth adding: A side has eleven players; a substitute fielder, the '12th man', may field but may not bowl or bat in a normal match.

2. How many runs are scored when the batter hits the ball over the boundary without it touching the ground?

- A Five
- B Eight
- **C Six**
- D Four

Answer: C — Six

Worth adding: Clearing the rope on the full is worth six because the batter has sent the ball beyond the field of play without any help from a bounce, which would make it a four.

3. Which London ground, headquarters of the MCC, is known as the 'Home of Cricket'?

- **A Lord's**
- B Old Trafford
- C Trent Bridge
- D The Oval

Answer: A — Lord's

Worth adding: Lord's is the home of Marylebone Cricket Club, the body that has owned and maintained the Laws of Cricket since 1788, which earned the ground its nickname.

4. How many legal deliveries make up one over in modern international cricket?

- A Five
- B Four
- C Eight
- **D Six**

Answer: D — Six

Worth adding: Six balls is the universal standard today, although Australia used eight-ball overs in domestic and Test cricket until the end of the 1970s.

5. How many overs does each side bowl in a Twenty20 international?

- A 40
- B 50
- **C 20**
- D 10

Answer: C — 20

Worth adding: The format takes its name directly from its length — twenty overs per innings — which is designed to finish a match in roughly three hours.

6. Which trophy is contested in the historic Test series between England and Australia?

- A The Wisden Trophy
- B The Basil D'Oliveira Trophy
- C The Frank Worrell Trophy
- **D The Ashes**

Answer: D — The Ashes

Worth adding: The Ashes is the prize in England–Australia Tests, while the other trophies listed are genuine but belong to series involving the West Indies and South Africa.

7. The famous Eden Gardens cricket ground is located in which city?

- **A Kolkata**
- B Delhi
- C Mumbai
- D Chennai

Answer: A — Kolkata

Worth adding: Eden Gardens in Kolkata, opened in 1864, is one of the oldest and largest cricket stadiums in the world and is famous for its vast, noisy crowds.

8. In cricket slang, a batter dismissed without scoring a single run is said to be out for a what?

- A Swan
- **B Duck**
- C Goose
- D Pigeon

Answer: B — Duck

Worth adding: The term comes from the duck's egg, whose shape resembles the zero that appears next to the batter's name on the scorecard.

9. How many stumps are used to make up a single wicket?

- A Two
- B Five
- C Four
- **D Three**

Answer: D — Three

Worth adding: Three stumps are driven into the ground with two bails resting on top, and a bail must be dislodged for the wicket to be fairly put down.

10. What does the abbreviation 'IPL' stand for?

- A India Pro League
- B International Players League
- **C Indian Premier League**
- D Indian Players League

Answer: C — Indian Premier League

Worth adding: The Indian Premier League is the BCCI's franchise-based Twenty20 competition, launched in 2008 and played largely in a city-franchise format.

11. Which team won the first men's Cricket World Cup in 1975?

- A Australia
- **B West Indies**
- C India
- D England

Answer: B — West Indies

Worth adding: The West Indies beat Australia in the 1975 final at Lord's, with captain Clive Lloyd scoring a match-winning century.

12. In cricket, what is a 'hat-trick'?

- **A Three wickets in three consecutive deliveries by the same bowler**
- B Three catches by one fielder in an innings
- C Three sixes in one over
- D Three consecutive maiden overs

Answer: A — Three wickets in three consecutive deliveries by the same bowler

Worth adding: The term dates from the 19th century, when a bowler who dismissed three batters with successive balls was traditionally presented with a hat by his club.

ROUND 2 — Medium: History, Formats & Tournaments

13. The first-ever Test match, played in Melbourne in 1877, was between which two teams?

- A Australia and New Zealand
- B England and South Africa
- **C Australia and England**
- D England and the West Indies

Answer: C — Australia and England

Worth adding: Australia beat England by 45 runs at the MCG in March 1877, and Australia's Charles Bannerman scored the first Test century in that match.

14. The Ashes got its name from a mock obituary published in 1882 after Australia beat England at which ground?

- **A** **The Oval**
- B Headingley
- C Trent Bridge
- D Lord's

Answer: A — The Oval

Worth adding: After that defeat at The Oval, The Sporting Times printed an obituary for English cricket saying the body would be cremated and 'the ashes taken to Australia'.

15. How many overs per side are bowled in a standard One Day International?

- A 60
- B 40
- C 45
- **D** **50**

Answer: D — 50

Worth adding: ODIs were originally 60 overs a side in England, but 50 overs became the global standard from the 1980s onwards.

16. What was Sir Donald Bradman's career Test batting average, famously the highest of all time?

- A 94.50
- **B** **99.94**
- C 89.78
- D 101.20

Answer: B — 99.94

Worth adding: Bradman needed just four runs in his final Test innings to average 100, but was bowled for a duck, leaving him on 99.94.

17. Which country won the 1983 men's Cricket World Cup final at Lord's?

- A England
- B Pakistan
- C West Indies
- **D** **India**

Answer: D — India

Worth adding: Kapil Dev's India defended a modest 183 to beat the twice-champion West Indies, a result widely credited with transforming cricket's popularity in India.

18. Who captained Pakistan to victory in the 1992 Cricket World Cup final?

- A Inzamam-ul-Haq
- B Wasim Akram
- **C** **Imran Khan**
- D Javed Miandad

Answer: C — Imran Khan

Worth adding: Imran Khan led the 'cornered tigers' to a win over England at the MCG and top-scored with 72 in the final, in what was his last international match.

19. Which team won the inaugural ICC men's World Twenty20 in 2007?

- **A** **India**
- B South Africa
- C Pakistan
- D Australia

Answer: A — India

Worth adding: India beat Pakistan by five runs in the Johannesburg final, and the Indian Premier League launched the following year.

20. The cricket ground known as 'The Gabba' is in which Australian city?

- A Adelaide
- **B** **Brisbane**
- C Sydney
- D Perth

Answer: B — Brisbane

Worth adding: The nickname is a shortening of Woolloongabba, the Brisbane suburb in which the stadium stands.

21. Who captained the West Indies to their World Cup triumphs in both 1975 and 1979?

- **A** **Clive Lloyd**
- B Viv Richards
- C Gordon Greenidge
- D Garry Sobers

Answer: A — Clive Lloyd

Worth adding: Clive Lloyd led the side in both finals at Lord's, scoring 102 in 1975, while Viv Richards made the century in the 1979 final under Lloyd's captaincy.

22. What is the Duckworth–Lewis(–Stern) method used for?

- A Ranking Test teams
- B Deciding the toss in neutral venues
- **C** **Setting revised targets in rain-affected limited-overs matches**
- D Measuring the legality of a bowling action

Answer: C — Setting revised targets in rain-affected limited-overs matches

Worth adding: The method uses the resources remaining to a batting side — overs left and wickets in hand — to recalculate a fair target when play is shortened.

23. Which trophy is awarded to the winner of a Test series between India and Australia?

- A The Pataudi Trophy
- B The Chappell–Hadlee Trophy
- C The Warne–Muralitharan Trophy
- **D** **The Border–Gavaskar Trophy**

Answer: D — The Border–Gavaskar Trophy

Worth adding: Introduced in 1996, it honours Allan Border and Sunil Gavaskar, two of the leading run-scorers of their era for Australia and India respectively.

24. Which franchise won the first Indian Premier League season in 2008?

A Chennai Super Kings

B Rajasthan Royals

C Mumbai Indians

D Kolkata Knight Riders

Answer: B — Rajasthan Royals

Worth adding: Rajasthan Royals, captained by Shane Warne, beat Chennai Super Kings off the final ball of the 2008 final despite being among the lowest-budget squads.

25. In which city is cricket's traditional 'Boxing Day Test' played each year?

A Melbourne

B Sydney

C Hobart

D Adelaide

Answer: A — Melbourne

Worth adding: The Melbourne Cricket Ground has hosted a Test starting on 26 December almost every year since 1980, often in front of the biggest crowds of the Australian summer.

ROUND 3 — Hard: For the Experts

26. Under the Laws of Cricket, what is the maximum permitted width of a cricket bat?

A 3.5 inches (8.9 cm)

B 6 inches (15.2 cm)

C 4.25 inches (10.8 cm)

D 5 inches (12.7 cm)

Answer: C — 4.25 inches (10.8 cm)

Worth adding: The 4.25-inch limit dates back to 1771, when a player reputedly used a bat as wide as the stumps, prompting the authorities to fix a maximum width.

27. In a Test match scheduled for five days, by how many runs must a side lead on first innings to be able to enforce the follow-on?

A 250

B 150

C 100

D 200

Answer: D — 200

Worth adding: The Laws scale the margin to match length — 200 runs for games of five days or more, dropping to 150, 100 and 75 for shorter matches.

28. In which year was the first edition of Wisden Cricketers' Almanack published?

A 1877

B 1864

C 1890

D 1838

Answer: B — 1864

Worth adding: John Wisden launched the almanack in 1864, the same year overarm bowling was legalised, and it has appeared annually ever since.

29. Who, in 1968, became the first batter to hit six sixes in a single over in first-class cricket?

A Ted Dexter

B Rohan Kanhai

C Colin Milburn

D Garry Sobers

Answer: D — Garry Sobers

Worth adding: Garry Sobers, batting for Nottinghamshire against Glamorgan at Swansea, struck all six balls of a Malcolm Nash over for six.

30. Which bowler became the first to reach 500 wickets in Test cricket, achieving the milestone in 2001?

A Courtney Walsh

B Curtly Ambrose

C Kapil Dev

D Shane Warne

Answer: A — Courtney Walsh

Worth adding: West Indian fast bowler Courtney Walsh passed 500 Test wickets in 2001 and finished his career as the first man to reach that landmark.

31. Afghanistan played their inaugural Test match in 2018 against which opponent?

A Ireland

B Bangladesh

C India

D Zimbabwe

Answer: C — India

Worth adding: Afghanistan's first Test was played in Bengaluru in June 2018 against India, who won inside two days.