Formula 1 Trivia Questions

3 rounds · 30 questions · 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

1. What does the chequered flag signal in Formula 1?

- A The start of the formation lap
- **B The end of the race or session**
- C A one-lap warning before the finish
- D A track invasion by spectators

Answer: B — The end of the race or session

Worth adding: The black-and-white chequered flag is waved at the finish line to mark that the race or practice session is officially over, a tradition borrowed from early 20th-century motor racing.

2. What must a driver do when a single waved yellow flag is shown?

- A Return to the pit lane at once
- B Stop the car immediately on the racing line
- **C Slow down, be prepared to change direction and not overtake**
- D Let the car behind pass

Answer: C — Slow down, be prepared to change direction and not overtake

Worth adding: Yellow means danger ahead, so drivers must reduce speed and may not overtake, because marshals or a stranded car could be near the track.

3. What does a black flag shown with a car number mean?

- A The driver must serve a drive-through penalty
- B The driver's car has a mechanical problem
- C The driver has set the fastest lap
- **D The driver is disqualified and must return to the pits**

Answer: D — The driver is disqualified and must return to the pits

Worth adding: The black flag is the harshest flag in racing: it tells that specific driver they have been excluded from the race and must come into the pits immediately.

4. In which country is the Spa-Francorchamps circuit located?

- **A** **Belgium**
- B France
- C The Netherlands
- D Germany

Answer: A — Belgium

Worth adding: Spa-Francorchamps lies in the Ardennes forest of Belgium and hosts the Belgian Grand Prix, which is why its weather is famously unpredictable across the long 7 km lap.

5. Which circuit is traditionally nicknamed 'The Temple of Speed'?

- A Hockenheimring
- B Interlagos
- **C** **Monza**
- D Silverstone

Answer: C — Monza

Worth adding: Monza earned the nickname because its long straights and few slow corners produce some of the highest average speeds of any circuit on the calendar.

6. The famous uphill corner combination Eau Rouge–Raidillon belongs to which circuit?

- **A** **Spa-Francorchamps**
- B Suzuka
- C Circuit de Monaco
- D Red Bull Ring

Answer: A — Spa-Francorchamps

Worth adding: Eau Rouge–Raidillon is the steep left-right-left climb at Spa, named after the small Eau Rouge stream that runs beneath the track.

7. In which year was the first Formula One World Championship season held?

- A 1961
- B 1946
- C 1955
- **D** **1950**

Answer: D — 1950

Worth adding: The FIA launched the Drivers' World Championship in 1950 with a seven-race calendar, which is why modern records are usually counted from that season.

8. Which constructor is the only one to have competed in every Formula One World Championship season since 1950?

- A Williams
- **B** **Ferrari**
- C Mercedes
- D McLaren

Answer: B — Ferrari

Worth adding: Ferrari has entered every season since the championship began in 1950; McLaren (1966) and Williams (1977) arrived later, and Mercedes raced as a works team only in 1954–55 and again from 2010.

9. In which season did the Halo cockpit protection device become mandatory in Formula 1?

A 2014

B 2018

C 2021

D 2016

Answer: B — 2018

Worth adding: The titanium Halo was made compulsory for all cars in 2018 after years of testing, and it is strong enough to support the weight of a London double-decker bus.

10. What does the abbreviation DRS stand for?

A Drag Reduction System

B Downforce Regulation Setting

C Direct Response Steering

D Dynamic Rear Suspension

Answer: A — Drag Reduction System

Worth adding: DRS was a driver-operated flap in the rear wing, introduced in 2011 to cut drag and make overtaking easier; the 2026 rules replaced it with active aerodynamics.

ROUND 2

11. Under the tyre colour coding used since 2019, which colour marks the softest dry compound available at a race weekend?

A Yellow

B White

C Green

D Red

Answer: D — Red

Worth adding: Red sidewalls indicate the soft compound, while yellow marks the medium and white the hard, giving fans an instant visual guide to strategy.

12. How is pole position awarded in a standard Formula 1 weekend?

A To the leader of the championship

B To the winner of the previous race

C To the fastest driver in qualifying

D By a random draw before the race

Answer: C — To the fastest driver in qualifying

Worth adding: Pole position, the first place on the starting grid, goes to the driver who sets the quickest lap time in qualifying, traditionally the best spot for the start.

13. What should a driver do when shown a blue flag during the race?

A Pit immediately for a safety check

B Slow down because of oil on the track

C Allow a faster car that is about to lap them to pass

D Prepare for a race restart

Answer: C — Allow a faster car that is about to lap them to pass

Worth adding: The blue flag warns a driver about to be lapped that a leading car is closing in, and they must let it by to avoid a penalty for blocking.

14. Which circuit hosted the very first race of the 1950 Formula One World Championship?

A Monaco

B Silverstone

C Reims

D Monza

Answer: B — Silverstone

Worth adding: The British Grand Prix at Silverstone on 13 May 1950 opened the championship, run on a former RAF airfield and attended by the British royal family.

15. Who became the first Formula One World Drivers' Champion in 1950?

A Giuseppe 'Nino' Farina

B Stirling Moss

C Juan Manuel Fangio

D Alberto Ascari

Answer: A — Giuseppe 'Nino' Farina

Worth adding: Italian Nino Farina took the inaugural title driving the dominant Alfa Romeo 158, narrowly beating his team-mate Juan Manuel Fangio.

16. How many World Drivers' Championships did Juan Manuel Fangio win during the 1950s?

A Three

B Four

C Seven

D Five

Answer: D — Five

Worth adding: Fangio won five titles (1951, 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957) with four different manufacturers, a record of versatility that stood for decades.

17. With which team did Jim Clark win his World Championships in 1963 and 1965?

A BRM

B Brabham

C Lotus

D Cooper

Answer: C — Lotus

Worth adding: Clark's entire grand prix career was spent with Colin Chapman's Lotus, a partnership that also delivered Lotus its first constructors' crowns.

18. Which corner of the Monaco circuit is traditionally the slowest corner in Formula 1?

- **A** **The Grand Hotel Hairpin (Loews)**
- B Casino Square
- C Tabac
- D Rascasse

Answer: A — The Grand Hotel Hairpin (Loews)

Worth adding: Cars crawl through the Grand Hotel Hairpin at around 45 km/h, so tight that teams fit special steering racks for extra lock in Monaco.

19. The high-speed corner sequence Maggotts–Becketts–Chapel is found at which circuit?

- A Zandvoort
- **B** **Silverstone**
- C Spa-Francorchamps
- D Imola

Answer: B — Silverstone

Worth adding: This flowing series of direction changes is one of Silverstone's signature features, testing a car's rapid left-right responsiveness more than almost any other section.

20. What does the HANS device, mandatory in Formula 1 since 2003, protect?

- A The driver's hands and wrists
- B The fuel cell
- C The steering column
- **D** **The driver's head and neck**

Answer: D — The driver's head and neck

Worth adding: HANS stands for Head And Neck Support; it tethers the helmet to a shoulder collar and prevents the violent head movement that causes basilar skull fractures in big impacts.

ROUND 3

21. In which Italian town is Ferrari's Formula 1 headquarters and factory located?

- A Bologna
- B Turin
- C Monza
- **D** **Maranello**

Answer: D — Maranello

Worth adding: Ferrari has been based in Maranello, near Modena, since the 1940s, and the team's own Fiorano test track sits right next to the factory.

22. Which driver famously nicknamed the Nürburgring Nordschleife 'The Green Hell'?

- A Jochen Rindt
- **B** **Jackie Stewart**
- C Graham Hill
- D Niki Lauda

Answer: B — Jackie Stewart

Worth adding: Jackie Stewart coined the phrase for the forest-lined 22 km circuit, which he won in dense fog and rain in 1968 despite considering it desperately dangerous.

23. What is the '107% rule' in Formula 1 qualifying?

- **A** **Drivers must lap within 107% of the fastest Q1 time to be allowed to start**
- B Cars may use 107% of their fuel allocation in qualifying
- C Engines may be revved to 107% of the normal limit for one lap
- D Teams may spend 107% of the previous season's budget on upgrades

Answer: A — Drivers must lap within 107% of the fastest Q1 time to be allowed to start

Worth adding: The rule exists for safety and competitiveness: a car slower than 107% of the quickest Q1 lap needs stewards' permission to race, so hopelessly slow cars don't endanger others.

24. From which year did the safety car become a permanent, fully regulated feature of Formula 1 race procedure?

- A 2000
- B 1973
- **C** **1993**
- D 1984

Answer: C — 1993

Worth adding: Although a safety car was trialled as early as 1973, it was only from 1993 that it became a standard part of the rules used at every grand prix.

25. In which year was the Formula One Constructors' Championship awarded for the first time?

- A 1962
- **B** **1958**
- C 1950
- D 1954

Answer: B — 1958

Worth adding: The teams' title was introduced in 1958, eight seasons after the drivers' championship, and was won that year by the British Vanwall team.

26. Which driver became the only posthumous Formula One World Champion, taking the 1970 title?

- **A** **Jochen Rindt**
- B Bruce McLaren
- C Wolfgang von Trips
- D Piers Courage

Answer: A — Jochen Rindt

Worth adding: Rindt was killed in practice at Monza in September 1970, but his points lead in the Lotus proved unbeatable over the remaining races.

27. The Tyrrell P34, raced in the mid-1970s, was famous for what unusual design feature?

- A A fully enclosed cockpit canopy
- B A jet-style afterburner
- C Two separate engines
- **D** **Six wheels, with four small ones at the front**

Answer: D — Six wheels, with four small ones at the front

Worth adding: The P34 used four 10-inch front wheels to cut frontal area and boost grip, and it even won the 1976 Swedish Grand Prix with Jody Scheckter.

28. The Brabham BT46B, which won the 1978 Swedish Grand Prix, was nicknamed the 'fan car' because its rear fan did what?

A Blew air over the rear wing for extra downforce

B Ventilated the cockpit in hot conditions

C Sucked air from under the car to increase grip

D Cooled the brakes during long straights

Answer: C — Sucked air from under the car to increase grip

Worth adding: The fan extracted air from beneath the car to create powerful suction to the track; it was officially justified as an engine cooling device and withdrawn after a single victory.

29. Which non-Formula 1 race counted towards the Formula One World Championship from 1950 to 1960?

A The Mille Miglia

B The Indianapolis 500

C The Le Mans 24 Hours

D The Targa Florio

Answer: B — The Indianapolis 500

Worth adding: The Indy 500 was included in the championship standings for eleven seasons, even though almost no regular grand prix drivers took part in it.

30. Who was the first British driver to win the Formula One World Drivers' Championship, taking the title in 1958?

A Graham Hill

B Jack Brabham

C Mike Hawthorn

D Stirling Moss

Answer: C — Mike Hawthorn

Worth adding: Mike Hawthorn won the 1958 title for Ferrari by a single point from Stirling Moss, despite winning only one race that season to Moss's four.