

The Great Insurance & Arts Trivia Quiz

Twenty years ago, you could publish a trivia contest and participants actually would rely on their memories to come up with answers. It seems hard to believe now, but Google did not exist in 1994 when **Paul Zuckerman** decided to challenge readers of *The Bulletin*, the New York Insurance Department's monthly newsletter, with an insurance and arts trivia contest. He modestly called it "The Great Insurance & Arts Trivia Quiz." The original quiz included 20 questions, but we've narrowed those 20 questions down to 10 (since we all suffer from reduced attention spans). See how many you can answer correctly *without* consulting your favorite search engine. You're on the honor system. Answers appear at the bottom.

(1) In this 1940s film noir, a crooked insurance agent plotted the murder of his client so that he could split the life insurance proceeds with the unfaithful widow.

What was the name of the film?

Who played the crooked agent?

Who played the unfaithful widow?

(2) In the same film, the insurance investigator said he had a little man inside him that always let him know when a fraudulent claim was being made. What was the name of the actor, known for his gangster roles, who played the insurance investigator?

(3) What TV detective recovered stolen property so that he could collect the reward from insurance companies?

(a) Richard Diamond (b) Jim Rockford (c) Remington Steele (d) Thomas Banacek

(4) Which one of these TV dads of the 1950s worked for an insurance company?
(a) Jim Anderson (b) Alex Stone (c) Ward Cleaver (d) Ozzie Nelson

(5) This band hit it big in the 1960s when its single soared into the top ten with an insurance a company's name repeated throughout the song. In fact, the title was inspired by the insurer's flashing neon sign in Manhattan. What was the name of the band?

- (a) Gary Puckett and the Union Gap (b) The Association
(c) Tommy James and the Shondells (d) The Grass Roots

(6) Insurance fraud was the subject of this Jack Lemmon movie about a businessman who contemplates arson. What was the name of the movie?

- (a) Glengarry Glen Ross (b) Save the Tiger (c) Good Neighbor Sam
(d) The Fortune Cookie

(7) Insurance fraud was also the subject of this Jack Lemmon movie, but this time it had to do with a personal injury claim? What was the name of this film?

- (a) Glengarry Glen Ross (b) Save the Tiger (c) Good Neighbor Sam
(d) The Fortune Cookie

(8) What popular board game may make a regulator think of insurance, but is actually a strategic war game?

(9) In what movie does a life insurance agent try to sell Bill Murray insurance – repeatedly?

(a) Ghostbusters (b) Kingpin (c) Groundhog Day (d) Scrooged

(10) In addition to selling insurance, this popular TV host's picture appeared on the money of a popular board game? What was the name of the multi-faceted celebrity?

(a) Art Linkletter (b) Regis Philbin (c) Steve Allen (d) Alex Trebek

ANSWERS

(1) **Double Indemnity** is the name of the movie. Years before he invented Flubber and fathered three sons, **Fred MacMurray** was led astray by *femme fatale* **Barbara Stanwyck**.

(2) **Edward G. Robinson** played the insurance investigator in **Double Indemnity**.

(3) **Thomas Banacek** was the TV detective who collected rewards from insurance companies.

(4) **Jim Anderson**, played by Robert Young, worked for an insurance company in **Father Knows Best**. As a doctor, **Alex Stone** of **The Donna Reed Show** was certainly involved with insurers. **Ozzie Nelson** was a bandleader and **Ward Cleaver** held an unspecified white collar office job.

(5) **Tommy James and the Shondells** hit it big with **Mony, Mony** in 1968. James said he was inspired by watching a MONY sign flash on and off from his Manhattan hotel room.

(6) **Save the Tiger**

(7) **The Fortune Cookie**

(8) **Risk** is the classic war board game.

(9) **Groundhog Day**.

(10) It was **Art Linkletter**, Mr. “People are Funny” and “Kids Say the Darndest Things,” who appeared on the \$100,000 bill in the board game, **Life**. Linkletter later sold life insurance through a series of TV ads. **Sidenote:** Life may have been the only board game to offer players an option to buy life, homeowners and automobile insurance!



*Rumor has it that after his role in **Double Indemnity**, Fred MacMurray (above) was permanently barred from portraying an insurance executive in TV situation comedies. Robert Young (below) did, however, play a wise and trustworthy insurance executive in **Father Knows Best**.*

