



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS
Thursday, 8th March 2012
10.00am

ELEMENTARY: QUESTIONS

1. How many British soldiers were killed in Afghanistan recently?
2. Where did a bomb explode? _____ *their armoured vehicle*
3. When will we find out the soldiers' names?
4. Which word do you hear after 'personal'?

5. Who has defected from the Syrian regime to the rebels?
6. Which words did Abdo Hussameddin use to describe the Syrian regime? *'criminal, _____ and brutal'*

7. Where are two men receiving medical treatment after they were shot in Londonderry?
8. Which illegal trade may the two men have been involved with?

9. What are the initials of the international think-tank?
10. What makes no difference to children's education, according to this organisation?
the _____ of _____ in a class
11. Who have believed for decades that big class sizes are 'bad for children's education'?
12. What might larger class sizes produce?
13. What is the surname of the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers?
14. What do teachers need more time to do, according to Russell?
15. Is this the first study into class sizes?
16. What would be an ideal number of students per class, according to Russell?
17. Which word do you hear after 'economic'?

18. What is Aricept?
19. Which disease is it used to treat?

20. How is Eurostar described?
21. How much profit did it make last year?
22. Did business traveller numbers go up or down last year? *They went _____.*
23. How many people used Eurostar trains last year?



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ELEMENTARY: ANSWERS

1. How many British soldiers were killed in Afghanistan recently? **six**
2. Where did a bomb explode? **beneath their armoured vehicle**
3. When will we find out the soldiers' names? **today**
4. Which word do you hear after 'personal'? **'details'**

5. Who has defected from the Syrian regime to the rebels? **the deputy oil minister**
6. Which words did Abdo Hussameddin use to describe the Syrian regime? **'criminal, unjust and brutal'**

7. Where are two men receiving medical treatment after they were shot in Londonderry? **in hospital**
8. Which illegal trade may the two men have been involved with? **the illegal drugs trade**

9. What are the initials of the international think-tank? **OECD**
10. What makes no difference to children's education, according to this organisation? **the number of children in a class**
11. Who have believed for decades that big class sizes are 'bad for children's education'? **parents and politicians**
12. What might larger class sizes produce? **better results**
13. What is the surname of the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers? **Hobby**
14. What do teachers need more time to do, according to Russell? **To prepare lessons.**
15. Is this the first study into class sizes? **No - 'But study after study comes, comes out saying that, that class sizes don't make the difference we expected.'**
16. What would be an ideal number of students per class, according to Russell? **10**
17. Which word do you hear after 'economic'? **'climate'**

18. What is Aricept? **It's a drug.**
19. Which disease is it used to treat? **Alzheimer's disease**

20. How is Eurostar described? **as 'the Channel Tunnel rail company'**
21. How much profit did it make last year? **nearly £21 million**
22. Did business traveller numbers go up or down last year? **They went down. ('despite a fall in the number of business travellers')**
23. How many people used Eurostar trains last year? **9.7 million**



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INTERMEDIATE: TRUE/FALSE

1. Six soldiers were recently killed in Afghanistan when a bomb blew up next to their armoured vehicle.
2. The soldiers will be named today.

3. Syria's deputy oil minister has defected from the regime to join the rebels.
4. The rebels are trying to kill President Assad.
5. Abdo Hussameddin described the Syrian government as 'criminal, undressed and brutal'.

6. Two men are in hospital after being stabbed in Londonderry.
7. It's believed they were among a group of people who'd been threatened by a Republican vigilante organisation.
8. The Republican group was set up to take direct action against people who may be involved in the illegal drinks trade.

9. The OICD says the number of children in a class makes no difference to their education.
10. This turns decades of thinking among parents and teachers on its head.
11. The organisation even suggests that larger class sizes can produce better results.
12. Russell Obby is the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers.
13. He says any money saved by having bigger class sizes could be used to give teachers longer holidays.
14. This is the only study into class sizes recently.
15. Russell says a class size of 10 students would possibly make a difference.

16. A study suggests people with Old-timer's disease can benefit from taking a drug called Aricept, even when their condition has reached an advanced stage.
17. At present many patients stop receiving the drug as their condition gets worse.

18. Eurostar, the Channel Tunnel rail company, made a profit of just over £21 million last year.
19. Business travel was up.
20. Altogether 9.7 million people travelled with Eurostar last year.



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INTERMEDIATE: ANSWERS

1. Six soldiers were recently killed in Afghanistan when a bomb blew up next to their armoured vehicle. (F The bomb blew up 'beneath their armoured vehicle'.)
2. The soldiers will be named today. (T)
3. Syria's deputy oil minister has defected from the regime to join the rebels. (T)
4. The rebels are trying to kill President Assad. (F They are 'trying to bring down President Assad'. i.e. They are trying to get him to stand down, or resign, as president.)
5. Abdo Hussameddin described the Syrian government as 'criminal, undressed and brutal'. (F 'criminal, unjust and brutal')
6. Two men are in hospital after being stabbed in Londonderry. (F 'after being shot in Londonderry')
7. It's believed they were among a group of people who'd been threatened by a Republican vigilante organisation. (T)
8. The Republican group was set up to take direct action against people who may be involved in the illegal drinks trade. (F 'in the illegal drugs trade')
9. The OECD says the number of children in a class makes no difference to their education. (F 'The OECD')
10. This turns decades of thinking among parents and teachers on its head. (F 'parents and politicians')
11. The organisation even suggests that larger class sizes can produce better results. (T)
12. Russell Obby is the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers. (F Russell Hobby)
13. He says any money saved by having bigger class sizes could be used to give teachers longer holidays. (F He says it could be used 'to give teachers more time to prepare lessons'.)
14. This is the only study into class sizes recently. (F 'But study after study comes, comes out saying that, that class sizes don't make the difference we expected.')
15. Russell says a class size of 10 students would possibly make a difference. (T 'I think if you can, you know, if you could reduce them down to 10 students per class, er, I think you'd find that that did make some difference.')
16. A study suggests people with Old-timer's disease can benefit from taking a drug called Aricept, even when their condition has reached an advanced stage. (F Alzheimer's disease)
17. At present many patients stop receiving the drug as their condition gets worse. (T 'as their condition worsens' i.e. gets worse)
18. Eurostar, the Channel Tunnel rail company, made a profit of just over £21 million last year. (F 'a profit of nearly £21 million last year')
19. Business travel was up. (F 'despite a fall in the number of business travellers')
20. Altogether 9.7 million people travelled with Eurostar last year. (T 'with 9.7 million people using the service')



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ADVANCED: GAP-FILL

1. Six British soldiers who were killed recently in Afghanistan when a bomb _____
_____ beneath their armoured _____ will be _____ today.
2. The MoD will release the _____ of who died and tributes to them
_____ the Army.

3. Syria's deputy _____ minister has _____ from the regime.
4. He's joined the rebels who are trying to _____ President Assad.
5. Abdo Hussameddin said the Syrian government was 'criminal, _____ and _____'.

6. Two men are being treated in _____ after they were _____ in Londonderry.
7. It's believed they were _____ a group of people _____ been threatened
by a Republican vigilante organisation.
8. The vigilante organisation was _____ to take direct action against
people suspected of being involved in the _____ trade.
9. The international _____, the _____, says the number of
children in a class _____ no different to their education.
10. This turns decades of thinking _____ parents and politicians on its _____.
11. The organisation even suggests that _____ class _____ might produce
better _____.
12. Russell _____ is the general secretary of the National Association of _____
Teachers.
13. He says any money _____ from acting on the _____ could be used to give
teachers more _____ to prepare lessons.
14. Russell said 'It goes against _____ and, and everything _____
_____ for for a long time.'
15. Study after study shows that _____ don't make the _____ that
people expected.
16. Russell said if there were only 10 students in a class, that might make _____
difference, but that's very unlikely to happen in this economic _____.

17. A new study suggests that people with Alzheimer's disease can benefit _____
_____ the most _____ drug Aricept, _____ when their
condition has reached an advanced _____.
18. At present a lot of patients stop receiving the drug as their condition _____.

19. The _____ rail company, Eurostar, made a _____ of almost £21
million last year.
20. This is _____ the number of _____ travellers falling.
21. _____ passenger numbers were _____, with _____ million people
_____ the service.



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ADVANCED: ANSWERS

1. Six British soldiers who were killed recently in Afghanistan when a bomb went off beneath their armoured vehicle will be named today.
2. The MoD will release the personal details of who died and tributes to them from the Army.
3. Syria's deputy oil minister has defected from the regime.
4. He's joined the rebels who are trying to bring down President Assad.
5. Abdo Hussameddin said the Syrian government was 'criminal, unjust and brutal'.
6. Two men are being treated in hospital after they were shot in Londonderry.
7. It's believed they were among a group of people who'd been threatened by a Republican vigilante organisation.
8. The vigilante organisation was set up to take direct action against people suspected of being involved in the illegal drugs trade.
9. The international think-tank, the OECD, says the number of children in a class makes no difference to their education.
10. This turns decades of thinking among parents and politicians on its head.
11. The organisation even suggests that larger class sizes might produce better results.
12. Russell Hobby is the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers.
13. He says any money saved from acting on the findings could be used to give teachers more time to prepare lessons.
14. Russell said 'It goes against commonsense and, and everything we've been saying for for a long time.'
15. Study after study shows that class sizes don't make the difference that people expected.
16. Russell said if there were only 10 students in a class, that might make some difference, but that's very unlikely to happen in this economic climate.
17. A new study suggests that people with Alzheimer's disease can benefit from taking the most commonly prescribed drug Aricept, even when their condition has reached an advanced stage.
18. At present a lot of patients stop receiving the drug as their condition worsens.
19. The Channel Tunnel rail company, Eurostar, made a profit of almost £21 million last year.
20. This is despite the number of business travellers falling.
21. Overall passenger numbers were up, with 9.7 million people using the service.