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Irish History Quiz – Government and Ambushes

Written by Brian P. Hegarty Jr., Major James H. Dooley Division Historian

Directions: For questions 1 -15, circle the **best** answer.

1. Formed in 1923, *An Garda Síochána* is the Irish unarmed police force that translates to
 - a) The Guardians of the Peace
 - b) Faithful unto Death
 - c) We Serve and Protect
 - d) Your Guardian Servants
2. The ideas that led to this political party were first put forward by the United Irishman newspaper and its editor, Arthur Griffith. It had been in use since the 1880s as an expression of separatist thinking and was used as a slogan by the Gaelic League in the 1890s.
 - a) Fianna Fáil
 - b) Fine Gael
 - c) Sinn Féin
 - d) Free State Party
3. This Irish political party was the dominant political party in the Republic of Ireland since the 1930s. Constituted in May 1926, comprised opponents of the Anglo-Irish Treaty (1921) that had brought the Irish Free State into existence. This party was established and led by Eamon de Valera, who had been imprisoned in 1923 for supporting republican armed resistance to the treaty.
 - a) Fianna Fáil
 - b) Fine Gael
 - c) Sinn Féin
 - d) Republican Party
4. This Irish political party was founded in September 1933 represented the supporters of the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921, which brought into existence the Irish Free State.
 - a) Fianna Fáil
 - b) Fine Gael
 - c) Sinn Féin
 - d) Fenians
5. Legally known as the National Army, supporters of the Anglo-Irish treaty came to be labeled by their opponents as this.
 - a) Republicans
 - b) Democrats
 - c) Free Staters
 - d) Fenians
6. Supporters of the "anti-treaty" forces or as their opponents preferred to call them "Irregulars", were known as this.
 - a) Republicans
 - b) Democrats
 - c) Free Staters
 - d) Fenians
7. The official residence of the Lord Mayor of Dublin since 1715 and the meeting place of the Dáil Éireann from 1919 until 1922.
 - a) Leinster House
 - b) Parliament House
 - c) The Mansion House
 - d) Dublin Castle
8. Name of the title most used by the people of Ireland for the nation's head of government.
 - a) President
 - b) Taoiseach
 - c) Prime Minister
 - d) Tánaiste
9. Who is the answer to #8.
 - a) Leo Varadkar
 - b) Enda Kenny
 - c) Micheál Martin
 - d) Boris Johnson
10. Name the title most used by the people of Ireland for the nation's deputy head of government.
 - a) Tánaiste
 - b) Taoiseach
 - c) Deputy Prime Minister
 - d) Vice President
11. Who is the answer to #10.
 - a) Simon Coveney
 - b) Micheál Martin
 - c) Enda Kenny
 - d) Leo Varadkar
12. The Republic of Ireland is a parliamentary representative democracy. Legislative power is vested in the _____.
 - a) Dáil Éireann
 - b) Seanad Éireann
 - c) Oireachtas
 - d) President
13. The principal chamber of the Oireachtas is called
 - a) Dáil Éireann
 - b) Seanad Éireann
 - c) Teachta Dála
 - d) House of Commons

14. A member of the Dáil Éireann is called

- a) Senator
- b) Teachta Dála (TD)
- c) Garda
- d) Member of Parliament (MP)

15. This phrase is presented on the present-day Irish soldier's caps and uniforms.

- a) Éire - The Republic of Ireland
- b) Saighdiúir Éireann
- c) Óglaigh na hÉireann
- d) Defence Forces of Ireland

16. **Match** the political party and its motto:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| _____ Sinn Féin | a) Soldiers of Destiny |
| _____ Fine Gael | b) Irish Race |
| _____ Fianna Fáil | c) Gaelic Race |
| | d) 'Us' or 'Ourselves' |

Fill in the following events in the questions below:

Ballymurphy massacre Bloody Sunday Birmingham Six Guildford Four

Maguire Seven Kilmichael ambush Clonmult ambush Crossbarry ambush

17. Tom Barry assembled a force of 36 men into a flying column to what is known as the _____. They were mobile, not tied to any location, drawing some of the best men from those other units. That day they were armed with rifles and a few pistols and grenades. Ammunition, as always for the IRA, was scarce enough for each man to have only 35 rounds each - on paper a suicidally low number of bullets with which to engage such well-armed enemies. The patrol to be ambushed comprised 18 men in two trucks, each armed with two pistols, grenades, a rifle, and ample ammunition.

18. The **Guildford Four** and the _____ were the collective names of two groups whose convictions in English courts in 1975 and 1976 for the Guildford pub bombings of 5 October 1974 were eventually quashed after long campaigns for justice. These men were wrongly convicted of handling explosives found during the investigation into the bombings.

19. President Michael D Higgins and Taoiseach Micheál Martin recently attended an official ceremony in east Cork to mark the 101st anniversary of the _____. This is where the IRA suffered its greatest loss of men during the War of Independence. Twelve men were shot dead near a thatched farmhouse by British armed forces on 20 February 1921. Eight others were taken prisoner. Two of the 12 men were killed as they got water from a nearby well, seven were shot as they lined up outside the house, and three while they attempted to escape. Two of the men taken prisoner were subsequently executed. The ambush is also controversial as the seven men were shot while they were attempting to surrender.

20. In *the Name of The Father*, the 1993 film made about this miscarriage of justice, with Daniel Day-Lewis as Gerry Conlon and John Lynch as Paul Hill, was nominated for seven Oscars. The men were wrongly convicted of bombings carried out by the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) at which event? - _____

21. One of U2's most political songs, its lyrics describe the horror felt by an observer of the Troubles in Northern Ireland, mainly focusing on the _____ incident in Derry where British troops shot and killed unarmed civil rights protesters.

22. Popularized by a song from the Irish band The Pogues. On November 21, 1974, two Irish Republican Army (IRA) bombs exploded in two separate pubs, killing 21 people and injuring hundreds. The _____ were Irishmen who were each sentenced to life imprisonment in 1975 following their false convictions for the 1974 pub bombings. Their convictions were declared unsafe and unsatisfactory and quashed by the Court of Appeal on 14 March 1991. The men were later awarded financial compensation ranging from £840,000 to £1.2 million.

23. The _____ was a series of incidents between 9 and 11 August 1971, in which the 1st Battalion, Parachute Regiment of the British Army killed at least nine civilians as part of Operation Demetrius.

Answers:

1. a
2. c
3. a
4. b
5. c
6. a
7. c
8. b
9. c
10. a
11. d
12. c
13. a
14. b
15. c
16. d, b, a
17. Kilmichael ambush
18. Maguire Seven
19. Clonmult ambush
20. Guildford Four
21. Bloody Sunday
22. Birmingham Six
23. Ballymurphy massacre