**Murri Intelligence Test - 2018**

**Science and innovation**

**Q: What was David Unaipon’s most famous patent?**

A: David, absorbed by the concept of perpetual motion, spend much effort designing machines which led to the media dubbing him the black Leonardo. In 2909 he patented an improved handpiece for sheep-shearing. Other inventions included a centrifugal motor, a multi-0radial wheel and mechanical propulsion device. He never succeeded in getting any financial support to develop his ideas. As early as 1914, Unaipon had anticipated the concept of a helicopter by applying the principle of the boomerang. He was the first Aboriginal person to be a published writer commissioned by the University of Adelaide to collect traditional stories from the Ngarrindjeri people. These were compiled into Myths and Legends of the Australian Aboriginals published in 1930. But his authorship was not attributed. Other texts included Aboriginal Legends (1927), Native Legends (1929) and Leaves of Memory (1953). His autobiography My Life Story was published in 1951. You will see David Unaipon on the $50 note.

Reference: http://www.jaunay.com/unaipon.html

**Q: Which north-west New South Wales region hosts one of the oldest human-made structures in the world? Hint: it’s used for catching fish.**

Answer: Brewarrina Fish Traps. The Brewarrina Fish traps are estimated to be over 40,000 years old and one of the oldest human-made structures on earth. The elaborate network of rock weirds and pools stretches for around half a kilometre along the riverbed and was built by Aboriginal people to catch fish as they swam upstream. The rocks surround 12 teardrop shaped pools across a half a kilometre. Fish were herded in through small openings that the locasl would quickly close shut with a few rocks. The pen walls are at different heights, allowing them to be used at different water levels, and have proved resistant in the face of high and fast water flows.

The traps were added to Australia’s national heritage list in 2005, being described as the largest traps recorded showcasing a thorough understanding of ‘dry stone wall construction techniques, river hydrology and fish ecology.’

Reference: https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2015/jul/10/fish-traps-brewarrina-extraordinary-ancient-structures-protection

**Q. Which Noonuccal person was the first Aboriginal person to earn a PhD in Applied Mathematics?**

A: Dr Christopher Matthews, now the founder and chair of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mathematics Alliance, completed his Bachelor of Science (Honours) from Griffith University and was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy 2003. His PhD centred around soil physics and, in particular, infiltration problems coupled with other processes such as heat and containment transport.

Reference: http://www.isrn.qut.edu.au/pdf/members/researchers/Matthews.member.pdf

**Q: What’s the name of the first ever permanent Indigenous Astronomy project in Australia called?**

A: Australia’s first Indigenous astronomy exhibition – Skylore – opened in March this year. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders shared their knowledge of the stars to create a unique display of heritage, tradition and culture from a number of communities.

Reference: http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/2018/3/27/australian-first-indigenous-astronomy-exhibition-opening-today

**Arts & Culture**

**Q: Which 1990 stage show – the first Aboriginal stage musical - starring Ernie Dingo was made into a movie**

Choose from:

A. The Sapphires

B. The Rubies

C. Bran Nue Dae

D. Jimmy and the Kuckles

A. Bran Nue Dae was a 1990 musical set in Broome, Western Australia. It was written by Jimmy Chi, his band Kuckles and friends. It was the first Aboriginal musical. The musical toured Australia. It was later made into a film by Rachael Perkins.

BONUS ROUND: 3 points if you correctly complete this lyric from the musical –

There’s nothing I would rather be ….

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bran\_Nue\_Dae

**Q. Which fellas are included in Warumpi bands most famous song?**

A: Blackfella and whitefellas.

Blackfella/Whitefella it doesn’t matter, what your color

As long as you, a true fella

As long as you a real fella

Blackfella/Whitefella was written by the Papunya country rock group - Warumpi Band in 1985 and features on the album Big Name, No Blankets.

Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warumpi\_Band

**Politics & History**

**Q: Based on archaeological evidence, what is the timeline of Aboriginal occupation of the continent?**

1. Aboriginal people arrived in 1778
2. 10,000 – 20,000
3. 20,000 – 40,000
4. 50,000 +

Australia’s earliest known site of human occupation of the Australian coast has been discovered in a remote cave in Western Australia, pushing back the start date (again) of Indigenous occupation to more than 50,000 years ago.

Reference: https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2017/may/19/indigenous-australian-life-cave-wa-50000-years

**Q: What is the Uluru Statement colloquially referred to:**

A: The Voice of the People

B. The Statement from the Heart

C. The First Nations Voice

D. The Voice to Parliament

A: The Uluru Statement from the Heart, was an outcome of the 2017 Uluru First Nations Constitutional Convention. It called for

* constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country
* the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the constitution.
* a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

Reference: https://www.humanrights.gov.au/news/stories/one-year-uluru-statement-called-voice-treaty-truth

**Q: Which Aboriginal leader led the 1938 protest against the treatment of Jewish people in Germany prior to World War 2.**

A: William Cooper

B. Bill Ferguson

C. Mum Shirl

D. Joe McGuiness

A: On 6 December 1939, in Melbourne one man let a protest in an attempt to bring attention to a people discriminated against and marginalised on the other side of the world. William Cooper, a Yorta Yorta activitist, secretary of the Australian Aborigines League, and by then a 77 year old man, was moved by the 1938 treatment of Jewish people during the Kristallnacht, a night of government sponsored harassment and persecution by the Nazis.

William Cooper walked 120 kilometres across town from his home in Melbourne’s West in Footscray to Melbourne’s city with his friends and family and other members of the Australian Aborigines League flanked alongside him. He had planned to deliver a letter to the German counsel. When they arrived they were not allowed inside the German Consulate and the Counsel-General refused to go outside to meet them. The letter remained undelivered until 2012, when Cooper’s grandson 84 year old Alf Boydie Turner and great-grandson Kevin Russell handed over a duplicate letter.

Reference: https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/2018/05/31/william-cooper-koories-protest-against-nazis

**Local language and places**

**Q. Booliman refers to**

1. a ghost story you tell children to keep them safe.
2. a policeman who someone who enforces the law
3. a mythical creature who lives in the Brisbane River.

In Queensland a policeman (or someone in authority) is referred to as a booliman. In New South Wales it may be gunji or gunjibal.

Reference: https://www.hawaii.edu/satocenter/langnet/definitions/aboriginal.html

**Q: Kurilpa is a**

1. Water rat
2. Green ant
3. Wallaby
4. Flying Fox

A: Water Rat

BONUS Points if you can say where it is?

A: Today Kurilpa means water rat. Kurilpa is also place of wat rats – the area we know of as West End – down Montague Road to the river.

Reference:

http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2006/06/02/1652567.htm

https://www.couriermail.com.au/news/tales-from-the-riverbank/news-story/63d933ba45427d40592a67fba49c3c69?sv=4ccf7ba164237f4b04be5118696526d1

**Q: The name of the Brisbane River is**

1. Maiwee
2. Mairwan
3. Maiwal
4. Maiwar

Reference:

http://www.mustdobrisbane.com/archives/maiwar-brisbane-laneways

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brisbane\_River