
Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 11-07-2008 10:00

For some reason, there is a lot of bollocks being talked about football at the moment from Ridsdale, Blatter, people in this forum and parents of 8 year old boys amongst many many others.

I have appointed myself "His Excellency, President for Life of Football, Field Marshal Bored Of Football, Chairman of the Bored, Bored of the Dance, Lord of All the Beasts of Barcelona, and Mark Fishes of the Seas and Conqueror of Talking Rubbish in the World in General and by Alan Green in particular."

I am a benevolent dictator and am, just this once, asking for suggestions for either questions that people must be able to answer or attributes that should exclude you from talking about football forever (for instance, pronouncing his name "Gazza")

Off you go

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 11-07-2008 10:08

I always hate use of the word "footie".

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 11-07-2008 10:14

Very true. Almost as bad as "soccer" but less scorned publically.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Hieronymus of Hesselink - 11-07-2008 10:17

Ryan Tubridy, a well-known TV and radio personality over here (think of a very nerdy, square version of Conan O'Brien), was on the radio one morning a while ago, banging on about how much of a football fan he was.

Immediately, the co-presenter, Shane O'Donoghue, jumped in and asked him to explain the offside rule. Tubridy couldn't do it and floundered like a beached fish for a few moments before trying to change the subject.

It was radio at its best.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 11-07-2008 10:23

The entrance exam is simple: you've got ten minutes to write down all 92 league clubs. Anyone scoring less than 90 is disqualified.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Donald Potts - 11-07-2008 10:24

Bit anglo-welsh-centric though, innit?

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 11-07-2008 10:25

Okay, add the Scottish league to that as well. No problem.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Donald Potts - 11-07-2008 10:31

Now it's just brit-centric.

Still I think there's some mileage in it. Perhaps ask people to name 95% of the clubs in the top three/four divisions of their country of choice.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 11-07-2008 10:37

See, I am suspicious of people knowing everything about every other league. My knowledge of anything below Division 2 (in old money) is pretty patchy but my knowledge of the Conference South isn't bad.

Equally, that does stop some of our intelligent foreign correspondent from contributing replacing them with, well, geeks, nerds and statistical freaks

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Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 11-07-2008 10:41

There's every chance that this thread , given a little encouragement, could become ' I heart Claude Makelele II '

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Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 11-07-2008 10:43

Bored Of Football wrote:

My knowledge of anything below Division 2 (in old money) is pretty patchy
Fuck me, you've forgotten quickly.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by pawlu - 11-07-2008 10:43

Notts Forest: spot the error.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 11-07-2008 10:46

geeks, nerds and statistical freaks

Yup, that's me. I could do Germany down to the third level as well, if you want.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 11-07-2008 10:54

It's OK, I am not banning you OCD types. You are very useful to us of those with outside lives to use as reference.

You just can't be exclusive members of my club, that's all.

Harsh but fair

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by ursus arctos - 11-07-2008 10:55

I like pawlu's concept, and suggest expanding it to a broader "Ding Test"

Notts Forest
United
Inter Milan
Grand Slam/Super/Special/
More than a Club
"We're all supporting tonight"
That night in . . .

You get the idea.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jimmy Bignutz - 11-07-2008 10:57

Those 'name all 92 clubs' things always trip you up, though - I obviously know them all, but if you're asked to name them as part of a challenge, there's always a few that slip your mind.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 11-07-2008 10:57

That "Notts Forest" one is good as well as, obviously, "Inter Milan" and "A.C. Milan" (he say, safe in the knowledge that he has trained himself out of it)

I think I might allow "Man Utd" but definitely not "Man U"

"MK Dons", of course, is a straight expulsion and you have to take reception again

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 11-07-2008 10:59

No, Man U is acceptable. It's the most concise, meaningful abbreviation and it reminds me of being seven.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jimmy Bignutz - 11-07-2008 11:01

Isn't AC Milan just the club's name? It wasn't going to take long before these got ridiculously arbitrary.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 11-07-2008 11:01

So it's 91 clubs then ...?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by ursus arctos - 11-07-2008 11:03

AC Milan is fine, as is Milan; what gets on my tits is people who use "AC" (without the "Milan") as an equivalent to "Inter".

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 11-07-2008 11:06

JP, you'll just have to name the other teams in your new league.

As will I this time next year...

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 11-07-2008 11:07

Jimmy Bignutz wrote:

Those 'name all 92 clubs' things always trip you up, though - I obviously know them all, but if you're asked to name them as part of a challenge, there's always a few that slip your mind.

That's why I set the bar at 90. I always end up forgetting someone daft like Coventry.

I like saying Notts Forest.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 11-07-2008 11:10

And we pronounce Gillingham with a hard G, like that place near Yeovil...

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by blameless - 11-07-2008 11:14

So it's 91 clubs then ...?

No, it's 92 but you have to get the name of the 92nd club ("Franchise") correct.

In my younger, Shoot!-reading days I could have named all 92 English league clubs, but not now. Too many yo-yo-ing Donnys, Rushdens and Kidderminsters to keep track of these days.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Hieronymus of Hesselink - 11-07-2008 11:16

I would be doing well to get 85 of the 92 clubs.

I can tell you who played at right-back for Algeria in the 1982 World Cup though.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 11-07-2008 11:17

Gangster Octopus wrote:

And we pronounce Gillingham with a hard G, like that place near Yeovil...

We've got a bit of Fanfreundschaft going with Gillingham Town. Quite a few of our lot drop in down there and boost the gates when we have fixtures in the West Country.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by twohundredpercent - 11-07-2008 11:18

A peculiarity of my childhood was that, in the 1980s, Enfield were always referred to as "Enfield Town" by people that didn't know the club very well - presumably because that's the name of the nearby railway station, and it used to irritate the hell out of me. The Lazarou thing happened, the supporters went their own way and started their own club, and blow me down they called the new club Enfield Town.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 11-07-2008 11:25

When I was at Nuneaton Borough last season, their fans were telling me that they used to love playing Harrow And Wealdstone. I kept pointing out that this is the name of a railway station, and there has never been a football team called that, but they wouldn't believe me...

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Kiwi40 - 11-07-2008 11:26

'Gooners' irritates me as does people still thinking it's funny to call Chelsea 'Chelski'.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 11-07-2008 11:27

Yup. It should be Chelskov...

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 11-07-2008 11:44

I agree about "Gooners". I have never heard someone with a authentic Islington or, indeed, Woolwich accent call it Gooners.

I couldn't give a shit about Chelski as I am pondering supporting Chelsea, in itself, triggering resits

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 11-07-2008 11:47

Bored Of Football wrote:

... and parents of 8 year old boys amongst many many others.

I was asked by a fellow under9s coach if I would "... bother going to watch Wrexham next season" now that we're in the Conference.

Needless to say this coach 'supports' Manchester United

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 11-07-2008 11:53

Cunt

Obviously, and covered recently, anyone who talks about anything related to football as "a brand" is expelled if not shot in the head

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jimmy Bignutz - 11-07-2008 11:54

We talk about kits a lot, and most of my favourite kits contain the same (excellent) brand.

So fuck that

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 11-07-2008 12:03

Aha, I forgot about kits. You should also have to be able to name the colours of at least 90% of the professional clubs in your own country, plus, say 30 foreign teams.

And their home grounds (or former home grounds).

Plus 10 players with beards, 10 fat players, 10 players who have been to prison, 10 bald players (pre-1990) and so on.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by delicatemoth - 11-07-2008 12:37

How about having to be able to name a decent pub that is convenient for at least 33 football grounds? I'd be sunk because I can never remember pub names, but it's a thought.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jimmy Bignutz - 11-07-2008 12:37

Have to be a big pub.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by delicatemoth - 11-07-2008 12:39

It's got its own helipad.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 11-07-2008 13:21

You should be able to name the team just from a sponsors' name: Hitachi, Anti-Smoking, Talbot, Holstein etc.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 11-07-2008 13:25

Jorge Porbillas wrote:

You should be able to name the team just from a sponsors' name: Hitachi, Anti-Smoking, Talbot, Holstein etc. er, why? I can never be bothered to remember who's sponsoring my team, let alone anyone else's.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 11-07-2008 13:27

Because, as kids, we all knew - I'm not on about teams now, in fact the sponsors must be pre-1990.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by boris - 11-07-2008 13:27

Naming sponsors is getting dangerously close to being brand-conscious, though.

And stadium names - where do we stand with things like the Fitness First Stadium (it'll always be Dean Court to me)?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 11-07-2008 13:30

boris wrote:

Naming sponsors is getting dangerously close to being brand-conscious, though.

Not sure about that - I didn't even know what Hitachi did when my brother was running round in his Liverpool top.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 11-07-2008 13:33

Jorge Porbillas wrote:

Because, as kids, we all knew - I'm not on about teams now, in fact the sponsors must be pre-1990.

When I was a child, there was no shirt sponsorship in England. Are you going to start talking about Bagpuss now?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jimmy Bignutz - 11-07-2008 13:38

All these threads essentially boil down to "you can't be a real football fan unless you're exactly the same as me".

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 11-07-2008 13:38

Gangster Octopus wrote:

Jorge Porbillas wrote:

Because, as kids, we all knew - I'm not on about teams now, in fact the sponsors must be pre-1990.

When I was a child, there was no shirt sponsorship in England. Are you going to start talking about Bagpuss now?

Emily was quite cute ...

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by ursus arctos - 11-07-2008 13:41

An absolute pile-driver from Bignutz.

Nail and head obliterated.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Nil Arshavin - 11-07-2008 13:41

Although I'd plead guilty to being nerdish about football I think this is heading in the wrong direction. An entrance exam for football lovers has to start with the actual game itself.

Can you get enjoyment from a shot, save, goal, tackle? Can you appreciate a full-backs positioning? Do you get tumescent whilst watching Cambiasso's goal against Serbia & Montenegro for the fortieth time?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Kiwi40 - 11-07-2008 14:04

Applause to Nil for his thoughts.

I'd like to see the exam include a short piece of Creative Writing describing that moment at your first live game when you walked up the stairs and saw, for the first time, the pitch....

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by delicatemoth - 11-07-2008 14:07

What stairs?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by E10 Rifle - 11-07-2008 14:11

Funny all this talk of the irritating term "Gooner"; that's had a very strange evolution. Twenty-plus years ago it was the name of the North Bank's main hoolie firm but it became very quickly sanitised in the post-Premier League era so that you soon had the Fast Show's brilliantly accurate late-90s football fan pastiche bloke going "I'm a true blue Gunner Gooner." Bushwhackers, headhunters, soul crews and ICFs never got so comfortably co-opted did they?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by EIM - 12-07-2008 06:19

Harri Saer wrote:

No, Man U is acceptable. It's the most concise, meaningful abbreviation and it reminds me of being seven.

No. It really isn't.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 12-07-2008 06:34

When I was a child, there was no shirt sponsorship in England. Are you going to start talking about Bagpuss now?

Bagpuss - 1974

Hitachi sponsor Liverpool, the first such deal involving a major club (Kettering, actually, were the first a couple of years earlier, but it was a local double glazing firm or somesuch) - 1979

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by ursus arctos - 12-07-2008 06:42

It was Kettering Tyres, and they tried to get away with it by deleting the "yres" after the League complained, though that ruse only lasted for a few months.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 12-07-2008 08:48

So it's agreed then. You can only be a real fan if you bought a replica shirt before they had sponsors' names on them...

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jon - 12-07-2008 10:59

It's more of 'gets on my tits' thing rather than anything else, and I'm sure I'm guilty of doing something similar when it comes to other foreign clubs but literally every time I see the term 'Real' instead of Real Madrid or Madrid I inwardly shudder.

By the way, I quite like the term 'footie'. No one has ever explained properly their aversion to it. Is it abbreviations in general? Do you all baulk at the word 'telly' as well?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 12-07-2008 12:39

'Footie' is used a lot in Yorkshire.

It's not used the horrendous television-advert middle-England hawking insurance type fan way:

I'm just talking about last night's footie! Wasn't it marvellous?!

but more in the:

are yer comin' dahn tahn to watch footeh?

way.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jon - 12-07-2008 13:57

Exactly, CTT.

And we should reclaim the word from these "horrendous television-advert middle-England hawking insurance type fans" forthwith.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by SamLKelly - 13-07-2008 23:07

Gangster Octopus wrote:

So it's agreed then. You can only be a real fan if you bought a replica shirt before they had sponsors' names on them...

You know, some of us even here on OTF aren't actually old enough to have done that. Be fair.

CTT - 'dahn tahn' is cockney-speak, surely?

And Jon, I'm so glad I'm not the only one.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gambrinus - 14-07-2008 08:24

Between the ages of seven and fifteen, or thereabouts, I could have named every football league club with my eyes

shut*, as well as most of the Conference, and most of the Wales team between 1993-1996. I wouldn't even get close now. I can remember obsessively reading cricket scorecards when I was a kid, and constructing Greatest Team Of The Week out of them. In a way, I miss it.

* you know what I mean.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 14-07-2008 10:51

Gangster Octopus wrote:

Bored Of Football wrote:

My knowledge of anything below Division 2 (in old money) is pretty patchy

Fuck me, you've forgotten quickly.

He's not really forgotten, he was always pretty patchy on the lower leagues when we were in them.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 14-07-2008 10:53

Jimmy Bignutz wrote:

We talk about kits a lot, and most of my favourite kits contain the same (excellent) brand.

I always use "kit manufacturer", though I don't mind the word "brand" when it's actually about, er, a brand.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 14-07-2008 10:55

EIM wrote:

Harri Saer wrote:

No, Man U is acceptable. It's the most concise, meaningful abbreviation and it reminds me of being seven.

No. It really isn't.

Genuine question, why not?

I have never thought of it as a term of derision.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 14-07-2008 10:57

Cavalry Trouser Tips wrote:

'Footie' is used a lot in Yorkshire.

It's not used the horrendous television-advert middle-England hawking insurance type fan way:

I'm just talking about last night's footie! Wasn't it marvellous?!

but more in the:

are yer comin' dahn tahn to watch footeh?

way.

I would allow "footeh" as a seperate word from "footie".

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jon - 14-07-2008 16:26

Sounds like you're just making allowances now Harri, for regional accents in this case.

Yorshireman saying footie is OK, home counties dweller, no.

Man U - now there's another abbreviation that I just don't have a problem with and yet many others do. It's quick to say and it doesn't lead to any ambiguity like 'United.'

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by delicatemoth - 14-07-2008 16:36

When I was a kid I could have named every English and Scottish league club, and their grounds. But I think this had less to do with being a 'real fan' than with Shoot! and its league ladders.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 14-07-2008 16:53

Jon wrote:

Sounds like you're just making allowances now Harri, for regional accents in this case.

Yorshireman saying footie is OK, home counties dweller, no.

Absolutely, I am one of the latter so it causes me far more problems. The former is really quite quaint and sweet.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 14-07-2008 22:02

All these threads essentially boil down to "you can't be a real football fan unless you're exactly the same as me".

Err, no, Jimmy, you have blasted that one way over the bar.

I am expecting and hoping that a lot of the people in the club are waaaay more informed than I am. I am already finding some of the qualifications frightening.

That is why it has to be my dictatorship, my domain, I must be master of all I survey. Otherwise, I will be in danger of being ousted myself

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by ale - 14-07-2008 22:57

"No, Man U is acceptable. It's the most concise, meaningful abbreviation and it reminds me of being seven.

No. It really isn't.

Genuine question, why not?

I have never thought of it as a term of derision."

ever heard of Sheff U...or Newcastle U...or West Ham U...or Leeds U...

for that matter Man C...

its the old United (ding) question again...why do they get an abbreviated appellation all to themselves which is common currency in football terms..

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Hieronymus of Hesselink - 14-07-2008 23:34

Ale, just in case you were wondering, Man United fans (certainly the more hardcore ones) absolutely detest the phrase "Man U".

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by twohundredpercent - 14-07-2008 23:36

Surely not as much as they detest "Manyoo", though.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Jon - 14-07-2008 23:43

Who needs to say Leeds U, West Ham U or Newcastle U? The United bit, while not redundant, is not needed in a normal conversation - everyone know who you are talking about with these teams. (Although, anyone who has got the Adrian Sherwood/On-U Sound Barmy Army album will hear he samples a 'West Ham U' chant from the terraces of Upton Park.)

Sheff U. Hmm, I've never heard that abbreviated, you're right. I'm afraid it simply comes down to the fact that Man Utd are a much more talked about club, nationally, than Sheffield Utd so they get the abbreviation.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by delicatemoth - 15-07-2008 13:30

Sheff U is an abbreviation I've heard quite often.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by dogbeak - 15-07-2008 13:35

Man/Newcastle/Leeds/Sheff U works much better written down than spoken, obviously.

Funnily enough, you'd hear 'Man U' (or your preferred phonetic representation) pretty often at school in my corner of Salford.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 15-07-2008 13:43

ale wrote:

ever heard of Sheff U...or Newcastle U...or West Ham U...or Leeds U...

Yes on the former, the latter three don't need United to be mentioned for clarity, let alone abbreviated, as they have no (significant) teams sharing the name Newcastle, West Ham or Leeds.

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Harri Saer - 15-07-2008 13:45

Hieronymus of Hesselink wrote:

Ale, just in case you were wondering, Man United fans (certainly the more hardcore ones) absolutely detest the phrase "Man U".

But can they come up with a reason why?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 15-07-2008 13:47

In Germany, all the commentators call them "Menu".

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by treibeis - 15-07-2008 13:57

In Germany, all the commentators call them "Menu".

Come on, Alderman, credit where credit's due. Some of them say "Menchester".

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bored Of Football - 15-07-2008 14:03

I have never heard "Sheff U" spoken and rarely written

Are there fools that actually pronounce "Sheff Weds" as it is spelt?

=====

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 16-07-2008 14:09

SamLKelly wrote:

Gangster Octopus wrote:

So it's agreed then. You can only be a real fan if you bought a replica shirt before they had sponsors' names on them...

You know, some of us even here on OTF aren't actually old enough to have done that. Be fair.

Which is why, of course, you youngsters will never be real fans.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by EIM - 22-07-2008 09:01

The 'Man U' thing is a fairly recent bugbear. I've got the Happy Mondays Live at Elland Road CD, rather brilliantly called 'Live', and Shaun Ryder (I assume) shouts "Are you Man U, you?" which fits in with dogbeak's assertion that it was fairly well used in Salford.

It's more since the 'footie' arrivistes like Zoe Ball, Angus Deayton, and all those tossbags that sprouted up, declaring their life long support for 'Man U' that the word took on negative connotations. Nowadays you'll get shouted down fairly quickly for using it.

Re:Football-talking guy entrance exams

Posted by Bombanersson - 22-07-2008 09:17

Bored Of Football wrote:

I have never heard "Sheff U" spoken and rarely written

Are there fools that actually pronounce "Sheff Weds" as it is spelt?

There are fools that write it, so why the hell not?
