

The Pope Family's Grand Tour

Episode Three, Paris 1888

<https://www.hillstead.org/armchair-journey/>



ANSWER KEY:

Train travel

The first transcontinental train line was completed in 1869. It was initially known as the Pacific Railroad, and then the Overland Route, and it spanned 1,912 miles from Iowa to California. The ceremonial "Golden Spike" - or last spike to complete the project - was struck at Promontory Summit, Utah, on 10 May 1869.

Other significant cross-continental train lines were completed as follows:

- East-West Canada - 1885
- Trans-Siberian Russia - 1905
- East-West Australia - 1917

The world's longest straight stretch of train track is part of the train route across Australia, where the train travels 297 miles between Kalgoorlie and Port Augusta.

Question: Can you find out what the name "Nullarbor" means?

Bordeaux

Bordeaux's inhabitants are particularly proud of the late-15th Century bell tower, which is freestanding and not directly connected with the Basilica St-Michel. At 374 feet in height, this is the second tallest bell tower in southern France. The spire offers a panoramic view over the city and river.

<https://www.bordeaux-tourism.co.uk/offre/fiche/fleche-saint-michel/PCUAQU033FS0003N>



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Photography



Félix Nadar captured the likeness of Claude Monet in 1899. In April 1874, Nadar had hosted an exhibition of paintings in his photography studio by a group of painters, sculptors and printmakers, going by the name Tthe Société Anonyme des Artistes. Many of the painters subsequently found fame as “Impressionists”, including Degas, Monet, Renoir, Morisot, Pissarro, Sisley, Boudin, and the young Cézanne. This exhibition is recognized as the first public showing of a new, modern style of painting, which featured visible, loose brushstrokes and emphasized the effects of light and movement in depictions of nature.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/becoming-modern/avant-garde-france/impressionism/a/how-the-impressionists-got-their-name>

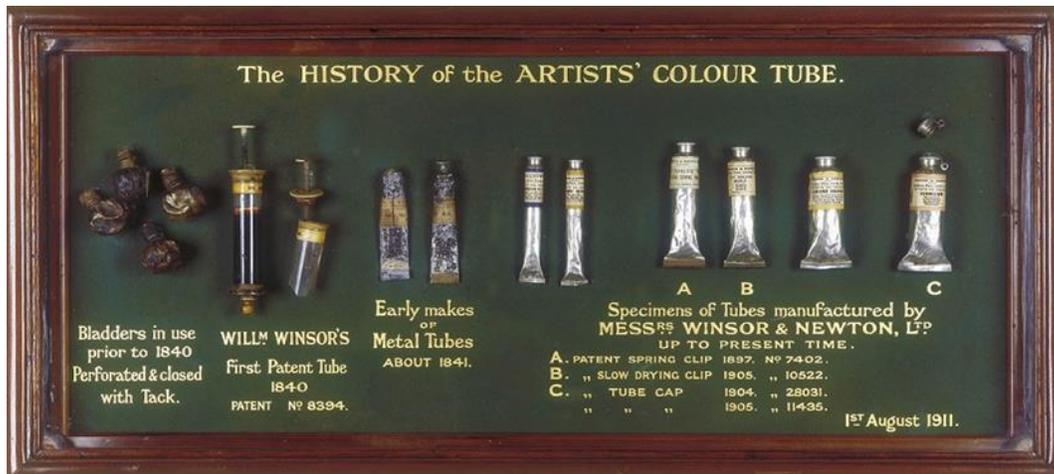
Les Landes

Turpentine is a fluid that is distilled from the sap or resin that is harvested from certain types of pine trees. It can be used as a solvent to help thin oil paints, making them easier to apply to a canvas. Turpentine also is used in the formulation of varnishes for finished paintings.

Bonus historic fact:

These days, oil paint comes in a soft metal tube. However, the metal tube was only invented and put into production as recently as 1841. Up until that time, artists would have to mix their own paints, and if they wanted to take the paints outside the studio, they would have to use glass capsules or even a pig bladder, tied shut with string. Mixing and preparing oil colors was a long process, and they would dry out quickly. Transporting the containers of oil paint around was difficult, and often limited painters to either using water colors, or staying indoors. The metal paint tube was invented by an American oil painter, John Goffe Rand. The tube was a type of syringe, used to squeeze out paint. Apart from allowing the paint to remain moist and usable for longer, this innovation also encouraged a whole new range of colors to be mixed and used by artists. By adding a screw cap, Winsor & Newton transformed the syringe into the familiar modern-style paint tube.

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Artist Pierre-Auguste Renoir is quoted as saying that, "Without paint in tubes there would have been no Cézanne, no Monet, no Pissarro, and no Impressionism."

<https://www.winsornewton.com/na/discover/articles-and-inspiration/from-the-archives-history-of-the-metal-paint-tube>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/never-underestimate-the-power-of-a-paint-tube-36637764/>

Bayonne

The answer sometimes can be found in the question - the bayonet is a blade that may be fixed to the muzzle of a rifle and used to stab an opponent in hand-to-hand fighting.

The first bar of chocolate was produced in 1847 in England by Joseph Fry, who developed a method for mixing cocoa powder, sugar and cocoa fat, and produced a moldable paste that could be formed into a bar. He produced the first mass produced, widely available bar in 1866: The Fry Chocolate Cream Bar.

René Cassin was a lawyer who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1954 for his work in helping draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. Article 1 reads as follows: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood."



Joaquin Sorolla completed a portrait of William Howard Taft, the 27th President of the United States, in 1909. It is on display at the Taft Museum of Art, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

https://taftmuseum.org/art/collection_highlights_trashed/1931-2/

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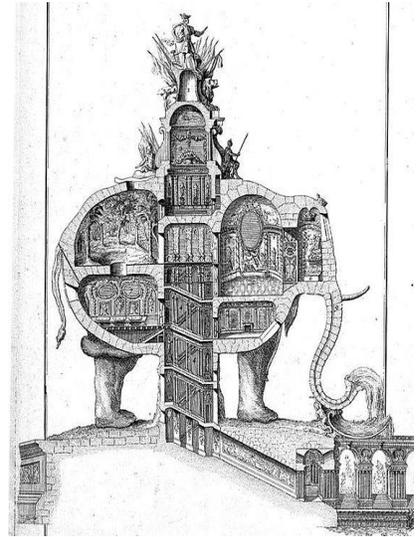
BONUS MARKS

Answer to the Bonus question from Episode 2:

The Arc de Triomphe occupies a prominent place at the western end of the Champs-Élysées. In the 18th Century, there were several other ideas for magnificent structures to place in this location. Which of the following was not one of the proposed projects?

a) A three-story elephant. Charles Ribert's design from 1758 was for a three-story elephant, with lounges, a ballroom, and a vast dining room. The ears were designed to act as acoustic horns, in order to broadcast orchestral music. The elephant's trunk was designed to act as a drainage system.

A full-scale plaster model of the Elephant was built in 1813 at the Place de la Bastille. The monument was sponsored by Napoleon, but construction on a bronze version stopped when he was defeated at Waterloo in 1815. After rats took up residence in the plaster version, it was torn down in 1846. The July Column now stands where the elephant once did.



b) A giant statue of Napoléon Bonaparte, with a viewing platform from the top of his hat. This is the correct answer; the proposed design featured a statue of Napoleon on a hill facing the future site of the Eiffel Tower.

c) An enormous water tower from which an artificial river would flow down the Champs-Élysées.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ribart_Elephant_triomphal.jpg

Bonus Questions for Episode 3:

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Theodate and her family are about to cross over the Pyrenees and head into Spain. Although Spanish is the official language of Spain, there are many regional dialects in the country.

* How many dialects can you list?

* Can you find the following regions on a map of Spain?

- Galicia
- Catalonia
- Andalucia
- Basque