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A web site for the developing language teacher

Review of the year  
quiz - how well do you  
remember the year  
2008?



Questions about the year 2008 in no particular order.

Clearly some questions will be more relevant to certain nationalities - choose to suit. Use the opportunity to delve into the topics in more detail & give more speaking practice, maybe preparing how you might do this for when you discuss the answers.

1. What is the name of the French bank where a 'rogue trader' lost €5bn (£3.7bn)?



2. In which country was the 'People's car' launched?



3. Who escaped from her guerilla captives in July after many years of captivity?



4. Which prominent European politician married which former model & singer?



5. Which European country declared itself an 'independent and democratic state', much to the annoyance of Russia?



6. Who stood down as head of state 49 years after he seized power in an armed revolution?



7. Which country & province had the most devastating earthquake in three decades killing in the region of 70,000 people?



8. Who became the new number 1 in tennis?



9. Who was finally arrested in Serbia after a 13-year hunt, accused of masterminding the Srebrenica massacre?



10. Who clashed in South Ossetia in a conflict which claimed more than 1400 lives?



11. What was the name of the hurricane that battered Havana and Texas, causing widespread destruction to the island of Haiti?



12. Which country successfully launched its first unmanned Moon mission?



13. Who was generally agreed to be 'Man of the Year'?



14. Which Indian city was attacked by a group of terrorists in December in which 200 people died?



15. Who became the world's biggest conman?



16. Which country had an uprising after the shooting of a teenager by the police?



17. Which country won the football Euro Cup?



18. Who swam to become a sporting legend?



19. Who was know as the 'lightning bolt'?



20. What was the name of the Joker who died accidentally?



#### Answers

1. Société Générale
2. India
3. Ingrid Bettancourt
4. Nicolas Sarkozy wedded singer-songwriter and former model Carla Bruni
5. Kosovo
6. Fidel Castro
7. Southwestern province of Sichuan in China
8. Rafa Nadal
9. Radovan Karadzic
10. Georgia & Russia
11. Hurricane Ike
12. India
13. Barack Obama

14. Mumbai

15. Bernard Madoff

16. Greece

17. Spain

18. Michael Phelps

19. Usain Bolt

20. Heath Ledger

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