

FORTY-THREE NAMES

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Here are 43 names of various people, presented in alphabetical order. Some are surnames only, some are first-name and surname, some involve an initial, some are fictional, and some are groups of people. One name (Rod Laver) appears twice – this is not an error.

Your task is to identify the significance of these 43 names. Once you have done that, you should be able to arrange them differently into a chronologically appropriate order.

Al Gore
Amos n' Andy
Ariel Sharon
Arthur Ashe
Beau Nash
Breughel
Carl Hamblin
Coriolanus
David Gerstein
Ethelred
Eva Braun
Farmer Giles
Giovanelli
Hans Geiger
Harry O
J Le Carre
James Mason
Jane Shore
Joe Soap
John Donne
John Lennon
Jon Secada
Jose Feliciano
Karl Landsteiner
Lyn Nofziger
Mata Hari
Nina Simone
O Henry
Orson W
Osama
Palmerston
Planck
Richard Fosbury
Ring Lardner

Robert Koch
Rod Laver
Rod Laver
Romeo
Rommel
Teresa Brewer
US Army
Wankel
Will Rogers

As a final twist to the task, consider the possibility of a 44th name on the list. Which should it be - Hosni Mubarak, Lady Hamilton or Nina Simone?

A POEM

MARTIN GARDNER
Norman, Oklahoma

This is an excerpt from Gardner's 1969 book *Never Make Fun Of A Turtle, My Son* (Simon and Schuster, illustrated by John Alcorn).

Never Make Fun

Never make fun of a turtle, my son,
For moving so slow in a race.
He *prefers* to move slow and he thinks that *you* go
At a terrible, nerve-wracking pace.

Don't ever sneer at a beaver, my dear,
Because of the size of his tooth.
He wonders why all of your teeth are so small,
And thinks that *your* grin is uncouth.

It just isn't fair to guffaw at a bear
Who is brown from his snout to his feet.
He *likes* to be brown. He thinks you're a clown
With a face painted white as a sheet.

It's vulgar to laugh at a baby giraffe.
His neck is unusual, that's true.
But I tell you he's *glad* to resemble his dad,
And would hate
To be shaped
Like you!