The Ultimate Downton Abbey Quiz

Lady Mary
How do I shock people this season?

Mr. Carson
Mrs. Hughes is worried about what?!

Lady Grantham
What does "dowager" mean?
On Dec. 31, the American Idol host, 41, will continue the tradition of his New Year’s Eve mentor, Dick Clark, as the emcee of Dick Clark’s New Year’s Rockin’ Eve With Ryan Seacrest on ABC. Here are five things about Ryan Seacrest you may not know.

1. The now-svelte Seacrest was a chunky child.
2. While at Dunwoody High School (Ga.), he was a starting lineman on the football team.
3. Hey! That’s him as an extra in the 1995 movie Crimson Tide.
4. He was bitten by a sand shark in 2008 in Mexico.
5. He produces Keeping Up With the Kardashians.

What’s your bounty hunter character like? "He is a bull in a china shop. He has no manners and doesn’t pretend to care, because he is about one thing—bringing his bounty in. He tries to capture them alive, because as bad as they may be, he believes that even those people deserve their day in court.”

What is it like working with director Quentin Tarantino? "There’s something sort of adventurous and illegal-feeling when it comes to working with Quentin. He loves the process of making movies from A to Z. It’s infectious, and you want to be a part of it.”

You have a lot of facial hair in the movie. "Oh my—I got rid of that the minute we finished. Actually, some people showed me things that were said on the Internet about my mustache. There are people out there that can actually write pretty cleverly: ‘It’s a mustache wearing a man.’"

You and Goldie Hawn have been together more than 30 years. What’s your secret? "I don’t think there is any secret. We’ve been able to weather storms, enjoy each other’s company and love has come to the forefront when it needed to.”

What does Russell think about his “lost” films of the 80s? Go to Parade.com/russell to find out.

Please settle a disagreement. What was the first song Carole King recorded?—Bob B., Worcester, Mass.

A: The Grammy-winning singer-songwriter’s first official recording was her 1958 single “The Right Girl,” which didn’t chart. She kept writing songs for others, like “Will You Love Me Tomorrow,” a No. 1 hit in 1961 for the Shirelles. It wasn’t until King released the album Tapestry in 1971 that she became a singing star herself. This month, the native New Yorker, 73, was among the recipients of one of the arts’ highest accolades at the 38th Annual Kennedy Center Honors, airing Dec. 29 on CBS.

How did Pitbull get his stage name?—Christina R., St. Augustine, Fla.

A: The Cuban-American rapper, born Armando Christian Pérez, chose the name because he admired the tenacity of the breed and its never-let-go bite. “They’re basically everything that I am,” he says. Pitbull, 34, is charging ahead with the release of his latest single, “FREE.K,” from his 10th studio album, Climate Change, scheduled for release next year. But first he will ring in 2016 on Pitbull’s New Year’s Revolution starting Dec. 31 at 8 p.m. ET on Fox.
UP YOUR CHAMPAGNE GAME

Forget popping the cork. Wow your friends and toast the New Year with pizzazz with some artful “sabraging.” Sabrage safely with the **MENU CHAMPAGNE SABRE**, $150, macys.com, which utilizes the bottle’s own pressure to slice it at the neck. And don’t skimp on the glam when it comes to champagne flutes. **STEMLESS GOLD FLUTES** will do the trick. Set of four, $24, worldmarket.com

GET INSPIRED IN 2016

**SHOWER MORE** It will boost your creativity, according to Scott Barry Kaufman and Carolyn Gregoire, authors of *Wired to Create: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Creative Mind* (Perigree), $27, bookstores and amazon.com starting Dec. 29. Go to Parade.com/wired for 10 things innovators do differently.

**CLEAN YOUR ENTRANCEWAY** Your whole house will feel better, says Marie Kondo, the (in)famous sock folder and author of a new tidying manifesto, *Spark Joy* (Ten Speed Press). “If the entranceway is filled with shoes and other things, the atmosphere in the home will be suffocating,” she says. $19, bookstores and amazon.com starting Jan. 5. Go to Parade.com/sparkjoy for more organizing tips.

**GET ALL BUBBLY**

**BRING ON THE BUBBLY TEE** $64, daydreamerla.com

**HAPPY NEW YEAR BOW TIE** $14, absoluteties.com

COLOR YOUR CALENDAR

Visit Parade.com/download for a free colorable 2016 calendar page every month.
On the eve of the sixth and final season of the PBS Masterpiece classic, test your knowledge of everyone’s favorite dysfunctional British (upstairs and downstairs) family.

By Will Lawrence
1. During the first-ever episode, which historical event leads to the emergence of a new heir at Downton?
   a) The outbreak of the First World War
   b) Britain’s failure in the race to the South Pole
   c) The sinking of the RMS Titanic

2. Spoiler: What is worrying Mrs. Hughes during the first episode of the new season?
   a) Daisy’s attitude in the kitchen
   b) Being intimate with Carson once they’re married
   c) Her lack of retirement provision

3. Which below-stairs character eventually reveals his homosexuality?
   a) Joseph Molesley
   b) Thomas Barrow
   c) Jimmy Kent

4. Which footman does Lady Mary describe as looking “like a puppy who’s been rescued from a puddle”?
   a) Andrew Parker
   b) Alfred Nugent
   c) Joseph Molesley

5. Which servant gives his life to save Matthew Crawley during the First World War?
   a) Henry Lang
   b) John Bates
   c) William Mason

6. Which actor left the show first to pursue other career opportunities?
   a) Dan Stevens
   b) Jessica Brown Findlay
   c) Lily James

7. The exteriors of Downton and some of the family rooms are filmed at Highclere Castle. At which historic London studio are most of the interiors shot?
   a) Pinewood Studios
   b) Shepperton Studios
   c) Ealing Studios

8. Among the British aristocracy, what is a dowager?
   a) A widow who holds a title
   b) The wife of a marquis
   c) A spinster who holds a title

9. Downton creator Julian Fellowes and Robert, Earl of Grantham, are members of the U.K.’s House of Lords. To which political party are they affiliated?
   a) Labour Party
   b) Conservative Party
   c) Liberal Democrat Party

10. In which English county is Downton Abbey supposedly set?
    a) Yorkshire
    b) Oxfordshire
    c) Cambridgeshire

11. With whom does Lord Grantham brawl during season five?
    a) Charles Blake
    b) Simon Bricker
    c) Lord Gillingham

12. How is the character played by Shirley MacLaine related to the Crawley family?
    a) She’s Lord Grantham’s cousin
    b) She’s Lady Cora’s mother
    c) She’s Tom Branson’s aunt

Take our expanded quiz at Parade.com/downton for a chance to win the complete series on DVD and more.
13. Spoiler: Which of Lady Mary’s fashion accessories causes a stir in season six?
   a) Sunglasses  b) Tiara  c) Cigarette holder

14. In season three, who says to Daisy, “Oh dear, have you swallowed a dictionary?”
   a) Mr. Carson  b) Mrs. Patmore  c) Lady Grantham

15. In season five, which below-stairs character is chastised for dying his hair?
   a) Mr. Barrow  b) Mr. Molesley  c) Mr. Bates

16. Which member of the British Royal Family paid a visit to the set of Downton in March 2015?
   a) Kate Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge  b) Charles, Prince of Wales  c) Anne, Princess Royal

17. What is the title of the magazine that Lady Edith inherits from Michael Gregson?
   a) The Illustrated London News  b) Country Life  c) The Sketch

18. To which U.S. city does Branson relocate with his daughter, Sybbie?
   a) Chicago  b) San Diego  c) Boston

19. Which of the following storylines did creator Julian Fellowes base upon a real-life incident?
   a) Denker’s gambling escapades with the young footman Andy  
   b) The death of Turkish diplomat Kemal Pamuk in Lady Mary’s bed  
   c) Mrs. Patmore’s budding romance with grocer Jos Tufton

20. What is the splendid-sounding name of the snooty butler who serves Violet Crawley, Dowager Countess of Grantham?
    a) Cicero Fox  
    b) Lane John Hughton  
    c) Septimus Spratt

Visit Parade.com/downtonquiz for 15 more questions [warning: includes a season six spoiler].

ANSWERS: 1-c; 2-b; 3-b; 4-b; 5-c; 6-b; 7-c; 8-a; 9-b; 10-a; 11-b; 12-b; 13-a; 14-b; 15-b; 16-a; 17-c; 18-c; 19-b; 20-c

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A Sweet Way to Ring In 2016

Sip and nibble your way into the New Year with these treats from journalist Elizabeth Chambers Hammer, 33, who—in addition to being chief correspondent for the Human Rights Foundation (HRF)—owns Bird Bakery in her hometown of San Antonio with her husband, actor Armie Hammer (The Man From U.N.C.L.E.). This boozy cupcake and cocktail get a kick from St-Germain, a French liqueur made from elderflower blossoms.

ST-GERMAIN CUPCAKES
For cupcakes: Preheat oven to 300°F. Line 2 muffin tins with cupcake liners. Whisk together 3¼ cups flour, 1½ cups granulated sugar, 1 Tbsp baking powder, ¼ tsp baking soda and ¼ tsp salt. In a large bowl, beat 1 cup room-temperature buttermilk, ½ cup canola oil, 3 Tbsp St-Germain elderflower liqueur and 5 large egg yolks. Slowly beat in 1 cup unsalted butter, melted. Add flour mixture, beating on low speed to combine. Place 2 large egg whites in a clean bowl. Using a beater with whisk attachment, beat whites until foamy. Gradually add ¼ cup granulated sugar, beating until soft peaks form. Fold egg whites into batter. Fill each cupcake liner three-quarters full. Bake 25 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool in pans 5 minutes. Remove from pans; cool completely on wire rack.

For frosting: Beat 1½ cups unsalted butter, softened, and 1½ lb (6 cups) confectioners’ sugar in a large bowl. Beat in ¼ cup St-Germain elderflower liqueur, 2 Tbsp milk and 2 tsp vanilla extract. Spread or pipe frosting evenly over cupcakes. Makes 24 cupcakes.

ST-G CHAMPAGNE COCKTAIL
Pour 2 oz St-Germain elderflower liqueur in a champagne flute. Top with 3 oz sparkling wine; garnish with lemon twist. Serves 1.

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I once read that one should not pour wine on top of wine. In other words, one should not add wine to a glass until it is empty. My friends have never heard of this. Have you?

—M.L. Cumming, Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

Yes! And here’s why: A server should not add wine to a glass until it is nearly empty because the practice wastes the wine on a diner who may not want to drink any more. So a diner who doesn’t want any more wine should always leave more than a little in the glass. But restaurants routinely ignore this in order to empty the wine bottle faster for the entire table (and thus sell more wine). They do the same with bottled water.

**FIRSTS**
- Three women graduated from U.S. Army Rangers school.
- Misty Copeland, 33, was named American Ballet Theatre’s first black principal dancer. Visit Parade.com/misty for our Q&A.
- The People’s Pope visited the U.S.

**WE COULDN’T LOOK AWAY**
- Jimmy Fallon & Justin Timberlake had the best bromance in showbiz.
- Amy Poehler & Tina Fey killed it at the Golden Globes.
- Saturday Night Live’s 40th Anniversary Show brought together four decades of comedic greats.
- Amy Schumer officially became our favorite hot mess in Trainwreck.

**THREE CHEERS TO**
- Team USA, FIFA Women’s World Cup winners.
- Princess Charlotte, born in May.
- American Pharoah, the first horse in 37 years to win the Triple Crown.
- Jon Hamm, an Emmy at last!
- Best Actress Winner Viola Davis, for her Emmy acceptance speech.

**HOW COOL IS THAT?**
- The U.S. and Cuba renewed ties.
- NASA’s New Horizons spacecraft reached Pluto after 10 years.
- Zion Harvey, an 8-year-old Baltimore boy, got the first successful double hand transplant.

—M.B. Roberts

**Like most years, it was the best and worst of times. Here are a few of the more notable positive moments from 2015.**

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(By Frank K. Wood)

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► Pounds can creep up as the years go by. But that won’t happen if you eat more of this and less of that.
► Kill disease-causing bacteria and viruses, get rid of mildew, and wipe out laundry stains. All with one inexpensive household product.
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► Give your arteries a good scrub naturally with a food from your pantry! Keep your brain sharp with a seasoning! Plus dozens more kitchen cures!
► Cut through grease and germs. Stop bacteria and mold. Even remove clothing stains and beat bathtub film! This pantry classic is all you need!
► Protect yourself from just about all forms of dementia and mental decline, simply by eating as little as 1 serving a week of this amazing food!
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► The lowly cabbage has surprising healing properties that strengthen weak bones, lessen arthritis pain, even combat certain skin problems!
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