

Sir John Soane

Quiz (Answers)



1. When and where was Sir John Soane born? 1753 near Reading



2. What was his father's job? Bricklayer



3. How old was he when he came to London to be an apprentice? 15

4. Which architect did he work for as an apprentice? George Dance the Younger



5. How old was he when he won a prize for architecture from the King? 23

6. What did he do with the prize money? He went on The Grand Tour of Europe



7. Who did he marry in 1784? **Eliza Smith**



8. Where did his wife's money come from? **She inherited it from her uncle**

9. How many children did they have and what were their names? **2: John Junior and George**



10. Describe the children and what happened to them.

John Junior married and had 4 children. He was no good at architecture and wasn't interested. He died before Sir John.

George wrote romantic novels. He married and had 4 children with his wife but also had an illegitimate child with his wife's sister. He liked spending money and got into debt. His parents kept giving him money but when his father decided not to give him any more money, he ended up in debtor's prison. For revenge, George wrote 2 newspaper articles criticising his father. His mother was very upset and died 2 months later. Sir John blamed George for his wife's death.

11. What was the dog's name? **Fanny**



12. What important job did Sir John Soane get when he was 35 years old?

Architect of the Bank of England



13. How long did it last? 45 years

14. How many houses did he buy in Lincoln's Inn Fields? 3



15. What did he do with each of them in turn? He demolished and rebuilt them

16. He had another house in Ealing. What was it called? Pitzhanger Manor



17. What kinds of things did Sir John Soane collect? Sculpture, paintings, architectural models, architectural fragments, antiquities

18. What was his most prized possession? Sarcophagus



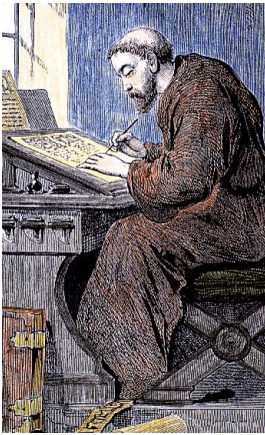
19. How much did he pay for it? £2,000

20. How long did the party to celebrate its purchase last? 3 evenings

21. What upset Sir John Soane's wife? **George's newspaper articles criticising his father's architecture**

22. What did she die of? **Gallstones**

23. Who was Sir John Soane's 'imaginary friend' and what did he create for his 'friend'? **A monk. He created the Monk's Parlour.**



24. What did Sir John Soane receive when he was aged 78? **A knighthood**



25. When did he die? **1837, aged 84**

26. What did he do with his house and museum when he died? **He left it to the Nation**

27. Where are Sir John Soane and his wife buried? **In the family tomb in Old St Pancras churchyard**



28. What iconic design was inspired by Sir John Soane's family tomb?

The red telephone box