

Quiz shows

1. Read about two quiz shows. Do you have the same or similar shows in your country? Do you enjoy them?

Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?

A quiz show where contestants can **win** a maximum **prize** of one million pounds if they can answer multiple choice questions which become more and more difficult.

Contestants have three possibilities of getting help: they can ask the **audience**, reduce the four choices to two, or they can phone a friend.



Mastermind

A quiz programme where contestants answer questions on a specialist subject which they choose, and then answer **general knowledge** questions.



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Q Who is the best quiz contestant in the country?

A Pat Gibson

Last night Pat Gibson ¹ *had* _____ a big party after winning *Mastermind* on BBC TV. But it ² _____ not his first celebration party. Last April Mr Gibson ³ _____ £1 million in *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* and ⁴ _____ the first person in Britain to win both quizzes.

In the *Mastermind* **final** Pat, a 43-year-old computer programmer who is obsessed with **trivia**, **beat** five other contestants, including a university lecturer. During the **competition** he ⁵ _____ questions on several specialist subjects, for example film director Quentin Tarantino and science fiction author Iain M Banks.



In *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* he ⁶ _____ to the final question and still had the possibility of phoning a friend for help. He was sure that he ⁷ _____ the answer, but he ⁸ _____ Mark Kerr, a friend, to double-check it. Mark was happy to help him – six weeks before, Pat ⁹ _____ Mark to win £250,000 on the same show as **his** phone-a-friend!

2. Now read about Pat Gibson. Why is he the "best quiz contestant in the country?"

3. Read the article again and complete it with a verb from the list in the past simple.

answer	help
be	know
become	phone
get	win
have	

4. Look at the highlighted words in the text related to quiz shows and guess their meanings. Then check them with the dictionaries online.

5. Would you like to be a contestant on a quiz show? Which one?