Are Some Jokes Off-Limits

1. Proper Nouns.

Matthew Wright **Scott Capurro** **Janet Ellis** **George Galloway**

Madeleine McCann – disappeared on the evening of 3 May 2007 from her bed in a holiday apartment at a resort in Praia da Luz, in the Algarve region of Portugal. The Daily Telegraph described the disappearance as "the most heavily reported missing-person case in modern history".

Private Eye – a British fortnightly satirical and current affairs news magazine

Jade (Goody) – a controversial Big Brother housemate

Brass Eye – a TV documentary series

2. Vocabulary. Match the word to its definition.

Answer	Word / Expression	Definition
	1. off-limits	**A.** unimportant things
	2. unimpeded	**B.** to publicly punish or humiliate
	3. trifles	**C.** agitated or excited about something
	4. crack a gag	**D.** to make extremely angry
	5. lynch	**E.** a subject that everybody avoids
	6. lambasted	**F.** forbidden
	7. whining / whinging	**G.** criticized
	8. unrepentant	**H.** endlessly complaining
	9. get worked up	**I.** reach the limit
	10. piss (s.o.) off	**J.** unobstructed
	11. debacle	**K.** disaster
	12. turn a blind eye	**L.** not sorry for a malicious act
	13. an elephant (in the room)	**M.** gives a bias; distorts
	14. skews	**N.** purposely ignore
	15. hit the buffers	**O.** tell a joke

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3. Questions.

1. What are the two "trifles" that Matthew mentions at the very beginning? (1 word each box)

2. What publication is well-known for its bad taste gags? (3 words)

3. Perhaps the readers (of the publication in #2) lacked a _____. (4 words)

4. Who walked out in offense to Scott Capurro's jokes about the Holocaust? (Number + 3 words)

5. According to Scott, who cries a lot? (1 word)

6. When people are resistant to certain topics, Scott sees that as _____. (2 words)

7. According to Scott, when Princess Diana got into the back of the Mercedes that was the best _____ she has ever made. (2 words)

8. Scott makes up stuff on stage all the time just to see _____. (4 words)

9. According to Scott, to make people listen, you need to find something that audiences _____. (3 words)

10. Big Brother is a microcosm of _____. (2 words)

11. If you don't like what Private Eye does, then don't _____. (2 words)

12. According to Janet, what one thing is crucial? (1 word)

13. With a subject like the Holocaust, we haven't learnt how to _____. (3 words)

14. We are not ready to laugh about the Holocaust because we haven't found what? (4 words)

15. It's like opening a book and _____. (4 words)

16. The minute an actor is nude you are in a _____. (5 words)

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17. Freedom of speech requires what? (3 words)

18. The _____ while difficult to _____ is easy to _____. (1 word each)

19. George says that a person who tells a joke about a young girl who has been kidnapped is a what? (1 word)

20. According to Matthew, laughter is needed as an antidote to what? (3 words)

21. For how long was the picture of Madeleine McCann of the front page of the papers? (5 words)

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