

Esteban Aguas (00:05):

Hello, everyone. Welcome to Meet Princeton, a podcast to introduce prospective students and their families to Princeton University, brought to you by the Office of Admission. I'm your host, Esteban Aguas. I'm an assistant dean of admission and a Princeton graduate from the class of 2019, and I want to thank you for tuning in today.

(00:23):

In this episode, we're going to switch things up and play a new game we're calling, Are You Smarter Than An Orange Key Tour Guide? Here's how it'll work. I'll ask a series of Princeton related questions to a member of our admission team and a student Orange Key Tour guide who will go head to head in a game of friendly trivia competition. In the end, whoever answers the most questions correctly wins. A longstanding tradition at Princeton, Orange Key Tour guides are current undergraduate students who enthusiastically share their love and knowledge of Princeton with prospective students and visitors.

(00:54):

This episode is also special because I'm joined for the first time by my new cohost and collaborator, Sydney Spector. Sydney is an admission officer finishing up her first year on our team and a member of Princeton's great class of 2024. So it's only fitting as a recent graduate that Sydney is the perfect member of our team to compete in this game. Please feel free to play along with our competitors, as I'm sure some of you are Princeton pros. And if not, I can't wait for you to learn some fun facts about Princeton along the way. With that, please sit back and enjoy as we see who comes out on top.

(01:27):

So today I'm joined by my colleague, Sydney Spector, who is a graduate from the class of 2024 and is now just finishing her first year within the admission office. And we have a current undergraduate and Orange Key Tour guide Rohan Sykora, who is here to compete against Sydney in what we are calling Are You Smarter Than an Orange Key Tour Guide? So welcome to the podcast you two.

Sydney Spector (01:52):

Hi.

Rohan Sykora (01:53):

Hi. Thanks so much for having us. It's great to be here.

Esteban Aguas (01:56):

Wonderful. So today we're going to have a little bit of friendly competition and how this is going to work is that we will have three different rounds based on three different topics of Princeton trivia, and there'll be a couple questions per round. You each have a little pad of paper in front of you. So after I read out the question, you'll have a few seconds to write down your answers and then you will reveal your answer to our listeners. And for each question you get right, you'll get one point. If you get it wrong, you'll get no points. And at some points along the way you'll notice that there are opportunities to get some bonus points as well. So by the end of the three rounds, we will be able to see if Sydney, are you smarter than an Orange Key Tour guide?

Sydney Spector (02:40):

I'm nervous.

Esteban Aguas (02:41):

Oh, well don't be. It's going to be fun and you'll definitely know more than I think you'll realize. I'm assuming you weren't an Orange Key Tour guide when you were an undergrad?

Sydney Spector (02:50):

I was not. I applied and never made it through the process, so it does not have high hopes for me.

Esteban Aguas (02:55):

Sure. Well, we'll see in the end if you have what it takes to be an Orange Key Tour guide. So with that, we're going to get started. Are there any final questions before we jump in?

Rohan Sykora (03:06):

I think I'm ready.

Sydney Spector (03:07):

All good to go.

Esteban Aguas (03:07):

Okay.

Rohan Sykora (03:08):

Let's do it.

Esteban Aguas (03:09):

So for our first category, the category is campus. Question one, the Harvey S. Firestone Memorial Library is the largest campus library and the administrative center of the Princeton library system. How many miles of shelving does the collection in Firestone hold? And you'll have 10 seconds. Okay, now Rohan, you can reveal your answer first and say it for the crowd.

Rohan Sykora (03:40):

I got 70 miles of open-stack shelving in Firestone.

Esteban Aguas (03:44):

Okay. Sydney?

Sydney Spector (03:45):

I said it's longer than here to New York. Number wise, I couldn't tell you.

Rohan Sykora (03:49):

That's good.

Esteban Aguas (03:50):

So you are semi right. So how about this? We'll say Rohan gets one point, Sydney you get 0.5.

Sydney Spector (03:56):

Thank you.

Rohan Sykora (03:57):

That's the story we're always supposed to tell people when we get to Firestone.

Sydney Spector (04:00):

You can tell I went through half of the training.

Rohan Sykora (04:02):

Yes, of course, of course.

Esteban Aguas (04:03):

The correct answer is 70 miles. And so the lore of it all is if you were to have someone walk along the shelves of Firestone and someone else walk to New York City, that New York City bound person would actually arrive first. That is how long our shelves are in Firestone Library. Firestone was actually one of the largest open-stack libraries in the world when it first opened in 1948. So currently after question one, we're at Rohan has one point and Sydney has half a point.

[\(04:34\):](#)

Question number two, built in 1897, this largest arch on campus is a popular space for student acapella groups to perform. Okay, what did we write?

Rohan Sykora (04:47):

I put my money on Blair Arch here.

Sydney Spector (04:50):

I also said Blair.

Esteban Aguas (04:52):

Ding, ding, ding. You're both correct. So Blair Arch was actually the first collegiate gothic building on campus and was part of a construction effort to commemorate the university's 150th anniversary. So originally, the broad steps of the arch actually served as the main entrance to campus because that's where the Dinky station used to be located. But now that has changed a lot and the arch is just kind of an iconic place on our campus that is very much used by our student acapella groups. So you each get one point.

[\(05:21\):](#)

All right, question number three, the Dinky connects downtown Princeton and the Princeton University campus with Princeton Junction Station along NJ Transit's Northeast Corridor, which is the train superhighway, if you will, connecting Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. What was the original name of the Dinky?

Rohan Sykora (05:42):

We're talking about the Dinky like the train itself that's going from the junction to campus?

Esteban Aguas (05:47):

Right. Now it's kind of vernacular name is the Dinky. What do people used to call it before we called it the Dinky?

Sydney Spector (05:53):

You're stumping me.

Esteban Aguas (05:56):

Well this game has to be difficult for everyone, you know?

Rohan Sykora (06:01):

I have no idea to be honest. I wrote down the Princeton Shuttle or something like that. The Princeton, I don't know, Train Service. I don't know.

Sydney Spector (06:10):

I said the Princeton Train.

Esteban Aguas (06:11):

Okay. I'd say you both are close but no cigar. So it was actually called the PJ&B, which stands for Princeton Junction and Back. Although trains ran through the town of Princeton beginning in 1839, the track was kind of far from the Delaware and Raritan Canal and really not close to town center. It wasn't until the mid-1860s that a new station was built near the rear of 36 University Place, and this train would make trips between the town of Princeton and Princeton Junction 12 times a day. And University Place actually used to be called Railroad Avenue instead. So neither of you get a point for that one.

(06:55):

Question number four, Alexander Hall is a historic 900 seat Richardsonian Romanesque performance hall built in 1894 that is currently home to both the Princeton University Orchestra and the Princeton Symphony Orchestra. However, what was the original purpose of Alexander Hall? So it's used for music performances now—what did it used to be used for?

Rohan Sykora (07:20):

Okay, do you want to go first this time Sydney?

Sydney Spector (07:21):

Sure, I said a lecture hall.

Esteban Aguas (07:24):

Okay.

Rohan Sykora (07:25):

Yeah, and I swear I heard maybe a couple weeks ago someone was talking about people used to post exam scores in there, but maybe I'm totally wrong, but I also said exam hall or lecture hall/posting exam, like exam place.

Esteban Aguas (07:39):

It was neither. So it was actually built as a convocation hall. For about 30 years after it was built, first year students were welcomed at orientation in Alexander Hall and then commencement was held for seniors in that building as well. It was eventually converted into a performance hall in 1984. So neither of you get a point for that one either.

(08:04):

Question number five, Powers Fields at Princeton Stadium has been the home field of the Princeton Tigers since 1998 when it replaced the former Palmer Stadium on the same site. What is the seating capacity of Princeton Stadium? Okay, what are we guessing?

Sydney Spector (08:21):

I said 50,000, which I honestly have no idea.

Esteban Aguas (08:25):

Sure.

Rohan Sykora (08:27):

I'm going to go with 30,000. I want to say that's right. I swear I'm just going off what I've heard here, I guess. Maybe not going on actual information.

Sydney Spector (08:36):

Hearsay.

Rohan Sykora (08:36):

Yeah. But I swear someone was telling me about reunions last year and they were like, "Wow, reunions is such a big deal, so many people come to campus, they can fill the whole stadium." And I know reunions is like 25,000 to 30,000 people come back. So that's my guess.

Esteban Aguas (08:49):

Yeah, no, your Spidey-senses are ringing true, Rohan. So you were super close. It's 27,800 people can fit inside.

Sydney Spector (08:57):

Wow.

Esteban Aguas (08:58):

So yeah, if you think that about 25,000 alumni return for reunions every year, we do pretty much fill that stadium up to watch those fireworks at the end.

Rohan Sykora (09:05):

It's pretty good.

Sydney Spector (09:05):

Reunions is a great rule of thumb for that one.

Rohan Sykora (09:05):

Yes, that was a good one.

Esteban Aguas (09:05):

So with that, I will give you a point.

Rohan Sykora (09:11):

All right, we're in business.

Esteban Aguas (09:14):

Question number six. The town of Princeton has the highest concentration of what compared to any other two square miles on earth? I can repeat the question. The town of Princeton has the highest concentration of what compared to any two square miles on earth?

Rohan Sykora (09:33):

I'm not going to lie, I'm stumped. This is a tough one. Am I responsible for the town of Princeton as an... I guess I am as an Orange Key Tour guide?

Esteban Aguas (09:39):

Yeah, and I will say I really struggled with how to word this question, but I think when you hear the answer, you'll understand what I mean.

Rohan Sykora (09:46):

Okay.

Esteban Aguas (09:47):

So what was your guess?

Rohan Sykora (09:48):

I said stone. I feel like that's a very derivative, boring answer. But I was stumped, I'm not going to lie.

Sydney Spector (09:53):

I said ice cream stores. I feel like we have a bunch of them.

Esteban Aguas (09:57):

I love that.

Rohan Sykora (09:58):

That's good.

Esteban Aguas (09:58):

So it's neither of those, unfortunately. The correct answer is prize winners.

Sydney Spector (10:03):

Whoa.

Rohan Sykora (10:03):

Oh.

Esteban Aguas (10:03):

The town of Princeton has more prize winners, including Nobel Prize winners and Pulitzer Prize winners, than any other two square miles on earth.

Rohan Sykora (10:12):

That's really impressive. I did not know that.

Sydney Spector (10:14):

That's crazy.

Esteban Aguas (10:14):

So now you have a little tidbit for your next tour.

Rohan Sykora (10:17):

New tour fact incoming.

Esteban Aguas (10:18):

All right, so two more questions left in this section. Question number seven, when completed in November, 1756, this building was the largest academic building in the colonies and the largest building in all of Colonial New Jersey. Okay, you were both quick on this one, so I'm sure you both got the answer right.

Rohan Sykora (10:39):

1756, I got to go with Old North Nassau Hall.

Sydney Spector (10:43):

Nassau Hall.

Rohan Sykora (10:43):

Nassau Hall.

Esteban Aguas (10:45):

You're both correct. So let me give you both a point.

Rohan Sykora (10:47):

Do the questions increase in difficulty as we go throughout or is it kind of a mix?

Esteban Aguas (10:51):

No, I try mix it up a little bit.

Rohan Sykora (10:52):

Okay. Okay.

Esteban Aguas (10:53):

I also feel like difficulty can sometimes be very, kind of, subjective.

Rohan Sykora (10:58):

Very true.

Esteban Aguas (10:59):

And what I might find difficult, you guys might know immediately—just trying to keep it interesting. So yes, the answer is Nassau Hall. Nassau Hall is the oldest and most historically significant building on Princeton's campus. It originally contained the entire college, so included things like a prayer room, a recitation room, library, dining facilities and students' actual dorm rooms. And then Nassau Hall briefly also became the nation's capital in 1783, which is a fun tidbit as well.

(11:28):

And then the last question for the section, question number eight. Seating 446 students and housing perennially popular courses like Econ 100 and COS 126, this classroom is the largest lecture hall on campus. What is the answer guys?

Rohan Sykora (11:43):

You got it this time?

Sydney Spector (11:44):

I said McCosh 50.

Rohan Sykora (11:47):

I'm going with McCosh 50. My favorite classroom.

Esteban Aguas (11:54):

It is.

Sydney Spector (11:54):

Oh, I'm a McCosh 10 fan.

Rohan Sykora (11:54):

Really?

Esteban Aguas (11:54):

Oh really?

Rohan Sykora (11:54):

That's very interesting.

Sydney Spector (11:54):

Yeah.

Esteban Aguas (11:55):

Well McCosh 50 it is. So McCosh 50 is also a really popular filming location. There's a scene for example in Transformers 2: Revenge of the Fallen that is actually shot inside McCosh 50. And in that scene, Shia LaBeouf is kind of kicked out of lecture and runs out of the classroom, which is kind of fun.

(12:10):

So after this first round, Sydney has three and a half points. And Rohan, if my tabulations are correct, has six.

Rohan Sykora (12:19):

All right.

Esteban Aguas (12:19):

So exciting stuff.

Sydney Spector (12:21):

I'm going to catch up.

Rohan Sykora (12:21):

It's early in the game. We're early in the game still.

Esteban Aguas (12:23):

There're lots of bonus points ahead.

Rohan Sykora (12:25):

Lots of points left on the board.

Esteban Aguas (12:26):

This next section is going to focus on academics. So question number one, in 1994, this Goheen professor in the humanities founded the Princeton Atelier, program bringing together undergraduate students in interdisciplinary collaborations with acclaimed artist and performers. Sydney, you want to go first?

Sydney Spector (12:48):

I said Toni Morrison, which I don't know if it's correct, but she's my favorite of Princeton professors.

Esteban Aguas (12:54):

Okay, okay.

Rohan Sykora (12:55):

I also went with Toni Morrison. That was my guess, yeah.

Esteban Aguas (12:59):

Well your intuition is correct.

Rohan Sykora (13:00):

Okay.

Sydney Spector (13:00):

Nice.

Rohan Sykora (13:01):

It is in fact Toni Morrison. Morrison first came to Princeton in 1989 and remained a member of our university faculty until 2006 when she finally retired. And in 1993, of course she famously was the first African American to be awarded the Nobel Prize in literature, which is super exciting.

Sydney Spector (13:19):

Toni Morrison is why I applied to Princeton in the first place.

Esteban Aguas (13:21):

Oh wonderful.

Rohan Sykora (13:22):

There you go.

Esteban Aguas (13:23):

Let me add another point for each of you on the scoreboard. Question number two, what word meaning field in Latin was first used at Princeton to refer to the grounds of a college? You're both quick on this one too. So what is the answer?

Rohan Sykora (13:38):

I'm going with campus here.

Sydney Spector (13:39):

I also went with campus.

Esteban Aguas (13:41):

And it is in fact, campus. It's earliest recorded use is actually found in a letter written by a Princeton student in 1774. And previously before this, the word "yard" had always been used at Princeton and it is

still commonly used at some of our peer institutions and other colleges, but of course we refer to it as Princeton's campus. So you each get one more point.

Rohan Sykora (14:04):

It's funny, I was a little nervous for this coming in. I'm not going to lie. I may or may not have read through the Orange Key Guide for Guides, which is all the facts that they give us for the tours. And this was one that I had actually never known until this morning when I read through it. I did not know this. And now it might be something that I include in the tours because it's pretty cool. I didn't know that.

Esteban Aguas (14:23):

I think it's really fun lore, especially now almost every college in the world uses campus to refer to their grounds.

Sydney Spector (14:29):

Most schools even.

Rohan Sykora (14:30):

Yeah.

Esteban Aguas (14:31):

Yeah. Question number three. Prior to adopting the terminology of majors and minors, what words were used to refer to Princeton's program of study? And not to age myself, but these hark back to my days as a student here at Princeton.

Sydney Spector (14:47):

Same actually. That's how I started out.

Rohan Sykora (14:51):

Not to age myself, but we never had these. It was always, I think, pretty much for the most part always.

Esteban Aguas (14:57):

Yeah. So what is your guess, Rohan?

Rohan Sykora (14:59):

I had concentration and certificate. That's what I had.

Sydney Spector (15:02):

I also had concentration and certificate.

Esteban Aguas (15:04):

Correct. So you each get one point.

Rohan Sykora (15:07):

I think I like majors and minors a little bit more. I think it's... I don't know.

Esteban Aguas (15:10):

For sure. I would say from an admission perspective, when I first started out in the office, they still used concentration and certificate. And it was kind of a lot of confusing terminology for prospective students to really understand. And they didn't really understand that they were just kind of analogous to majors and minors at other schools. So I think the dean of the college office pivoting and adopting that more common nomenclature I think definitely helps from an admission perspective trying to explain to students what our academic programming looks like.

Rohan Sykora (15:41):

Now Princeton's got enough acronyms and phrases and things in enough already.

Esteban Aguas (15:44):

Oh, for sure.

Sydney Spector (15:44):

True.

Esteban Aguas (15:46):

Okay, question number four. How many courses is every AB student required to take compared to every BSE student? So this is an opportunity to get two points. How many classes do AB students need to take and how many courses do BSE students need to take? And for our listeners who may be confused, what is an AB versus a BSE student, essentially at Princeton, an undergraduate can attain one of two degree types we offer. So the first is the Bachelor of the Arts, which we refer to as the AB degree because we go by its Latin name, and the other is the BSE degree or the Bachelor of Science and Engineering degree. Okay, who wants to go first?

Sydney Spector (16:26):

I said 36 versus 40.

Esteban Aguas (16:30):

And which number are you assigning to what?

Sydney Spector (16:31):

36 for AB, 40 for BSE. But as I'm thinking about it, I think I want to switch to 32 AB, 36 BSE.

Esteban Aguas (16:40):

Which one are you locking in, Sydney?

Sydney Spector (16:41):

I'm going to lock in my second. 32 AB, 36 BSE. But I might regret it.

Rohan Sykora (16:47):

I'm going to go with 31 for AB and 36 for BSE. But I do know that there are some upcoming changes because they are going to start counting the senior thesis and the junior paper as a class.

Sydney Spector (16:58):

Really?

Rohan Sykora (16:59):

But I don't think that is coming until my senior year. But I'm going 31, 36.

Esteban Aguas (17:04):

Okay. It is 31, 36. So Sydney, you get one point and Rohan gets two.

Rohan Sykora (17:09):

That was close, 31, 32.

Sydney Spector (17:11):

I overshot there the first time.

Rohan Sykora (17:12):

Yeah, you did slightly. It's going to be 32 or 33 I think for AB, because now it's going to be JP and in the senior thesis.

Esteban Aguas (17:19):

Right. So every AB student is required to take a total of 31 courses plus their independent work. But obviously that looks different from department to department, while every BSE student must take a total of 36 courses, and that includes four semesters of math, two semesters of physics, one semester of chemistry, and one semester of a computing and programming course by the end of sophomore year.

(17:43):

Moving on to question number five. Study abroad is becoming increasingly popular at Princeton. What percent of undergraduates participate in at least one structured international activity lasting one month or longer? And then a bonus point for how many programs and countries offer acceptable credit.

Rohan Sykora (18:05):

Acceptable credit as in you'll get a Princeton credit?

Esteban Aguas (18:08):

Those credits will transfer.

Rohan Sykora (18:09):

Will transfer.

Esteban Aguas (18:11):

What percentage of students do study abroad and then how many programs and how many countries? So I guess two additional points up for grabs, let's say. So I need three numbers.

Sydney Spector (18:31):

I think this is the first one I'm feeling more confident than Rohan in.

Rohan Sykora (18:33):

Yeah, I am not entirely too sure about the second two numbers. But why don't you go for it?

Sydney Spector (18:41):

Sure. I said 60% of students will study abroad and we have around 200 programs in 100 countries, 100 different countries.

Rohan Sykora (18:49):

Okay. Yeah, I was going to say, I said two thirds, I knew it was somewhere between 60 and 70, but I might go on the lower end there, 60. And then I was going to say 100 countries, but I had no idea for the number of programs.

Esteban Aguas (19:01):

So it is 60-61% of students participate in study abroad, 100 programs, 43 countries.

Rohan Sykora (19:10):

Ah. I don't know, I was thinking there's a lot of countries in the world and I feel like there's a lot of different.. Yeah, that makes a lot more sense. More programs than countries.

Sydney Spector (19:16):

I knew 100 fell in there somewhere.

Esteban Aguas (19:19):

It was somewhere. You felt it in your bones. So you each get one point for that.

Rohan Sykora (19:21):

All right.

Esteban Aguas (19:24):

Okay. Question number six. The emphasis on independent work is one of the hallmarks of the Princeton undergraduate education. The senior thesis is a rite of passage that most alumni describe as the most valuable educational experience of their time at the university, and many students go on to expand and publish their theses. What Princeton alum's thesis was titled An Argument and Plan for the Creation of the Teacher's Corporation? And then in addition to this alum's name, if you can name their class year, you get an extra point.

Rohan Sykora (20:00):

I don't know their name, but I know that she founded Teach For America.

Esteban Aguas (20:08):

You're on the right path.

Rohan Sykora (20:08):

I don't know her name, which is very disappointing, because some people do mention this in their Firestone Library stop. And also in the Guide for Guides this morning it was like, "Here's a bunch of famous theses," and I don't remember the date from this one. '94, '95, 2000. I don't know.

Sydney Spector (20:25):

Oh, I am so off. I said Eisgruber because I had no better bet. He is class of '83 though.

Esteban Aguas (20:33):

Okay. That's correct.

Rohan Sykora (20:34):

That's good.

Sydney Spector (20:34):

There we go.

Esteban Aguas (20:35):

So neither of you get points for this one. Rohan, you were close with the Teach For America, you're on the right path. It was Wendy Kopp.

Rohan Sykora (20:40):

Wendy Kopp.

Sydney Spector (20:41):

Wendy Kopp.

Esteban Aguas (20:42):

She was Class of 1989. And her thesis would provide the foundation for what would become Teach For America, which of course is a non-profit organization whose mission is to enlist, develop and mobilize as many as possible of our nation's most promising future leaders to grow and strengthen the movement for educational excellence.

Sydney Spector (21:03):

Now I want to go find it and read it.

Esteban Aguas (21:04):

Yeah, so shout out to Wendy for that. And then our last question in this section is question number seven. In 1893, undergraduates established Princeton's honor system against cheating, which has been in effect without interruption since that time. Under the honor code, students have a two-fold responsibility, what is this two-fold responsibility? And don't overthink it. Because ultimately I know you both know it.

Rohan Sykora (21:34):

I mean, I just signed the honor code in full on Sunday and I will tomorrow again for my final exams. But I said rule number one, don't cheat yourself and rule number two, hold others accountable. So make sure you are reporting anything you see or anything weird. That's what I got.

Sydney Spector (21:51):

I too said to not cheat and to report cheating.

Esteban Aguas (21:54):

You know your stuff.

Rohan Sykora (21:55):

There we go.

Esteban Aguas (21:55):

You each get one point.

Rohan Sykora (21:57):

I was afraid there was going to be some specific language that we had to use and I was like, "Oh, I don't know it."

Esteban Aguas (22:01):

Yes, so individually you must not violate the code, and as a community you are responsible to see that suspected violations are reported. As Rohan mentioned, students sign a pledge when they matriculate and again on every single exam that they take that they will not, and have not, violated the honor code. And so students also sign this pledge on their papers and other written assignments as well. All right, so after round two, Sydney has nine and a half points and Rohan has 13. So we're close!

Rohan Sykora (22:31):

Closing the gap.

Esteban Aguas (22:32):

So anything can happen in this last round.

Rohan Sykora (22:33):

Last round. Many points on the board.

Esteban Aguas (22:35):

Yes. And this last section is on student life.

Rohan Sykora (22:39):

Okay.

Esteban Aguas (22:39):

Question number one, Princeton is an NCAA division one school and a member of the Ivy League conference. How many varsity sports teams does the university offer? Oh, you were both quick on that one.

Sydney Spector (22:53):

Uh-oh.

Rohan Sykora (22:54):

What do you got?

Sydney Spector (22:57):

I said 38.

Rohan Sykora (22:58):

I got 36.

Esteban Aguas (22:58):

It is in fact 38.

Sydney Spector (23:00):

Oh my gosh! Women's rugby. You can't forget women's rugby. It's a new one.

Rohan Sykora (23:04):

36, 39 club teams in my total... Oh, it's totally 38.

Esteban Aguas (23:09):

I was going to say, these are numbers that even we need to stay up to date on every year.

Rohan Sykora (23:12):

Yeah, they change.

Esteban Aguas (23:12):

The university does update to make sure that there's equality between both men's and women's sports. So yes, the answer is in fact 38 varsity sports teams.

Sydney Spector (23:21):

Catching up.

Rohan Sykora (23:21):

I apologize to everybody that I may have offended. And also the Orange Key association for that mistake.

Esteban Aguas (23:29):

Yeah, so around 18% of undergraduates are varsity athletes and another about 1,100 students participate in some kind of club or intramural sport.

(23:39):

Question number two, the first American intercollegiate football game was held between Princeton and what other university? And then bonus point opportunity if you can name what year that game occurred in. Okay, so why don't we start out by first naming that university.

Rohan Sykora (23:58):

I got Rutgers.

Sydney Spector (23:59):

Rutgers.

Esteban Aguas (24:00):

It is in fact Rutgers University located in New Brunswick. Could either of you name a year?

Rohan Sykora (24:08):

I said 1868. I want to say it was around there perhaps.

Sydney Spector (24:13):

I said 1843. Spitballing, completely spitballing.

Esteban Aguas (24:17):

The game was played on November 6th, 1869.

Rohan Sykora (24:21):

Oh, you're kidding me.

Esteban Aguas (24:23):

So I feel like for the bonus point, I can't give it to you. I'm sorry.

Rohan Sykora (24:25):

That's not fair, but there you go.

Esteban Aguas (24:27):

So close.

Rohan Sykora (24:28):

Well, we'll stick by the rules of the game here. Wow.

Esteban Aguas (24:31):

Rutgers ended up winning that game 6-4, and a week later, however, Princeton won the return match on its own grounds 8-0.

Rohan Sykora (24:38):

There you go.

Sydney Spector (24:39):

Home team advantage.

Esteban Aguas (24:39):

Yes.

Rohan Sykora (24:39):

There you go.

Esteban Aguas (24:41):

Question number three, every year before graduation, Princeton hosts its alumni reunions. This university-wide celebration is the largest college reunions in the country with about 25,000 alumni returning every year. How many tents does the university set up around campus every year for reunions? And for this one I will give whoever gets closest, within reason.

Rohan Sykora (25:07):

And these are like the big tents?

Esteban Aguas (25:09):

Yes. The big tents. So to explain for people who have never witnessed Princeton reunions, essentially they divide up all of campus into different major reunions tents. And so they set up these large tents for the 5th, the 10th, the 15th reunion and so on to be able to celebrate that major milestone reunion as a class. I know, I feel like honestly before I looked up and I found this number, I would've been way off base.

Rohan Sykora (25:35):

Yeah. Again, this information is all fresh in my mind because I did just totally read it and I totally do not know the answer.

Esteban Aguas (25:43):

I am intrigued though, once I say the answer, if you think this answer feels low or high compared to what you're expecting,

Rohan Sykora (25:50):

I said, in my brain I'm thinking it's either 15 or it's 11. But maybe it's more than that. I don't know. That's what I would say.

Sydney Spector (25:56):

I said 12.

Esteban Aguas (25:56):

This is so interesting.

Sydney Spector (26:01):

And I need you to know I counted on my fingers trying to name all the tents to get there.

Esteban Aguas (26:06):

I am going to give you both one more opportunity.

Sydney Spector (26:08):

Oh no.

Esteban Aguas (26:09):

Tents include every single tent that is put out.

Sydney Spector (26:11):

Oh.

Rohan Sykora (26:11):

Oh, like every tent.

Sydney Spector (26:11):

Not just like-

Esteban Aguas (26:13):

Yeah, it's not just the major reunion sites headquarters tents. So think about the drink station, they have one usually up by security, things like that.

Sydney Spector (26:23):

Big X through my 12.

Esteban Aguas (26:24):

Yes.

Rohan Sykora (26:24):

Yeah, no, definitely not 11. Ooh. Can I go with 100? Is that crazy for a ballpark, 100?

Sydney Spector (26:37):

36.

Esteban Aguas (26:38):

Okay. 115.

Rohan Sykora (26:39):

Ooh!

Sydney Spector (26:41):

Oh!

Rohan Sykora (26:41):

That is insane!

Esteban Aguas (26:41):

So I will give you a point for that because you were kind of on the money.

Sydney Spector (26:44):

That's crazy.

Rohan Sykora (26:47):

Yeah, that's wild.

Esteban Aguas (26:49):

And just some other fun statistics related to reunions, university dining services serves almost 36,000 meals during reunions. The university bakeshop bakes 34,680 cookies and that includes 2,000 cookies in the shape of the Princeton Crest.

Rohan Sykora (27:05):

That's pretty good.

Esteban Aguas (27:06):

So fun stuff. Question number four, the University's informal motto is Princeton In the Nation's Service and in the Service of Humanity. However, its official Latin motto is Dei Sub Numine Viget. What does this mean? And I never took Latin in school, so I did not know the answer to this before I looked it up.

Sydney Spector (27:28):

Can you say it in the Latin one more time?

Esteban Aguas (27:30):

Dei Sub Numine Viget.

Sydney Spector (27:33):

Didn't help. I know the first part is "Under God," could not tell you the second part.

Esteban Aguas (27:40):

Okay, I'll give you a half a point for that.

Sydney Spector (27:42):

Thank you.

Esteban Aguas (27:43):

Because you got two of the four words.

Sydney Spector (27:43):

Awesome.

Rohan Sykora (27:46):

Yeah, I got "Under God She Flourishes."

Esteban Aguas (27:48):

And you are correct.

Sydney Spector (27:49):

Should have known that one.

Esteban Aguas (27:51):

So we'll give Rohan a full point. Okay, and now for our last two questions of the game, these will both be opportunities for you to get multiple points.

Rohan Sykora (28:01):

Multiple points. All right.

Esteban Aguas (28:02):

And how the standings currently are. Sydney has 12, Rohan has 15. So still really close game.

Rohan Sykora (28:08):

Tight game.

Esteban Aguas (28:09):

And these can be game changers.

Sydney Spector (28:10):

At least I'm at a full number now.

Esteban Aguas (28:11):

Yeah. Question number five, the Novogratz Bridge Year Program is a nine-month long, tuition-free program that allows newly admitted undergraduates to begin their Princeton experience with a

community engaged learning program at one of our six international locations. Can you name the six countries that are part of the program this year? And you'll get one point per correct answer. So you can get up to six points for this question. Who wants to report out theirs first? And we can tabulate how many you got right.

Sydney Spector (28:42):

Go for it.

Rohan Sykora (28:43):

I said Bolivia, Senegal, Indonesia, India and Cambodia. Was that five?

Esteban Aguas (28:54):

You got five actual ones.

Rohan Sykora (28:55):

That was five. What am I forgetting? I am going to know it as soon as you say it, I swear.

Esteban Aguas (28:58):

So you jumped from 15 points to 20.

Sydney Spector (29:00):

Wow. Okay. Cambodia, I forgot. So I got Senegal, Bolivia, Indonesia, India. We don't do China anymore, but that's the one I had.

Esteban Aguas (29:09):

No.

Sydney Spector (29:09):

And then I had Costa Rica and Puerto Rico, but I don't remember which one it is.

Esteban Aguas (29:14):

It's Costa Rica.

Sydney Spector (29:15):

Costa Rica.

Rohan Sykora (29:15):

Costa Rica.

Esteban Aguas (29:16):

Oh you got five. Five and five.

Rohan Sykora (29:18):

Wow. Look at that.

Sydney Spector (29:19):

Look at that. And we got the one the other missed.

Rohan Sykora (29:21):

That's very true. Costa Rica.

Esteban Aguas (29:24):

Okay, so before the last question, the current standings, Sydney has 17 points, Rohan has 20.

Sydney Spector (29:29):

Keeping that three gap.

Rohan Sykora (29:29):

Neck and neck.

Esteban Aguas (29:30):

There's a lot of points to get at this last question.

Rohan Sykora (29:32):

All right.

Esteban Aguas (29:33):

So our final question, question number six. Approximately 70% of Princeton juniors and seniors join an eating club on Prospect Avenue. These co-ed non-residential facilities have memberships generally ranging from around 100 to 200 students. Each club has its own cooking staff, which prepares meals for members, in addition to offering a variety of social, recreational, athletic and educational programs. Can you name the eating clubs at Princeton? I'm not saying how many there are because you might forget some. And you'll get one point for each correct answer, so for each correctly named club, and you'll get an extra point per name if you could say whether it's a bicker or a sign-in club.

(30:18):

So for our listeners, I kind of gave a brief overview of what eating clubs are. They're essentially our most popular upperclassmen eating option, but they also have a kind of social component where they're another micro community on our campus. The process in which you become a member to them varies. So you probably heard two words "sign-in" and "bicker." A sign-in club essentially means you can sign up and become a member. And then a bicker club has a process called bicker, which is essentially more of an interview style where prospective members meet with the current membership and then the membership votes on the incoming cohort that joins that eating club.

(30:54):

So just to start off, there are 11 different eating clubs and so there's in total 22 points up for grab here.

Rohan Sykora (31:01):

That's a lot of points.

Esteban Aguas (31:02):

The way I'm going to ask you to report out: the club name and then say whether they're sign-in and bicker. So who wants to go first?

Sydney Spector (31:11):

I can go first.

Rohan Sykora (31:11):

You got it.

Sydney Spector (31:13):

Okay. Charter, sign-in, technically. Colonial, sign-in. Tiger Inn, bicker. Ivy, bicker. Cottage, bicker. Cannon, Bicker. Tower, bicker. Cloister, sign-in. Cap, bicker. Terrace, in my opinion, best club of all, sign-in. And then I think Campus club should be referenced here, the club for all. I have 10 plus Campus, so I'm missing one.

Esteban Aguas (31:41):

You forgot Quad. That's it.

Sydney Spector (31:42):

Quad.

Rohan Sykora (31:43):

Yeah, we forgot Quadrangle.

Sydney Spector (31:44):

I forgot Quad. So sorry, Quad.

Esteban Aguas (31:46):

Yeah. So that means you got 20 points.

Sydney Spector (31:49):

Nice.

Esteban Aguas (31:49):

Which is great. Okay, hold on. Let me just add 20. So that brings you up to 37.

Rohan Sykora (31:55):

You got the lead.

Esteban Aguas (31:56):

Yeah.

Sydney Spector (31:57):

For now.

Rohan Sykora (31:57):

For now, for now. I got Terrace, sign-in. Tower, bicker. Cannon, bicker. Quad, sign-in. Ivy, bicker. Cottage, bicker. Cap, bicker. Cloister, sign-in. Charter, selective sign-in. TI, the Tiger Inn, bicker. And Colonial, sign-in.

Esteban Aguas (32:17):

And is that all 11?

Rohan Sykora (32:19):

I believe so.

Esteban Aguas (32:20):

Nice. So you get in fact 22 points.

Rohan Sykora (32:23):

22 points. I did like a little walk down Prospect Avenue in my mind.

Sydney Spector (32:26):

Skipped right over Quad somehow.

Esteban Aguas (32:27):

Okay.

Rohan Sykora (32:28):

It's unfortunate.

Esteban Aguas (32:30):

So at the end of our game, drum roll please. Sydney ends up with 37 points and Rohan ends up with 42 points.

Sydney Spector (32:42):

Wow!

Esteban Aguas (32:43):

So close game. It was a five-point game!

Rohan Sykora (32:45):

Five-point game. There we go.

Esteban Aguas (32:45):

So very good. Good sportsmanship. So yeah, maybe the jury's still out—are we smarter than an Orange Key Tour guide? But we're pretty close to them.

Sydney Spector (32:56):

It's true.

Rohan Sykora (32:56):

There we go.

Sydney Spector (32:56):

I'm adding some of these facts to the information sessions.

Esteban Aguas (32:59):

I hope all of our listeners you learned something new about Princeton because I surely learned as I was writing these questions. We've learned throughout today's episode that you two both learned new things about Princeton.

Rohan Sykora (33:08):

For sure.

Esteban Aguas (33:09):

Which I think goes to show no matter how much time you spend here as a student or as an alum, there's always something new to learn about this place and it's really special in the end.

Rohan Sykora (33:17):

Absolutely.

Sydney Spector (33:17):

True. A lot going on.

Esteban Aguas (33:19):

Well, thank you both for being great sports and for joining me today.

Rohan Sykora (33:22):

Yeah, thanks so much for having us.

Sydney Spector (33:23):

Thank you.

Rohan Sykora (33:23):

It was a pleasure.

Esteban Aguas (33:25):

We hope you enjoyed learning more about Princeton through Are You Smarter Than an Orange Key Tour Guide? As I said earlier, this podcast was created with prospective students and their families in mind. So I'd like to direct all of our listeners to our admission website at admission.princeton.edu. There you can watch, read, and learn more about our university.

(33:44):

Meet Princeton's audio engineer is Nick Donnoli of Orange Box Pictures. Mary Buckley and I, Esteban Aguas, are executive producers. And special thanks to Rohan Sykora and my collaborator, Sydney Spector, for their enthusiastic participation in today's game. Thank you so much for listening and we hope you'll join us next time on a Meet Princeton.