

Hewlett-Packard South Queensferry Quiz Hints

The stories behind the stories of HP's innovations in Silicon Glen
Hints to help make your journey less frustrating when working through
the facts and trivia of HP's history in South Queensferry

Q1: What was the product number and Queensferry revenue of the largest grossing product manufactured in Queensferry, and the largest grossing product in HP/Agilent's history?

Hint: This has nothing to do with the telecoms division, look west to Washington State.

Q2: What was the first product to bear the 37xx number?

Hint: This also has nothing to do with South Queensferry, look south to Bedford Town.

Q3: What was the first microprocessor-controlled communications test equipment from HP? When was it developed and when did it hit the field service test-equipment folks?

Hint: It looks like an early and big self-contained computer.

Q4: Reading Vol.2 p113 and Vol.3 xiii you find the 4934A Special Options J01 & J02 the CCITT version for countries outside North America. This was an "under the bench" development so was allocated a Special number, not a product number. Standard options were called 001, Specials were normally H01, so why was the 4934A called J01 & J02?

Hint: If Q3 is all about the author, then 4 is all about the lead editor's favourite project.

Q5: What was the highest unit volume generating product, highest revenue generating product and longest lived in production product wholly designed in Queensferry?

Hint: Volume 2 contains a useful appendix with this kind of information and analysis.

Q6: Who is the employee hired at Queensferry or Bedford with the longest service?

Measured using the *Benefit Service Start Date* on the HP/Agilent/Keysight HR system.

Hint: This was an omission from the books, I'm afraid you are on your own. Guess?

Q7: As an HP employee you were allocated an employee number, but some had two. Name the employee with the lowest number, mentioned in the books?

Hint: The person in question is up-front about this in Volume 3.

Q8: The Volume 3 editors avoided duplicating photographs, but one image deliberately appears on 2 separate pages. What are the page numbers?

Hint: Volume 3 is full of pictures, we recommend you start at the back.

Q9: Just like working on the development of a HP product, we allocated part-numbers for this 3-volume project. So, 6 new part-numbers were allocated to the 3 volumes. What is the number of the new product? What are the part numbers and where did you find them?

Hint: Come on, where were the part numbers always put? Find one and you find them all.

Q10: Some documents reproduced in the books were edited to hide sensitive detail and protect people's privacy, rather than unsightly redaction. Can you find any documents that have been modified?

Hint: There are 5 modified images, think about what kind of things would need redacted.

Q11: Some page numbers turned out to be uncannily sympathetic with the page contents. Looking at Volume 3, what is the sympathy with v and 63?

Hint: There are 2 answers, A connection with 5 on page 5 and 63 on page 63.

Q12: How many maps of Scotland can be found?

Hint: In all 3 volumes, 12 in total. You need a microscope and I'll accept page numbers.

Q13: How many times in the 3 Volumes is the HP logo explicitly used?

Hint: It is legally important that our form of words uses the term 'explicitly'.

Q14: Connecting the three volumes, there is a homage to author Roger Hargreaves' "Mr Men and Little Miss" books. Where is it, and how was it covered?

Hint: The answer is not inside the books and you need all three to appreciate "spine art".

Q15: There were hundreds of employee pranks over the years, many are unprintable! What is the significance of the lonely carry-on suit-carrier on Vol.3 p191?

Hint: You don't have to look outside the box for a personal reference to this.

Q16: What sports club played a team game and unusually dispensed with the goalkeepers?

Hint: Volume 3 has a full 2 page spread on this beautiful story.

Q17: This is one for owners of the full set of 3 volumes. In Vol.3 p299, by looking at the 3 volumes side by side, what attribute do you think Hugh selected for Volumes 1 and 2?

Hint: Vol.3 p299. Hugh is discussing the colour of the wall, the pipe and the toilet p****s.

Q18: Three fonts are used in the books, what page are they identified on?

Which font replaces an HP proprietary font?

Which font was used by Hewlett-Packard?

Which font was not used by HP and so is the odd one out?

Hint: It's the same page on each Volume. How can that be, aren't they all different?

Q19: The 1980s Recruitment brochure promoting engineering careers in Queensferry used on its cover an effect that looks like window panes, Vol.3 xv. What is the significance of placing this graphic immediately before the main sections in Volume 3?

Hint: We stole ideas from corporate standards to give it the HP style. It's about "the grid".

Q20: The author strap line at the bottom of the three spines says WALKER, HP and SQF respectively. What is HP an abbreviation for?

Hint: What would you normally put on the spine of a book?

Q21: The editors have built in an anti-theft mechanism into each Volume 1, 2 or 3. What page can it be seen on?

Hint: At the start this may look like a physical device, but it's more about mind games.

Q22: What and why is one of the editors' business cards on the back cover of Volume 3 inconsistent with the HP Style Guide?

Hint: From the start, not to put too fine a point on it the HP logo was dashed.

James Gentles and Garry Irvine. Thanks to Ivan Young. 24th January 2022