

# THE MAGIC WORLD OF NAMES

## John

The name John comes from the Hebrew, Yochanan, YOE-CHAN-an (the ch is pronounced like the ch in loch as in Loch Lomond) and can be translated as either "Gift of God" or "God has been gracious." John has been the most common name in English-speaking countries for several centuries. Surnames derived from John include: Jackson, Johnson, Jens, Jenks, Jones, Hancock, and many others.

In other countries there are other variations from the original Hebrew, Yochanan. In addition, there may be several variations in the same country. Thus, in Germany we can find Hans, Hansel, Johann, and Johannes.

Some of the names below may be more familiar than others. Can you match them up correctly?

- |                   |                              |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Evan.      | a. Arabic.                   |
| ___ 2. Giannes.   | b. Armenian.                 |
| ___ 3. Giovanni.  | c. Belgian/Dutch/Polish.     |
| ___ 4. Hanna.     | d. Danish/Norwegian/Swedish. |
| ___ 5. Hans.      | e. French.                   |
| ___ 6. Hovhannes. | f. German.                   |
| ___ 7. Ian.       | g. Greek.                    |
| ___ 8. Ivan.      | h. Hungarian.                |
| ___ 9. Jan.       | i. Irish.                    |
| ___ 10. Janis.    | j. Italian.                  |
| ___ 11. Janos.    | k. Lettish (Latvian).        |
| ___ 12. Jean.     | l. Russian.                  |
| ___ 13. Jens.     | m. Scottish                  |
| ___ 14. Juan.     | n. Spanish.                  |
| ___ 15. Ohannes.  | o. Turkish.                  |
| ___ 16. Sean.     | p. Welsh.                    |



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Answers: 1. p., 2. g., 3. j., 4. a., 5. f., 6. b.,  
7. m., 8. l., 9. c., 10. k., 11. h., 12. e., 13. d.,  
14. n., 15. o., 16. i.