1. In which country were over a thousand Australians stranded after a cruise to Fremantle was cancelled?  
   a. Singapore - Thousands of people, many of them Australian, are stranded in Singapore after their cruise was abruptly cancelled. They were booked on the Sun Princess for a 14 day cruise due to depart today from Singapore for Fremantle but an electrical fault forced the ship to remain in port.

2. Which country is being accused of using chemical agents against activists?  
   c. Syria - Activists have accused forces loyal to president Bashar al-Assad of using nerve gas to kill more than 200 people during a heavy bombardment of rebel-held areas around Damascus.

3. True or false, Kevin Rudd has announced that Labour will spend millions of dollars buying Indonesian fishing boats that might otherwise be used for people smuggling?  
   False - As part of an anti smuggling policy announced by the Coalition (not Labour), Australia will spend up to $20m on buying fishing boats from Indonesians who might otherwise offer them to people smugglers.

4. Why did hundreds of workers on Chevron’s offshore Gorgon project participate in a protest march?  
   c. they don’t want to share bunk beds - Workers on Barrow Island off the Pilbara coast are repeatedly being offered $125 a day to share a double bunk bed with an employee working the opposite day or night shift. The Gorgon Project is one of the world’s largest natural gas projects and the largest single resource development in Australia’s history.

5. Why has Japan’s Fukushima nuclear power plant been in the news?  
   a. they are having to deal with 300 tonnes of contaminated water - Workers at Japan’s crippled Fukushima nuclear plant are scrambling to check 300 tanks storing highly radioactive water, after some 300 tonnes of radioactive water seeped from one of the tanks that hold water used to cool the plant’s broken reactors.

6. What is going to be introduced to make quad bikes safer?  
   a. a safety star rating will be introduced - Farmers will soon be able to compare the stability of quad bikes under a new Australian safety star rating system similar to the one that already applies to all other passenger vehicles. Quad bike accidents are the leading cause of death on Australian farms with 18 deaths last year.

7. Kevin Rudd has been accused of missing important talks on the Syrian crisis to do what?  
   c. make an appearance on a TV cooking show - Mr Rudd says he was eager to attend the talks as soon as possible, but as they couldn’t happen until the following day, he was happy to make a planned appearance on ABC’s Kitchen Cabinet.

8. How did over 37 people die in a tragic accident in India?  
   c. they were struck by a train while crossing the tracks - At least 37 people have been killed and dozens more injured after being struck by a train while crossing the tracks at a remote train station in eastern India. The pedestrians were mostly Hindu pilgrims who had just stepped off a local train in the eastern state of Bihar when they were hit by an express train.

9. Why was Mackay State High School in north Queensland in the news last week?  
   c. two homemade bombs were found on the school grounds - The devices were found on the school’s oval a day after a 13-year-old boy from the city was injured by a similar device. It turned out the tennis ball-sized items had already been detonated and there was no danger to students.

10. Why was Beyoncé in the news last week?  
    c. she spent $3000 at the fast food restaurant, Nando’s - Beyoncé spent nearly £1600 ($AUD3000) on flame-grilled chicken after a performance in the UK. The 31-year-old star, put in a massive order for her and her entourage, which included 48 whole chickens, 580 spicy wings, 48 portions of chips, 24 tins of coleslaw, 24 helpings of spicy rice and 12 vegetable burgers.

11. Australia and England compete every second year to win The Ashes. What are the ashes from?  
    c. a ball from the wickets - A small urn containing the ashes was given to the English team in 1882 by a group of Australian women to signify the ‘death of English’ cricket after they lost comprehensively to the visiting side. England have now won the last three series in a row.

12. What caused major chaos for Sydney commuters last Thursday?  
    c. a major power outage - A major power outage in Sydney caused chaos for commuters heading home, both by train or on the roads as many traffic lights were down.

13. An Australian study has found that the flu vaccine can affect the chance of a person suffering what?  
    a. a heart attack - The study has found the flu vaccine can almost halve the chances of a heart attack for middle-aged people showing signs of heart disease. Researchers from the School of Public Health at the University of New South Wales found the link after examining more than 500 patients.

14. What is the capital city of Sweden?  
    Stockholm

15. True or false, Labor has announced that parents who do not vaccinate their children will miss out on thousands of dollars in government payouts?  
    True - Mr Rudd has said those who do not vaccinate their children will miss out on thousands of dollars in government payouts.

**VISUAL ANSWERS**

1. Rugby - between Australia and New Zealand
2. a. Sri Lanka
3. Martin Luther King Jr - This week marks the 50th anniversary of his ‘I have a Dream’ speech
4. David Furner - has been sacked as the coach of the Canberra Raiders rugby league team
5. Clown Fish - there are concerns about its future due to the bleaching of sea anemones

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