1. What is the name of the typhoon that causing severe damage in South East Asia?
   a. Haiyan - possibly the strongest storm ever to hit land, was barrelling out of the Philippines after having flattened houses, triggered landslides and floods and knocked out power and communications across a number of islands.

2. What type of animal is the RSPCA supporting a cull of in Western Australia?
   a. wild horses - After years of debate, thousands of wild horses are being killed on two Aboriginal pastoral leases near WA's border with the Northern Territory. Graziers say the animals are ruining vegetation on Billiluna and Lake Gregory stations, and there is not enough food or water for them.

3. Which Australian actress will be playing Julia Gillard in a new television drama?
   b. Rachel Griffiths - Melbourne production company WTFN has acquired the film and television rights to Kenny-Anne Walsh's book The Stalking of Julia Gillard and says Griffiths has signed to play the lead role.

4. True or false, under new rules Parliamentarians will be made to pay 25% extra on top of repaying any expenses they incorrectly claim?
   True - Parliamentarians have been criticised for claiming expenses they are not entitled to, including attending weddings, sporting events and trips to buy rental properties. Stricter rules are being applied to what can be claimed.

5. Which country has just successfully launched it's first mission to Mars as it aims to become the only Asian nation to reach the planet?
   a. India - The country has never before attempted interplanetary travel and more than half of all missions to Mars have ended in failure, including one by China in 2011 and another by Japan in 2003.

6. What is a new training program in Victoria teaching high school teachers, that is said to be revolutionary?
   c. how to build 3D printers - A new program is showing teachers how to build 3D printers and incorporate them into school curriculum. Quantum Victoria, a science and maths innovation centre funded by the Victorian Government, has just trained its first group of teachers.

7. The fire alarms were set off in Canberra’s Parliament house recently by a swarm of ...?
   b. moths - The swarms of bogong moths are lured every year by the lights of the national capital's largest building. The moths breed in the plains of southern Queensland, western New South Wales and Victoria and migrate south to cooler alpine areas - via Canberra.

8. What plant is associated with Remembrance Day?
   a. poppy - Remembrance Day is dedicated to Australians who died as a result of war, particularly from World War I onwards. Remembrance Day is annually observed on November 11.

9. Which pop singer's album has been under investigation by Australia's Agricultural Department?
   a. Katy Perry - US singer Katy Perry's latest album, Prism, became the subject of a bio-security investigation by Australia's Agriculture Department because of flower seeds from Western Australia that she included in the album's packaging.

10. What is the name of the horse that won the Melbourne cup last Tuesday?
    c. Fiorente - ridden by Damien Oliver, beat Red Cadeaux and Mount Athos to win the $6.2 million race at Flemington on Tuesday

11. Why have over 150 Australian websites been hacked by hackers from Indonesia?
    c. they are protesting against the reported involvement of Australia in spying on Indonesia - A group calling itself Anonymous Indonesia has taken over a range of websites with addresses ending in .au. Allegations have surfaced that Australia used its Jakarta embassy as a base for political, diplomatic and economic intelligence gathering.

12. What World Heritage cultural site did the Swiss jetman Yves Rossy fly around last week?
    c. Mt Fuji - Swiss jetman Yves Rossy is back on solid ground after completing his first flight in Asia, near Mt Fuji. The 54-year-old daredevil flew round the iconic landmark on a carbon-Kevlar wing with four engines, reaching speeds of up to 300 km/h.

13. The Fair Work Ombudsman has said that it’s highest number of complaints about discrimination in the workforce involve what?
    b. pregnancy - Australia's workplace watchdog, The Fair Work Ombudsman, says its figures indicate that for the first time there were more complaints about pregnancy-related discrimination in 2013 than for complaints related to mental or physical disability.

14. Thai customs officers have found over 1,000 of a particular animal smuggled through the airport in one week. What type of animal was it?
    c. turtles - Thai customs have seized a haul of 470 protected turtles and tortoises in airport luggage, making it a total of over 1,000 creatures found in the country's airports in a week.

15. What had to be evacuated over the weekend due to the threat posed by a grass fire?
    b. Dreamworld - The fire was advancing towards Australia's largest theme park on the Gold Coast. Dreamworld was evacuated as a precaution with seven thousand visitors having to leave.

**VISUAL ANSWERS**

1. Gai Waterhouse - The winning trainer of the Melbourne Cup
2. b. Moscow - St Basil's Cathedral
3. the Philippines - Typhoon Haiya
4. Cuba
5. a solar eclipse - Millions of people in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America were able to witness a rare solar eclipse last week, allowing a view of the Sun that is totally or partially blocked by the Moon.

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