

Countup

Aim:

This is a spoof of the TV show “Countdown” – Just for laughs. No particular message; but if you find one, do let us know.

Props & FX:

Small table and chair for Dickie

Double table and two chairs for Deirdre and Digby

Paper and pencils for Deirdre and Digby

Chamber’s Dictionary for Dickie

Carol’s board – area to stick letters; area to write numbers

Letters “C” “A” “T” in consonants and vowel piles (undisclosed)

Numbers “1” and “2” in top and bottom rows (undisclosed)

“6” and “H Y W” separately covered up on board

Big felt tip for Carol

FX – full 30 sec and last 15sec of countdown theme

[SFX: 30 second countdown theme]

Dickie Blackly: Welcome back to all you Count-up fans. I bet you’ve been counting up the minutes since we last saw you, and if not, why not? . . . Right let’s get move on.

It’s tremendously tight here in the studio. Our reigning champ, Digby Mortimer, has got a solid score of 347 points, but just pipping him at the moment is our gallant challenger, Deirdre Danderly on 349 points.

So, without further ado, let’s march forward like an army into battle with our next round. Deirdre . . .

Deirdre: You what?

Dickie: Choose your letters from Carol

Deirdre: Oh, okay. Right . . . continent please, Carol

Carol: “C”

Deirdre: And a vowel

Carol: “A”

Deirdre: And another continent

Carol: And that’s a “T”

Dickie: Okay, that’s the letters chosen. Let’s hope you CATch onto a good word.

[SFX: 15 second short countdown theme]

Dickie: Time’s up folks. What have you got, Digby?

Digby: Just three, Dickie.

Dickie: Okay, and Deirdre?

Deirdre: Just two I’m afraid.

Dickie: Right, well let’s have your two then, Deirdre.

Deirdre: “At”

Dickie: “At” . . . how are you spelling that?

Deirdre: Oh, erm, “a”, “t”

Dickie: Ok. Right. “at”. Fine. But let’s hear this 3 from Digby.

Digby: I think this is how you spell it, “cat”.

Dickie: Oh yes, “cat”. Very good, well done. Have you got that there, Carol. There we can see it *[CLAP]* . . .

So we’re now neck and neck with only three rounds to go. So, last letters game, and it’s your choice, Digby.

Digby: Oh right. Can I have a vowel please, Carol?

Carol: You certainly can, Digby, and it’s an “E”

Digby: And another

Carol: “U”

Digby: And . . . one more please

Carol: And that’s “A”

Dickie: E, Uve, picked A right selection there. Off we go.

[SFX: 15 second short countdown theme]

Dickie: Okay, let's see how we've got on. Deirdre?

Deirdre: Only one I'm afraid

Dickie: And Digby?

Digby: A risky three

Dickie: Oh a risky three, that's exciting. Well, let's hear Deirdre's one.

Deirdre: "a"

Dickie: "a", right, how are you spelling that?

Deirdre: Urm . . . "a"?

Dickie: Oh yes, right. Yes but we've got a risky three from Digby

Digby: Well I'm not sure but "eau" (*Digby pronounces this "eey-ore"*)

Dickie: "eau" right, how are you spelling that?

Digby: "E" "A" "U"

Dickie: And in what context would that be used?

Digby: Well, eeyore. EEY-ORE (*Digby makes sound like a donkey the second time*)

Dickie: Oh right, I do see what you mean, but unfortunately it's not in our Chambers Dictionary so we can't allow it. We do need to be strict about this, I'm sure you viewers know, we have to go by what's in the good book . . .

So we're back to Deirdre's one. Let's just see that to remind ourselves. "a" *[CLAP]*

Right, after that very complicated letter's round let's move on to the number's round. And with only one point separating them, it's Deirdre's choice.

Deirdre: I'll have one from the top row please Carol . . . and one from anywhere else.

Carol: Okay, so that's "4" and "2". And the target is, oh, quite a small one .. "6".

Dickie: Okay, six is your target, folks. Let's start the clock

[SFX: 15 second short countdown theme]

Dickie: Right, time's up. Let's see how you've got on, Digby?

Digby: I think I've got "6".

Dickie: Right, great. Deirdre.

Deirdre: Yes, “6” as well

Dickie: Oh right, who shall I pick first? Let’s hear Digby

Digby: Erm right. I took the “4” and . . . I added the “2” to get “6”.

Carol: Yes that’s correct, very good.

Dickie: Deirdre?

Deirdre: Slightly differently actually. “4” times “2” equals 8, and then I minus-ed the “2” . . . oh no sorry, I’ve used the “2” twice.

Dickie: Oh what a shame, easily done, there always a bit tricky aren’t they those numbers. Never mind, let’s move on to the Conundrum. Digby is just in the lead but it all rests on this one. So fingers on the buzzers and as soon as you can spot the word in the scrambled letters, press. Here we go, Carol will you reveal today’s Count-up Conundrum

[Carol uncovers “H Y W”]

[SFX: 15 second short countdown theme]

Dickie: OK no takers there then. You are going to kick yourselves and ask why, oh why, did I not get that ... WHY!

So the scores stay the same which means that the Count-Up champion for the 28th day running is the seemingly invincible Digby Mortimer. Well, we’ve had some excitement today haven’t we? Tune in tomorrow, for another nail-biting showdown on Count-Up. It’s goodbye from all of us for now, goodbye!

[SFX: 30 second countdown theme]