

Here's a puzzle from our upcoming book *The Hunting of the Shark!*
Start with the word UKRAINE and alter it in the following ways using your vast knowledge of Ukrainian trivia!

Slava Ukraini!

1. If glorious hockey player Wayne Gretzky's paternal grandmother was Ukrainian, reverse the first number-of-goals-in-a-hat-trick letters. If not, delete them.
2. If celebrated astronomer Carl Sagan's father was Ukrainian, add the commonest letter in "billllllions and billllllions" at the end. If not, add it at the start.
3. If stupendous *Jeopardy!* maestro Alex Trebek's father was a Ukrainian Canadian, change the fourth letter to the first letter in "Potpourri." If not, change it to that word's last letter.
4. If fabulous conductor Lawrence Welk's parents were Germans from Ukraine, switch letters "a one and a two." If not, switch letters "a three and a four."
5. If praiseworthy economist Milton Friedman's parents were Ukrainian, add the commonest vowel in "non-parametric analog of two-way analysis of variance" to the end. If not, add it to the front.
6. If magnificent *Spider-Man* creator Steve Ditko thought his parents were Ukrainian, but wasn't sure, change the only vowel in Spidey's real first name to a Y. If not, change it to an M.
7. If legendary psychiatrist Sigmund Freud's parents were Ukrainian, double the last letter in "cigar." If not, this time an R is only an R.
8. If mellifluous singer Michael Bolton is half-Ukrainian, move the last letter in "(Sittin' on)" to the second position. If not, do so with the last letter of "The Dock of the Bay."
9. If unimpeachable author Joseph Conrad was born in Ukraine, put a T in the heart of the heart of "Darkness." If not, put a C there.
10. If gorgeous actress Milla Jovovich was born in Ukraine, delete one occurrence of the middle letter of the periodic table's fifth element. If not, delete its last letter.
11. If titanic Bears coach Mike Ditka is of Ukrainian ancestry, reverse the first number-of-points-in-a-touchdown-with-no-extra-point letters. If not, do the same thing, but include the extra point.
12. If talented American actress Vera Farmiga's parents are from Ukraine, make *The Front Runner* of your word disappear. If not, double it.
13. If evocative singer Bob Dylan's grandparents were Ukrainian, blow in the wind and delete the middle letter of a string of three consecutive letters in his last name. If not, blow in the wind and complete his last name.
14. If visionary helicopter inventor Igor Sikorsky was born in Ukraine, rotate the central two letters really quickly. If not, rotate the whole word really quickly.
15. If poetic *Fight Club* author Chuck Palahniuk is half-Ukrainian, you do not talk about the Ukraine. If not, you do NOT talk about the Ukraine.
16. If potent actor Jack Palance's parents were Ukrainian, change the last vowel to the nextmost vowel in the alphabet while doing a one-armed push-up. If not, just do the push-up.
17. If golden-fingered artist Al Hirschfeld's mother was Ukrainian, write the word NINA in very small letters after the I. If not, write it after the U.
18. If mega-genius counterculturalist Andy Warhol's parents came from the Slovak-Ukraine border, ignore the previous instruction. If not, don't. See if we care.
19. If beloved actor Walter Matthau's father was Ukrainian, take the first available letter from "Felix" and move it to knock out the second available letter from that name. If not, do that with "Oscar."
20. If heartwarming *Let's Make a Deal*/host Monty Hall's maternal grandfather was from Ukraine, move the fifth letter to the front. If not, you win... a new car!

