The DEFINITE ARTICLE

We ask a celebrity a set of devilishly probing questions – and only accept THE definitive answer. This week it’s Pointless co-host Richard Osman

The prized possession you value above all others… My grandad Tom Wright’s six Second World War medals. He was a very special person in my life – he helped bring me up after my parents divorced.

The biggest regret you wish you could amend… Wasting ten years from the age of 17 being shy. I thought I was different because I’m tall [6ft 7in] and have nystagmus [a condition that makes his eyes flicker]. You learn later that everyone has things they’re embarrassed about.

The temptation you wish you could resist… Salt and vinegar crisps. I’d happily have them as my main meal.

The book that holds an everlasting resonance… The Catcher In The Rye, which I read when I was 20. It was moving and funny.

The priority activity if you were the Invisible Man for a day… I’d go into bankers’ offices, find their passwords and transfer a day of their wages to charity, particularly Child’s iFoundation, which finds families for orphaned children in Uganda.

Right: James Stewart and Donna Reed in It’s A Wonderful Life. Above right: Snooker. Far right: Wild Wadi Waterpark in Dubai

The unlikely interest that engages your curiosity… It sounds geeky but I love snooker. I’m encyclopaedic about it and go to watch the World Championships. I love how these guys have such mental strength.

The pet hate that makes your hackles rise… When people get angry if you disagree with them. Can’t we just agree to disagree?

The film you can watch time and time again… Woody Allen’s Annie Hall. It’s funny, charming and intelligent.

The person who has influenced you most… Tim Hincks, president of the TV production company Endemol, where I’m his deputy. I did a six-month trial at his company 14 years ago and I’m still there. Tim and I just clicked. We still do.

The figure from history for whom you’d most like to buy a pie and a pint… I’d love to sit in a pub in Dickensian London and just chat to the regulars.

The piece of wisdom you would pass on to a child… Never judge people by what they say, but by what they do.

The song that means most to you… Suzie’s Metal Mickey. My brother Mat is the bass guitarist and seeing them on Top Of The Pops in 1992 was monumental.

The treasured item you lost and wish you could have again… The cruciate ligament in my left knee. I damaged it playing football when I was 23 and it’s affected me ever since.

The unequaled quest that drives you on… To maintain happiness.

The poem that touches your soul… Wendy Cope’s Valentine is a very beautiful poem. If you want poems about love, Wendy’s the one.

The misapprehension about yourself you wish you could erase… I wish the fact that I’m 6ft 7in wasn’t a misapprehension. People always comment on it and they mean well, but I’ve had it all day, every day, all my life.

The event that altered the course of your life and character… Being born with nystagmus has made me the person I am. I can’t see properly. The world to me is like driving in fog – not ruin your Christmas Day!

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