

By Paul Belleflamme, 17 November 2010

An 'uncommon' riddle

Here is just a riddle, which I ask you to solve.

What do the following stories have in common?



Pfalz Castle, once a
toll booth on the
Rhine river
(knate.blogspot.com)

1. During the Middle Ages, it became impossible to carry on commercial trade on the Rhine River because of the toll booths built by all sorts of barons.



Augustin
Cournot
(1801-1877)

2. Augustin Cournot explained in 1838 that the price of brass would fall if a monopoly zinc producer and a monopoly copper producer could merge.



Biplane
(www.airlandseaweapons.com)

3. In the second decade of the twentieth century, it was almost impossible to build an airplane in the United States.



(Credit: Warner
Brothers)

4. Filmmakers must often make significant changes in their work because of the costs or complications of rights clearances.

Use you brain (and/or your favorite search engine).