WHICH BOSS SHOWED UP TODAY?

Check one answer in each row. Total your letters at the bottom; the highest score is today's dominant boss.

Question	A — The Visionary	B — The Ghost	C — The Best Friend	D — The Screamer	E — The Micromanager	F — The Yes-Man	G — The Nostalgic	H — The Motivational Poster	I — The Vanishing Decision-Maker
1. What did the boss's first message of the day contain?	☐ A) A completely new strategic direction, delivered with no context and full confidence	☐ B) Nothing. They have not been physically or electronically located	☐ C) "We're basically family" energy, unprompted, before 9 a.m.	☐ D) ALL CAPS, for reasons that remain unclear	☐ E) A request to be CC'd on an email you sent to yourself	☐ F) A forwarded message they have clearly just agreed with, in full, on principle	☐ G) An unprompted story about 1997	☐ H) "Let's circle back and synergize"	☐ I) "Let me sleep on it," regarding yesterday's question
2. How is the office coffee currently being treated?	☐ A) Ignored entirely in favor of a whiteboard covered in arrows	☐ B) Made two hours ago by someone else; the pot is untouched, the boss is unaccounted for	☐ C) Poured for two, "so we can really talk"	☐ D) Slammed down hard enough to slosh onto a memo	☐ E) Measured, timed, and logged for reasons no one asked about	☐ F) Whatever kind the last person in the room was drinking	☐ G) Compared, unfavorably, to the coffee of 1997	☐ H) Referred to as "fuel for the team's journey"	☐ I) Ordered, then left to go cold while a decision is "slept on"
3. What happened in this morning's stand-up meeting?	☐ A) An enormous new initiative was announced with no implementation plan	☐ B) It didn't happen. No one hosted it. No one asked why	☐ C) It ran nine minutes over because of a story about someone's cousin's wedding	☐ D) It ended with someone visibly flinching	☐ E) Every task was asked to be re-explained a second time, in more detail	☐ F) A junior exec's offhand comment was treated as gospel	☐ G) It was paused so a comparison to "how we used to do standups" could be delivered in full	☐ H) It opened with "team" said four times before anyone else spoke	☐ I) A question from Tuesday was tabled again, for the fourth time
4. How did the boss sign off their last email?	☐ A) With a phrase that did not exist in the company vocabulary yesterday	☐ B) They didn't. The email itself never arrived	☐ C) "Love you guys, mean it"	☐ D) No sign-off. Just the subject line, in caps, repeated in the body	☐ E) "Let me know the second this is done — actually, CC me now"	☐ F) A direct quote from whoever they last spoke to	☐ G) "Back in my day we didn't even have email"	☐ H) "Onward and upward, together!"	☐ I) "TBD — will circle back"
5. A deadline was quietly missed this week. What happened?	☐ A) It was declared obsolete by the new strategic direction before anyone had to answer for it	☐ B) No one could confirm the boss ever knew the deadline existed	☐ C) A long, understanding conversation about work-life balance, none of which addressed the deadline	☐ D) A door was slammed at a volume disproportionate to the offense	☐ E) A retroactive audit of every step that led to the miss, timestamped	☐ F) Blame was assigned to whoever the boss's own boss blamed first	☐ G) A comparison was drawn to a deadline missed in 1997, which was apparently much worse	☐ H) It was reframed as "a learning opportunity for the whole team"	☐ I) It's still being "looked into"
6. What is the boss's current body language?	☐ A) Pacing, gesturing at a whiteboard only they can fully see	☐ B) N/A — not currently visible on any floor of the building	☐ C) Leaning in far closer than the conversation requires	☐ D) Rigid. Jaw set. A vein doing something concerning	☐ E) Hovering, directly, over a shoulder that did not invite it	☐ F) Nodding before the sentence is finished	☐ G) Arms crossed, already mid-anecdote	☐ H) Open arms, "big team energy" posture, aimed at no one in particular	☐ I) Present, nodding, saying nothing committal at all
7. How did the boss react to a new idea pitched today?	☐ A) Immediately expanded it into something four times larger and unrecognizable	☐ B) Reacted to nothing, because they were not in the room for the pitch	☐ C) Loved it, then asked a deeply personal question unrelated to the idea	☐ D) Asked why this wasn't already done, at volume	☐ E) Asked for the idea again, in writing, with a timeline, a sub-timeline, and a check-in cadence	☐ F) Agreed, until someone senior frowned, then quietly didn't	☐ G) Countered with how ideas were pitched "back in the day"	☐ H) Called it "exactly the kind of synergy we need going forward" and moved on without deciding anything	☐ I) Said it was "definitely worth considering" and has not been heard from on the subject since
8. What's the mood heading into 4:45 p.m. on a Friday?	☐ A) A new "top priority for Monday" has just been announced, unprompted	☐ B) Already gone. Has been gone. May have never technically arrived	☐ C) A long goodbye involving weekend plans, in detail, at your desk	☐ D) A last-minute reply-all, in caps, about something that could've waited	☐ E) A final status-check request "just before the weekend, to be safe"	☐ F) Whatever mood the last person to leave the executive floor was in	☐ G) A story about Fridays in 1997	☐ H) "Let's finish strong as a team!" sent to a team that finished forty minutes ago	☐ I) "Let's pick this back up Monday" — regarding a decision first raised three Fridays ago
9. If you had to describe today's overall energy in one word, which comes closest?	☐ A) Revolutionary	☐ B) Absent	☐ C) Intimate	☐ D) Volcanic	☐ E) Surveilled	☐ F) Malleable	☐ G) Retrospective	☐ H) Inspirational, technically	☐ I) Pending
TOTAL	**A: ____ / 9**	**B: ____ / 9**	**C: ____ / 9**	**D: ____ / 9**	**E: ____ / 9**	**F: ____ / 9**	**G: ____ / 9**	**H: ____ / 9**	**I: ____ / 9**

TODAY'S BOSS: _____

Tie? Congratulations: you may be dealing with a multi-entity management event.