

MY LITTLE PONY  
Season 9  
**A TRIVIAL PURUSIT**  
EP 916  
Premise V2 by: Brittany Jo Flores

**Distribution:**

Production:

Devon Cody  
Jim Miller  
Denny Lu  
Mike Myhre  
Zoe Borroz  
Nicole Dubuc  
Josh Haber  
Jada McDermott

Discovery Family:

Linda Shima Tsuno  
Beth Mohammed

Hasbro Studios:

Stephen Davis  
Meghan McCarthy  
Eliza Hart  
Leslie Wishnevski  
Finn Arnesen  
Nina Scales  
Tyla Bucher  
Loretta Masters  
Narae Song  
Bill Cheungcp  
Molly Shaffer  
Emily Thompson  
Kevin Farrell  
Lauren Devereux  
Michael Kelly

Hasbro Brand:

Jamie Cipolla  
Julie Sanfilippo  
Matt Riordan  
Andrea Ehret  
Samantha Lomow  
Gretchen Forrest  
Brian Chapman

Premise: January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018  
Premise V2: February 6, 2018

**A TRIVIAL PURSUIT**

Premise V2 by Brittany Jo Flores

**Logline:** *Twilight Sparkle is on a run and hopes to be the first pony to be on a Trivia Trot (Ponyville trivia night) winning team three times in a row. But when she's teamed up with Pinkie Pie, Twilight fears her hot streak is about to flame out.*

SPIKE wakes up in the middle of the night to find TWILIGHT holed up in her library with every book open, studying furiously. Twilight explains that she is on the cusp of being the first pony to be on the winning team at Ponyville's Trivia Trot (basically a trivia night) three times in a row. She's brushing up on anything that might be asked during the game. And since she could end up with anypony as a teammate (random teams keep things fair), she's charted out all possible partners from the Trot regulars (along with her odds of winning with each based on their strengths and weaknesses). Spike takes in Twilight's "war room" and decides to go back to bed.

The next day as Spike and Twilight head to Sugar Cube Corner where the game is played, Twilight explains the (extensive) rules, excitedly relives some of her more impressive wins, and elaborates on her hopes regarding the categories and potential partners. Inside, Spike sits nearby in the gallery with the other spectators while the competitors all put their names in a hat so GRANNY SMITH can select the teams. Twilight is surprised to see that PINKIE PIE has decided to enter the competition because A) Pinkie's never played before and, more importantly, B) she hasn't charted that potential pairing! But her worries quickly shifts to more pressing matters as the teams are drawn. SUNBURST, her first choice, is paired with CRANKY DOODLE, much to Twilight's disappointment. Either APPLEJACK or RAINBOW DASH would be solid partners and though she doesn't get either of them, she's relieved they aren't paired together. Unfortunately, MAUD and MUDBRIAR offer stiff competition and in a bizarre statistical anomaly always get each other. But as Granny pairs the remaining players, Twilight feels confident. She tells Spike that she's run the numbers and there's only one pairing that could potentially threaten her chances. As Spike asks who, Granny calls out the next team: Twilight and Pinkie! Off Twilight's reaction: Spike, "Oh."

As Twilight scrambles to update her charts, Pinkie bounces over, excited. She explains how she's always wanted to play in the Trivia Trot because she loves games and getting paired up with Twilight is the best possible thing because she and Twilight almost never get to spend quality fun and games time together. Resolved to indulge Pinkie and win the game, Twilight decides that no matter what kind of partner Pinkie turns out to be, she'll be able to pick up the slack. Unfortunately, as the game starts, Pinkie eagerly rings in to answer the first question. But while her answer is super fun, it isn't anywhere near correct and Pinkie quickly realizes how important winning is to her partner. Twilight insists it's fine, but as Pinkie tries her best to adjust to all the sitting still and listening, Twilight grows increasingly concerned about her chances and starts becoming a stickler for the rules to weed out the competition: She points out that Cranky Doodle falling asleep in the middle

of a question disqualifies him (sending his frustrated partner Sunburst to the gallery); When Fluttershy consults Angel Bunny for an answer, Twilight cites a rule that pets can't participate; Etc. Inevitably, Twilight's worry over losing turns back to Pinkie as she tries increasingly more and more outlandish ways to "pick up the slack": Ringing in before Pinkie can even get a hoof on the bell; Magically swapping Pinkie's bell with Spike's tail; Distracting her by demanding Pinkie make them a team mascot balloon animal; Etc. Eventually, Twilight's stress reaches a fever pitch and she maneuvers Pinkie into answering a question without ringing in—disqualifying her own teammate. As a despondent Pinkie heads to the gallery, Twilight cites a technicality allowing her to team up with the last disqualified player—Sunburst! As Spike consoles her, Pinkie does her best to hold back her hurt feelings and support her friend. She knows how important winning the Trot is to Twilight.

As Twilight and Sunburst prepare to dominate the field, a new category is announced—Pre-Equestrian History. Twilight beams at Sunburst. Sure, she knows a lot about it, but she's glad she's teamed up with such a history buff in Sunburst. Sunburst tells her not to worry. Even if ancient history isn't exactly her area of expertise, he'll pick up the slack. Worried that her new teammate might not think she's up to the task – Twilight rings in at the first question. Unfortunately, her answer is incomplete and Sunburst suggests she let him take the lead. Desperate to prove herself, Twilight continues to try to answer, but Sunburst, worried that she could end up hurting his chances of winning starts to "pick up the slack" in much the same way Twilight did with Pinkie: Ringing in before Twilight; Muting her bell with an "accidentally" placed hoof; Distracting her by suggesting she look through a history book; Etc. Eventually, Sunburst maneuvers Twilight into a disqualifying action and cites a rule that allows him to team back up with a now awake Cranky Doodle. With the shoe on the other hoof, Twilight realizes how her own behavior must have made Pinkie feel and joins her friend in the gallery. Twilight apologizes and asks if Pinkie would consider teaming back up with her—there's actually a rule for that too. Pinkie worries that Twilight won't win with her as a partner, but Twilight tells her she doesn't care. She just wants to have some quality fun and games time with her pal, Pinkie. Delighted the two rejoin the game—and lose. But Twilight had such a good time, she can't wait to team up with Pinkie again.