

## A Culture of Improvement

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By Mike Bentley

### Round 1

**1. A 2002 study by Blalock et al blamed new policies from this organization for causing some 242 automobile fatalities per month. A FOIA request by Kevin Burke revealed that this organization paid IBM at least three hundred thousand dollars to build an iPad app whose only purpose is to randomly display a green arrow. The *Washington Post* accidentally published a picture of seven master keys used by this organization which were promptly recreated with 3D printers. This organization switched to using more anonymous (\*) stick figures and stopped using certain backscatter devices in 2013. This organization failed to perform its chief function 95% of the time according to a 2015 study by the inspector general for Homeland Security. It is currently behind schedule in implementing the congestion-reducing PreCheck program. For 10 points, name this government organization that ostensibly stops people from bringing guns onto airplanes.**

ANSWER: TSA [or Transportation Security Agency; prompt on Department of Homeland Security before mentioned] <1>

**2. An early one of these devices from Sony known as the SOBAX was killed because Ibuka Masaru thought there was only a market for them amongst businessmen. Nihon Keisanki, one of the sixty Japanese companies that made these things during their so-called "wars" in the 1970s, developed the world's first microprocessor. Patrick Haggerty dreamed up a (\*) palm-sized device of this type to sell the integrated circuits of his Dallas-based company. The awesomely named Rocket Sasaki challenged his engineers at Sharp to make the first solar-powered one. A man playing with one of these devices on a train inspired Gunpei Yokoi to develop the Game & Watch. Canon was the first to add a phone-style 10-digit pad to them. For 10 points, the TI-83 is what type of device for making math easy?**

ANSWER: calculator [or graphing calculator] <1>

**3. William Wolfskill shipped an entire trainload of these things back east in 1862. These things are the most common product heated by a smudge pot. Charles VIII kicked off a French mania for these things, constructing a pioneering building to house them at Amboise. Louis XIV erected a C-shaped building at Versailles which stored these things in large boxes that could be wheeled around. Another building named for these things now houses a panoramic view of (\*) Monet's *Water Lilies* at the Louvre. Seville lends its name to a particularly sour variety of this fruit often used to make marmalade. The first ever advertisement for a raw agricultural product was in support of California-grown varieties of these things made by the Sunkist cooperative. For 10 points, name this type of fruit, which comes in mandarin and navel varieties.**

ANSWER: oranges [or orange trees; or tangerines] <1>

**4. Hitachi purchased Avrio and Pantascene in order to develop this type of software. This type of service typically doesn't work on certain "self-exciting" events. John Underkoffler designed a user interface meant to invoke conducting an orchestra for a sci-fi film about a government agency that offers this service. This type of service is provided by a company called Azavea with software called (\*) HunchLab which uses signals such as the phases of the moon, home team game schedules, and bar locations as inputs. This type of software was used to apparently great effect in the San Fernando Valley, and was written by PredPol, a company founded by William Bratton. Precogs provide this service in a Steven Spielberg film starring Tom Cruise as John Anderton. For 10 points, name this thing done in *Minority Report* to catch criminals.**

ANSWER: crime prediction [or predictive policing; prompt on crime fighting; prompt on policing; prompt on predicting the future] <2>

5. This company's founder, a former curtain rod manufacturer, spent fifteen million dollars buying a show horse for his wife Kathrin Tschikof but is now embroiled in a messy divorce battle with her. "Panama Charlie" Ewert helped this company's founder set up shell companies. Ewert may hired a former French legionnaire nicknamed Spartacus to unsuccessfully assassinate its founder with a mallet in 1999. In 2011, it recalled many of its products due to a faulty recoil spring. Sales of this company's signature product took off after John McClane described how it cost "more than you make in a month" and wrongly identified it as (\*) German in *Die Hard 2*. This company's first big hit was made from polymers and replaced one army's Walther P38s. 2Pac advised you to "Grab your [this company's product]" when you see him. For 10 points, name this Austrian "plastic pistol" manufacturer.  
ANSWER: Glock [or Glock Ges.m.b.H] <2>

6. This person's lawyer Irving Whitehead unethically collaborated with witnesses from the prosecution such as Joseph DeJarnette. Paul Lombardo notes in his book about this woman how her case has never been officially overturned. Legislation affecting this woman was written by Aubrey Strode, who was himself heavily influenced by A. S. Priddy, the founder of an institution in Lynchburg. The only precedent cited in this person's case was *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, which concerned smallpox vaccinations. Her sister, Doris, underwent a similar fate to her after being hospitalized for appendicitis. She was raped by relatives of the (\*) Dobbs, who ended up with her daughter. Her fate was decided in Oliver Wendel Holmes' infamous "three generations" opinion. For 10 points, identify this woman who the Supreme Court ruled could be forcibly sterilized in a case whose other party was John Bell.  
ANSWER: Carrie Buck [or Carrie Elizabeth Buck] <2>

7. A monument at Oberlin College honors the man who came up with the first cheap way to produce this material. Romaine Cole and Howard Lash were co-founders of the Pittsburgh Reduction Company, which soon gained a monopoly on making this material. Henri Sainte-Claire Deville developed a process to make enough of this material to show off at the 1855 Exposition Universelle. In a 1945 case unusually sent to the Second Circuit, (\*) Learned Hand ruled that a natural monopoly in producing this material should be broken up. A cap made of this material was placed on the Washington Monument to celebrate its completion. Napoleon III supposedly dined with cutlery made of this material while his guests had to settle for gold. A patent on producing this metal was controlled by Charles Hall and the ALCOA company. For 10 points, name this metal found in soda cans.  
ANSWER: aluminum [or aluminium] <1>

8. Workers in these establishments can develop coffee-colored marks on their cheeks, sometimes lose their fingerprints, and may be more likely to miscarry due to long-term exposure to DBP, now banned in the EU. The actress Tippi Hedren flew in a specialist to teach a group of people at the Hope Village refugee camp how to get started in this business. Richard Bernstein pointed out inconsistencies in an expose of this industry, claiming that he could not find examples of ads offering (\*) ten dollars per day in the *World Journal*. That aforementioned Sarah Maslin Nir expose of this industry included a profile of an immigrant who had not been paid for her first three months working in this industry named Jing Ren. A common service offered at these businesses is colored French tips. For 10 points, name these businesses, which commonly offer mani/pedi services.  
ANSWER: nail salons [or nail bars; accept manicure salons before the end; accept pedicure salons before the end; prompt on salons; prompt on or beauty salons] <1>

9. This company hired Monica Campana of Living Walls to decorate its new headquarters in Atlanta's Ponce City Market. This company's "People" page advertises its support of Comedy Hack Day and Andy McMillan's XOXO festival. Gimlet's Alex Goldman and PJ Vogt have given away versions of this company's mascot as a Yeti. The Beamer service offered by this company lets you use it from, say, Outlook without logging in. A popular meme held that this company's mascot, Freddie, was the real killer of (\*) Hae Min Lee in 1999. Turns out a 14-year-old Norwegian girl was the one who left out the "h" in the second word of this company's name, a mistake heard at the beginning of every episode of Season 1 of *Serial*. For 10 points, name this ubiquitous podcast advertiser, a company that helps you "send better e-mail".  
ANSWER: MailChimp [or MailKimp] <2>

**10. Long after this man's death, James Smyth and Sons mass produced his invention. His best known contraption was prototyped at a homestead named "Prosperous" in Hungerford. He warned of "too much nitre" affecting soil in one text. This man's signature invention incorporated the groove and tongue from the soundboard of an organ and initially consisted of a (\*) wheelbarrow with its gudgeon removed and a rotating cylinder added. One of his apparatuses was used to create some of the landscape seen in Gainsborough's *Mr. and Mrs. Andrews*. The second edition of this man's *Horse-hoing Husbandry* provided evidence that pulverization was effective in boosting yields. A lighter version of one of his inventions was used for turnips. This man's invention popularized row-based planting rather than broadcasting. For 10 points, name this inventor of the seed drill and namesake of a prog rock band.**  
ANSWER: Jethro **Tull** <2>

**11. In *Roughin' It*, Mark Twain doubted whether "a lightning express train could shoot along at a more hair-lifting speed" than the "heathens" who engaged in this "national pastime", which was made acceptable for white people by Jack London. A Bruce Bowen documentary about this activity chronicles the globe-trotting of Mike Hynson and Robert August. The industrialist Henry E. Huntington commissioned George Freeth to demonstrate this activity to Americans. New versions of the polyurethane equipment necessary to partake in this activity might have a nubster. A (\*) geological phenomenon required in order to engage in this activity was artificially created in December, 2015 in inland Lemoore, California. Bands such as The Chantays and The Sandels wrote songs in a rock genre named for this activity. For 10 points, an artificial wave was produced by the Kelly Slater Wave Company for use in what activity?**  
ANSWER: **surfing** <1>

**12. One champion of this treatment also wrote a monograph on rattlesnake poison and a novel titled *Hugh Wynne, Free Quaker*. That same advocate for this treatment is the subject of Augustus Saint-Gaudens' sculpture, *The Angel of Purity*. One form of this treatment began with a week-long diet of two quarts of milk per day, to which raw meat dissolved with hydrochloric acid was eventually added. A prominent booster of this treatment claimed that it could treat (\*) neurasthenia and was named Silas Weir Mitchell. This treatment was once prescribed for almost all types of pregnancy. The narrator peels off the title substance to free a shadowy woman after being driven mad by this treatment in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper". For 10 points, name this treatment, the most extreme of which involves lying down for months.**  
ANSWER: bed **rest** cure [or taking to **bed**; or **isolation** cure; or **lying-in**; or "**Go rest, young man**"] <2>

**13. As a kid, this person's plan to steal Apple IIs ("twos") by melting school windows with homemade thermite was foiled when a chubby friend got stuck. An algorithm invented by Sim Dietrich but popularized by this man increments and decrements the depth fail to more realistically render shadows in realtime and is known as his namesake "Reverse". A team led by this man developed a streaming algorithm to load 32k by 32k graphics into only 8 MB of memory. Video has recently surfaced of this (\*) MegaTexture developer's PC port of *Mario 3*, which used a character from *Dangerous Dave*. This man's current company was sued by ZeniMax on the basis that Palmer Luckey's pretty-crappy prototype sucked until this man, still a ZeniMax employee at the time, fixed it. This Ferrari enthusiast worked at Softdisk with John Romero and is now CTO for the Oculus Rift. For 10 points, name this legendary Id Software programmer who helped make *Doom*.**  
ANSWER: John **Carmack** <2>

**14. The cities of Mount Pleasant and Olean contain two of the many of these types of buildings designed by Edward Lippincott Tilton. These institutions dwarfed in number similar ones named for Albert King Hawkes. These things would often be constructed after a local women's club wrote to James Bertram, who required that participating municipalities put up ten percent of the costs. The man who sponsored these things was inspired by the generosity of Colonel James Anderson, who let him access a private collection. The first of these buildings was located in Dunfermline, Scotland, and 1,678 more of them were built by 1920. The "battleship" desk of these places was put near the door to prevent (\*) theft and to allow patrons to self-serve. The man who funded these wrote *The Gospel of Wealth*. For 10 points, name these institutions which allowed public access to their stacks of books, funded by a namesake Pittsburgh steel tycoon.**

ANSWER: Carnegie Libraries [or Andrew Carnegie Libraries] <2>

**15. This man's autobiography opens with the story of how Texas governor Beauford H. Jester made him a "Texan of Distinction" on the mistaken assumption that because this man's first business was located in Cisco, Texas, he was born in Texas. This man had been in Cisco in a failed attempt to get into the oil business. He lost control of a namesake international business after his son convinced him to make a bad swap for some TWA stock. This man secured one merger after making a personal appeal to widow Alice Statler. He was the second of Zsa Zsa Gabor's nine husbands. A fictional version of this man played by Chelcie Ross is introduced to (\*) Don Draper at a country club in Season 3 of *Mad Men*. In 1949, he gained control of New York's Waldorf Astoria. This man's company was the first hotel company to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange. For 10 points, identify this great-grandfather of the star of *The Simple Life*.**

ANSWER: Conrad Hilton [or Connie Hilton; or Conrad Nicholson Hilton] <1>

**16. The wood in the initial versions of these things was replaced with a new material invented by Rolf Weichert. A mostly useless part in these things was nicknamed the "mouse screen". The Battle Law prevented steel from being used in these things, so, like the earlier P70, lightweight Duroplast was used instead. These products were ostensibly competitors to the more up-market Wartburg 310 and 311. An order for one of these things could take up to (\*) 16 years to be fulfilled from the VEB factory which produced them, causing used ones to sell for twice the price of new ones. These things are fetishized in *Ostalgie*. Modern owners of these things need to carry around extra oil with them since they lack a fuel injector and thus can't use conventional gasoline. They declined in popularity following the November 1989 collapse of the government which made them. For 10 points, name this brand of East German car.**

ANSWER: Trabants [or Trabbi; or Trabi; or Trabant 600; or Trabant P50; or Trabant 601] <2>

**17. Donna Leishman examined the role of the Friends of ED in evolving this platform. This platform's origins trace back to Jonathan Gay's FutureSplash. In an influential blog post, Jakob Nielsen asserted that this platform "makes bad design more likely" and claimed that it was "99% Bad". A programming language originally developed for this platform was repurposed for the business-focused Flex SDK. This software was used in 1997 to, among other things, automatically generate (\*) 'tweens by John K. for *The Goddamn George Liquor Program*. Newer versions of this platform have split its functionality between the Timeline for animators and ActionScript for coders. This platform's poor security and battery performance were two reasons cited by Steve Jobs for not supporting it on the iPhone. For 10 points, name this Adobe platform used for banner ads and browser games.**

ANSWER: Flash [or Adobe Flash games; or Shockwave Flash] <1>

**18. David T. Friendly and Mick Partridge co-directed a 2015 documentary about the type of person who is "so obsessed with [these things] that they're willing to forgo paying rent". Elizabeth Semmelhack's book *Out of the Box* explores the rise of the culture surrounding these products. Campless.com used to track the resale market for these things before being rebranded StockX. The namesake of some of these things allegedly did not back the Senate campaign of Harvey Gantt because (\*) "Republicans buy [these things], too". Ads for that most popular line of these things once featured the Mars Blackmon character from *She's Gotta Have It*. One of the most popular of these things is produced by Under Amor because a rival company mispronounced Steph Curry's name in a presentation. For 10 points, name these fashion accessories, the most popular of which is named for a Chicago Bull great.**

ANSWER: basketball **sneakers** [or basketball **shoes**; anti-prompt on Nikes; anti-prompt on Nike Air Force 1s; anti-prompt on Air Jordans] <1>

**19. In 1965, the founder of this product purchased encyclopedia makers Funk and Wagnalls. The modern wing at the Metropolitan Museum of Art was largely funded by the Lila Acheson Wallace Fund with money that came from this product. The idea for this product partially came from William Roy DeWitt Wallace's habit of memorizing facts to impress clients while working as a travelling salesman. This magazine sponsors the World Power Challenge, a middle school vocab competition. It never accepted (\*) tobacco advertisements, and its 1952 article "Cancer by the Carton" supposedly caused the largest percentage drop in cigarette consumption since the Great Depression. Until 1998, this magazine included the table of contents on its cover. Its recurring features include "My Most Unforgettable Character" and "Humor in Uniform". For 10 points, name this magazine, which condenses articles from other magazines.**

ANSWER: **Reader's Digest** <1>

**20. This organization's founder was the wife of the founder of Chili's. In 2011, viewers of HSN could purchase "Promise Me" perfume with this organization's brand. By 2004, this company's 1-800-465-6636 hotline was receiving 61,000 calls a year. This organization shortened its name and founded a Scientific Advisory Board under CEO Hala Modellmog. One of the first fundraising campaigns by this organization was a Houston polo tournament. In the 1990s, money was raised for this organization by people who contributed five dollars to (\*) wear jeans to work as part of Lee National Denim Day. This organization was founded by Nancy Brinker in 1982 and named after her older sister. One exploitative cause marketing campaign supporting this organization was "Save Lids to Save Lives" run by Yoplait. In 2012, this organization temporarily dropped funding for Planned Parenthood. For 10 points, name this prominent breast cancer charity.**

ANSWER: Susan G. **Komen** for the Cure [or The Susan G. **Komen** Breast Cancer Foundation] <1>

**21. Daws Butler and Don Messick worked for this company for three decades. This company was the first to figure out how to produce works on a budget of \$30 per foot rather than the customary \$200. The founders of this company anonymously made commercials for *I Love Lucy* so as to not be discovered by their former employer, MGM. A successful licensing deal by this company originally manufactured by Miles Laboratories was advertised with the jingle, "Ten million strong and growing!" *The Ruff and Ready Show* was the first of its "streamlined" programs made for (\*) children, which used multi-level characters to reduce movement and frequently recycled backgrounds. This company provided the content for the Cartoon Cartoons block on Cartoon Network. Its characters such as The Great Gazoo and Barney Rubble were profitably turned into vitamins. For 10 points, name this doubly-eponymous animation company behind *The Flintstones*.**

ANSWER: **Hanna-Barbera** Productions, Inc. [or **H-B** Enterprises; or **Hanna-Barbera** Cartoons]