

Mavis Gallant Memorial Tournament
Round 4
Questions by Huma "Hoomz" Zafar

1. Peaches and Dangerous Beans are two of these creatures who join an army led by the Amazing Maurice in a novel by Terry Pratchett. One of these creatures is prevented by the descendant of Martin the Warrior from taking over Redwall Abbey, and is known as Cluny the Scourge. In another novel, one character is advised to seek help from a group of these creatures when her son Timothy falls ill, and another one of these creatures rummages through garbage for newspaper clippings so that a different character can weave messages like "TERRIFIC" on her web. One of these animals gets sick around the time his owner takes him on a family trip to Egypt, and that animal is earlier the target of a spell beginning, "Sunshine, daisies, butter, mellow." For 10 points, name this animal which is the form of Peter Pettigrew's animagus.

ANSWER: rats

2. At one point, the speaker of this work parenthetically asks, "Now am I free to be poetical?" The speaker notes that "Earth's the right place for love", after stating that he would like to temporarily leave it when he feels that "life is too much like a pathless wood/Where your face burns and tickles with the cobwebs/Broken across it." The speaker uses the image of "girls on hands and knees that throw their hair/Before them" to describe the title things, and states, "Such heaps of broken glass to sweep away/You'd think the inner dome of heaven had fallen." He imagines a figure "too far from town to learn baseball" "kicking his way down through the air to the ground" and riding the title things "until he took the stiffness out of them", but notes that "swinging doesn't bend them down to stay". For 10 points, name this poem in which the speaker observes the title trees after an ice-storm, a poem by Robert Frost.

ANSWER: "Birches"

3. As a pun on his name, one character in this novel is called "the Right Honourable Rape" behind his back. The protagonist of this novel invents the Polish sculptor Provna and starts a trend of wearing black suede shoes while working as the gossip columnist Mr. Chatterbox. One character in this novel hires a company to make a movie about John Wesley, and that owner of Doubting Hall gives the protagonist a check for a thousand pounds which the protagonist can't cash because it's signed "Charlie Chaplin". Lady Runcible dies after drunkenly crashing her car during a race, and the American evangelist Mrs. Melrose Ape manages a harem of "angels" in this novel. The protagonist's fiancée leaves him for the rich Ginger Littlejohn, after he is unable to procure any money for their wedding. Centering on the Bright Young Things, for 10 points, name this novel about Adam's engagement to Nina Blount, written by Evelyn Waugh.

ANSWER: Vile Bodies

4. The speaker of this poem states that "pleasures are like poppies spread/You seize the flower, its bloom is shed". Places that the title character passes in this poem include "the monument/Where hunters found the murdered child" and "the well/Where Mungo's mother hung herself". That character arrives at a place where he sees, "Five tomahawks, with blood red-rusted/Five scimitars with murder crusted" as well as dead babies and "Priests' hearts" lying on a "holy table", around which "dancers quick and quicker flew". The protagonist is chased by those dancers after he shouts, "Well done, cutty-sark!", but manages to escape when his horse's tail gets pulled off as he reaches the River Doon. For 10 points, name this poem about a farmer who comes across a group of dancing witches, a work of Robert Burns.

ANSWER: “Tam O'Shanter”

5. One character in this novel adopts two pet hamsters whom he names “Look” and “Feel”, and another character in this novel travels to the Bombshelter Pub in Waterloo to meet a woman his friend has been flirting with online. The protagonist compares one character to HAL when she sees him type his password, “hellojed”, which is a reference to his little brother who drowned during a boating accident when they were children. The main characters in this novel eventually join Michael at a company that makes a 3D modelling program based on Lego, called Oop!, leaving behind their hero-worship of “Bill” as the title employees. For 10 points, name this novel consisting of a series of diary entries by Dan Underwood, written by Douglas Coupland.

ANSWER: Microserfs

6. The speaker of this poem sees “the flash of a white throat” and “eyes of metallic grey/Hard and narrow and slit”. The title entity is described as moving “lithely/leisurely” and compared to “a piece of sheet-iron”, and the speaker notes that it is “Part vulture, part wolf”. The speaker states, “He seemed to know the harbour,” and watches the title creature “[snap] at a flat-fish/That was dead and floating”, as his fin “[shears] without a bubble the water”. For 10 points, name this poem about the title predator by E. J. Pratt.

ANSWER: “The Shark”

7. In one of this man’s stories, Dr. No-Ilaaz is unable to help the title character who, after ten years of trying to assimilate, finally returns to his home country because he cannot use Canadian toilets. In another story by this author, one character recalls “irreverent” versions of the Ashem Vahoo prayer, and that character has his clean outfit stained by tobacco spit when he heads out to observe the title celebration of Behram Roje. This author whose stories “Squatter” and “Auspicious Occasion” can be found in his collection *Tales from Firozsha Baag* wrote a novel in which Dilnawaz gets involved with the witch Miss Kutpitia, and in which the protagonist takes part in a money laundering scheme for his friend Jimmy Bilimoria, and that novel takes place during Bangladesh’s war of independence with Pakistan. For 10 points, name this author who wrote about Gustad Noble in his novel *Such A Long Journey*.

ANSWER: Rohinton Mistry

8. One character in this novel is worried that a man named Leonards recognized her at the market, and that man is later found dead a few hours after he gets into a fight with the protagonist’s brother at a train station. Another character in this novel adopts the children of John Boucher after Boucher kills himself, and that character’s daughter Bessie dies from brown lung disease. The protagonist arrives in the central town after her father leaves the Church of England because of his conscience, and discovers after Mr. Bell’s death that she has inherited Marlborough Mills, allowing her to propose a plan to help John Thornton save it. For 10 points, name this novel about Margaret Hale which contrasts the two title regions, written by Elizabeth Gaskell.

ANSWER: North and South

9. This author adapted Jane Austen for the stage in his play *Miss Elizabeth Bennet*. He wrote a novel in which Tony Gillingham discovers that Robert Ablett has been dead for years, and that the man found murdered in the title location was actually his brother, Mark. This author of *The Red House Mystery* wrote, about another author’s work, “We can’t criticise it, because it is criticising us,” in an introduction to *The Wind in the Willows*, which he adapted into his Christmas play, *Toad of Toad Hall*. His collections of poetry for children include *When We Were Very Young* and *Now We Are Six*, and among his

more well-known characters is one whose house of sticks is constantly being knocked down, and another who enjoys bouncing. For 10 points, name this author who wrote about his son Christopher Robin in *Winnie the Pooh*.

ANSWER: Alan Alexander (A. A.) Milne

10. It's not Jesus, but Anthony Burgess' novel *Abba Abba* spans the last few months of this man's life, and a poem about this man's death states, "It is midsummer, but the air is cold." In the story "Seymour--An Introduction", Buddy Glass mentions a poem written by eight year old Seymour asking this man to "[p]lease put a scarf on." Another poem addressed to this man states, "Though dust, your finger still can push/The Vision Splendid to a birth," as the speaker describes a tree "whose leaves/Grow music as they grow" and states, "I cannot hold my peace" because "[t]here never was a spring like this." For 10 points, name this addressee of a Countee Cullen poem who Longfellow described as a "young Endymion sleep[ing] Endymion's sleep", a Romantic poet who wrote things like "Ode to a Nightingale".

ANSWER: John Keats

11. In one work by this poet, the speaker states, "As we get older we do not get any younger," and that parody of T. S. Eliot is titled "Chard Whitlow". In another poem by this man, one character repeatedly mentions, "There's a reserve upon this number," in reference to a painting of Venus being sold at the title "Auction Sale". The speaker of another work refers to "the fourteen-eighteen affair" and in another section of that work, the speaker describes "a pair of what appear to be humans/[who] appear to be loving", as he instructs, "Not only how far away, but the way you say it/Is very important." The best-known section from that poem which includes "Judging Distance" states, "The early bees are assaulting and fumbling the flowers:/They call it easing the Spring," as the speaker says, "[P]lease do not let me/See anyone using his finger" as he discusses things like the lower sling swivel and the safety-catch. For 10 points, name this poet whose poem "Lessons of the War" includes the section "Naming of Parts".

ANSWER: Henry Reed

12. Near the end of this novel, an unidentified voice says, "I love you too. I've been waiting. Only I didn't know I was waiting." One character in this novel refers to the Annunciation as the "greatest imposition ever perpetrated on a woman" and that scholar of women's studies is the protagonist's second wife, Beth. It is during his first honeymoon, with Dorrie, that the protagonist visits Hampton Court, where he develops an interest that leads to his distinguished career as a maze designer. Beginning with the title character accidentally picking up the wrong Harris Tweed jacket from a diner, for 10 points, name this novel about the title Winnipeg native, written by Carol Shields.

ANSWER: Larry's Party

13. In one story by this author, an angel who believes in free will is punished by being torn from her lover and sent to the realm of the dead, the planet Earth. In another of his stories, one of the title characters hires a giant lumberjack and makes him his sole heir after getting fed up with his wife's teasing about his size. This author of "Big and Little" wrote about a character who pretends to be a man so that she can engage in religious study in one story, and another story revolves around a character who rationalizes that he must have hallucinated seeing his wife in bed with another man when he catches her being unfaithful, but when she confesses on her deathbed, he loses his faith and contaminates the town's bread in revenge. For 10 points, name this author of "Yentl the Yeshiva Boy" and "Gimpel the Fool".

ANSWER: Isaac Bashevis Singer

14. In a very short piece by this man, the speaker argues for the existence of God because the number of birds he saw fly by his window is definite but inconceivable. That piece, “Argumentum Ornithologicum” appears in his book *Dreamtigers*. In one story by this author, a mysterious pepper mill can only be remembered as long as it is directly observed, which the narrator contrasts with the title coin. This author of “The Zahir” wrote a story in which the protagonist realizes that, since the Jewish day begins at sundown, a set of murders was actually committed on the fourth of each month, and that protagonist mistakenly links the crimes to the Tetragrammaton when they are actually a trap set up by Red Scharlach. For 10 points, name this author of “Death and the Compass” as well as such stories as “The Circular Ruins” and “The Library of Babel”.

ANSWER: Jorge Luis Borges

15. One poem by this man ends, “We shall go mad no doubt, and die that way,” if “we let our tongues lose self-possession”. That poem notes, “We spell away the overhanging night/We spell away the soldiers and the fright,” and begins, “Children are dumb to say how hot the sun is.” Another poem states that the title entity needs “no scrutinizing glass/No intense light to be streamed/Upon it” and describes it as “[p]ast reason and past synonym”. This poet of “The Cool Web” and “In the Beginning Was A Word” asked in another poem, “Has God’s supply of tolerable husbands/Fallen, in fact, so low?”. This poet of “A Slice of Wedding Cake” also described the killing of German prisoners of war by the British army in a memoir about his WWI experiences, and wrote a fictional biography of the title emperor in another work. For 10 points, name this author of *Goodbye To All That* and *I, Claudius*.

ANSWER: Robert Graves

16. One poem in this collection describes a figure “performing entrechats and sleight-of-foot tricks... all without mistaking any thing for what it may not be”. The speaker of another poem in this collection wants “a way to be devised/to destroy all nationalisms/without killing anybody” and repeats the phrase “a new rebirth of wonder” at the end of each stanza. This collection containing “Constantly Risking Absurdity” and “I Am Waiting” also includes a poem that states, “Outside the leaves were falling as they died” and ends, “Too soon! Too soon!”. The speaker of that poem “first fell in love with unreality” at the title place, and the most well-know poem from this collection describes people who “writhe upon the page in a veritable rage of adversity”. For 10 points, name this collection which includes “The Pennycandystore Beyond the El” and “In Goya's Greatest Scenes We Seem to See”, written by Lawrence Ferlinghetti.

ANSWER: A Coney Island of the Mind

17. In one play by this man, one character pushes to have *The Indian Girl* set sail even though he know the repairs to it are shoddy and that the ship will sink. That character reveals that a theft for which he blamed his brother-in-law never occurred, and that he was the one having an affair with Dina's mother fifteen years ago. This author of *Pillars of the Community* wrote a work in which one character who owns a photography business repeatedly refers to an unspecified “invention”, and that character tears up a letter announcing a monthly income to be passed on to his daughter, whom he suspects of being illegitimate after his wife confessed to an affair with Hakon. That daughter is told to perform a sacrifice of the title creature, but ends up shooting herself instead. For 10 points, name this author of *The Wild Duck* who wrote about Nora Helmer in *A Doll's House*.

ANSWER: Henrik Ibsen

18. One character in this story calls on the Father of the Father of Nadd, but that wise man can only chew his beard when confronted by the title objects. A group of black magicians in this story is dismissed when they reveal that their spell to remove the title objects will take “ten short years”. The Grand Duke Wilfred’s plan to throw the title character off a tower is stopped at the last minute, and other attempts to get rid of the title objects, which grow increasingly more elaborate, involve Yeoman the Bowman and an executioner who cannot chop off the title character’s head. For 10 points, the last of the title objects is only successfully removed after the king offers a bag of gold for it in what Dr. Seuss story about a boy with many hats?

ANSWER: *The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins*

19. The speaker of one poem by this man states that he is “drunk from having swallowed the whole universe”, while another poem by this man ends with the lines, “The leaves/You press/A crowd/That flows/The life/That goes”. Those poems are “Vendemiaire” and “The Sick Autumn”. Another poem by this man states that “Love vanishes like the water’s flow” under the title construct, and repeats, “Comes the night sounds the hour/The days go by I endure”. Another work by this poet of “The Mirabeau Bridge” states, “You no longer dare examine your hands” and that “With shame you catch yourself praying/And jeer your laughter crackles like hellfire,” and that poem refers to Pope Pius X as the “most modern European”. For 10 points, name this poet of “Zone” which is included in his collection *Alcools*.

ANSWER: Apollinaire

20. This work was composed in response to a discussion comparing physical strength to strength of feelings, and it is described as a work “not to be soon recovered from”. The speaker of this work admits to having felt “weak and resentful” before referring to its addressee as a “[t]oo good, too excellent creature”. The speaker states that he is “half agony, half hope” and admits his reason for coming to Bath after declaring, “Dare not say that man forgets sooner than woman, that his love has an earlier death.” Renewing a proposal made eight and a half years previously, for 10 points, the speaker states his constant love in what missive delivered to Anne near the end of Jane Austen’s *Persuasion*?

ANSWER: Captain Frederick Wentworth’s letter to Anne Elliot [accept either parts of the name]