

Festivus 2015 – Before and After
By Mike Sorice

These are some insane tossups for a before-and-after packet I almost wrote last year. In the spirit of Festivus, some questions are {funfinished.}

Warning: Each answer strictly fits the before-and-after schema. Due to the standards creep endemic to quizbowl (because writers are lazy,) I deem it prudent to remind you: before-and-after means that each answer is made up of two or more sub-answers, each of which overlaps end-to-end and exactly with adjacent sub-answers by one or more shared words or parts of words, and all answers contain all parts of each of its sub-answers. Here are some examples drawn from things I can see in my house while writing this:

Pioneer Speaker of the House is a **valid answer** comprised of Pioneer Speaker and Speaker of the House. J.M. Coetzee is a **valid answer** made of author J.M. Coetzee and province of Holland Zeeland.

“J.M. Coelacanth” is an **invalid answer**, as it does not contain all of J.M. Coetzee.

“Simone Says de Beauvoir” or “Simone de Beauvoir Says” are **invalid answers** since author Simone de Beauvoir does not overlap exactly (Simone ≠ Simon) nor end-to-end with game Simon Says.

“*The Westinghouse Game*” is an **invalid answer** since TV maker Westinghouse doesn’t overlap end-to-end with book The Westing Game.

(HIGHLY RECOMMENDED) OPTIONAL RULE: Any answer reflecting a lack of understanding of before-and-after will result in an extra 5 point penalty (ergo -10 if otherwise a neg, or -5 if otherwise a 0.)

TOSSUPS

This story ends with the main antagonist’s feet making funnel-shaped tracks in the heavy sand, set to a Badfinger song beginning “I guess I got what I deserved” and intercut with blood from an M-16 wound staining an Aryan Brotherhood pressure-chamber used to make the title substance. The main characters ride in a Pullman car past a DEA office in San Antonio, where ASAC Schrader finds both the title character and title product to be 99.1% pure. The protagonists, including Jack Potter and the title character, are almost robbed of the title substance in the titular town by Tuco’s henchman Scratchy Wilson, who doesn’t believe that Walter White is without his gun. For 10 points, name this collaboration between Vince Gilligan and Stephen Crane in which a newly married woman arrives in a western town and begins using the signature drug from *Breaking Bad*.

ANSWER: “The Bride Come to Yellow Sky Blue” [accept “The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky Blue Meth”]

This work gave a colloquial name to a 1976 scheme to re-package and sell New York City’s debt to the Caithness and Lennox branches of the RBS. Joint work by *The Economist* and Thomas de Quincy found that in 2008, U.K. Williams murders were implicitly undervalued by 28%, given the cost of staging this production throughout America. A device similar to a caulking gun is used in this drama’s penultimate scene to spread a mixture of mayonnaise, sweet pickle relish, and yellow mustard whisked with vinegar, garlic powder, onion powder and paprika, which gives Young Seward a heart attack. This product does not itself use a heat lamp, though a noblewoman notes that a close relative of the protagonist “has light by her continually; ‘tis her command.” That same relative requests a seemingly impossible customization of this work’s main character in her speech “Out, damned pickles and onions!” For 10 points, name this piece of dinner theater in which a hamburger with two all-beef patties, lettuce, special sauce and a sesame seed bun brutally eliminates its rivals to become King of Scotland, as told by Shakespeare.

ANSWER: Big Macbeth

{Many Bothan mathematical spies died to allow the discovery of this technique, which was first used to find to second-order the energy incident on Mon Calamari cruisers at the Battle of Endor, given the second Death Star’s laser’s power function. For 10 points, name this mathematical theorem used to approximately integrate a function by fitting it with quadrilaterals consisting of rectangles with right triangles at the ends, as expounded by Admiral Akbar.

ANSWER: it’s a trapezoid rule or it’s a trapezoid method}

One song by this group notes “Hey girl, in your lattice plane eyes / I see a picture of me, vector-wise.” Another song by this vocal band has a bridge that claims “All that I needed was you / In my life, you're so right. / I said all that I wanted was u / Of r times e to the i r dot k / Which equals psi!” Hits by this band thus include one about moving in discrete units of the lattice constant called “Step by Step,” as well as “You Got It (The Right Stuff (To Find the State Function of the Kronig-Penney Model))”. For 10 points, name this band-cum-quantum-mechanics-theorem whose recent comeback makes sense, since Joey, Jordan, Jonathan, Danny, and Donnie all know that a periodic potential produces a periodic wavefunction.
ANSWER: **New Kids on the Block’s theorem** [or **New Kids on the Bloch’s theorem**; accept **NKOTBlock’s theorem**; accept **NKOTBloch’s theorem**; accept **New Kids on the Block wave**; accept **New Kids on the Bloch wave**; accept **NKOTBlock wave**; accept **NKOTBloch wave**]

A request to do this is the only text in a letter to the Village Voice signed “I Hate You, but I Love “*Winterstürme wichen dem Wonnemond*,”” to which Andrew WK responded with platitudes like “The more we can see the miraculous processes of our own body as extensions of the world around us, the more we can appreciate the singing of “*Leb’ wohl*”.” A work with this title features repeated claims to have balls of steel as well as the aria “*Hojotoho!*” as it’s a Duke Nukem/Birgit Nilsson Ventrilo-harassment mash-up. On a leitmotif-heavy remix of NWA’s “A Bitch Iz a Bitch,” Ice Cube rhetorically asks “Are you the kind that carry a spear / And think you're too damn fly for me? / Bitch,” this phrase, then follows on with a dis against metal bras and pointy helmets. In a variant script for *Hamlet II*, a trampish soprano pleads for funding for German opera education, only to have this phrase shouted at her by a man in the audience with a spear and eyepatch, who then imprisons her in a ring of magic fire. For 10 points, name this Wagner opera in which Brunhilde goes for a ride to collect the souls of those who’ve perished from consuming feces.

ANSWER: **eat shit and Die Walküre** [accept Would you please **eat shit and Die Walküre?**; accept Bitch, **eat shit and Die Walküre**; accept **eat shit and Die Walküre**, you tramp!]

{ This book’s second title character knows many things, like how to lyrically annoy Mr. Knox and apparently how to put on certain footwear, whereas the first title character knows one big thing. For 10 points, name this collaboration between Isaiah Berlin and Dr. Seuss.

ANSWER: **The Hedgehog and the Fox in Socks**

(Writer’s Note: This is a much better tossup than the more obvious *Sonic the Hedgehog and the Fox*.)}