

We Have Never Been Modern

By Mike Bentley

Version 1.1, September 2015

Round 1

1. **Richard Greenblatt declined MIT's offer for a PhD in exchange for writing a thesis on a program of this type he wrote in one week on a PDP-6. Greenblatt's program of this type, *MacHack*, was used to counter a 1965 RAND Corporation memo written by Herbert Dreyfus. In 2015, Baudsurfer broke a long-standing record by writing a program of this type in just 487 bytes. Hackers at MIT used a primitive network connection between the PDP-1 and TX-0 to fool (*) John McCarthy into thinking they had written a program of this type. A modern program of this type called Stockfish may have been used by Borislav Ivanov at the 2012 Zadar Open. Perhaps the most famous program to do this was based on Feng-hsiung Hsu's work at Carnegie Mellon on Deep Thought and won a 1997 contest. For 10 points, name this game played by IBM's Deep Blue, which beat Garry Kasparov.**

ANSWER: chess program [or chess AI]

2. **The number of bottoms in use at one time distinguishes the gang type of these devices from the sulky type of them. One of the earliest of these types of devices was known as an ard. A self-sharpening one of these devices was accidentally invented when some hot iron fell onto the cold ground at a factory owned by Robert Ransome. One man adapted a type of Scottish saw to create a popular type of these devices from a plant in (*) Moline, Illinois. A man employs a wheeled one of these devices in the foreground of the March image from *The Very Rich Hours of the Duc de Berry*. Repeated use of these devices may create a layer known as hardpan. These devices create trenches known as furrows and generally contain a part known as a moldboard. A steel one of these devices was mass-manufactured by John Deere. For 10 points, name these devices useful for loosening the soil.**

ANSWER: plows [or ploughs]

3. **A woman with this married name founded the Farther Lights Society to encourage women to become Baptist missionaries. In 1835, a man with this surname personally negotiated an eight-million-dollar loan for the state of Maryland while on a trip to England. The pioneering West Street bookstore was operated by a woman with this surname and served as a meeting place for Margaret Fuller and other Transcendentalists. An American with this surname opened a successful London-based bank with J. P. Morgan's father and made his fortune alongside Elisha Riggs in dry goods. He also allocated 2.5 million dollars to build homes for London's poor. In 2014, the (*) *Serial* podcast won an award of this name administered by the Grady College of Journalism at the University of Georgia. For 10 points, give this surname of a prominent philanthropist who names annual broadcast awards not to be confused with the Pulitzers.**

ANSWER: Peabody

4. **This man argued that through the "transmission of functional diathesis" a people could elevate their descendants to a higher racial status. This man served as president of ISTAT, SIGE and CISP, the three leading eugenics institutes in his country. Along with Santi Paladino, he co-founded a political party whose emblem was the Stars and Stripes and whose goal was to have the United States annex Italy. He wrote *The Scientific Basis of Fascism* and was tried in 1944 for being a Mussolini apologist. This man's best known contribution was introduced in the paper "Variability and Mutability" and involves a comparison to the (*) Lorenz curve. One concept named for him has a range of 0 to 1, and was criticized for underestimating how bad things really are by Thomas Piketty. For 10 points, name this creator of a namesake coefficient which measures income inequality.**

ANSWER: Corrado Gini

5. **This man declared, "The basic currency of the Internet is human ignorance, and, frankly, our database holds a strong cash position!" in an article examining which types of questions people were most comfortable discussing in public. This member of the indie-rock band Bishop Allen once rejected TLDR podcast host Alex Goldman's proposal to "[bring] in, say, like an ethicist" noting that he'd be paying that person \$100,000 a year "to wring his hands all day". In one blog post, this man examined the relationship between number of messages sent and whether participants could see each other's photos. This man detailed a study that intentionally connected people who were bad matches in the blog post, "We Experiment on Human Beings!" that was posted after the Facebook mood experiment controversy. He wrote the book *Dataclysm*. For 15 points, name this co-founder of an Internet dating site who ran the OkCupid blog.**

ANSWER: Christian Rudder

6. Fred Zachariasen came up with namesake rules for how this material is formed. A highly stable form of this material is made through the Vycor process. In the Renaissance, the most highly valued type of this good was made from *cogoli* and was improved by the addition of manganese oxide. When industrially making this material, it's common to use a batch containing as much as 60% of low-value (*) cullet. It's not silk, but Venetian craftsmen who made this good worked on the island of Murano and forbidden from leaving the city. A type of this material made for labs and kitchens is known as Pyrex. This material is traditionally made by combining fluxes with sand. The Phoenicians invented an iron tube for blowing this substance. For 10 points, name this material whose clear variety was essential in the invention of spectacles.

ANSWER: glass

7. One of the craziest hacks of this program called Pit of Death contains only the "Scrolling Horror". Like an earlier released program, SethBling recently decomposed this program into a series of white boxes for safe places and black boxes for moving obstacles so that it could be solved with a neural network. SethBling had earlier exploited a buffer overflow within this program without using any outside tools to complete it in under 6 minutes. Fu So Ya created a tool called Lunar Magic for hacking this program. The colors in parts of this program can be changed by using a glitch on (*) Chocolate Island 3. This was the original program to which T. Takemoto modified to create a super-hard "Kaizo" or "Asshole" version of. For 10 points, name this platformer included with launch editions of the SNES.

ANSWER: Super Mario World

8. It's not York, Maine, but an envelope-like paper shopping bag was invented in 1852 by a schoolteacher from this city named Francis Wolle. An early soccer club from this city won five National Challenge Cups and six American Cups in the 1910's and 1920's playing at East End Field. The Sun Inn in this city briefly housed members of the Continental Congress. A company later renamed for this town was originally called the Saucona Iron Company. A 1910 strike by workers in this city was broken after company president Charles M. (*) Schwab called in the state militia; that company developed the H-Beam. Frederick Winslow Taylor developed his "One Best Way" studying pig-iron workers at a company named for this town. This city is home to Lehigh University. For 10 points, name this steel town near Allentown in eastern Pennsylvania, given its Biblical name by Moravian missionaries.

ANSWER: Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

9. At an Ann Arbor press conference announcing the first of these things, the discover told Edward R. Morrow that "There is no patent. Could you patent the sun?" Basil O'Connor started a radio campaign to solicit funds from small donors to develop one of these things. Early batches of these things produced by a former veterinary company called Cutter Laboratories resulted in several deaths. A man best known for developing the first of these things set up a namesake (*) institute to break down the barriers between science and the humanities in San Diego. Developing one of these things was the original purpose of the March of Dimes charity. An oral one of these things was developed by Albert Sabin. For 10 points, name this type of medical breakthrough developed by Jonas Salk to prevent infantile paralysis.

ANSWER: polio vaccines [or oral polio vaccines; prompt on just vaccines]

10. Projected news coverage of this event accompanied a work of shattered objects in porcelain titled *Dream* by the Chinese artist Liu Jianhua. Investigations into this event were made easier because a piece of test equipment called the OEX was never removed. In the book *Comm Check...* Linda Ham was singled out for her role in not allowing (*) high quality images to be taken that could have prevented this event. This event delayed STS-114 for two years. Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov opened his response to Colin Powell's infamous UN Security Council Speech on Iraq by offering his condolences regarding this event. Israel's Ilan Ramon was one of seven people killed in this event, which took place above southeastern Texas and was caused by foam that broke off during liftoff. For 10 points, name this 2003 disaster in which a space shuttle exploded.

ANSWER: the Columbia space shuttle disaster

11. Alias acceptable. The second part of a lengthy *Wired* profile of this man focused on Chris Tarbell and other members of the CY2 team, who once visited the Thor Data Center in Iceland in search of him. A Gawker article by Adrian Chen made this man's site famous. Chat logs show this man trying to negotiate down a \$300,000 fee from the Hells Angels. In 2013, this man posted a question to Stack Overflow using his (*) real name before quickly changing his alias to Frosty, and he also made a Google Plus post asking, "Anyone know someone that works for UPS, FedEx, or DHL?" He was a confidant of Inigo and Batman73. This man was apprehended while torrenting an episode of the *Colbert Report* in the Glen Park Library in San Francisco. This guy, who admitted in his diary to "running a goddam multi-million-dollar criminal enterprise!!!!" paid \$80,000 for a hit on Curtis Green after Green stole \$350,000 in bitcoins from him. For 10 points, name this mastermind of the Amazon-for-drugs site, SilkRoad.

ANSWER: Dread Pirate Roberts [or Ross Ulbricht; accept Frosty before mentioned]

12. This company's strategy of hooking kids on its products included sending two units of its signature product to toddlers celebrating their second birthday. Its founder turned California's Catalina Island into a resort location. The National Museum of American History contains a product manufactured by this company in 1974 that was the first ever to be scanned by a UPC reader. This company's signature product was originally available only as a prize for buyers of baking soda, but it proved much more popular than the baking soda. This company's founder and namesake was also one of the "double-Bills" alongside Bill (*) Veeck and is the namesake of a stadium which uniquely features semi-official seats from roofs across Sheffield Avenue. This company puts out brands such as Eclipse, Orbit and Big Red. For 10 points, name this gum company, the namesakes of the stadium where the Chicago Cubs play.

ANSWER: William Wrigley, Jr. Company

13. In his biography of the artist of this painting subtitled *Painter of Light*, Benedict Nicolson asserts that its title figure is John Whitehurst, the founder of the informal Lunar Society to which the artist belonged. A boy places his arm over the shoulder of another child in this painting and points his index finger at the central object. Some scholars have connected the red-sleeved man in the center of this painting with a portrait by Godfrey Kneller of Isaac Newton. This painting controversially broke with the classical theme of the artist's earlier *Three Persons Viewing the (*) Borghese Gladiator*. The candle in the title device of this painting is being used to illustrate an eclipse. For 10 points, name this painting of an astronomical demonstration by Joseph Wright of Derby.

ANSWER: Joseph Wright's Orrery painting [or *A Philosopher Giving that Lecture at the Orrery In Which a Lamp is Put in Place of the Sun*; accept anything that mentions an Orrery]

14. This man sometimes added a "u" to the spelling of his last name to give lectures on laughing gas. In 1842, this man's brother John murdered a man, chopped up the body, and then tried to ship the parts to New Orleans, but was found out when a shipping delay caused the corpse to rot. He operated a factory in Paterson, New Jersey and may have stolen the design for the invention that made him famous from John Pearson of Baltimore. In 1843, he secured a sizeable payment from the government for making tin-foil lined (*) cartridges. This man briefly set up a factory on the Thames after wowing visitors at the Crystal Palace exhibition with interchangeable parts. Sam Walker of the Texas Rangers insisted that his force be supplied by this man's namesake company, since that product was capable of firing multiple rounds without being reloaded. For 10 points, name this man who invented a namesake revolver.

ANSWER: Samuel Colt

15. If SK Hynix can bring to market a technology this company is working on, then its Linux++ and Carbon operating systems could become really useful. One project being worked on at this company replaces metal wires with light pulses to move data between processors and memory and builds on a discovery made by Stanley Williams that uses a layer of titanium to perform switching. A lot of this company's future hopes are placed on a new server powered by (*) memristors called The Machine. One of this company's biggest successes was a 40-pound programmable calculator released in 1968. This company recently broke its enterprise services division into a separate company from its core PC and printer business. In 1999, GOP presidential hopeful Carly Fiorina became its CEO. For 10 points, name this computer company started in 1938 by its two namesake founders.

ANSWER: HP [or Hewlett-Packard Company or Hewlett-Packard Enterprise or HP Inc.]

16. One of the earliest champions of this product in the United States sunk over a million dollars into research on it, producing a type of silk-like fiber called Azlon. Colin McClung was awarded the 2006 World Food Prize for helping to make this crop the majority crop produced in the once-infertile region of Cerrado in Brazil. (*) Henry Ford, an ecstatic backer of this non-rubber crop, forced dinner guests to eat multi-course meals made from this food and even planned a car made almost entirely from it. Fermenting this product produces the popular breakfast food, natto. This product is the main ingredient in TVP. Monsanto distributes GTS 40-3-2, one of its Roundup Ready genetically modified versions of this good. Fermenting this crop can produce tempeh. For 10 points, name this crop that provides the main ingredient in tofu and in the original Silk beverages.

ANSWER: soybeans [or soya bean]

17. A herd of circus elephants help the residents of a small town construct one of these things in Kern and Hammerstein's musical *High, Wide and Handsome*. A. C. Hartley came up with one of these things essential for the D-Day landings as part of Operation Pluto. The first of one of these things in the United States was known as Benson's Folly while under construction and was named for the Tidewater region. The completion of one of these projects in 1977 allowed one state to replace its (*) income tax with payouts from a Permanent Fund. In World War II, Harold Ickes ordered the construction of one called the Big Inch that went from Texas to New Jersey. One of these things extends to Prudhoe Bay. For 10 points, name this type of project, examples of which include the planned Keystone XL.

ANSWER: oil pipelines [or natural gas pipelines]

18. This company runs an engineering blog titled Code as Craft which documents such projects as the very simple metrics-tracking software, StatsD. This company's New York-based office has a meeting room named Public Edamame. Its engineering culture improved after now-CEO Chad Dickerson was made CTO in 2008. In 2015, this company became the largest (*) B Corporation to ever launch an IPO. In 2013, this company controversially allowed sellers to partner with manufacturers. This company was founded by Rob Kalin after he couldn't find a place to sell his wooden computers. Until 2013, a blog whose name was a play on the word "regret" tracked "when DIY meets WTF" on this site. For 10 points, name this website for selling handmade crafts.

ANSWER: Etsy

19. Ives W. McGaffey came up with an impractical hand-cranked one of these devices, but most of them were destroyed when the warehouse burned up in the Great Chicago Fire. An early oil-powered one of these devices that was mounted on a horse-pulled cart delighted Europe's aristocracy when it was used at Edward VII's coronation. That device was the brainchild of H. Cecil Booth and was known as the (*) Puffing Billy. One of the biggest makers of these products was originally a Harness and Leather Goods company, but acquired patents from a 60 year old janitor named James Spangler and by the '50s was selling the popular Constellation model of these things. One of these devices was the first consumer product released by the iRobot Corporation. The Dual Cyclone was an innovative one of these devices invented in the 1980s by James Dyson. For 10 points, name these devices, robotic examples of which include the Roomba.

ANSWER: vacuum cleaner [or carpet sweeper or hoover]

20. Harriet Burns was the only woman included in a book about legends of this profession by Jeff Kurti. People in this profession developed Circle-Vision 360°. While working in this profession, a man with the delightful name of X Atencio wrote the lyrics to the song "Grim Grinning Ghosts". These people once worked for WED Enterprises. Roger E. Broggie, one of these people, developed a transportation system once called the (*) Peplemover whose only station is below the Astro Orbiter. Projects currently being worked on by people in this profession include Luigi's Flying Tires and Stich Encounter, the latter intended for a location in Tokyo. For 10 points, name this profession of the people who built the Hall of Presidents, Haunted Mansion, Star Tours, Space Mountain and other attractions at Disney parks.

ANSWER: Imagineer [prompt on stuff like Disney employee or Disney engineer; don't prompt on just "engineer"]