

11/9/2016
~~EXCEPT FINAL~~
11/16/2017

AMERICAN LITERATURE: Identify the following works, which use baseball as a motif. [NOTE TO READER: All titles must be exact.]

Team A: What Ernest Thayer poem with a four-word title tells about a baseball player for the "Mudville Nine" who strikes out at a crucial moment?

Ans: "Casey at the Bat"

Team B: What Bernard Malamud novel, that was made into a Robert Redford movie, tells about Roy Hobbs, a player who is shot by a deranged woman but returns with his bat "Wonderboy" to help the New York Knights in a pennant run that ends unsuccessfully when Hobbs strikes out in his final at-bat?

Ans: *(The) Natural*

Toss Up: The title of this 1956 book comes from a cowboy song titled *The Streets Laredo*. It was reissued in 1973 after it was made into a movie starring Robert De Niro as catcher Bruce Pearson, a slow-talking, somewhat slow-witted catcher from Georgia who is dying of Hodgkin's Disease. With the help of his friend, the quick-witted pitcher Henry Wiggins, Bruce learns to improve as a player, while his teammates come to accept him. What is this Mark Harris novel, that ends on the line, "From here on, I rag nobody"?

Ans: *Bang the Drum Slowly*

MATH: 30 SECONDS: For these questions, you are to find the domain for the following functions.

Team B: $f(x) = 2/(x^2 - 9)$ [Read: f of x equals two over the quantity x squared minus 9]

Ans: All real numbers except 3 and negative 3

Team A: $f(x) = \sqrt{2x + 1}$ [Read: f of x equals the square root of the quantity 2 x plus one]

Ans: All real numbers that are greater than or equal to negative one-half

Toss Up: $f(x) = (\sqrt{x - 1})/(x^2 - 5x + 6)$ [Read: f of x equals the square root of the quantity x minus one divided by the quantity x squared, minus 5x, plus 6]

Ans: All real numbers greater than or equal to 1, but not 2 or 3

WORLD HISTORY

Team A: Around 3000 BCE, the Egyptians began to replace clay tablets with what writing medium made from a plant with the same name?

Ans: papyrus

Team B: Eventually and gradually, this material began to replace papyrus. Made from sheepskin or goatskin is what material, that also begins with the letter "P"?

Ans: parchment

Toss Up: This material was similar to parchment, but it was made from finer-grained skins, usually from young animals such as calves, kids, or lambs. It was the primary medium used in the manuscripts of the Middle Ages. Its name comes from the Old French word for "calfskin," which might explain its similarity to the word for a certain kind of meat. What is this material, which is still manufactured and on which all official acts of the British Parliament must be recorded?

Ans: vellum

FINE ARTS: Identify the following religious works by Johann Sebastian Bach.

Team B: Cataloged as BMV 244 is what work, named for the first evangelist of the New Testament?

Ans: *(The) St. Matthew Passion* [also accept *(The) Passion of St. Matthew*]

Team A: Catalogued as BMV 245 is what other work, named for a different evangelist?

Ans: *(The) St. John Passion* [also accept *(The) Passion of St. John*]

Toss Up: This oratorio is catalogued as BMV 11. It is named for a Christian feast that traditionally follows Easter by forty days. What is this oratorio, which is dedicated to the feast of Christ's leaving Earth for the last time?

Ans: *(The) Ascension (Oratorio)*

LIFE SCIENCE:

Team A: This 19th and 20th century German scientist is considered to be the father of microbiology because of his work in discovering pathogens, including the cause of cholera. Who was this 1905 Nobel Prize winner?

Ans: (Robert) Koch [may be pronounced KOO; be lenient]

Team B: Koch's work was vital in preventing and treating what disease that usually attacks the lungs, was once the leading cause of death in the United States, and was called the "white plague"?

Ans: tuberculosis [allow clarification on TB or consumption]

Toss Up: Although he was not the first to discover the specific bacterium that causes this disease, Koch was instrumental in showing that bacteria of this disease can be found in spores that remain dormant before becoming active pathogens. In 2001, its spores were used in several bioterrorism attacks. It mostly attacks animals, especially cattle, but can be fatal to humans. What is this disease, which is caused by the bacillus anthracis?

Ans: anthrax

ENGLISH/WORLD LITERATURE

Team B: What writer of The Enlightenment wrote the famous *Two Treatises on Government* in which he outlined his version of the Social Contract?

Ans: (John) Locke

Team A: What French writer of The Enlightenment wrote an essay entitled *The Social Contract*?

Ans: (Jean Jacques) Rousseau

Toss Up: This English writer is sometimes called the "Father of Empiricism." Living from 1561 to 1626, he was an early writer of the period. He was also a member of Parliament and served as Queen's Counsel to Elizabeth I, in which position he urged her to execute her cousin, Mary Queen of Scots. Who was this man, who is also credited with first codifying the scientific method?

Ans: (Francis) Bacon

GOVERNMENT/ECONOMICS: Identify the following about the 22nd Amendment to the US Constitution.

Team A: What man, who was president when the amendment was ratified, was exempt from its provisions but decided not to seek another term when he fared poorly in the New Hampshire primary?

Ans: (Harry) Truman

Team B: According to the amendment, how many years may a president serve in total including years in a previous term to which he may have succeeded?

Ans: 10

Toss Up: Prior to FDR, this man, generally recognized as a fairly ineffective president, came close to being the first man elected for a third term. Because he was a Republican at a time when Republicans tended to win the White House, he likely would have won a third but nonconsecutive term had he not been narrowly defeated by James A. Garfield for the 1880 Republican nomination. Who was this Ohioan, whose earlier administration had suffered from the Credit Mobilier scandal?

Ans: (Ulysses) Grant

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Team B: What type of clock regulates the second as the standard unit of the measure of time?

Ans: atomic (clock)

Team A: The official atomic clock measures the wavelength of the 133 isotope of what chemical element, whose symbol is Cs?

Ans: cesium

Toss Up: The most recent one of these units of time was added to Coordinated Universal Time on June 30, 2015. In total, 26 of these units have been added in order to keep UCT the same as the time measured by atomic clocks. Necessitated by the slowing of the Earth's rotation is what type of second?

Ans: leap (second)

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Team A: The longest land border in the world runs between Russia and what neighbor to the south?

Ans: Kazakhstan

Team B: The longest land and water border in the world runs approximately along the north 49th parallel between what two countries?

Ans: US and Canada [either order]

Toss Up: While the US-Canadian border is also the longest unguarded border in the world, the most heavily guarded one runs southwest to northeast along the 38th parallel north. It is approximately 160 miles long but less than three miles wide. What is this border that cuts nearly in half an Asian peninsula?

Ans: DMZ OR Demilitarized Zone OR (border between) North and South Korea

AMERICAN HISTORY

Team B: Three days before leaving office in 1845, what "accidental" president signed a joint resolution of Congress calling for the annexation of Texas and setting the stage for the Mexican War?

Ans: (John) Tyler

Team A: What president who followed Tyler ordered troops to be moved into disputed territory between the Rio Grande and Nueces Rivers, an act which Mexico saw as an invasion?

Ans: (James) Polk

Toss Up: Hoping to avoid war, Polk sent this Congressman to Mexico with the hope of negotiating the purchases of California and New Mexico as well as settling the southern boundary of Texas at the Rio Grande. Mexican president Herrera refused to see this man, who returned home in failure. Who was this man, who later served as the Confederacy's minister to France?

Ans: (John) Slidell

ALPHABET ROUND "M"

1. TWO WORD ANSWER: Sinclair Lewis novel about Carol Kennicott and her disenchantment with small town America in Gopher Prairie
2. Adjective from the French for "commandment" that is used interchangeably with "Holy" to describe the Thursday before Good Friday
3. *Mond* is the German word for this heavenly body
4. Largest member of the deer family; male's antlers often exceed 6 feet in width
5. Powerful Muslim military caste that held sway in Egypt during Middle Ages; sometimes seen as first warrior class
6. A race of 26.2 miles
7. Word that derived from literal monoliths set beside roads to indicate distance, now refers to any momentous occasion or important event
8. Seat of Dade County, Florida that has more native speakers of Spanish than of English
9. Figure of speech in which an object associated with a subject is used to refer to the subject itself, as when the monarch is referred to as "the Crown"
10. Musical form that includes sections known as the *Kyrie*, the *Gloria*, the *Credo*, the *Sanctus*, and the *Agnus Dei*; Mozart composed several famous ones, including a Requiem
11. In economics, this is the difference in price of buying one extra unit of something; in formatting, your teacher probably recommends one inch
12. A rectangular array of mathematical elements
13. Capital of Somalia
14. Any naturally formed inorganic substance with a specific chemical composition
15. New York financier who engineered largest Ponzi scheme in American history; imprisoned in 2009
16. 1969 TV show about an imaginary pop band that eventually became an actual band that included the late Davy Jones
17. Belgian surrealist painter of such works as *The Pilgrim* and *This is Not a Pipe*
18. Convicted and executed domestic terrorist held responsible for the 1995 bombings in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people
19. Gorgon with serious hair problems who was eventually slain by Theseus
20. 20th century German novelist and Nobel Prize winner; famous works include *A Death in Venice*

ANSWERS TO ALPHABET ROUND "M"

1. *Main Street*
2. Maundy (Thursday)
3. moon
4. moose
5. Mamluk(s) OR Mameluk(s)
6. marathon
7. milestone(s)
8. Miami
9. metonymy
10. Mass
11. marginal OR margin
12. matrix
13. Mogadishu
14. mineral
15. Madoff (Bernie)
16. (The) Monkees
17. Magritte (René)
18. McVeigh (Timothy)
19. Medusa
20. Mann (Thomas)

FINAL ROUND

1. Ralph Waldo Emerson, who had himself been impatient with traditional poetic forms, enthusiastically greeted free verse when he first read what 1855 collection of poetry by Walt Whitman?

Ans: *Leaves of Grass* [Note: allow additional answer if Whitman is given on an early buzz]

2. What explorer, who was ironically later passed over for patronage by King Manuel I, is today regarded as one of the greatest explorers of the 16th century and did more for Portugal than any other explorer when he claimed the land that became Brazil?

Ans: (Pedro) Cabral

3. What musical instrument with three strings that are plucked rather than bowed has a characteristic triangular shape and originated in Russia, where it is still featured heavily in folk music?

Ans: balalaika

4. What Asian nation launched its first satellite in 1970 from the Kagoshima Space Center on South Kyushu Island?

Ans: Japan

5. What minor Greek god with a three-letter name was the god of the wilderness and shepherds, was often portrayed playing a pipe, and hung around with nymphs?

Ans: Pan

6. What is the value of 4 factorial?

Ans: 24

7. What Russian word for "grandmother" is frequently mispronounced to sound like an old-fashioned scarf?

Ans: babushka [technically, the accent should be on the first syllable, but be kind]

8. On December 6, 2015, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. will honor what movie director and producer who first achieved success in 1973 with the movie *American Graffiti* but is best known for his many collaborations with Steven Spielberg and for the *Star Wars* saga?

Ans: (George) Lucas

9. What man became the first president to name a woman to head a cabinet department when he appointed Frances Perkins to be Secretary of Labor in 1933?

Ans: Franklin Roosevelt OR FDR [prompt on but do not accept Roosevelt alone]

10. What alkaline earth metal has the symbol Ba?

Ans: barium

11. In 2004, Kenyan Wangari Muta Maathai became the first African woman to win the Nobel Prize when she won in what category, that honored her creation of the Green Belt Movement?

Ans: Peace

12. Seventeen of the nineteen individuals who have won the Nobel Prize in Economics since 2005 have all been citizens of what same country?

Ans: USA

13. In terms of the total number of passengers who are either arriving or departing, what European airport is the busiest airport outside the United States?

Ans: (London) Heathrow

14. What three-letter word has all the following possible definitions: to take one's place at a position such as a battery; to strengthen or fortify; or an adult male member of the species *homo sapiens*?

Ans: man

15. What is the remainder when 98 is divided by 11?

Ans: 10

16. In psychology, what term applies to a relatively mild disorder such as anxiety, which does not interfere with normal living the way a psychosis does?

Ans: neurosis

17. In Judaism, this man is regarded as the founder of the priesthood. Who was this older brother of Moses?

Ans: Aaron

18. What color has shades such as carnelian, cerise, ruby, and rust?

Ans: red

19. After George Washington, the next two men elected US president both held what position at the time of their election?

Ans: vice president

20. In Russia, this writer and physician is best known for his short stories, but in the West, he is better known for his dramas. Whose works include *The Cherry Orchard* and *Uncle Vanya*?

Ans: (Anton) Chekhov