

1995 ACF Nationals Questions by Albert Whited #1

1. Born in 1732 in Oxfordshire, his father abandoned him to relatives at an early age among whom he was passed until he took a lowly position with the East India Company, being assigned to Bengal in 1750. In but 22 years he worked his way up through the Company, becoming governor of Bengal in 1772. For 10 points, who was this English administrator, created the first governor-general of British India by the Regulating Act of 1773?

Answer: Warren Hastings

2. Its story is taken from the Saga of Cuchulain. The of Conchubor resists the marriage and runs away with her lover Naisi. After an eight year hiatus, the lovers are enticed back to Ulster, only for Naisi and his brothers to be killed by Conchubor's henchmen. For 10 points, what is this 1910 John Millington Synge tragedy, the title character of which ends the play by taking her own life with Naisi's dagger?

Answer: Deirdre of the Sorrows (prompt for more on Deirdre) *

3. He is memorialized in zoological binomial nomenclature by a small superfamily of nonmarine parthenogenetic ostracods in the suborder Podocopa, but he is perhaps better known to bird watchers for a finch of the subfamily Fringillidae which is named for him for his study of their variation. He was intended for the church, ironically, but after reading Humboldt made natural history his hobby and later took part in a geologic expedition to Switzerland. For 10 points, identify this English naturalist who in 1831 became the naturalist for the ship, H.M.S. Beagle.

Answer: Charles Darwin

4. A loose association of artists, they had been executing their style for some six years before their name was given them. The critic Louis Vauxcelles, upon entering the room at the Salon d'automne of 1905 where they were exhibiting together, pointed to a quattrocento-like sculpture in the middle of the same room and exclaimed, "Donatello among the wild beasts!" For 10 points, what was this group which revelled in pure color and among whose adherents were Kees Van Dongen, Georges Roualt, and Henri Matisse?

Answer: Les Fauves or Fauvism

5. Also known by the anglicized name Jack Wilson, his father was Tavibo, a mystic from Nevada. He dreamed of an eclipse of the sun, signifying the end of the world to him. So, in 1888 he began to preach that Native American's should divest themselves of the white man's ways so that they could inherit the world after an imminent apocalypse. For 10 points, who was this Paiute teach and mystic, the founder of the Ghost Dance Religion?

Answer: Wovoka

6. According to Firdausi's Shah Nama (pron. shay nay-mah), he had been a bound captive of the demon smiter Taxmoruw for 30 years. However, he escaped by bribing Taxmoruw's wife and managed to swallow his erstwhile captor. Taxmoruw was rescued by his brother Jamshid, however, when Jamshid, playing upon the anthropophage's homosexual proclivities, aroused him with the prospect of anal penetration, took advantage of his position, and pulled Taxmoruw from deep within his bowels by hand. For 10 points, who was this demon of Old Iranian mythology, the diametric nemesis of Ahura Mazda?

Answer: Ahriman or Angra Mainyu

7. Sometimes known as Helmholtz's Theorem, it states that at any given frequency the current flowing in any impedance, connected to two terminals of a linear bilateral network containing generators of the same frequency, is equal to the current flowing in the same impedance when it is connected to a voltage generator whose generator voltage is the voltage at the terminals in question with the impedance removed. For 10 points, what is this theorem which allows the external replacement of a circuit with a voltage source and a single impedance?

Answer: Thevenin's Theorem

8. He was greatly excited by Schiaparelli's report of "canals" on mars and for fifteen years, avidly studied the planet and drew detailed pictures of over 500 canals that converged at points he called "oases." For 10 points, identify this Harvard graduate, member of a distinguished American family, and searcher for "Planet X" who in 1894 founded an observatory in Arizona.

Answer: Percival Lowell

9. It is believed that the ancient Jaxartes and Oxus Rivers once emptied into the Caspian Sea, flowing through a dry valley. Not so today. For 10 points, into what body of water do these rivers--now known as the Syr-Darya and Amu-Darya--empty, the slowly-shrinking, fourth-largest lake in the world?

Answer: Aral Sea

10. Born in 1518, he was of Basque extraction; and at the age of 26 he travelled to Peru to seek his fortune. Sixteen years later, he joined Pedro de Ursua's expedition to search for the legendary El Dorado, the City of Gold. When the party reached the headwaters of the Amazon, he incited a rebellion, killing Ursua and embarking on a year-long trek to Venezuela and a reign of terror across the upper Amazon and Orinoco basins. For 10 points, who was this megalomaniacal adventurer, caught and executed in 1561, who was portrayed by Klaus Kinski in a 1973 Werner Herzog film?

Answer: Lope de Aguirre (accept if they say Aguirre: The Wrath of God)

11. In 1946 Andre Gide remembered him thusly, "...he exercised a curious kind of fascination. Everyone, almost everyone around him, attempted, with greater or lesser success, to imitate, to adopt, his style, and above all his eccentric way of speaking which was relentless, without inflection or nuance, with an equal accentuation on all syllables, even on the mutes. There would not have been the slightest difference if a nutcracker had spoken." For 10 points, who was this quirky French writer who before dying in 1907 at the tender age of 34, achieved lasting fame for his Ubu plays, particularly Ubu Roi?

Answer: Alfred Jarry

12. According to Herodotus, the body of Alexander the Great was embalmed in it for its journey from Babylon to Egypt. It was probably used for this purpose in Bronze Age Crete, too, since legend tells us that Glaukos, the son of Minos, drowned in a vat of it while exploring a cellar of the Labyrinth. For 10 points, what is this natural sweetener, the weakness of Winnie the Pooh?

Answer: honey

13. Their existence was first confirmed in 1910 when JJ Thomson used positive cathode rays to measure several substances, including neon. In 1922, Francis William Aston won the Nobel Chemistry prize for his work with them using a mass spectrograph and they were first predicted by Frederick Soddy and who coined the term. For 10 points, identify this term from the Greek from "the same place" the name for variants of the same element with different atomic mass.

Answer: isotopes

14. "The Bell Tower" is about an ambitious artist who tries to rival God by creating a mechanical man; "The Lightning-Rod Man" is the story of a man who refuses an insistent lightning-rod salesman, claiming that acts of God should not be feared; and, "The Encantadas: or, Enchanted Isles" are ten short sketches, all concerning the Galapagos Islands. For 10 points, what is this 1856 volume of short stories by Herman Melville which concludes with "Bartleby the Scrivener"?

Answer: The Piazza Tales

15. In 1978 Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai horrified American television audiences when he revealed that he stayed healthy at an advanced age by imbibing a generous draught of the stuff daily. It is a solution composed largely of carbamide dissolved in water and is concentrated in the collecting tubule after passing through the distal convoluted tubule and the loop of Henle. FTP, what is this fluid excreted by the kidneys?

Answer: urine

16. He was the son of a man name Simon, but the origin of his surname is in doubt. Some have suggested that it originated from the Hebrew for "man of Karioth," from the Greek for "assassin," or from man of Issachar. According to Matthew, he ended his life in sorrow, with his body splitting and his bowels falling out after he had hanged himself. FTP, name this treasurer of the apostles and betrayer of Jesus with a kiss.

Answer: Judas Iscariot

17. Composed by George Frederick Root in 1863, it became a rallying song of the Union Army, prompting President Lincoln to write Root, saying that his song had done more for the cause of the Union than 100 generals and 1,000 orators. For 10 points, what was this Civil War ballad, the title of which James McPherson took as the title of his 1989 Pulitzer Prize-winning history of the Civil War Era?

Answer: Battle Cry of Freedom

18. This 1687 poem is divided into three parts: the first part characterizes various religious sects and identifies them with the emblems of specific animals, principally the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches. The second part is a theological argument between the churches. The third part has the animal representing the Roman Catholic Church telling the story of the swallows and the martin, and the animal representing the Anglican Church telling the story of the pigeons and the poultry. For 10 points, what is this theological verse allegory by John Dryden?

Answer: The Hind and the Panther

19. It lasted only from 1920 to 1938 and its aim was to achieve a common foreign policy which would prevent both the extension of German influence and the restoration of the Hapsburgs to the throne of Hungary. For 10 points, what was this coalition which was forged by Czech Foreign Minister Eduard Benes with Romania and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes which fell apart when Yugoslavia and Romania refused to give Czechoslovakia a pledge of military assistance in the face of German aggression?

Answer: Little Entente

20. It is mentioned by Shakespeare in The Merry Wives of Windsor in which Falstaff exclaims, "Let the Sky Thunder to [its] tune." It is no wonder, then, that Ralph Vaughan Williams made use of it in his opera "Sir John in Love," before arranging it as the "Fantasia" for harp and strings. For 10 points, what is this famous English folk ballad, better known to Americans as the theme to the "Lassie" TV show?

Answer: "Greensleeves"

21. Her parents died in a flu epidemic when she was but six, condemning her to an orphanhood as the ward of cruel guardians in Minneapolis which she chronicled in her 1957 Memories of a Catholic Girlhood. Noted for her wicked tongue, it got her in trouble when Lillian Hellman sued her for \$2.25 million in 1980 for calling her a liar on "The Dick Cavett Show." For 10 points, who was this most influential woman among the so-called New York Intellectuals, best remembered for her novel of the lives of eight Vassar graduates entitled The Group?

Answer: Mary McCarthy

22. About the size of the state of Pennsylvania, about twenty percent of its total area is submerged beneath the waters of a single lake, Africa's third largest. Formerly a British possession, it won its independence peacefully in 1964. For 10 points, what is this African nation--and its namesake lake--which was formerly known as Nyasaland?

Answer: Malawi

23. It is derived from the leaves of a certain species of palm tree and with a melting point of 85 degrees Celsius, is the hardest naturally occurring wax. Also known as Brazil wax, for 10 points, what is this wax used in candles, shoe polish, and phonograph records which is most familiar--because of its high-luster when polished--as an automobile surface coating?

Answer: carnauba wax

24. Born in 1908 of Dutch-Manx descent in Akron, Ohio, he studied at Oberlin College and Harvard before World War II, during which he served in naval intelligence. Influenced early on by the Vienna Circle, his early work was on mathematical logic, but his acclaim and break with logical positivism were to come in 1953 with his papers From a Logical Point of View in which he launched his celebrated attack on the analytic/synthetic distinction. For 10 points, who was this most eminent American philosopher of the mid-20th century whose writings in the 1970's included Philosophy of Logic and The Roots of Reference?

Answer: Willard van Orman Quine

25. He broke with conventional thought in proposing a synchronic approach to linguistics, suggesting that signs are combinations of signifier and signified, are the product of systems of differences; in his words, "there are ONLY differences." For 10 points, who was this Swiss-born linguist considered the father not only of structural linguistics, but also of structuralism in its wider application?

Answer: Ferdinand de Saussure

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1. Answer the following questions about the exciting events of chemistry in 1904, for 10 points each.
1. What man, for his discovery of inert gas elements won the Nobel Chemistry prize that year?

Answer: Sir William Ramsay

2. Frederick Kipping of Manchester discovered what class of rubbery synthetic polymers of element number 14?

Answer: silicones

3. Friedrich Geisel discovered "Actinium X," which was actually an isotope of what radioactive alkaline earth metal?

Answer: radium

2. Catherine de Medici, daughter of Lorenzo II, Duke of Urbino, was married into the royal house of Valois of France. Her husband became King of France fourteen years after their marriage.

1. First for 5 points, to which king of France was Catherine married?

Answer: Henry II

2. Three of Catherine's sons ascended to the throne of France. For 5 points apiece, name these three kings of France.

Answer: Francis II, Charles IX, Henry III

3. Catherine also had a son-in-law who became king of France. For 5 points, who was this king who was married to Catherine's daughter Margaret?

Answer: Henry IV

4. Catherine's other daughter, Elizabeth, was also married to a European monarch. For a final 5 points, who was this king of Spain?

Answer: Phillip II

3. Answer the following questions about Kalevala mythology for 10 points apiece.

1. According to the Kalevala,/Master craftsman Ilmarinen/Deftly makes a mill of magic/From which flows both salt and riches./Name for me this magic mill/And you will receive 10 points.

Answer: sampo

2. Yes, the folk of Kalevala,/Partook bounty of the sampo,/But from them the mill was stolen,/taken far across the waters,/to the northland of their rivals,/In the desert northern tundra./Name this turgid rival land/Of the bereft Kalevala/To earn your team 10 more points.

Answer: Pohjola

3. Oh, look now, the sampo's broken,/Dashed to bits among the breakers/While the heros all contended/For the sampo's sole possession./It was not for want of trying/That this Kalevala hero,/Husband of the fair Kyllikki,/Could not win the magic mill./To receive another 10 points/Name this Kalevala hero.

Answer: Lemminkäinen

4. Many of France's best writers of the 20th century distinguished themselves not only for their fiction, but also for literary biography. For 10 points each, identify these French writers from such a biographical work, or for 5 points apiece after the work for which he or she was awarded the Prix Goncourt.

1. 10: Adieux: A Farewell to Sartre

5: The Mandarins

Answer: Simone de Beauvoir

2. 10: Jean Santeuil

5: Swann's Way

Answer: Marcel Proust

3. 10: Anti-Memoirs

5: Man's Fate

Answer: Andre Malraux

5. Unfortunately, the Eurocentric bent of American history has resulted in a common knowledge of salient figures among the indigenous peoples only if, with a few rare exceptions, they led a war party against the white man. Given such a significant Native American leader, name his tribe for 5 points apiece.

1. Black Kettle

Answer: (Southern) Cheyenne

2. Chief Joseph

Answer: Nez Perce

3. Billy Bowlegs

Answer: Seminole

4. Black Bear

Answer: (Northern) Arapaho

5. Tecumseh

Answer: Shawnee

6. Quanah Parker

Answer: Comanche

6. In 1994 Nobel Prize Laureate in physics, Murray Gell-Mann, published his latest volume which explain some of his investigations into the similarities and differences among complex adaptive systems which he is now directing at the Santa Fe Institute which he founded in 1984. For the stated number of points, answer the following questions about Murray Gell-Mann and his latest work.

1. The 1994 book is subtitled Adventures in the Simple and the Complex. For 5 points apiece, according to the title, what two things, a particle and an animal, exemplify the simple and the complex for Gell-Mann?

Answer: The Quark and the Jaguar

2. For 10 points, what conservation law did Gell-Mann propose in 1953 to govern equations describing a strong-nuclear or electromagnetic interaction, but not a weak-nuclear interaction?

Answer: Law of Conservation of Strangeness

3. For a final 10 points, what colleague of Gell-Mann's also postulated the quark independently of Gell-Mann in 1963?

Answer: Georg Zweig

7. Kingsley Amis is an old standard with collegiate academic competitors, and well he should be! How much do you know about Kingsley's son, Martin, though? Answer these for 10 points each.

1. His 1992 novel is alternatively titled "The Nature of the Offence" and was short-listed for the prestigious Booker Prize. Its narrator is a passenger inside the head of the central character, Tod Friendly, whose life is chronicled i reverse order--from the beginning as a doctor in an American hospital where healthy people are injured and made sick, to Tod's persona as Odilo Unverdorben, a doctor at Auschwitz where the Holocaust is depicted as an act of benign creation. Name this novel which sounds like a title by Stephen Jay Gould?

Answer: Time's Arrow

2. Amis borrows the central conceit of Time's Arrow from a 1969 novel in which the bombing of Dresden is imagined as a film running backwards. For 5 points apiece, name this 1969 novel and its author.

Answer: Slaughterhouse-Five; Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

3. Time's Arrow--predictably--raised a furor among the Semite Set who railed that the Holocaust was unsuitable as the subject of an essentially comic tale and that as a Gentile Amis had no right to appropriate it as a subject anyway. Especially irksome was Amis' suggestion that this man's unexplained suicide was an act of "ironic heroism." Who was this Italian chemist and Holocaust chronicler who died in Turin in 1987?

Answer: Primo Levi

8. On May 5, 1941 a short, light opera was performed at Columbia University. The story recounted the colorful exploits of a legendary American frontiersman in a series of tuneful episodes. Enjoying no eventful run, it lay on the shelf for 35 years before being revived at the 29th Musical Festival at Aldeburgh, England, on June 4, 1976, as a bicentennial tribute to America.

1. For 10 points, who was the legendary American and title character of this opera?

Answer: Paul Bunyan

2. For an additional 10 points apiece, who were the composer and librettist of "Paul Bunyan," both Englishman living in the United States?

Answer: Benjamin Britten and W. H. Auden

9. English common law allowed for three prerogative writs, formal written orders from a court commanding someone to do or refrain from doing something. These three prerogative writs have, of course, carried forward into U.S. jurisprudence. For 10 points apiece, identify each from a brief description.

1. An extraordinary writ issued by a superior court to an inferior court commanding it to abandon a cause pending before it over which it lacks jurisdiction.

Answer: Writ of Prohibition

2. A writ calling a case before a court for disposition. It is the primary means by which a case comes before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Answer: Writ of Certiorari (accept Writ of Cert)

3. A writ infrequently issued by the U.S. Supreme Court to federal officials or courts or, rarely, to state supreme courts requiring that a duty prescribed by law, and not subject to discretion, be performed.

Answer: Writ of Mandamus

10. Identify the Egyptian pharaoh 15-10-5. Your first clue will be a battle at which he emerged victorious.
15: Battle of Megiddo
10: At Megiddo in 1460 B.C. he defeated a coalition of Canaanite kingdoms under the leadership of the king of Kadesh.

5 : It is this pharaoh who erected the obelisks known as Cleopatra's needles.

Answer: Thutmose III

15: Battle of Kadesh

10: At Kadesh in 1275 B.C. he defeated the Hittites led by King Muwatallis II

5: He is believed to be the pharaoh of the Hebrew Exodus from Egypt.

Answer: Ramses II

11. Several of the works of William S. Burroughs are semi-autobiographical, often prefiguring a protagonist named William Lee in situations closely resembling those of Burroughs' own life and published under the William Lee pseudonym. For 15 points, apiece identify each of the following William Lee novels. Hint: each has a one-word title.

1. Beginning with Lee's World War II experience, it chronicles his descent into and 30-year romance with heroin, a drug Burroughs so describes: "[It] is not a kick. It is a way of life."

Answer: Junky

2. It is a love story in which Burroughs lays bare his heart and homosexual tendencies. In it, Lee is plagued with acute heroin withdrawal and romantic agonies for Eugene Allerton, himself a consummate user.

Answer: Queer

12. In 1766, a work appeared subtitled An Essay On the Limits Of Painting and Poetry. It espoused the view that while classical ideals of noble static harmony serve well for pointing, poetry is concerned with action and passion. Its nominal inspiration was a classical tableaux which depicted the destruction of a Trojan priest. For 10 points each:

1. Name the mythological figure on which the essay was based.

Answer: Laocoon

2. Name the German author of the essay Laocoon.

Answer: Gotthold Ephraim Lessing

3. Lessing actually penned the Laocoon as a response to another German aesthetician who is generally considered the first competent historian of ancient art and, by many, the father of classical archaeology. Who was this German who sparked Lessing with his 1754 Thoughts on the Imitation of Greek Works in Painting and Sculpture?

Answer: Johann Joachim Winckelmann

13. For the stated number of points, identify the following structures of or associated with the human eye.

1. For 5 points, what is the name of that fibrous outer covering which protects the inner eye and which is commonly recognized as the "whites" of the eyes?

Answer: sclerotic or sclera

2. For 5 points, the shallow pit in the retina opposite the pupil which is the point of greatest visual acuity.

Answer: fovea

3. For 5 points, the substance which fills the space between the cornea and the iris.

Answer: aqueous humor

4. For 5 points apiece, what are the three cranial nerves-- designated the third, fourth, and sixth--which regulate the movement of the six extrinsic eye muscles?

Answer: Oculomotor, Trochlear, Abducens

14. In this bonus question, I'll name a famous painting of one of the labors of Hercules, the year in which it was painted, and the nationality of its artist. For 10 points you name the artist. If you need an additional work, you only get 5 points.

10: "Hercules and the Nemean Lion," 1615, Flemish

5: Descent from the Cross

Answer: Peter Paul Rubens

10: "Hercules Feeds Diomedes to His Mares," 1852, French

5: The Barque of Dante

Answer: Eugene Delacroix

10: "Hercules and Theseus Fighting the Amazons," 1642, French

5: The Worship of the Golden Calf

Answer: Nicolas Poussin

15. In his 1848 verse satire, A Fable for Critics, James Russell Lowell described various writers as an anonymous critic asked by Apollo to give an account of the state of letters in America to an Olympus assemblage. On a 10-5 basis, identify the American writers Lowell characterized with the following couplets.

10: "A Greek head on right Yankee shoulders, whose range/ Has Olympus for one pole, for t'other the Exchange."

5: The American Scholar

Answer: Ralph Waldo Emerson

10: "There is (blank), with genius so shrinking and rare/ That you hardly at first see the strength that is there."

5: Mosses from an Old Manse

Answer: Nathaniel Hawthorne

10: "There comes (blank), with his raven, like Barnaby Rudge,/ Three fifths of him genius and two fifths sheer fudge."

5: The Masque of the Red Death

Answer: Edgar Allan Poe

16. For 10 points apiece, identify the prominent geologist who wrote each of the following books on the subject.

1. Theory of the Earth (1795)

Answer: James Hutton

2. Studies on Glaciers

Answer: Louis Agassiz

3. Origin of Continents and Oceans

Answer: Alfred Wegener

17. I will describe the flag of an African nation. If you can name the nation after the description, you will receive 15 points. Your 10 point clue will be the largest city in that nation other than its capital. If you need the capital, you will receive 5 points.

15: A diagonal yellow stripe running from the lower left to the upper right corner divides fields of green on the left from orange on the right

10: Pointe-Noire

5: Yaounde

Answer: Congo

15: From top to bottom, three horizontal stripes: green, white, and blue.

10: Koidu-New Sembehun

5: Freetown

Answer: Sierra Leone

18. Until the late 19th century, the ancient Hittites were known only as an enigmatic people mentioned in the Bible. For 15 points apiece, identify each of these Biblical Hittites. You will get a second clue to earn 5 points.

1. 15 pts: The daughter of Beerli, she was the Hittite woman Esau took for his wife--much to the distress of Isaac and Rebekah.

5 pts: She shares her name with a Jewish heroine who delivered her native city from the onslaught of Holofernes, by sneaking into his camp and beheading him as he lay in a drunken stupor

Answer: Judith

2. 15 pts: He was a Hittite warrior in the service of King David. David was so appreciative that he had an affair with his wife, Bathsheba, while the army was away on campaign and then had him killed in battle.

5 pts: He shares his first name with a villain in David Copperfield.

Answer: Uriah

19. For 5 points apiece, name the author who took each of the following literary journeys.

1. Long Day's Journey Into Night

Answer: Eugene O'Neill

2. Journey to the End of the Night

Answer: Louis-Ferdinand Celine

3. A Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland

Answer: Dr. Samuel Johnson

4. A Sentimental Journey

Answer: Laurence Sterne

5. "Journey of the Magi"

Answer: T. S. Eliot

6. The Dark Journey

Answer: Julian Green

20. For 5 points apiece, are what are the unfortunates afflicted with following phobias afraid?

1. Cynophobia
2. Musophobia
3. Brontophobia
4. Ochlophobia
5. Nyctophobia
6. Keraunothnetophobia

Answer: dogs
Answer: mice
Answer: thunder
Answer: crowds
Answer: darkness
Answer: falling man-made satellites

21. Now its time once again for fun and games with the periodic table. No, don't worry, we won't be playing chess. Today it's periodic table ... Othello! You have one of your chips on Lithium; and placing another of your chips on Unilhexium (or whatever they're calling it this week), you convert chips on all of the intervening spaces.

1. For 5 points apiece, on what four elements did your opponent have chips that you were able to convert? You have 15 seconds.

Answer: Magnesium, Scandium, Zirconium, Tantalum

2. Happily, you also had a chip on Cobalt. For an additional 5 points apiece, what two additional intervening elements had chips resting on them that you were able to convert with your placement? You have 15 seconds.

Answer: Rhenium, Ruthenium

22. The name of King Mausolus, of course, came to be synonymous with the wondrous tomb in which he was buried, and is now applied to much more banal funereal enclosures. However, for 15 points apiece, name these other ancient burial structures.

1. Arising in the Early Dynastic Period of the Old Kingdom of Egypt, they were the precursors of the pyramids. What is the name given to these low rectangular mud-brick or stone structures, the contemporary name for which is derived from the Arabic word for "bench"?

Answer: mastaba

2. This type of burial derives its contemporary name from the Russian word for "burial mound." What is this word which Marija Gimbutas used to name the entire culture, characterized by such burials, which streamed in waves out of the steppes of central Russia spreading the language and culture of the Indo-European "Urheimat"?

Answer: kurgan