

Mavis Gallant Memorial Tournament

Round 1

Questions by Huma "Hoomz" Zafar

1. In one short story, a character named for this figure is betrayed by Pretty Alice after he causes a "disaster of major importance"--a seven-minute delay--by spilling millions of jellybeans over a sidewalk. That character persecuted by the Ticktockman is the protagonist of a story by Harlan Ellison. Another character who takes his name from this figure solves crimes by pointing out clues to the simpleminded Mr. Satterthwaite in a series of stories by Agatha Christie. In another story, this character follows Missy around after he nails his heart to her door, and that story about this character's "Valentine" is by Neil Gaiman. Traditionally depicted as a servant who loves Colombina and wears a checkered costume, for 10 points, name this jester from the Commedia dell'arte.

ANSWER: Harlequin [accept Arlecchino]

2. An architect in one of this author's works expresses a keen enthusiasm for the "zomes" which make up the planned desert city of Arrepentimiento. The protagonist of that novel repeatedly runs into the supposedly dead Coy Harlingen as he tries to uncover what happened to his ex-girlfriend Shasta and her boyfriend Mickey Wolfmann. Another novel by this author of *Inherent Vice*, contains a cult centered around the mathematician Weed Atman and features an annual televised scam in which the protagonist jumps through a window in order to collect mental disability checks. The stamp expert Genghis Cohen helps the protagonist of another novel examine the title collection as she attempts to unravel the conspiracy surrounding the Trystero. For 10 points, name this author of *Vineland* who wrote about Oedipa Maas in *The Crying of Lot 49*.

ANSWER: Thomas Pynchon

3. The poet of this work discussed its composition in his book *The Cow Jumped Over the Moon*, in which he stated that the inspiration for this poem came from a cloud vision he saw while walking down Bloor Street. The speaker of this poem learns how "time on a knife-edge can pass with the guessing of fragments/Remembered from poets", and one character in this poem kills a bird with a broken wing, asking, "Could you teach it to fly?" Though the speaker begins by describing "sunalive weekends" and "lengthening coltish/Muscles" as he and his companion "cut trails for the Survey", he eventually realizes that he was the one who didn't test his foothold, leading to the title character's fall down the Finger. For 10 points, name this poem in which Bob pushes the title character to a merciful death, the most well-known poem of Earle Birney.

ANSWER: "David"

4. One author with this last name wrote a work in which Sigbjorn and Primrose Wilderness go to see Fernando Martinez soon after WWII, and another work by that author with this last name takes place on the Day of the Dead as Yvonne arrives in Mexico to try to save her marriage to the former British consul, Geoffrey Firmin. Those works are *Dark As the Grave Wherein My Friend Is Laid* and *Under the Volcano*. Another author with this last name wrote a novel in which Kira must perform the title action in order to dye thread for the Singer's robes, and that novel, *Gathering Blue*, is a sort-of sequel to one in which Jonas receives memories from the title figure. For 10 points, give this shared last name of British novelist Malcolm and children's author Lois, who wrote *The Giver*.

ANSWER: Lowry

5. A Thomas Campion poem describes a woman's face in terms of one of these, and a poem titled for one of them notes that "no life lives for ever;/That dead men rise up never;/That even the weariest river/Winds somewhere safe to sea." In another poem, a visitor to one of these places sees the words, "Thou shalt not" written on a door, and states, "Priests in black gowns, were walking their rounds,/And binding with briars, my joys & desires." In addition to those poems about one of these belonging to Proserpine and one "of Love", another poem about one of these mentions "a green Thought in a green Shade" and begins, "How vainly men themselves amaze/To win the palm, the oak, or bays." For 10 points, name these places, one of which titles an Andrew Marvell poem.

ANSWER: gardens

6. One character in this play asks, "Pourquoi? What is pourquoi? Do or not do?" after another character asks him why he is giving up his suit. Another character disguises himself as a priest and states, "What is 'that' but 'that', and 'is' but 'is'?" as he visits a man who has been imprisoned by the rest of the servants for supposed insanity. That character who receives a fake love letter asking him to smile constantly and wear yellow cross-gartered stockings is the steward Malvolio. This play opens with one character stating, "If music be the food of love, play on," as he plans how to court a woman who has promised to stay in mourning for seven years. That woman soon falls in love however with the messenger Cesario, who is really the disguised Viola. For 10 points, name this Shakespeare play which was the basis for *She's the Man*.

ANSWER: Twelfth Night, or *What You Will*

7. D. T. Max chronicled the editing controversy surrounding this man's early works, which were heavily rewritten by his editor, Gordon Lish. Near the end of one story by this man, Wayne asks Caroline, "Well, what do you think? Is there a chance for us or not?" after an unsuccessful dinner at Aldo's restaurant. In another story by this author, a waitress who serves an extremely obese man later imagines herself to be too fat to feel her husband when he tries to sleep with her against her will. Those stories, "Signals" and "Fat", can be found in this man's collection *Will You Please Be Quiet Please?* This man also wrote a story in which Terri argues with her husband over whether Ed's suicide and abusive behaviour can be examples of the title concept. For 10 points, name this author of "What We Talk About When We Talk About Love".

ANSWER: Raymond Carver

8. One character explains that a handkerchief mentioned in this poem was actually used by one figure to hide how much he was eating rather than to wipe his tears. This poem repeats variations of the phrase, "And this was odd because...", such as when describing the sun shining in "the middle of the night". The title characters want to discuss "why the sea is boiling hot", and whether "seven maids with seven mops" could clear all the sand on the beach, before they take a walk with several oysters whom they end up eating. For 10 points, name this poem recited by Tweedledum and Tweedledee to Alice in *Through the Looking Glass*.

ANSWER: "The Walrus and the Carpenter"

9. In one work by this poet, the speaker asks, "I lock the door upon myself/And bar them out; but who shall wall/Self from myself, most loathed of all?" This poet of "Who Shall Deliver Me?" wrote a poem in which a man's spurned lover comes back on his wedding day to return tokens of his love, and tells his bride to "take my share of a fickle heart". In another poem by this woman, the speaker receives answers to such questions as, "Shall I meet other wayfarers at night?" and, "Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak?" This poet of "Maude Clare" and "Up-Hill" wrote, in another poem, about a "nameless girl in freshest summer-greens", whose face "looks out from all [the title figure's] canvases". For 10 points, name this poet of "In an Artist's Studio" who wrote that "there is no friend like a sister" in a poem about Laura and Lizzie's visit to "Goblin Market".

ANSWER: Christina Rosetti

10. This man wrote about Mildred Osborne's love for the title cowboy in his novel *The Love of Landry*, and described the title entities as, "The fame that for a moment gleams,/Then flies forever," in his poem "Dreams". Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* takes its title from his poem "Sympathy", and another work by this poet is narrated by an entity haunted by the "curse of a guiltless man" who was lynched on its branches. This author of "The Haunted Oak" wrote, "We sing, but oh the clay is vile/Beneath our feet" in a work which asks, "Why should the world be overwise,/In counting all our tears and sighs?" The title object of that poem "grins and lies" and "hides our cheeks and shades our eyes". For 10 points, name this American poet who wrote "We Wear the Mask".

ANSWER: Paul Laurence Dunbar

11. One work by this poet discusses a "unique distance from isolation" and calls the title action "[a]n emblem of two people being honest". The speaker of another poem by this man wonders whether "dubious women" who "make their children touch a particular stone" will visit the title place, which "held unsplit/So long and equably what since is found/Only in separation". This poet of "Talking in Bed" and "Church Going" wrote about "everyone young going down the long slide/To happiness, endlessly" in one poem, and another of his poems begins, "Groping back to bed after a piss/I part thick curtains." This poet also wrote about "fools in old-style hats and coats" in a work that ends with the advice, "Get out as early as you can/And don't have any kids yourself." For 10 points, name this poet of "High Windows", "Sad Steps", and "This Be the Verse".

ANSWER: Philip Larkin

12. In one essay, this man described a hypothetical cartoon character named Mr. Mares-Neste to criticize England's use of the Home Guard during WWII, and that essay is titled "Blimpophobia". He updated John Bunyan's allegorical novel in his work *The Pilgrim's Regress*, and wrote about a philologist who is kidnapped by Professor Weston and put on a spaceship to Mars where he meets the being Oyarsa. Another novel by this author of the Space Trilogy begins with Shift convincing Puzzle to wear a costume made of an animal's skin, and an earlier novel in that series follows the protagonists' quest to find seven lords banished by Miraz. For 10 points, name this author of *The Last Battle* and *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, which form part of his series about Narnia.

ANSWER: Clive Staples (C. S.) Lewis

13. The narrator of this novel at one point mocks a series of pretentious diary entries written by the protagonist's grandfather during a trip across Europe, and one character in this work resolves to read Milton's pamphlet on divorce after having been married just that morning, when his bride disobeys him because she is too nervous to order dinner. The protagonist of this novel briefly joins the Simeonites and is scammed by the curate Pryer whom he entrusts with his fortune to develop the College of Spiritual Pathology. He is imprisoned for attacking a maid, after which he decides to marry Ellen but discovers that she is already married. After receiving a secret inheritance from his aunt Alethea on his twenty-eighth birthday, the protagonist returns to Battersby and eventually becomes a writer. For 10 points, name this novel narrated by Edward Overton which spans several generations of the Pontifex family, a work of Samuel Butler.

ANSWER: *The Way of All Flesh*

14. One work in this form states, "Gentlemen prefer bound feet and a wasp waist," noting, "A girl can't go on laughing all the time." Another work in this form states, "How safe I felt.../Rich that your grace safely by heart I knew," and begins, "It is the pain, it is the pain endures." The poet of "Reflection from Anita

Loos”, William Empson, was credited with reviving this poetic form, and another poem in this form states, “There must be reasons why the leaves decay,” but “Time only knows the price we have to pay.” In addition to that poem by Auden, another work in this form ends with the poet being told to “Write it!” and mentions “my mother's watch”, “two cities”, “some realms I owned, two rivers, a continent”, as among the things that “seem filled with the intent/to be lost”. In addition to Elizabeth Bishop's “One Art”, another work in this form discusses men who “see with blinding sight” and whose “frail deeds might have danced in a green bay”, and repeats the line, “Rage, rage against the dying of the light.” For 10 points, name this form which describes Dylan Thomas's “Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night”.

ANSWER: villanelle

15. One visitor to this place prompts another character to note that “the crocuses promise well” in order to defer the questions of the former. This is the place to where Count Sylvius brings the Mazarin stone, and a wax figure posed in a window here is used to fool a shikari with an air-gun. One visitor to this location is missing a thumb, which he lost when escaping from counterfeiters, while an unwanted visitor to this location is the “king of all the blackmailers”, Charles Milverton. One wall of this location is covered with bullet holes spelling “VR”, and one character notes that there are exactly seventeen steps leading up to this location. For 10 points, name this location across the street from Camden House, where Dr. Watson lives with Sherlock Holmes.

ANSWER: 221B Baker Street

16. The narrator of this novel makes a list of substances such as oil, fingernails, semen, and a man’s tears, and notes the occasions on which his wife covered her body with each of them. The narrator recalls painting a model of the Acropolis with red nail polish, and repeatedly asks, “Are the stars tiny, after all?” to a woman whose image he is obsessed with, Catherine Tekakwitha. The second part of this novel consists of a “long letter” from the narrator’s possibly imaginary best friend, who is known only by the initial F. This is the only other novel written by the author of *The Favourite Game*, and a post on Kate Beaton’s tumblr describes the title group of this novel as “characters who are better appreciated after the author becomes famous doing something else.” For 10 points, name this novel written by Leonard Cohen.

ANSWER: *Beautiful Losers*

17. One character in this story observes, “Everybody’s youth is a dream, a form of chemical madness,” as another character notes, “How pleasant then to be insane!” That character recounts a story where her little sister once pushed their father downstairs but he just walked it off because he never punishes his children. Another character in this story pretends that the South won the American Civil War to trick his slaves into continued servitude, and the central family in this work has a dungeon in which they lock up pilots who fly too close to the title entity. Kismine warns the protagonist that he will be killed, but they are able to escape when an airplane attack leads Percy and his parents to blow up the title entity. For 10 points, name this story about an impossibly large gem, by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

ANSWER: “The Diamond As Big As the Ritz”

18. In one of this author’s novels, the protagonist recalls being humiliated by her boss, Mr. Blank, when he asks her to deliver a letter to the “kise” which she doesn’t realize refers to the cashier. This author who wrote about Sasha Jensen’s return to Paris in *Good Morning, Midnight* wrote a story in which the protagonist hears the Holloway song while in a women’s prison, and later has it stolen and reinterpreted by a white musician. In another novel by this author of “Let Them Call It Jazz”, Christophine prepares a love potion for the protagonist, who is sent to a convent after Coulibri Estate burns down. That protagonist eventually marries a man introduced to her by Mr. Mason, who later locks her up under the watch of the servant Grace Poole. For 10 points, name this Dominican author of *Wide Sargasso Sea*.

ANSWER: Jean Rhys

19. This poet described the title phenomenon as “the poem of the air/Slowly, in silent syllables recorded,” in his poem, “Snow-flakes”, and the speaker of another poem notes that, “Dust thou art, to dust returnest/Was not spoken of the soul”. This poet of “A Psalm of Life” wrote a work which repeats the lines, “A boy’s will is the wind’s will,/And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts,” and that poem is titled, “My Lost Youth”. In another work, set in “the forest primeval”, one character is helped by Father Felician and becomes a Sister of Mercy, where she comes across a dying man who whispers her name, and in another poem, one person “climb[s] the tower of the Old North Church” because the title character had instructed, “One, if by land, and two, if by sea.” For 10 points, name this American poet who wrote about the midnight ride of Paul Revere, as well as “The Song of Hiawatha” and “Evangeline”.

ANSWER: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

20. In one story by this author, one character states that a man who has married twice will be with his first wife in Heaven for as long as he was with her on Earth, to explain why it took his father’s second wife seven years to die. This author of “The Summer My Grandmother Was Supposed to Die” wrote a novel in which a film director on trial for sexual assault obsesses over the supposed legend of his cousin Joey, whom he believes to be hunting Josef Mengele. Another character created by this author starts selling highly effective diet pills, but abandons the business to his partner when he learns that the pills contain tapeworms. That character who appears briefly in *St. Urbain’s Horseman* competes in another novel with the “Boy Wonder”, Jerry Dingleman, and forges a cheque from Virgil when he finds his savings are insufficient to buy the land surrounding Lac St. Pierre. For 10 points, name this author of *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*.

ANSWER: Mordecai Richler