

5. This region was unwisely transferred from one country to another by Khrushchev in 1954, something that is still causing problems today. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this region, whose Tatars really didn't show up to vote in a recent independence referendum.

ANSWER: Crimean peninsula [or Krim]

[10] Like much of Eastern Ukraine, the mostly-Russian residents of Crimea generally opposed this protest movement, responsible for the ouster of Viktor Yanukovich.

ANSWER: Euromaidan movement [or Eurosquare movement]

[10] This special police agency was responsible for the deaths of over one hundred Euromaidan protesters. Dissolved on February 25, 2014, this agency was symbolized by a golden eagle.

ANSWER: Berkut

6. Wiru Orusuton, a totally Japanese *sarariman*, is trying to run for political office in Japan. For 10 points each, help Will, I mean Wiru, win his election.

[10] If Wiru is a rural area, he probably needs to set up one of these local support groups, which basically just distribute free money and goodies to anyone who is willing to vote for the candidate in question.

ANSWER: koenkai

[10] A good way to get endorsed by a national party for a seat is to personally know someone in it. Wiru might have done that if he had gone to this most prestigious university in Japan, from which half of Diet members graduate.

ANSWER: University of Tokyo [or Tokyo University or Tokyo Daigaku]

[10] If Wiru wants to campaign, a stereotypical way is to stand near one of these buildings for ten hours everyday, holding a poster and chanting campaign slogans. Japanese cities, suburban and urban, are often built around these structures, whose large examples include Shibuya, Osaka-Umeda and Shinjuku.

ANSWER: railway stations [or train stations or eki or subways]

7. Like many other things, this policy was opposed by Barack Obama before he became President and then supported by him after he became President. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this policy implemented by David Petraeus, which temporarily built up troops in Iraq to pave the way for an ultimate withdrawal.

ANSWER: Iraq War troop surge of 2007 [or The New Way Forward]

[10] Thomas Friedman predictably responded to the surge by saying the near future would be crucial, a tendency mocked by the term "Friedman Unit." What is the length of time represented by a Friedman Unit?

ANSWER: the next six months [accept mathematical equivalents in days, hours, seconds, Planck time or other units of time]

[10] This Nebraskan was the only Senate Republican to oppose the surge. After making disparaging remarks about Israel, he had a very difficult confirmation process when Obama nominated him to be his Secretary of Defense.

ANSWER: Charles Timothy "Chuck" Hagel

8. The ATLAS and CMS projects at the LHC in Geneva announced the discovery of this particle in 2012, lending support to the Standard Model. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this particle that induces spontaneous symmetry breaking. Interactions with this particle's namesake field confer mass upon gauge bosons according to its namesake "mechanism."

ANSWER: Higgs boson [accept Higgs particle; prompt on the God particle]

[10] The Higgs mechanism explains the mass of the Yang-Mills gauge field. 't Hooft and Veltman won the 1999 Physics Nobel for showing that Yang-Mills fields possess this property, meaning that divergences can be redefined as finite quantities.

ANSWER: renormalizability [accept word forms]

[10] An earlier accomplishment at CERN was the creation of these entities in the PS210 experiment, which employed the LEAR apparatus. Trapping these entities is the goal of ALPHA, the successor of ATHENA.

ANSWER: antihydrogen atoms [accept H-bar; prompt on antimatter]

9. A test named for this author checks if any two female characters in a work have had a conversation with each other that didn't involve a man. It's a pointless, stupid test. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this cartoonist behind the strip *Dykes to Watch Out For*. She described her relationship with her possibly suicidal, secretly gay father in the graphic novel *Fun Home*, which she followed up with *Are You My Mother?*

ANSWER: Alison Bechdel

[10] This oddly feminist-inspired 1996 series kicks the Bechdel test into space. Based on a Chiho Saito manga, it features a female prince who fights school duels over her ownership of the “Rose Bride,” Anthy.

ANSWER: *Revolutionary Girl* **Utena** [or *Shojo Kakumei* **Utena**]

[10] In the Forgotten Realms setting of D&D, this race lives in a mostly underground matriarchal society, and has a tendency to ride spiders and worship Lloth. Drizzt is a very rare male member of this race.

ANSWER: **Drow** [grudgingly accept **dark elves**; prompt on **elves**]

10. His memoir, *Prisoner of the State*, was published in 2009 and immediately banned in China. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this former General-Secretary of the Communist Party of China. He was purged after he took a conciliatory approach to the protesters at Tiananmen Square.

ANSWER: **Zhao Ziyang**

[10] This Communist Party Chief of Sichuan, at the time China’s largest province, was widely considered the protégé of Zhao Ziyang and perhaps was the best known Sichuanese in Chinese politics.

ANSWER: **Yang Rudai**

[10] Yang Rudai survived the purging of Zhao Ziyang, but he was later essentially shit-canned due to his strenuous opposition to this engineering project, which flooded huge numbers of villages and historical sites in Southwest China.

ANSWER: **Three Gorges** dam

11. Answer these questions about amusingly formulaic writing in extremely generic Japanese works, for 10 points each.

[10] This term refers to a character archetype that runs hot and cold, alternating from an aloof stance to being lovey-dovey. Examples include *Toradora*’s Taiga and *Phoenix Wright*’s Franziska von Karma.

ANSWER: ***tsundere***

[10] Known as *osananajimi*, this character archetype is a common love interest that stereotypically wakes up main characters in the morning. Examples include *Tales of Symphonia*’s Collette, *AnoHana*’s Menma, and *Shuffle*’s Kaede. They almost never win.

ANSWER: **childhood friend** [accept equivalents; accept **osananajimi**; prompt on **friend** or equivalents]

[10] This depressingly common love interest archetype often wins, defeating those pesky osananajimi. Examples include *OreImo*’s Kirino, *Metal Gear Solid*’s Emma Emmerich, *Zeami*’s Sakagami and mythology’s Izanami.

ANSWER: ***imouto*** [or **little sister** or **younger sister**; prompt on **sister** or **sibling** or equivalents; do not accept older sister]

12. Many say that this country should effectively devalue its currency in order to boost its competitiveness against the rest of Europe. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this country, where the New Democracy government has rejected suggestions to improve the stability of the Eurozone by returning to the *drachma*.

ANSWER: **Greece** [or **Hellenic Republic**; or **Ellas**; or **Elleniki Dimokratia**]

[10] According to this economic principle, a devaluation of Greece’s currency may not necessarily immediately improve the balance of trade, unless the sum of the elasticity of Greece’s exports and imports is greater than one.

ANSWER: **Marshall-Lerner** condition

[10] This German Minister of Finance and CDU member has argued that the Greeks would be better off in the Euro. He supported additional bailouts, but has insisted on austerity and opposed haircuts on Greece’s creditors.

ANSWER: Wolfgang **Schäuble**

13. As the long-time leader of the Workers Party, he became the first member of an opposition party to win a seat in 1981, when he defeated a member of the ruling party in Anson. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this man of Indian descent who has been repeatedly sued by the government in the hopes of evicting him from Parliament. In 2008, he died after joining the Reform Party, which was later led by his son.

ANSWER: J. B. **Jeyaretnam** [accept **JBJ**]

[10] J.B. Jeyaretnam is from this Asian nation, whose Westminster-style parliament moved to the Group Representation Constituency in an effort to shut out the opposition. With nine out of ninety-nine seats, the Worker’s Party is the only opposition party in its parliament.

ANSWER: Republic of **Singapore** [accept the **Lion City**]

[10] The ruling People's Action Party uses a logo almost identical to the British Flash and Circle, a British party of this type like the Union Movement led by Oswald Mosley. In *V For Vendetta*, Britain is taken over by one called the Norsefire Regime.

ANSWER: **fascist** [if they say **BUF** or **British Union of Fascists** give it to them; prompt on obvious related answers]

14. This man lends his name to the Report of the Select Committee on US National Security and Military/Commercial Concerns with the People's Republic of China. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this California Republican who, as chair of that Select Committee, investigated PRC espionage in the US, both political and military. He later became Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

ANSWER: (Charles) Christopher **Cox**

[10] A similar select committee on the Senate side was chaired by this Tennessee Republican. After being replaced by Lamar Alexander, he played Arthur Branch on *Law and Order* and actually ran for President in 2008.

ANSWER: Freddie Dalton "Fred" **Thompson**

[10] The Clinton administration ignored the reports of those committees, garnering criticism from this journalist known for breaking the Watergate scandal. This author of *Obama's Wars* was threatened by the Obama Administration for a piece on the budget negotiations.

ANSWER: Robert Upshur "Bob" **Woodward**

15. This man's history book on the partition, *Jinnah: India, Partition, Independence*, was banned by the BJP government in Gujarat for supposedly insulting Vallabhbhai Patel. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this BJP legislator from the Darjeeling constituency of West Bengal. He led the BJP opposition in the Rajya Sabha between 2006 and 2009, but was recently expelled from the party again for opposing Modi.

ANSWER: Jaswant **Singh**

[10] In 1996, Jaswant Singh served in this position, as did Manmohan Singh of no relation. Perhaps the second best-known holder of this position is Palaniappan Chidambaram, who succeeded Pranab Mukherjee in it.

ANSWER: Union **Minister of Finance** [or **Finance Minister** or **Vitt Mantri**]

[10] Manmohan Singh is a member of this party that has ruled India through most of its history. Other leaders from this party includes most, but not all, of the Gandhi-Nehru family.

ANSWER: **INC** [or **Indian National Congress**; or **Congress Party**]

16. This organism causes dracunculiasis, a disease that was once endemic throughout Africa but has since been largely eradicated. For 10 points:

[10] Name this parasitic nematode that spreads by making your leg or foot feel really hot, tricking you into running to the river and allowing its L1 larvae to be released into the water, where they are taken up by water fleas.

ANSWER: **guinea worm** [accept *Dracunculus medinensis*]

[10] This man founded a namesake Center that spearheaded the initiative to eradicate guinea worm, helping him win the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize. His Center has also been active in targeting the absolutely crazy disease river blindness.

ANSWER: James Earl "Jimmy" **Carter, Jr.**

[10] This is the only African nation where guinea worm hasn't been eradicated or is near eradication. In 2011, this largely Christian nation declared independence from an Arab Muslim-dominated state.

ANSWER: Republic of **South Sudan**

17. Out of the nine first-level regions of England, this is the poorest, having a per capita income of barely fifteen thousand pounds. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this region of England, which is still MAF over Thatcher and exclusively elects Labour politicians, largely because it's England's rust belt. England's second poorest region, Yorkshire and the Humber, is directly to its south.

ANSWER: **Northeastern England** [anti-prompt on **Tyneside**]

[10] This regional capital of Northeast England lends its name to an allegedly awful but not really that bad brand of brown ale, whose bottles feature a blue star on the logo. Few things are as foolish as bringing coal to this city.

ANSWER: **Newcastle** upon Tyne

[10] This is the term for the people and totally incomprehensible accent that predominates in the Tyneside region of Northeastern England. In America, it also names the schooners you get Newcastle Brown Ale in.

ANSWER: **Geordie**

18. Nearly 1.4 million South Asian foreign workers live in this nation, which is actually a majority of the population. It is estimated that thousands will die before a 2022 project is finished. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this nation, home to the newspaper *Al Raya*. An oryx is the logo of this nation's Airways, which, along with that of a neighbor composed of seven other states, is consistently rated the world's best airline.

ANSWER: State of **Qatar** [or Dawlat **Qatar**]

[10] Qatar will host this event in 2022, which is what has necessitated its huge influx of migrant workers. In 2010, this event was infamously drowned out by everyone's use of vuvuzelas. I hate vuvuzelas.

ANSWER: **FIFA World Cup** [prompt on **World Cup**; accept anything that mentions **World Cup** AND **soccer** or **football**]

[10] Several Arab nations employ this system of labor, which requires all migrant workers to have a sponsor for visa status, usually their employer. It has been widely criticized by international human rights organizations.

ANSWER: **kafala** system

19. Answer some questions about social justice warriors from comfortably middle-class backgrounds, for 10 points each:

[10] This insane biracial MSNBC host once hosted a show wearing tampon earrings and said that children belong to communities, not to families. She was denied a full professorship at Princeton due to a lack of scholarly work.

ANSWER: Melissa Victoria **Harris-Perry**

[10] This prominent black member of the Democratic Socialists of America has called Melissa Harris-Perry a "fake and a fraud." This author of *Race Matters* has held real professorships at Harvard and Princeton, and got into a dispute with Larry Summers in 2002.

ANSWER: Cornel Ronald **West**

[10] This Montgomery-based civil rights legal organization composed of wealthy white lawyers has called basically everybody a racist at some point in its efforts to monitor white supremacists and hate groups.

ANSWER: **SPLC** [or **S**outhern **P**overty **L**aw **C**enter]

20. In Wisconsin, this process occurred naturally via dispersal from Minnesota before the DNR systematized it by developing a recovery plan in 1989. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this issue concerning a widely extirpated species. This project was proposed to increase the number of quaking aspen by stabilizing elk populations through an "ecology of fear," but many ranchers are not big fans.

ANSWER: grey **wolf reintroduction** [or grey **wolf restoration**; accept any clear-knowledge equivalents such as "**releasing populations of *Canis lupus***"; prompt on partial answer or answers that don't refer to wolves specifically; accept answers about any particular subspecies]

[10] Wolves were reintroduced to the Lamar Valley of this Wyoming national park in 1995 and have sort of maybe helped the ecosystem recover. Old Faithful is an iconic geyser from this park.

ANSWER: **Yellowstone** National Park

[10] Although the Yellowstone caldera is undoubtedly North America's most iconic caldera, this one in New Mexico has been in the news for its Las Conchas and Thompson Ridge fires. *The Lone Ranger* was shot nearby.

ANSWER: **Valles** Caldera

TIEBREAKER

21. This senator famously showed up to a congressional meeting about Obamacare eager to help work on the legislation, but was ejected for not being a Democrat. For 10 points:

[10] Name this moderate Republican Senator, who is currently one of the most vocal opponents of Obamacare. This Senator will easily win in 2014.

ANSWER: Susan Margaret **Collins**

[10] At one point, Collins served with this other female moderate Republican Senator, who was replaced in the Senate by Angus King.

ANSWER: Olympia Jean **Snowe**

[10] Senators Collins and Snowe are from this state. Another American hero from this state is Paul LePage.

ANSWER: State of **Maine** [or **ME**; accept goofy nicknames like the **Pine Tree State**, **Vacationland** or the **Country of the Pointed Firs**]