



CATEGORY ROUND

American Literature: Literary Conversations

Team A: Which Edward Bellamy book is about Julian West conversing with people in the socialist utopia of the year 2000?

ANSWER: *Looking Backward*

Team B: What author wrote a novel narrated by sailor Arthur Gordon Pym, who talks to sailor Dirk Peters as they journey to the South Pole?

ANSWER: Edgar Allan Poe

Tossup: This book includes a conversation with a poet in the section "Brute Neighbors." Sections of this book include "Where I Lived, and What I Lived For," and he describes his hobbies in a chapter called "The Bean Field." The author goes to the title location "to live deliberately" and "to front only the essential facts of life," and he occasionally journeys to nearby Concord, Massachusetts. Name this Henry David Thoreau book describing living at a cabin for two years.

ANSWER: *Walden*; or, *Life in the Woods* [do not accept "Walden Pond"]

Mathematics: Polynomials & Curves

Team B: This is a 20-second calculation question. What are the two real solutions to the equation $x^2 - 7x - 8$?

ANSWER: $x = 8$ and $x = -1$ [do not prompt on or accept partial solutions]

Team A: This is a 20-second calculation question. The two roots of a second degree polynomial P are i and negative i . If the y -intercept of the graph of P of x is 1, what is the polynomial in standard form?

ANSWER: $x^2 + 1$

Tossup: The inversion of a cardioid with respect to its cusp is one of these curves. This curve is obtained when using the parametrization x equals velocity times t times cosine of θ and y equals velocity times t times sine of θ minus half gravity times t^2 . That parametrization can be used for the trajectory of a projectile. These curves have an eccentricity of one, and they are defined as a set of points equidistant from a focus and a directrix. Name this conic section which is the graph of a quadratic equation.

ANSWER: parabolas [or parabolae; prompt on quadratic curve]

World History: Ottomans

Team A: What Ottoman sultan captured Constantinople and made it his capital?

ANSWER: **Mehmed II** [or **Mehmed the Conqueror**]

Team B: Alexander Ypsilanti led the Hetairists in what country during its war for independence from the Ottomans?

ANSWER: **Greece** [or **Hellas**]

Tossup: Two opposing forces during this war were defeated in separate battles by the Ottoman Empire, at the River Bender and the River Pruth. An empire in this war was initially allied to Frederick the Strong of Saxony and had to rebuild its army after a defeat at Narva. The losing empire in this war had to agree to the Treaty of Nystad after its army was smashed at the Battle of Poltava. Name this war in which Peter the Great of Russia and his allies defeated Charles XII of Sweden.

ANSWER: **Great Northern** War

Fine Arts: Eastern European Music

Team B: What piano virtuoso was also the composer of the *Bells* Symphony and the *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*?

ANSWER: Sergei **Rachmaninoff**

Team A: Who wrote *The Love for Three Oranges*, the *Lieutenant Kije* suite, and the most-widely performed ballet version of *Romeo and Juliet*?

ANSWER: Sergei **Prokofiev**

Tossup: This composer may have coded the name of his fiancée, the Belgian soprano Desirée Artot, into one of his pieces. His program symphony based on Byron's poem "Manfred" is generally not included among his six numbered symphonies. The "Troparion of the Holy Cross" opens another of his compositions, in which the anthem "God Save the Tsar" prevails over "La Marseillaise" as sixteen cannon shots are fired. Name this Russian composer who celebrated Napoleon's defeat in his *1812 Overture*.

ANSWER: Pyotr Ilyich **Tchaikovsky**

Life Sciences: Human Diseases

Team A: What hereditary, neurodegenerative disease is caused by increases in CAG repeats and can result in involuntary motions known as chorea?

ANSWER: **Huntington's** disease

Team B: What disease, prominently occurring in Ashkenazi Jews, is characterized by a buildup of ganglioside GM2 and has no cure?

ANSWER: **Tay-Sachs** disease

Tossup: The severity of this disease is measured on the EDSS scale. A classic symptom of this disease is Lhermitte's (LARE-meet's) sign. Its treatments includes a random polymer of four amino acids called glatiramer acetate, which shifts the Th1 response to a Th2 response. Oligodendrocytes are lost in this disease, which can be diagnosed by looking for white matter plaques on MRI. Name this autoimmune disease which destroys the myelin sheaths surrounding neurons.

ANSWER: **multiple sclerosis** [or **MS**]

World Literature: British Literature

Team B: What English author wrote about a mad scientist creating people out of animals in *The Island of Doctor Moreau*?

ANSWER: Herbert George **Wells**

Team A: What English author wrote about the Wife of Bath telling a story about a knight trying to discover what women most desire?

ANSWER: Geoffrey **Chaucer**

Tossup: The second section of this novel intersperses events such as Prue's death in childbirth with the decay of a house. At the beginning of this book, James imagines killing his father because he insists the weather will be bad. The matriarch of the central family dies abruptly in this novel's section "Time Passes." In this novel, Lily Briscoe finally completes her painting and the Ramsays take a boat to the title structure. Name this novel by Virginia Woolf.

ANSWER: **To the Lighthouse**

US Government/Economics: Advertising Controversies

Team A: What breakfast cereal featured an interracial family in a series of 2013 and 2014 commercials, much to the dismay of racists?

ANSWER: Cheerios

Team B: What company aroused controversy with a 2014 Super Bowl ad featuring the song "America the Beautiful" sung in different languages?

ANSWER: Coca-Cola [or Coke]

Tossup: This economist co-authored the paper "What Makes Advertising Profitable?" with William Adams and addressed the efficiency wage hypothesis in several papers written with George Akerlof. In November 2013, this person told Bob Corker that she would have the courage to "prick bubbles." She accumulated support for her current position after Lawrence Summers withdrew from consideration. This former chair of Bill Clinton's Council of Economic Advisers was confirmed in January 2014 to succeed Ben Bernanke. Name this woman who became the new Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

ANSWER: Janet Yellen

Physical Sciences: Energy

Team B: The Heisenberg Uncertainty principle applies to energy and what other quantity, which gets "dilated" in a special relativistic effect?

ANSWER: time

Team A: What unit for energy, named after a physicist, equals a kilogram times meters-squared over seconds-squared?

ANSWER: Joule

Tossup: This scientist names a period of time that precedes cosmic inflation, when gravity had not separated from the other three fundamental forces. This scientist improved upon Wien's (VEENZ) law and the Stefan-Boltzmann law in formulating a better equation to describe blackbody radiation. The energy of a wave and its frequency are related by this man's namesake constant, which shows that energy is released in discrete packets. Name this physicist, a pioneer in quantum mechanics.

ANSWER: Max Planck

World Geography: Headquarters Around the World

Team A: Banco Delta Asia is based in what Special Administrative Region in China that was formerly controlled by Portugal?

ANSWER: **Macau**

Team B: Air Asia is headquartered in what city, where the doomed Flight 370 took off?

ANSWER: **Kuala Lumpur**

Tossup: This city is the headquarters of the organization that administers Earthwatch, an environmental information clearinghouse among governments. This home of the United Nations Environment Program is five miles north of a national park with the same name that includes an "animal orphanage." This city receives water from the Sasumua (sah-suh-MOO-uh) Dam, which dams the Tana River. At least sixty-seven people were killed in this city's Westgate Mall by al-Shabab gunmen in 2013. Name this capital city of Kenya.

ANSWER: **Nairobi**

American History: Historical Dangers

Team B: The deadliest flood in American history was an 1889 disaster that destroyed what Pennsylvania city?

ANSWER: **Johnstown**

Team A: The deadliest natural disaster in American history was a 1900 hurricane that devastated what Texas city?

ANSWER: **Galveston**

Tossup: Glenn Frank was instrumental in saving lives during this event by persuading people to leave the scene. A Pulitzer-winning photograph taken during this event by John Filo depicts Mary Ann Vecchio kneeling over the body of Jeffrey Miller. This event was the subject of Neil Young's anti-war song "Ohio." Three years after this event, the eight National Guardsmen who opened fire were acquitted on the grounds of self-defense. Name this 1970 shooting on a college campus in Ohio, which prompted a student strike against the Vietnam War across the country.

ANSWER: **Kent State** shootings [or **May 4 massacre**]

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Alphabet Round-Letter T ANSWERS

1. Mark Twain
2. Time
3. titanium
4. Tintoretto
5. *La traviata*
6. tiger [or tyger]
7. Tenochtitlan
8. transposons [or transposable elements; or TE]
9. Thomas
10. Theseus
11. *Twelfth Night*
12. Pierre Trudeau
13. Nikola Tesla
14. Thor
15. Tajikistan
16. *The Tin Drum*
17. The Tea Party
18. talc
19. Taoism
20. theocracy [or theocratic]

FINAL ROUND

1. This barbarian's destruction of the Burgundian city of Worms is recounted in an epic partly set at his court, the *Nibelungenlied* (NEE-bel-OON-gen-leed). This brother of Bleda was defeated when the Visigoth Theodoric I and the Roman general Flavius Aetius teamed up at the Battle of Chalons (shuh-LAHN). He was convinced to leave Italy after meeting Pope Leo I at Mantua, and was known as the "Scourge of God." Name this great leader of the Huns.

ANSWER: Attila the Hun

186-14-103-04101

2. The blind King John of Bohemia fought in this conflict, and John's motto was adopted by the winner of this war's Battle of Najera (nah-HER-uh). One side in this conflict lost most of its fleet in the Battle of Sluys (SLOYZ), and the Black Prince won at Poitiers (PWAH-tee-eh) in this war. It began with Edward III's claim on a throne occupied by the House of Valois (val-WAH). Name this war during which Joan of Arc was burned at the stake, which was waged for roughly a century.

ANSWER: Hundred Years War [or Guerre de Cent Ans]

141-14-103-04102

3. According to the equation of exchange, the product of this quantity and the velocity is equal to average price times average quantity purchased. M2 is the most common measurement of this quantity used in comparative economics. Irving Fisher showed that the rate of change of this quantity is roughly equal to the rate of change of prices. That's why the Federal Reserve would cut this value to fight inflation. Name this quantity, the amount of currency in circulation.

ANSWER: money supply [or M until it is read; or M2 until it is read; or money stock; prompt on money]

190-14-103-04103

4. The completion of this project was celebrated when one of its sponsors poured the contents of a barrel off the *Seneca Chief*. Thomas Allen wrote a nostalgic song about this project beginning "I've got a mule, her name is Sal." DeWitt Clinton got his state's legislature to fund this project, which was designed with a staircase of locks to get over the Niagara Escarpment. Name this waterway in upstate New York that connected Albany to the Great Lakes area.

ANSWER: Erie Canal

080-14-103-04104

5. The enzyme named after these structures is absent in Cri du chat (CREE do sha) syndrome and was discovered in *Tetrahymena*. That enzyme, hTERT, adds TTAGGG to the ends of these structures in humans, similar to what occurs in cancer cells. These structures are subject to the end replication problem, and when very short, they lead to cellular senescence (suh-NESS-unce). The discovery of these structures by Elizabeth Blackburn explained Leonard Hayflick's theory that cells could only divide a finite number of times. Identify these series of repeating nucleotides at the ends of chromosomes.

ANSWER: telomeres

233-14-103-04105

6. This man showed the limitations of rationalism with self-evident contradictions he called "antinomies." He claimed rationalists and empiricists were unable to account for synthetic and "a priori" truths, whose existence he defended with transcendental arguments. In the *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, he said that all moral actions should be such that we could will them to be universal laws, his categorical imperative. Name this author of *Critique of Pure Reason*, a German transcendentalist philosopher.

ANSWER: Immanuel Kant

121-14-103-04106

7. This novel ends with a character receiving a letter reading “It is a great comfort to have you so rich” and requesting “a place at court.” It begins with the observation that a single man with a good fortune “must be in want of a wife.” The female protagonist is wooed by the foolish clergyman Mr. Collins and has four sisters including Lydia and Jane, who become involved with Mr. Wickham and Mr. Bingley. Name this Jane Austen novel about Elizabeth Bennett and Mr. Darcy.

ANSWER: **Pride and Prejudice**

052-14-103-04107

8. After this battle, Gregorio Esparza was the only member of the losing side to receive a burial. William Barrett Travis wrote several letters requesting additional reinforcements before this battle. This battle became part of a slogan along with the similar Goliad massacre. Pneumonia caused Jim Bowie to be confined to bed during this battle, but Davy Crockett and the other defenders fought to the last man against Santa Anna. Name this battle of the Texas Revolution in which a Mexican army massacre defenders of the namesake mission in San Antonio.

ANSWER: Battle of the **Alamo**

239-14-103-04108

9. In a Poisson (PWA-sohn) probability mass function, this function appears the denominator. An extension of this function, which has an output of square root of pi for the value one-half, is the gamma function. For large values, it is well-approximated with Stirling's formula. This function appears in the denominator of each term of a Taylor series. When choosing k objects from n objects, this function is applied to n in the numerator as well as to n and n minus k in the denominator. Name this function represented by an exclamation mark.

ANSWER: **factorial**

121-14-103-04109

10. Calculations involving this force can be improved by using the Bouguer (boo-JAY) or free-air corrections. An equipotential surface for this force is the geoid (JEE-oyd), the shape the oceans would take if they covered the Earth. A constant used in calculations with this force is equal to 6.67 times 10 to the minus 11. Because the Earth is an oblate spheroid, calculations involving this force deviate from Newton's law. Name this attractive force that causes things to flow or fall towards the Earth's center.

ANSWER: **gravity**

066-14-103-04110

11. This mountain was first climbed by Edwin James, who described seeing the blue columbine during the ascent. Its namesake was killed in the Battle of York during the War of 1812 and had previously explored the west on orders of James Wilkinson. Katharine Lee Bates wrote the song "America the Beautiful" after admiring the view from this mountaintop. During the "Fifty-Niner Gold Rush," miners used a slogan advocating this mountain "or bust." Name this peak in the Rocky Mountains, which is named for an explorer whose first name was Zebulon.

ANSWER: **Pikes** Peak

052-14-103-04111

12. Minerva saved a victim of this man who had achieved insight by looking at the spine of a fish. This man used honey to attract an ant into walking through a seashell. After this man pushed his nephew Perdix off of the Acropolis, Minerva turned Perdix into a partridge. Either this man or the daughters of Cocalus (coh-CAL-us) killed his former employer, the husband of Pasiphae (PASS-if-ey). Name this father of Icarus who designed the Labyrinth.

ANSWER: **Daedalus** [or **Daedalos**; or **Taitale**]

186-14-103-04112

13. After playing “Diminuendo and Crescendo in Blue” at the 1956 Newport Jazz Festival, this man returned to prominence. For a Carnegie Hall performance, this man wrote the jazz symphony *Black, Brown, and Beige*. This man’s orchestra popularized such songs as “Mood Indigo.” His signature tune was “Take the ‘A’ Train” and he composed “It Don’t Mean a Thing (If It Ain’t Got That Swing).” Name this jazz musician nicknamed “Duke.”

ANSWER: Edward Kennedy “Duke” **Ellington**

052-14-103-04113

14. In this story, one character praises his wife for her beef stew while she daydreams about the fancy life. Another character in this story is elated at first after receiving an invitation to a ball held by the Ministry of Education. The protagonist of this story visits Madame Forestier (for-EST-ee-ay) in order to borrow the title object. Name this short story in which Mathilde replaces the title piece of fake jewelry, written by Guy de Maupassant (GEE duh MOH-puh-sahnt).

ANSWER: "The **Necklace**" [or "La **Parure**"]

227-14-103-04114

15. Chancellor Li Linfu led a series of purges during this dynasty. Buddhism was suppressed during the Hu-chiang (hoo-CHONG) period of this dynasty, which fought against the Abbasid Caliphate at the Battle of the Talas River. This dynasty was interrupted by the reign of Empress Wu Zetian. This dynasty defeated An Lushan's rebellion, and it was the time of poets such as Li Po and Du Fu. Name this Chinese dynasty founded by Emperor Gaozu (gow-ZOO) that followed the Sui (SWEE) dynasty.

ANSWER: **Tang** dynasty

227-14-103-04115

16. This effect explains the results of the Rossi-Hall experiment, which measured muons reaching the surface of the Earth. By using the transverse Doppler Effect, the Ives-Stilwell experiment confirmed the existence of this effect, which is directly proportional to the Lorentz factor. This effect is the cause of a paradox in which a twin in a near-light speed rocket ship can leave and return to Earth younger than a twin who never left Earth. Name this consequence of special relativity that results in clocks "slowing" down at relativistic velocities.

ANSWER: **time dilation** [prompt on special **relativity** until it is read]

149-14-103-04116

17. This artist painted the interior of a building with a green roof and red walls, inside which a waiter stands next to a billiards table. The time this artist spent in Arles led to paintings such as *The Yellow House*. This artist painted a landscape dominated by large swirls in the center and a cypress tree on the left, both overlooking Saint-Remy. This artist of *The Night Cafe* depicted himself with a bandaged ear in his late self-portraits. Name this post-Impressionist artist of *Starry Night*.

ANSWER: Vincent **van Gogh**

140-14-103-04117

18. The main character of this work buries a stranger who wore green and yellow, and that stranger’s grave produces corn. A woodpecker tells the title character how to defeat the magician Pearl-Feather, and the woodpecker is rewarded by being dipped in the magician’s blood. This poem describes the wigwam of the Nokomis “by the shores of Gitche Gume.” Name this poem about the title husband of Minnehaha, a work of William Wadsworth Longfellow.

ANSWER: *The **Song of Hiawatha***

030-14-103-04118

19. A seventy-four-minute Wilhelm Furtwangler recording of this symphony is sometimes cited as the specific reason why CDs have a seventy-four-minute playing time. Leonard Bernstein conducted a version of it at the Brandenburg Gate to celebrate the fall of the Berlin Wall. This symphony ends with lyrics referencing a "beautiful spark of divinity" and "daughter from Elysium," performed by vocalists singing words taken from Friedrich Schiller's poem "Ode to Joy." Name this final complete symphony of Ludwig van Beethoven.

ANSWER: **Choral** symphony [or **Beethoven's Ninth** Symphony; Beethoven is not needed after being mentioned; do not accept or prompt on "Ode to Joy"]

052-14-103-04119

20. This character notes that his friend "jests at scars that never felt a wound" and wishes he was a glove upon his lover's hand. This character is the addressee of a speech about the fairy's midwife, Queen Mab. Friar John is detained from giving this character a note, which causes him to kill Paris and take an apothecary's poison while in his lover's "crypt". Name this friend of Benvolio and Mercutio, a Montague "star-cross'd" lover of Juliet.

ANSWER: **Romeo** Montague

190-14-103-04120

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