

Gorilla Literature Singles 2014
Packet by Tommy Casalaspi

20 Tossups

1. **This character breaks up with one girlfriend after he accidentally pricks her neck with his shirt stud, and he has a brief relationship with a girl to whom he recites “Ulalume” after meeting her atop a haystack in a rainstorm. In Atlantic City, this character takes the blame for violating the Mann Act for his friend Alec, whose sister (*) Rosalind causes him to become an alcoholic by breaking their engagement. He is judged to be a “personage” by Monsignor Darcy, an old friend of his aristocratic mother Beatrice, and he enlists to fight in World War I after becoming disillusioned with Princeton. For 10 points, name this “romantic egotist,” the protagonist of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s *This Side of Paradise*.**

ANSWER: **Amory Blaine** [accept either name]

2. **The protagonist of this book nurses her husband for years after he breaks his head falling down the stairs, while their neighbors plan to hang her if he dies. The beginning of this book recounts the traumatic birth of the protagonist’s first child, after which she is rebuked by a priest at confession and subsequently tormented by devils. The title woman of this book receives the blessing of Julian of Norwich, and after negotiating a vow of celibacy with her husband, she becomes Jesus’s (*) lover. For 10 points, name this spiritual autobiography dictated by an illiterate woman in the 1430s, which is recognized as the first autobiography written in English.**

ANSWER: **The Book of Margery Kempe**

3. **A soliloquy delivered by this character posits “one thought, one grace, one wonder, at the least, which into words no virtue can digest.” In that soliloquy, he characterizes himself as “conceiving and subduing both that which hath stooped the chiefest of the gods” and asks, “What is beauty, saith my sufferings, then?” After a battle, this character stabs his third son for staying in his tent instead of fighting. This character asks, “And shall I die, and this unconquered?” when shown a map on his deathbed, and prior to his rise to power, his eloquence converts (*) Theridamas to his cause. This character marries Zenocrate and imprisons Zabina and Bajazeth in a cage. For 10 points, name this Turkic warlord depicted in two plays by Christopher Marlowe.**

ANSWER: **Tamburlaine** the Great [do not accept “Timur,” “Tamerlane,” or other wrong answers]

4. **At the beginning of this poem’s second book, a king is reprimanded for laziness by the ghost of his grandfather. In that book of this poem, every member of an ambush party of fifty men is slain except for Maeon, who rebelliously commits suicide later. The sixth book of this poem recounts the first Nemean Games, which are instituted after a snake kills the infant son of Lycurgus, who had been entrusted to (*) Hypsipyle. This poem’s eighth book features the gnawing of Melanippus’s brains by the dying Tydeus, and in the twelfth and final book of this poem, Theseus defeats Creon after intervening following the mutual killing of Eteocles and Polynices. For 10 points, name this epic poem by Statius whose namesake city was ruled by Oedipus.**

ANSWER: the **Thebaid** [or **Thebais**]

5. **This essay theorizes a relationship between the account of the splitting of the Atman in the Brihad-Aranyaka Upanishad and Aristophanes’ account of the origin of the sexes in Plato’s *Symposium*. The author of this essay refers the reader to Sigmund Pfeifer’s compilation of theories of child-play that are free from the “economic point of view” which he explores. This essay analyzes the case of a boy who hides his toys to simulate the disappearance of his mother in the game of (*) “Fort!—Da!” Later, Tancred’s assault on the tree housing Clorinda’s soul is cited as an example of the “repetition compulsion,” the mechanism of which is not dominated by the title concept. For 10 points, name this long essay which proposes that “the aim of all life is death,” a work of Sigmund Freud.**

ANSWER: **Beyond the Pleasure Principle** [or **Jenseits des Lustprinzips**]

6. In one version of this poem, the speaker laments, “If it is terrible alone, it is sordid with one more,” and “white-armed Fresca” relates how she “went last night—more out of dull despair—to Lady Kleinwurm’s party.” This poem describes an unnamed woman whose “brain allows one half-formed thought to pass: ‘Well now that’s done: and I’m glad it’s over.’” Other characters in this poem include a man who claims to have (*) “foresuffered all enacted on this same divan or bed” by the aforementioned typist. In its first section, the speaker declares, “Son of man, you cannot say, or guess, for you know only a heap of broken images.” Recurring motifs in this poem include those of the Unreal City and the drowned sailor Phlebas the Phoenician. For 10 points, name this seminal poem by T. S. Eliot that begins, “April is the cruelest month.”

ANSWER: “The Waste Land”

7. In this play, after a discussion about whether one character bought or stole some pig iron, another character delivers a tirade recalling how he was told to “help yourself” when he removed a piece of toast from a friend’s plate. That character in this play cites the possibility of being attacked with a cleaver to defend his decision to carry a revolver “because of the way things are.” In this play, a phone call from (*) Ruthie confirms that one character is in Columbus Hospital after having his jaw broken in a mugging. Unseen characters in this play include the poker player Fletcher and a suitcase-carrying collector whom Teach, Bobby, and Don plan to rob of the title object. For 10 points, name this play by David Mamet titled for a valuable coin.

ANSWER: American Buffalo

8. In this novel, the protagonist is pictured in a newspaper waving a flag to encourage departing soldiers after his wife’s lover is killed in the war. The protagonist of this novel reads poems about beautiful boys in a French translation of Straton’s *Musa Paidica*, and he secretly watches his third wife receiving oral sex from a milkman. This novel’s protagonist stalks a young man who marries (*) Yasuko and becomes his homosexual protégé, whom he uses to get revenge on women by having him seduce them, then reject them. For 10 points, name this novel about Yuichi and the aging writer Shunsuke written by Yukio Mishima.

ANSWER: Forbidden Colors [or Kinjiki]

9. This poem relates how “light each summer thronged the glass” and “up the paths the endless altered people came.” Images in this poem include “a trough of smoke in slow suspended skeins,” and the speaker refers to some little dogs as a “faint hint of the absurd.” The speaker says of this poem’s subjects, “they would not think to (*) lie so long,” and describes how “helpless in the hollow of an unarmorial age...only an attitude remains.” This poem notes that “time has transfigured them into untruth” in its subject’s embodiment of “our almost-instinct almost true: what will survive of us is love.” For 10 points, name this poem by Philip Larkin titled for a place of burial.

ANSWER: “An Arundel Tomb”

10. One character in this novel speaks with a provincial accent that disappears when he pleads a legal case for his daughter, during which he suffers a stroke. Another character is a cook for a camp of loggers whose travel stories provide the protagonist with material. This novel’s protagonist angers his wife by helping the office girl Hannah Morrison into a sleigh. After the protagonist’s wallet is stolen on a train, he is unable to repay fifteen hundred dollars to Ben (*) Halleck. Later, the protagonist is shot in Whited Sepulchre after unsuccessfully filing for divorce from his wife Marcia Gaylord. For 10 points, name this novel about freelance writer and newspaper editor Bartley Hubbard written by William Dean Howells.

ANSWER: A Modern Instance

11. In a poem, the victory of an army of these animals leads the narrator to recall how he and Peace-of-the-Heart “laughed at the peacock, and died.” A tree “a hundred times the height of a man” is named for this animal in that poem by Vachel Lindsay. Shakespeare’s nineteenth sonnet instructs Time to pluck the teeth of this animal, and this animal appears in the title of a novel presenting segments narrated by the photographer (*) Codac along with two alternate versions of a murder witnessed by the cinema-loving writer Silvestre. In addition to appearing in the title of a novel by Guillermo Cabrera Infante, this animal is the subject of a poem that asks, “In what distant deeps or skies burnt the fire of thine eyes?” For 10 points, name this animal described as “burning bright in the forest of the night” in a poem by William Blake.

ANSWER: tigers

12. A character created by this author is haunted by a tale of a headless queen who is given one of the heads of the two-headed king she marries. After committing suicide, that character of his allows a masked man in the cemetery to accompany his friend, who had given him explanatory notes about sex hidden in his schoolbooks. This creator of (*) Moritz Stiefel and Melchior Gabor also wrote about a woman whose affair with a painter causes her husband Dr. Goll to have a heart attack. In a later play, that woman created by this author is murdered by Jack the Ripper while working as a prostitute in London. For 10 points, name this German playwright of *Spring Awakening* whose character Lulu is the protagonist of *Earth Spirit* and *Pandora's Box*.

ANSWER: Frank Wedekind [or Benjamin Franklin Wedekind]

13. One of these poems addresses a man whose “great name...gives tremendous birth to a loud hymn, that sounds far, far away to where the great God lives for evermore” and is “a full harvest whence to reap high feeling.” Another of these poems begins by declaring, “The poetry of earth is never dead.” One of these poems describes “the moving waters at their priestlike task of pure ablution round earth’s human shores.” The speaker of that poem states that he is “still (*) unchangeable, cheek-pillowed on my love’s white ripening breast.” Some of these poems, which include “On the Grasshopper and Cricket,” feature such opening lines as “Much have I travelled in the realms of gold” and “Bright star! would I were steadfast as thou art!” For 10 points, name these fourteen-line poems by a Romantic poet that include “On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer.”

ANSWER: John Keats’s sonnets [or obvious equivalents; prompt for type of poem on answers like John Keats’s poems; prompt for author on sonnets]

14. This character observes that he may “be a sort of success as a frightful example of what not to do, and so illustrate a moral story,” in a speech applauded by laborers while waiting in the rain for a procession. He determines he is unworthy of suicide after he jumps up and down on a frozen pond and fails to break the ice. He is fired from one job after reciting the Nicene Creed in Latin in a bar, and while he is dying, his wife flirts with a (*) quack doctor after slipping him some of his own love potion. After the hanging of this character’s children by his disturbed first son, his lover returns to the schoolmaster Richard Phillotson. This stonemason marries Arabella Donn and becomes the lover of Sue Bridehead. For 10 points, name this title character of the final novel by Thomas Hardy.

ANSWER: Jude Fawley [or Jude Fawley; or Jude the Obscure]

15. This poem’s speaker invokes “the ancient war between obsession and responsibility” after breaking from his initial descriptions with the statement, “This brings nobody peace.” The speaker of this poem goes on to recall how “the blind giant’s boulder heaved the trough from whose groundswell the great hexameters come to the conclusions of exhausted surf.” This poem consists of six tercets followed by the solitary line, “The classics can console. But not enough.” It begins by observing, “The sail which leans on light, tired of islands, a schooner beating up the (*) Caribbean for home, could be Odysseus, home-bound on the Aegean.” For 10 points, name this title poem of a pivotal 1976 collection by Derek Walcott, which is named for some maritime fruit.

ANSWER: “Sea Grapes”

16. One play begins with this character burying a casket containing personal items such as a veil and an urn on the beach, and she later breaks a lyre in frustration after attempting to distract her husband by singing a song. In another play, this character states, “There is no justice in the eyes of mortals,” in her first monologue. A play about this character is the final installment in a Franz Grillparzer trilogy beginning with *The Guest-Friend*. In the earlier play about this character, her first offstage lament is heard during a conversation between a (*) tutor and a nurse. This character makes a gift of a poisoned robe and fillet that kill Glauce and Creon before fleeing in a dragon-drawn chariot sent by Helios. For 10 points, name this title character of a Euripides play in which she murders her children to spite Jason.

ANSWER: Medea

17. This essay notes, “When liberty goes it is not the first to go nor the second or third to go...it waits for all the rest to go...it is the last,” then catalogues the conditions for its extinction. Its author praises natural scientists as “the lawgivers of poets” since “their construction underlies the structure of every perfect poem.” This essay identifies the conjunction of pride and sympathy as central to the art of the poet, who “judges not as the judge judges but as the sun falling around a helpless thing.” The author of this essay concludes, “The proof of a poet is that his country absorbs him as affectionately as he has absorbed it,” after earlier declaring, “The (*) United States themselves are essentially the greatest poem.” For 10 points, name this essay by Walt Whitman that opens his major collection.

ANSWER: the preface to *Leaves of Grass* [prompt on just *Leaves of Grass*]

18. This novel alludes to *Billy Budd* when the protagonist experiences the “orgasm of the hanged man” in a police station. It was originally printed together with a Maurice Helbrant novel, and its cover illustration depicted a man struggling with a screaming blonde woman for a packet in her hand in front of a table with a stove on it. This novel portrays Herbert Huncke in the character of Herman, and its loose sequel, which also deals with the search for yagé with which this novel concludes, is entitled (*) *Queer*. This novel is presented as the memoir of its pseudonymous author, William Lee. For 10 points, name these “Confessions of an Unredeemed Drug Addict,” the first novel by William S. Burroughs.

ANSWER: *Junkie*

19. This character concludes a scene with the couplet, “Make all our trumpets speak, give them all breath, those clamorous harbingers of blood and death.” In response to his question, he is told that “nose-painting, sleep, and urine” are the three things that drink especially provokes. Later in that scene, he instructs his companion to “destroy your sight with a new Gorgon.” This character says, “I cannot but remember such things were that were most precious to me” and asks “What, (*) all my pretty chickens and their dam at one fell swoop?” upon learning of the murder of his wife and children. He reveals that he was “from his mother’s womb untimely ripped” prior to avenging himself on the murderer of Duncan. For 10 points, name this Thane of Fife who slays Macbeth.

ANSWER: Macduff [prompt on the Thane of Fife before it is read]

20. In a poem, a resident of this location describes his title “fairy palace” as a “gray wasps’ nest of chewed-up paper glued with spit.” Another poem about a resident of this location describes how “the skies were egg-white for the funeral” of Miss Lula’s servant Cootchie. Residents of this location inspired the poems “Faustina, or Rock Roses” and “Jeronimo’s House” by Elizabeth Bishop, who shared a house with Louise Crane while living here. The descendants of another author’s six-toed (*) cats populate his house at this location. Another poet wrote of “the ever-hooded, tragic-gestured sea” in a poem about a woman here for whom “there never was a world for her except the one she sang and, singing, made.” For 10 points, name this island inhabited at various times by Ernest Hemingway and Wallace Stevens, the latter of whom wrote about its “idea of order.”

ANSWER: Key West