



GRADWRITE '24

PACK 9

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5-Part Blitz

1. First appearing in northern Gaul, the Merovingian dynasty was founded by which Germanic peoples?

A: **Franks**

2. As a result of a multi-decade clean-up project, the two-day swimming marathon at the 2024 Paris Olympics will be held where?

A: **Seine** River

3. Played through a mouthpiece on its side, what handheld keyboard woodwind instrument is popular in music education programs?

A: **melodica**

4. How would you spell the last name of the German author of *Ecce Homo* and *Thus Spake Zarathustra*, Nietzsche?

A: **N-I-E-T-Z-S-C-H-E**

5. What is the largest country in the world with no permanent rivers?

A: **Saudi Arabia**

Set of 4: Coffee

6. Along with oxygen, carbon, and hydrogen, what element does caffeine, being a purine, contain?

A: **nitrogen** (accept: **N**)

7. Which country saw a political period named for the dominance of coffee- and milk-producing regions, and remains the largest coffee producer in the world?

A: Federative Republic of **Brazil**

8. The word *cafetière* is used in the UK to refer to what coffee brewing machine?

A: **French press**

9. What coffee-loving author wrote *La Comédie Humaine*?

A: Honoré de **Balzac**

Pyramid – What state am I?

10. **Clue A:** Japanese-American artist Mitski sings that I am "landlocked" despite my long southeastern coastline. What state am I?

Clue B: While one team formerly known as the Washington Senators relocated to Minnesota, another relocated to me. What state am I?

Clue C: The Battle of the Alamo took place during my revolution. What state am I?

Clue D: I am the second largest U.S. state by both population and area, and I am known as the "Lone Star State". What state am I?

A: **Texas**

Set of 4: Famous Movie Quotes

Given a movie quote as well as the actor and character who spoke it, give the movie in which the quote is taken from.

11. "Of all the Gin Joints in all the towns in all the world, she walks into mine," spoken by Humphrey Bogart playing Rick Blaine.

A: **Casablanca**

12. "Rosebud," spoken by Orson Welles playing the title newspaper owner.

A: **Citizen Kane**

13. "I'll get you my pretty and your little dog too!" spoken by Margaret Hamilton portraying the Wicked Witch of the West.

A: *The* **Wizard of Oz**

14. "For one who has not lived even a single lifetime, you're a wise man, Van Helsing," spoken by Bela Lugosi playing the title character.

A: **Dracula**

Double Jump

15. The important trade center Timbuktu was located in which west African empire?

A: **Mali** Empire

16. Written about in a namesake epic, who was the founder of the Mali Empire?

A: Mansa **Sundiata Keita** (accept either bolded part)

Double Jump

17. Which novel's 2013 Penguin Books cover has the title and author name blacked out, an homage to the book's theme of censorship?

A: 1984

18. Featuring two nude figures within the irises of a disembodied face over a New York cityscape, what novel's cover resembles a billboard of T. J. Eckleburg?

A: *The* Great Gatsby

Mystery Link

19. Which American romantic writer wrote *The Scarlet Letter*?

A: Nathaniel Hawthorne

20. Satoshi is the Japanese name of which Pokemon character from Pallet Town?

A: Ash Ketchum (prompt on Ketchum)

21. What former NHL player and commentator was removed from *Hockey Night in Canada* for comments about Canadian immigrants?

A: Don Cherry

22. What character, who falls in love with Paul Varjak, is portrayed by Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*?

A: Holly Golightly (prompt on: Golightly)

23. What part of the hand fits the category?

A: palm

All are trees.

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Splits: Neurobiology and The European Union

Neurobiology

24. The optic nerve, spinal cord, and brain make up what part of the nervous system contrasted with the peripheral nervous system?

A: central nervous system (accept: CNS)

25. Absent in monotremes and marsupials, which part of the brain connects its two hemispheres?

A: **corpus callosum** (accept: **callosal commissure**)

26. Tau tangles and beta-amyloid plaques are key biomarkers of what neurodegenerative disease that is characterized by behavioural change and memory loss?

A: **Alzheimer's** disease

27. Named for the Greek for "glue", what non-neuron cells provide nutrition and maintain homeostasis in the nervous system?

A: **glial** cells (accept: **neuroglia**, **gliocytes**)

The European Union

28. In 2013, which country became the latest to join the European Union?

A: Republic of **Croatia**

29. Well known in GeoGuessr, what colour strip is found on the left side of EU license plates?

A: **blue**

30. What is the de-facto capital of the EU due to it hosting the European Council?

A: **Brussels**

31. The EU Court of Justice is located within which member state?

A: **Luxembourg**

Set of 4: Women in Music in 2024

32. Which artist received the most nominations at the 66th Annual Grammy Awards?

A: **SZA** (accept: Solána Imani **Rowe**)

33. Holding the Billboard Hot 100 top spot for two weeks, what song, celebrating the Black roots of country music, is named after a poker game and was released by Beyoncé?

A: **"Texas Hold 'Em"**

34. Which Colombian singer was named the first Latina Billboard Woman of the Year?

A: **Karol G** (accept: Carolina Giraldo **Navarro**)

35. What is the name of the deluxe version of Olivia Rodrigo's second album, released March 22nd, 2024?

A: **Guts Spilled** (prompt on: **Spilled**)

Set of 3: Non-English Astronomy

I will give you some non-English names of astronomy terms, you tell me the English name.

36. Gealach [GAH-lah], yue [YOO-eh], luna.

A: **moon**

37. Vuurpyl [FEER-pile], razzo [RAT-soh], fusée [FOO-zay].

A: **rocket**

38. Araw [AHR-ow], saule [SAW-lay], ílios [EE-lios].

A: **sun** (accept: **sol**)

Double Jump

39. Which Latin phrase is the "first principle" of René Descartes's philosophy?

A: **cogito, ergo sum**

40. Which Islamic philosopher wrote a similar Floating Man argument which argues for dualism and the existence of the soul?

A: **Avicenna** (accept: **Ibn Sina**)

Double Jump

41. The girlfriend of Dear Daniel, which white cartoon cat owned by Sanrio is associated with the emergence of *kawaii* culture?

A: **Hello Kitty** (accept: **Kitty White**)

42. Depicted wearing a black jester's hat with a pink skull on the front, what white rabbit rivals with Sanrio's My Melody?

A: **Kuromi**

Linked Set of 6

43. What musical's opening number is "Good Morning Baltimore"?

A: **Hairspray**

44. Which ozone depleting organic compounds were once found in many aerosols such as hairspray?

A: **CFCs** (accept: **chlorofluorocarbons**)

45. Which city names the protocol adopted in 1987 that aimed to phase out CFCs?

A: **Montreal**

46. Sweeter, denser, and smaller than its New York style counterpart, what Montreal style pastry is made in a wood-fired oven?

A: Montreal **bagel**

47. In *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* Miles Morales throws a bagel at what future supervillain?

A: The **Spot**

48. In what Shakespeare play does the wife of the title character say "Out, damned spot!"

A: **Macbeth**

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Playing Card Probability and Historical Hairstyles

Playing Card Probability

Pen and paper ready. For the following questions, consider a standard 52-playing-card deck. Give your answers simplified.

49. What is the probability of drawing any court card: Jack, Queen, or King?

A: **3/13**

50. Without replacement, what are the odds that the first two cards drawn belong to the same suit?

A: **4/17**

51. After drawing three aces out of a well-shuffled standard card deck without replacement, what is the probability that the next card you draw is also an ace?

A: **1/49**

52. With replacement, what is the probability of drawing two aces in a row?

A: **1/169**

Historical Hairstyles

53. Largely popularized by Irene Castle, what short haircut typically cut at jaw level is stereotypical of 1920s flappers?

A: **bob** cut

54. Named after a mistress of King Louis XV, what hairstyle has been seen more recently in Greaser culture and donned by Elvis Presley?

A: **pompadour**

55. Queues were mandated to be worn by male subjects of which Chinese dynasty?

A: **Qing** [ching]

56. Nowadays largely associated with punk culture, what style has the sides of the head shaved, leaving a strip of hair in the center, and was named after a North American Indigenous people?

A: **mohawk**

Set of 4: College Football

57. Known as the "Wolverines", which college football team is one of the few to not currently use a live mascot at games?

A: **University of Michigan**

58. Named after a legendary Georgia football coach, which trophy is awarded to the best player in college football, most recently won by Jayden Daniels?

A: **Heisman** Memorial Trophy

59. The majority of teams that won the College Football Playoff National Championship came from which conference that has been controversial recently due to teams recently joining from outside its geographical area?

A: **Southeastern** Conference (accept **SEC**)

60. The rivalry between Auburn and Alabama is named for what chemical element, with symbol Fe?

A: **Iron** Bowl

Jailbreak

61. The 1974 Carnation Revolution took place in which country, overthrowing the nation's fascist Estado Novo regime?

A: **Portugal**

62. What modern holiday has its origins in Samhain [SAW-win] where people would ward off evil spirits by dressing up?

A: **Halloween** (accept: **All Hallows' Eve**, **All Saints' Eve**)

63. Current, voltage, and what quantity are related by Ohm's Law?

A: **resistance** (prompt on: **R**)

64. On February 29 2024, what former Canadian politician passed away at age 84?

A: Martin Brian **Mulroney**

65. The official motto of which U.S. state is "Live Free or Die"?

A: **New Hampshire**

66. What is the main gameplay map in Wild Rift and League of Legends?

A: **Summoner's Rift**

67. Lasting just over 500 years, what was the last dynastic kingdom of Korea?

A: **Joseon** Dynasty (accept: Great **Joseon** State)

68. Supposedly meant to represent folded arms, what baked pastry is commonly shaped into a knot?

A: **pretzel**

69. To frame his ideas as a religion, which American author founded the Church of Scientology?

A: Lafayette Ronald **Hubbard** (accept: L. Ron **Hubbard**)

70. In what country is the source of the Blue Nile?

A: Federal Democratic Republic of **Ethiopia**

71. Name either letter that cannot be found in a chemical element symbol on the modern Periodic Table.

A: **I** or **Q**

72. Formed as a result of the Sri Lankan Constitution of 1972, what militant group sought to separate from Sri Lanka and establish a Tamil state?

A: **Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam** (accept: **Tamil Tigers**, **LTTE**) (prompt on: **Tigers**)

73. What first name is shared by a cheerleader on *Glee* and the captain of the Vancouver Canucks?

A: **Quinn**

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Pyramid – Who am I?

74. **Clue A:** The most comprehensive source of my life comes from my correspondence with my younger brother, who was a major supporter of my career. Who am I?

Clue B: My most famous work, which features a looming cypress tree in the foreground, was completed in the village of Saint-Rémy. Who am I?

Clue C: After an argument with my friend, Paul Gauguin [go-GAE], I used a razor to cut off my ear. Who am I?

Clue D: I am a Dutch artist who painted works such as *The Potato Eaters* and *Starry Night*. Who am I?

A: Vincent van Gogh

Set of 4: Twins

75. The floating island of Delos covered itself in yellow flowers due to its happiness from the birth of which mythological twins?

A: Artemis and Apollo (accept either order)

76. The mother of Huey, Dewie, and Louie, who is the twin sister of Donald Duck?

A: Della Duck (accept: Dumbella Duck)

77. Give the first and last names of both actors who portrayed Cody and Zack in the TV Show *The Suite Life of Zack & Cody*.

A: Dylan Sprouse and Cole Sprouse

78. Judith and Hamnet were the twin children of what playwright, whose plays also feature twins such as Sebastian and Viola?

A: William Shakespeare

Streak

79. Name up to all of the prominent 19th century Russian composers making up The Mighty Five.

- A: Mily Alexeyevich Balakirev
César Antonovich Cui
Modest Petrovich Mussorgsky
Nikolai Andreyevich Rimsky-Korsakov (do not accept or prompt on only Rimsky or Korsakov)
Alexander Porfiryevich Borodin

Streak

80. List up to all 5 countries with Swahili as an official or national language.

- A: Kenya
Uganda
Rwanda
Tanzania
Democratic Republic of the Congo (accept: DRC)

13-Part Blitz

81. Club Monaco is a fashion brand founded in what country?

- A: Canada

82. Also known as the Little Dipper, which constellation contains Polaris, the North Star?

- A: Ursa Minor (accept: Little Bear)

83. What is the one-word answer to the riddle posed to Oedipus by the monstrous Sphinx?

- A: Man

84. What 10-letter archaic term did Antonie van Leeuwenhoek use to refer to the life he saw through an early microscope?

- A: Animalcule

85. What was the former name of Jakarta when under Dutch control?

- A: Batavia

86. Existing in complementary distribution, what term refers to different speech sounds that realize the same phoneme?

A: **allophone**

87. What is the largest land biome in the world by area?

A: **taiga** (accept: **boreal forest**) (grudgingly prompt on: **forest**)

88. What daughter of Muhammad names a Shia Caliphate based in Egypt before the Crusades?

A: **Fatima**

89. Fiber optic cables rely on what phenomenon, which occurs when a light ray hits a medium with a lower index of refraction at higher than the critical angle?

A: **total internal reflection** (do not prompt on partial answers; DO NOT accept any answer mentioning refraction)

90. Spoken in Mexico since the 7th century CE, what Uto-Aztecan language's varieties are still spoken by 1.7 million people?

A: **Nahuatl** (accept: **Aztec**, **Mexicano**)

91. In what layer of the atmosphere, around 15-30 km above ground level, is the ozone layer?

A: **stratosphere**

92. Home to the Tashichho Dzong monastery, what is the capital of Bhutan?

A: **Thimphu**

93. Which Eurovision-winning band is perhaps better known for a 2017 cover of "Beggin'," but won the contest with "Zitti e buoni?"

A: **Måneskin**

END OF GAME