



GRADWRITE '24

PACK XL1

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10-Part Blitz

1. What bird's name is repeated in the names of a privacy-focused internet browser and a children's circle game?

A: **duck**

2. Who kills a monster, rejects a goddess, and seeks immortality in a Mesopotamian epic poem?

A: **Gilgamesh**

3. What Calvin cycle enzyme with a 7-letter abbreviated name is the most abundant enzyme on Earth?

A: **RuBisCo** (accept: **ribulose biphosphate carboxylase oxygenase**)

4. What Jamaican-born Oakville native won gold in the one hundred meter dash at the 1996 Olympics?

A: Donovan **Bailey**

5. What Youtuber, famous for farming potatoes and having hot elbows, "never dies"?

A: **Technoblade**

6. Who authored a nonsensical hoax article about applying "hermeneutics" to physics in his namesake affair?

A: Alan **Sokal**

7. Bathurst, New Brunswick was the birthplace of what soft-serve based McDonald's dessert?

A: **McFlurry**

8. What country has Portuguese and Tetum [teh-tum] as its official languages, and shares an island with Indonesia?

A: **Timor-Leste** or **East Timor**

9. Who transforms into an "ungeziefer," [oon-geh-zee-fer] variously translated as vermin, bug, or cockroach, at the start of a Franz Kafka novel?

A: **Gregor** Samsa (prompt on: **Samsa**)

10. What distance in metres would one need to swim to complete thirty lengths of an Olympic-sized pool?

A: **1500** metres

Set of 4: Other Words

Every answer will contain the letter sequence O-T-H-E-R in a row.

11. The wicked Lady Tremaine has what relation to Cinderella?

A: evil stepmother

12. What medical condition has symptoms including slurred speech, weak pulse, shivering, and dangerously low body temperatures?

A: hypothermia

13. What adjective describes someone who is troubled or disturbed?

A: bothered

14. Methotrexate, cisplatin [sis-PLAH-tin], and vincristine [vin-CHRIS-teen] are drugs used in what kind of cancer treatment?

A: chemotherapy (grudgingly accept: pharmacotherapy)

Pyramid – What am I?

15. **Clue A:** Upon my capture in the 15th century, I was preserved rather than destroyed due to my immense cultural heritage. What am I?

Clue B: Part of me was damaged by the forces of Napoleon during the Peninsular War. What am I?

Clue C: The first Nasrid emir built me in the Spanish Sierra Nevadas. What am I?

Clue D: I am an extremely famous palace-fortress located in Andalusia, built by the Emirate of Granada. What am I?

A: Alhambra

Set of 4: TV Spoiler Alert, Sorry

We'll spoil some major TV plot points, you will have to give us the TV show that has just been spoiled.

16. The island was purgatory all along and their plane crash actually killed them.

A: Lost

17. After being exonerated for the murder of his wife's ex-husband, George Crabtree is demoted from the role of Constable.

A: Murdoch Mysteries

18. All of the bad things that have happened have been orchestrated by the architect Michael, and they have been in the Bad Place all along.

A: *The Good Place*

19. There is an ancient organisation known as the Order of the White Lotus which includes, among others, Iroh [EYE-ro], who is the brother of Fire Lord Ozai.

A: *Avatar: The Last Airbender* (prompt on: ATLA, partial answers)

Double Jump

20. Who recently appointed a physician who advocates for homeopathy to deal with his prostate cancer diagnosis, causing concern that two British monarchs might die within two years of each other?

A: King Charles III (prompt on: Charles)

21. The first member of the British royal family to compete in the Olympics, which sister of King Charles is Queen Elizabeth II's only daughter?

A: Anne, Princess Royal (accept: Princess Anne)

Double Jump

22. Tommy Caldwell, Adam Ondra, and Alex Honnold all practice what sport, which has variants like lead, free solo, and bouldering?

A: rock climbing (accept variants like lead climbing, trad climbing, sport climbing, etc.)

23. What four-letter word is commonly used in rock climbing to refer to the hardest part of a route?

A: crux

Mystery Link

24. Which Canadian ice hockey player, the first to total 500 career goals, was nicknamed "Rocket"?

A: Maurice Richard

25. What is the first name of President Snow in the Hunger Games?

A: Coriolanus

26. What second studio album by the Lumineers features the singles "Angela," "Ophelia," and one that shares its name with the album?

A: **Cleopatra**

27. What board game, similar to Reversi [re-VERSE-ee], sees players place and flip black and white tokens to get as many of their colours showing as possible?

A: **Othello**

28. What word for a small settlement fits the category?

A: **hamlet**

All are Shakespearean title characters.

10-Part Blitz

29. What former MP for Provencher [just say it Frenchily] and revolutionary Métis leader was executed in 1885?

A: Louis **Riel**

30. The name of the country Singapore derives from a Sanskrit word for what animal?

A: **lion**

31. What is the name for the plastic or metal tip of a shoelace?

A: **aglet**

32. What atmospheric layer, primarily located in the thermosphere, contains many electrically charged particles?

A: **ionosphere**

33. Zaha Hadid was the first woman to win what prestigious architecture prize, first awarded to Philip Johnson in 1979?

A: **Pritzker** Architecture Prize

34. In 2023, a right-wing boycott was initiated against what beer brand, due to its collaboration with Dylan Mulvaney?

A: **Bud Light** (prompt on: **Budweiser, Anheuser-Busch**)

35. Who authored a book whose title misspells his most famous quote, using the word "massage" instead of "message"?

A: Marshall **McLuhan**

36. Who composed the *Karelia Suite* and *Finlandia*?

A: Jean **Sibelius**

37. *Beat Saber*, *Osu!*, and *Geometry Dash* are all examples of what genre of game?

A: **rhythm** game

38. Which Harry Potter character went on to marry the grandson of magizoologist Newt Scamander?

A: Luna Lovegood (prompt on: Lovegood)

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Splits: Figures of Post-Independence Africa and Fundamental Forces

Figures of Post-Independence Africa

39. A cofounder of the Non-Aligned Movement, who was Ghana's first president?

A: Kwame Nkrumah

40. As its first president, Seretse [ser-EHT-seh] Khama led the rise of what country to become one of Africa's most stable?

A: Botswana

41. Jonas Savimbi led UNITA against the MPLA during a civil war in what former Portuguese colony?

A: Angola

42. Before his execution by soldiers of Mobutu, an event for which Belgium was partially responsible, which man served as the first leader of a newly independent Democratic Republic of the Congo?

A: Patrice Lumumba

Fundamental Forces

43. Physicist Carlo Rovelli introduced a loop quantum theory about what fundamental force, the weakest?

A: gravity

44. What boson, the carrier of the electromagnetic force, is the quantum of light?

A: photon

45. What force was proven by Chien-Shung Wu to violate parity conservation?

A: weak nuclear force

46. What is the full name of the theory of the strong force, abbreviated QCD?

A: quantum chromodynamics

Set of 4: Vampires

47. *50 Shades of Grey* was originally written as a fanfiction of what Stephenie Meyer young adult series about vampires in Forks, Washington?

A: **Twilight**

48. What follows the word "Vampire" in the title of a popular tabletop roleplaying game by Mark Rein-Hagen?

A: the **Masquerade**

49. Count Dracula is renamed to Count Orlok in what silent German horror film from 1922?

A: **Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror**

50. What vampire does not need to drink blood, instead being able to feast off of the colour red, and is in a committed relationship with Princess Bubblegum in *Adventure Time*?

A: **Marceline Abadeer**, the Vampire Queen (accept either bolded part)
(prompt on: **Vampire Queen**)

Pyramid – Who am I?

51. **Clue A:** After one character who lived in my house for 100 years attempted to teach me a lesson, I accidentally murdered him with a mallet. Who am I?

Clue B: I was attacked and hanged for the 5 gold pieces I carried but was later saved by the Girl with Azure Hair, also called the Fairy. Who am I?

Clue C: In a book by Carlo Collodi, I am turned into a donkey on toy island and swallowed by the terrible dogfish. Who am I?

Clue D: I was created from a block of enchanted wood by my father Geppetto and my nose has a tendency to grow when I lie. Who am I?

A: **Pinocchio**

Set of 3: The Peloponnesian War

52. One early cause of the war was the Spartan rejection of Athenian help during the revolt of what enslaved farmers?

A: **helot** revolt

53. Thucydides [thoo-SI-dih-deez] gives the text of the Funeral Oration of what important Athenian politician?

A: **Pericles**

54. The *Long Walls* leading to what Athenian port city were destroyed by the Spartans upon victory in the war?

A: **Piraeus**

Set of 4: Perfume

55. Produced in the digestive tract of sperm whales, what flammable substance is found in some particularly expensive perfumes?

A: **ambergris** (accept: **grey amber**)

56. What German city names a kind of perfume, which has come to be used as a general term for men's perfumes?

A: **Cologne**

57. What kind of perfume typically has a concentration between eau de cologne and eau de parfum?

A: eau de **toilette**

58. What company launched what was perhaps the first massively popular unisex perfume in 1994, named "CK One"?

A: **Calvin Klein**

Double Jump

59. Who painted the French flag brandished over a battlefield by the title character in *Liberty Leading the People*?

A: Eugene **Delacroix**

60. A famous rivalry emerged between Delacroix's romanticism and the neoclassicism of which painter, who can nevertheless be seen adopting elements of romanticism in works like *La Grande Odalisque*?

A: Jean-Auguste-Dominique **Ingres**

Double Jump

61. Chemist Karen Wetterhahn died due to poisoning from what heavy metal with atomic symbol Hg?

A: mercury

62. High concentrations of organomercury compounds in predatory fish like tuna is in part a result of what process, where concentrations of toxins multiply as one moves up the food chain?

A: biomagnification (do not accept or prompt on: bioaccumulation, bioconcentration)

Streak

63. Before the 2023 release of Chalice of the Gods, name up to all five of the novels in the Percy Jackson and the Olympians series.

A: The Lightning Thief
The Sea of Monsters
The Titan's Curse
The Battle of the Labyrinth
The Last Olympian

Streak

64. Name up to all of the countries which have a territorial claim on Antarctica.

A: United Kingdom (accept: UK)
Norway
Argentina
France
Chile
New Zealand
Australia

Linked Set of 8

65. In both volleyball and tennis, a serve that results directly in a point is colloquially referred to as what?

A: service **ace**

66. Who is the title character in the first installment of the courtroom adventure video game *Ace Attorney*?

A: **Phoenix Wright** (accept either bolded part, but reveal **Phoenix**)

67. Having signed All-Star guard Isaiah Thomas for a ten-day contract in March of 2024, what is the resident NBA team of Phoenix, Arizona?

A: Phoenix **Suns**

68. What was the regnal number of the Bourbon king Louis nicknamed the "Sun King"?

A: **14** (prompt on: **XIV**)

69. What f-word refers to a period of time lasting 14 days or two weeks?

A: **fortnight**

70. What vegetable has named a temple, and earlier a town, on the Battle Royale map of the game *Fortnite*?

A: **tomato**

71. What four-letter name is shared by an Indo-Aryan language speaking ethnic group and a tomato variant?

A: **Roma**

72. Which Mexican director won the Academy Award for Best Director for his work on the film "Roma"?

A: Alfonso **Cuarón**

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Poetic Forms and Subdivisions of Countries

Poetic Forms

73. Elizabeth Bishop's "One Art" and Dylan Thomas's "Do not go gentle into that good night" are both in what poetic form?

A: **villanelle**

74. What type of foot, often used in Ancient Greek and Latin poetry, is made of one long syllable followed by two short syllables?

A: **dactyl**

75. A refrain known as a radif and a final couplet featuring the author's pen name are characteristic of what poetic form, employed in Urdu poetry and the Arabic works of Rumi?

A: **ghazal**

76. Which Italian author names a sonnet form that includes an octave and sestet, many of which he wrote to Laura?

A: **Petrarch** (accept: Francesco **Petrarca**)

Subdivisions of Countries

77. There are 46 of what kind of Russian subdivision, examples of which include Magadan, Kaliningrad, and Moscow?

A: **oblast**

78. What state, the southernmost in India, has its capital at Chennai?

A: **Tamil Nadu**

79. Ordu, Van, and Izmir are provinces of what country?

A: Republic of **Türkiye**

80. Tamaulipas [ta-mau-LEE-pas], Sinaloa [see-nuh-LOW-uh], Oaxaca [waa-HAA-kuh], and Chihuahua are all states of what country?

A: **Mexico**

Set of 3: Allotropes of Carbon

81. How many carbons are found in a single molecule of buckminsterfullerene, which is shaped like a truncated icosahedron?

A: **60**

82. Exfoliation is one method for producing what single-layer allotrope of carbon?

A: **graphene**

83. What number on the Mohs scale of hardness is defined by diamond?

A: **10**

Set of 4: Spelling French Words

All answers must be spelled. Please say the letters in English.

84. In Belgian French, it can be used to refer to someone who doesn't know what's going on in class, but more generally, it refers to someone who is visiting a place. Spell: "touriste" [too-REEst].

A: T-O-U-R-I-S-T-E

85. This French pastry can also be referred to as "pain au chocolat," and many French speakers will insist on one name over the other. Spell: "chocolatine" [chO-kO-la-TEEn].

A: C-H-O-C-O-L-A-T-I-N-E

86. This vegetable doubles as a term of endearment when preceded by "mon petit" and is the star ingredient of sauerkraut. Spell: "chou" [chOO].

A: C-H-O-U

87. Also the French equivalent of a cat "making biscuits," this verb means "to knit" in English. Spell: "tricoter" [tree-coh-TAY].

A: T-R-I-C-O-T-E-R

Double Jump

88. As seen in examples like "to rise high in the sky," what literary device involves the juxtaposition of similar sounds, especially vowel sounds?

A: assonance

89. Which literary device involves using a part to represent the whole?

A: synecdoche

Double Jump

90. McNamara, Duke, and Chandler are the last names of what titular group of girls in a 2010 musical?

A: Heathers

91. What sport do the Heathers regularly play, as shown in the playbill for Heathers the musical?

A: croquet

Set of 3: Colours

92. Attention to colour as actually perceived under real lighting conditions was characteristic of what artistic movement, named for a landscape of a sunrise by Monet?

A: Impressionism

93. To protest Anish Kapoor's monopoly on vantablack, who created a Pinkest Pink pigment usable by all but Kapoor?

A: Stuart Semple

94. In contrast to the colours in light, what mathematical adjective is used to describe the way colours mix in paint and dye?

A: subtractive

Jailbreak

95. What AFC East team is known for their table-smashing tailgate parties and losing four consecutive Super Bowls in the 1990s?

A: Buffalo Bills (accept either underlined part)

96. What chemical compound names the numerical ratings of fuel often found on gas pumps, and has chemical formula C₈H₁₈?

A: octane

97. "The Entertainer" and "Maple Leaf Rag" are classic ragtime works by what composer?

A: Scott Joplin

98. Zora Neale Hurston, Edward Sapir [suh-PEER], and Margaret Mead were all students of what "father of American anthropology"?

A: Franz Boas

99. What is the sum of the first twelve odd whole numbers?

A: 144

100. Emilio Aguinaldo served as the first president of what country, shortly before its conquest by the United States?

A: Philippines

101. The Latin for "I trust" is what common dog name, shared by a Canadian mobile service provider?

A: Fido

102. Thomas Gray's "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" provides the title for which English novelist's *Far From the Madding Crowd*?

A: Thomas **Hardy**

103. *The Apprentice* was a TV show hosted by what politician?

A: Donald **Trump**

104. Officially written alongside its Maori name Aoraki, what tallest New Zealand mountain is named in English for a British explorer?

A: Mount **Cook** (accept: **Cook** Mountain)

105. What is the full name for the most commonly prescribed class of antidepressant, abbreviated SSRI?

A: **selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor**

106. "Sign of the Times", "Watermelon Sugar", and "As it Was" are hits by what former One Direction member?

A: Harry **Styles**

107. Which author, whose initials stand for Jerome David, wrote "A Perfect Day For Bananafish" and *The Catcher in the Rye*?

A: J.D. **Salinger**

108. Who became a sea goddess when her fingers were chopped off to become animals hunted by the Inuit?

A: **Sedna** (accept: **Nerrivik**, **Nuliajuk**, **Sanna**)

109. What country is home to the island of Dejima, where Dutch traders operated during the period of its isolationist policy known as sakoku?

A: **Japan** (accept: **Nippon**, **Nihon**)

110. What physicist names a principle that enables the stability of white dwarfs due to electron degeneracy pressure, his namesake exclusion principle?

A: Wolfgang Ernst **Pauli**

111. Which singer holds the record for most Grammy wins, including a Best Urban Contemporary Album award for *Lemonade*?

A: **Beyoncé** (accept: Giselle **Knowles-Carter**)

112. The Greek sculptor Myron made a famous work of a man in the process of throwing what object?

A: **discus** (accept: **disc**)

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Splits: Living Mathematicians and Homophone Word Puzzles

Living Mathematicians

113. Which mathematician inspired works by M.C. Escher, and names an aperiodic tiling and impossible triangle?

A: Sir Roger Penrose

114. A famous photo shows Paul Erdős sitting with who, then a young math prodigy and now possibly the greatest mathematician alive?

A: Terence Tao

115. Who was a year too old to receive a Fields medal for his proof of a special case of the modularity theorem, which thereby proved Fermat's Last Theorem?

A: Sir Andrew John Wiles

116. Now believed to be living with his mother in St. Petersburg, which mathematician disappeared after rejecting the Fields Medal and Millennium Prize?

A: Grigori Perelman

Homophone Word Puzzles

117. What letter must be added to a word meaning a religious act or ceremony to get a five-letter homophone for that word?

A: w (rite to write)

118. What letter must be added to the start of an adjective meaning novel to obtain a homophone for that word?

A: k (new to knew)

119. What letter must be added to the end of a word meaning a structure to restrict water flow to get a homophone for that word?

A: n (dam to damn)

120. What letter must be added to the end of a stone fruit to get a homophone for that word?

A: b (plum to plumb)

Pyramid – What TV show am I?

121. **Clue A:** My author has only revealed my title mystery once as a Make-a-Wish for a child with cancer. What TV show am I?

Clue B: Important objects in me can be divided into Zoan, Logia, and Paramecia varieties. What TV show am I?

Clue C: I include a boat called the "Going Merry" which often houses characters such as Chopper, Nami, and Zoro. What TV show am I?

Clue D: I am an anime based on a manga about a band of pirates captained by Monkey D. Luffy on a quest to find the title object. What TV show am I?

A: **One Piece**

Set of 4: Basil

122. Basil Hallward is a young painter enamoured by what title character of an Oscar Wilde book?

A: **Dorian Gray** (prompt on partial answers)

123. What kind of salad, which some suggest was invented as a patriotic gesture due to its colours, consists of basil, tomatoes, and mozzarella?

A: **Caprese** salad

124. John Cleese and Connie Booth star as hotel owners Basil and Sybil in what 1970s British sitcom?

A: **Fawlty Towers**

125. Basil the First was a leader of what empire, which is also known as the Eastern Roman Empire?

A: **Byzantine** empire

Streak

126. With two of them appearing in family films in the 90s and one of them appearing in the MCU, name up to all three Olsen sisters.

A: **Mary-Kate** Olsen

Ashley Olsen

Elizabeth Olsen

Streak

127. Name up to all four animals that appear on a Canadian provincial or territorial flag.

- A: **bison** (accept: **buffalo**)
lion
arctic fox (prompt on: **fox**)
husky (prompt on: **dog**)

Streak

128. Giving either the company or brand name for each, name up to all COVID-19 vaccines currently approved in Canada.

- A: **Pfizer-BioNTech Cormirnaty** (accept any of the three bolded parts)
Moderna Spikevax (accept either bolded part)
Novavax Nuvaxovid (accept either bolded part)

20-Part Blitz

129. In accordance with traditional Chinese texts, what was the first, albeit semi-mythical, Chinese dynasty?

- A: **Xia**

130. A Pigouvian tax is a tax applied to the negative kind of what economic phenomenon?

- A: **externality**

131. What Asian country contains the Ghat mountains which surround its Deccan Plateau?

- A: Republic of **India**

132. What city's MLB stadium featured a reverse boycott protesting the future relocation of its team?

- A: **Oakland**

133. In seconds, to within 20 seconds, what is the value of an astronomical unit divided by the speed of light?

- A: **499** seconds (accept anywhere from **480** to **519** seconds inclusive) (do not accept answers not in seconds)

134. What name is shared by the sculptor of a bronze David and the staff-carrying ninja turtle?

A: **Donatello**

135. While Oppenheimer is called "the father of the atomic bomb," who is colloquially known as "the father of the hydrogen bomb"?

A: Edward **Teller**

136. In what city will the 2032 Summer Olympics be held, taking place for the third time in Australia and the first time in its third-largest city?

A: **Brisbane**

137. The Kansas City metropolitan area straddles the border of Kansas and what other state?

A: **Missouri**

138. Which French playwright wrote a *deus ex machina* ending to his comedy *Tartuffe*?

A: **Moliere**

139. What recent Neal.fun game is an AI-powered version of *Little Alchemy*?

A: **Infinite Craft**

140. What city is the setting of a June 4th, 1989 photo by Jeff Widener of a man standing in front of tanks?

A: **Beijing**

141. What are the first three words of both the Indian and US constitution, reflecting their ideals of democracy?

A: **"We the people"**

142. What symbol originated as shorthand for the Latin word "et," and can be typed as shift-seven on the keyboard below you?

A: **ampersand** (prompt on: **and symbol**, equivalents)

143. Who used the idea of a language-game to study meaning in his *Philosophical Investigations*?

A: Ludwig **Wittgenstein**

144. The rumen is one of the four compartments of which organ of cows?

A: **stomach**

145. What modern-day country was home to the Champa states and later the Nguyen [ngwee-en] dynasty?

A: Socialist Republic of **Vietnam**

146. The Kiswa is the cloth covering what cubic building inside the Great Mosque of Mecca?

A: **Kaaba**

147. Fortune cookies were invented in what American city's famous Chinatown?

A: **San Francisco**

148. What kind of object was worn by nine mortal men, seven dwarves, three elves and the dark lord Sauron?

A: **rings** (accept elaborations including **rings of power**)

END OF GAME