



GRADWRITE '24

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PACK 1

Pack Editor:
Brendan Bridle

5-Part Blitz

1. What letter is represented by three dashes in Morse code?
A: o
2. Who originated the use of antiseptic techniques in surgery, leading to a brand of mouthwash being named in his honour?
A: Joseph Lister
3. Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer Doudna won the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for developing what gene-editing technique?
A: CRISPR (accept: CRISPR-Cas9)
4. What town saw clashes between the Mohawk people and the Quebec government over plans to expand a golf course into an Indigenous burial ground?
A: Oka
5. In microeconomics, what does the initialism PPC stand for, showing the range of output of two types of goods?
A: production possibilities curve

Set of 4: Aesop's Fables

6. What animal rewards a lion for its mercy by freeing it from a hunter's net in one of Aesop's Fables?
A: mouse
7. "Slow and steady wins the race" is the moral of which of Aesop's fables, in which the faster title animal takes a nap and loses a race to the slower one?
A: "The Tortoise and the Hare"
8. Describing somebody pretending to not want what they cannot have, what English expression comes from an Aesop fable about a fox failing to reach a bunch of a certain kind of fruit?
A: sour grapes (prompt on: grapes)
9. Sorting the tales first by language, then by date, and finally by source, what is the most widely-used system for indexing Aesop's Fables?
A: Perry index

Jackpot

10. Part 1: What word completes the 27-letter pangram "nymphs [BLANK] quick vex dwarf jog"?

Part 2: Shifting this word's letters up one letter in the alphabet results in an anagram for the word "shaky".

Part 3: This word becomes an anagram for "built" when a Z is replaced with a U.

Part 4: This 5-letter German loanword refers to a quick military attack.

A: **blitz**

Set of 3: Banjos

11. Bill Monroe is considered the "father" of what music genre, which features string instruments like the mandolin, guitar, and five-string banjo?

A: **bluegrass** music

12. What banjoist played with Bill Monroe and the Blue Grass boys, pioneering his namesake three-finger picking style, but is best known for his instrumental "Foggy Mountain Breakdown"?

A: Earl Eugene **Scruggs**

13. Steve Martin played "Dueling Banjos" with what Muppet known for such songs as "Rainbow Connection" and "Bein' Green"?

A: **Kermit** the Frog

Double Jump

14. In Norse myth, which of the Nine Worlds is home to the Aesir gods and is connected to Earth by the rainbow bridge Bifrost?

A: **Asgard**

15. Another of the Nine Worlds is what realm of fire guarded by Surtr?

A: **Muspelheim**

Double Jump

16. What city's NFL team, which won Super Bowl 48 against the Broncos behind coach Pete Carroll and quarterback Russell Wilson, is known as the Seahawks?

A: **Seattle**

17. Pete Carroll coached the Seahawks in a record number of games with scores referred to by what portmanteau created by Jon Bois, indicating these scores had never before happened in the NFL?

A: **scorigami**

5-Part Mystery Link

18. Two faeries, a crab, a phoenix, and two lions surround the letter Q in what band's crest, which was designed by its lead vocalist Freddie Mercury?

A: **Queen**

19. What character is the subject of the first tale of *The Canterbury Tales*, accompanied by his son Squire?

A: **Knight**

20. What author wrote about surgeon Richard Pine being stranded on an island in the psychological horror short story "Survivor Type"?

A: Stephen Edwin **King**

21. In Catholicism, what is the only clergy position allowed to confer the sacrament of confirmation, unless they delegate a priest of their diocese to do so in their place?

A: **bishop**

22. What member of the corvid family has distinctive bare white skin near its beak and nests in large namesake social roosts?

A: **rook**

Link: All answers are chess pieces.

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Split: Economic Crises in Europe & Approximate Calculations

Economic Crises in Europe

23. In the 2010s, in what country did a humanitarian crisis emerge due to it having suffered the longest recession of any mixed economy to date?

A: **Greece** (accept: **Hellenic Republic**)

24. What items were at the centre of the first economic bubble in European history, seriously damaging the finances of the Netherlands?

A: **tulip** bulb (prompt on: flower, plant, bulb)

25. People burnt papermarks instead of spending them during an early 20th century period of hyperinflation in what country, in part a consequence of reparations payments required by the Treaty of Versailles?

A: **Germany** (accept: **Weimar Republic**, **Weimar Germany**)

26. In 1720, many Englishmen were ruined by the collapse of what company, an event largely responsible for Robert Walpole becoming the de facto Prime Minister?

A: **South Sea** Company

Approximate Calculations

You will have 5 seconds. Given a math question, give the answer rounded to the nearest integer.

27. What is the area of a circle with radius 10?

A: **314**

28. What is the length of the hypotenuse of a right triangle with legs of lengths 1,000,000 ["one million"] and 100 ["one hundred"]?

A: **1,000,000** ["one million"]

29. What is 1.01^{100} ["one point zero one to the power of one hundred"]?

A: **3**

30. What is 100 divided by 3?

A: **33**

Set of 3: Mozart Operas

31. What Mozart opera ends with a statue dragging the titular libertine and seducer to hell?

A: **Don Giovanni**

32. Pierre-Augustin Beaumarchais wrote a trilogy named for what character, which inspired Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* as well as a Mozart opera about the marriage of this character?

A: **Figaro**

33. What Mozart opera follows Prince Tamino on his quest to rescue Pamina, where he receives the title enchanted woodwind instrument?

A: *The **Magic Flute*** (accept: *Die **Zauberflöte***)

Set of 4: African Land Disputes

34. What contested state claims Morocco's "Southern Provinces"?

A: **Western Sahara** (accept: **Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic**)

35. What two countries lay claim to the Hala'ib Triangle because of its strategic location on the Red Sea, while neither lay claim to the Bir Tawil Triangle?

A: Arab Republic of **Egypt** AND Republic of the **Sudan**

36. What unrecognized country lays claim to the northern portion of the Horn of Africa despite its international recognition as a part of Somalia?

A: Republic of **Somaliland**

37. What country claims the French overseas department Mayotte, despite its citizens overwhelmingly voting to remain in France?

A: Union of the **Comoros**

Double Jump

38. What 2018 winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical retells the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice's ["yuh-RID-ih-sees"] trip to the title underground city?

A: **Hadestown**

39. What actor originated Hermes in *Hadestown*, winning the 2019 Tony Award for Best Actor in a Featured Role in a Musical for his performance?

A: André **De Shields**

Double Jump

40. What Canadian city features the brutalist, prefabricated housing complex Habitat 67 in its Cité du Havre neighbourhood?

A: **Montreal**

41. The design for Habitat 67 came from the master's thesis of what architect and McGill alumnus?

A: Moshe **Safdie**

Linked Set of 6

42. The bulk modulus, rate constant, Coulomb constant, and spring constant are all represented by what letter?

A: lowercase **k**

43. Access to what heavily guarded title location is sought by the protagonist of a Franz Kafka novel, K?

A: the **castle**

44. In *Super Mario Bros.*, what character exclaims "Thank you Mario. But our princess is in another castle" after the player defeats each castle level?

A: **Toad**

45. What country's response to the ravaging of sugar fields by beetles backfired in 1937, with the introduction of cane toads as predators?

A: **Australia**

46. At the 2024 Paris Olympics, what sport saw controversy over Raygun's performance for Australia?

A: **breaking** (accept: **break**, **breakdance**, **breakdancing**, **b-girling**; but reveal: **breaking**)

47. What spin-off show explores the title character's relationship with his brother Charles prior to the events of *Breaking Bad*?

A: **Better Call Saul**

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Scooby-Dooby-Doo & Chinese Dynastic Changes

Scooby-Dooby-Doo

48. What animation company originated the animated TV show *Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!* as well as *Yogi Bear* and *The Flintstones*?

A: **Hanna-Barbera** Cartoons Inc. (prompt on: Warner Bros. Animation)

49. What critically-reviled TV show, written by and starring Mindy Kaling, is named for the member of Mystery Incorporated who wears glasses and an orange sweater?

A: **Velma**

50. What z-word functions as Shaggy's catchphrase?

A: **zoinks**

51. Serving as the villain of the first live action film, what small dog is Scooby-Doo's nephew?

A: **Scrappy-Doo**

Chinese Dynastic Changes

52. The Red Turban Rebellion was part of the larger White Lotus Movement to overthrow what Mongol-led dynasty of China?

A: **Yuan** Dynasty (prompt on: Mongol Dynasty)

53. Prior to the Qing conquest of the Ming Dynasty, the House of Aisin Gioro were leaders of what dynasty?

A: Later **Jin**

54. Who created the Second Zhou Dynasty, interrupting the Tang Dynasty during her rule as empress?

A: Empress **Wu** Zetian

55. The War of the Three Kingdoms occurred after the fall of what Chinese dynasty, which shares a name with the largest ethnic group in modern-day China?

A: Eastern **Han** Dynasty

Set of 4: Thought Experiments

56. What philosophical theory of morality is challenged by positing a namesake "monster" whose needs outweigh everyone else's?

A: **utilitarianism** (accept: utilitarian)

57. The Neal.fun website includes a game where one can play out "absurd" versions of what thought experiment, originally about choosing the path of a namesake vehicle?

A: **trolley problem**

58. What country names both a "brain" and a "room" in thought experiments where people following rules try to simulate cognition?

A: People's Republic of **China** (accept: **PRC**)

59. What mythical hero names a thought experiment that explores identity by asking whether changing all the parts of his namesake ship keeps it the same object?

A: **Theseus**

Jailbreak

60. What scientist lends his name to a quantity obtained by setting escape velocity equal to the speed of light, the Newtonian metric of the radius of a black hole's event horizon?

A: Karl **Schwarzschild**

61. What golfer won the 2022 and 2024 Masters tournaments but was later arrested before the second round of the 2024 PGA Championship?

A: Scottie **Scheffler** (accept: Scott Alexander **Scheffler**)

62. The "Bloody Week" ended what short-lived city government in 1871?

A: **Paris Commune**

63. The muses Melpomene ["mel-PAW-muh-nee"] and Thalia ["THA-lia"] are the goddesses of what two genres of Ancient Greek theatre, often represented by two masks?

A: **tragedy** AND **comedy**

64. Chalcogens are commonly referred to as the family of what element, the lightest in group 16?

A: **oxygen** (accept: **O**)

65. A melody from what orchestral suite was used in the hymn "I Vow to Thee, My Country" and later named "Thaxted" by its composer, Gustav Holst?

A: *The* **Planets** suite

66. Also known as "the Scroll", which book of the Hebrew Bible tells the story of the title character and their cousin Mordecai saving the Jews from Haman as is recounted during Purim?

A: Book of **Esther**

67. With an average of over 400,000 cars per day, what is the busiest highway in North America?

A: King's Highway **401** (accept: **Macdonald-Cartier** Freeway)

68. Bobby Riggs was defeated by what tennis player in the second Battle of the Sexes?

A: Billie Jean **King**

69. What upcoming Pixar movie follows the title character being mistakenly identified as Earth's ambassador to the rest of the universe?

A: **Elio**

70. The presence of all of the antigens in the ABO and Rh blood groups characterizes what blood type, known as the universal recipient?

A: **AB+** ["AB positive"]

71. What author of *Hillbilly Elegy* and senator from Ohio was selected as Donald Trump's vice-presidential pick for the 2024 American election?

A: JD **Vance** (accept: James David **Vance**)

72. Alexandre Petion and Jean-Pierre Boyer were early leaders of what country that achieved independence in 1804 after a successful slave revolt?

A: Republic of **Haiti**

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Jackpot

73. Part 1: What city collaborated with sites in Copenhagen and Melbourne in order to nominate a collection of Workers' Assembly halls as a UNESCO World Heritage Site?

Part 2: This city is home to El Ateneo Grand Splendid, a former theatre turned bookstore, and July 9th Avenue, the widest street in the world.

Part 3: At Plaza de Mayo in this city, mothers protested the disappearance of their children during the Dirty War. It was also the site of Loyalty Day, on which citizens called for the release of Juan Peron.

Part 4: This city's name translates to "good air" from Spanish and is the capital of Argentina.

A: **Buenos Aires**

Set of 3: Geography Games

74. What website with a globe as its logo has a "Can you name the countries of the world" quiz with over 36 million plays?

A: **sporcle.com**

75. Hosted by Greg Lee, in what game show do young contestants called gumshoes try to find the title criminal's location by answering geography trivia?

A: **Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?**

76. Blinky recently won the World Cup of what geography game, popularized by Rainbolt, where players try to identify their location on Google Maps?

A: **Geoguessr**

Streak

77. Name up to all of the standard poker hands that contain a pair.

A: one **pair**

A: **two pair**

A: **three of a kind**

A: **four of a kind** (accept: **quad**)

A: **full house** (accept: full **boat**, **tight**, **full hand**)

Streak

78. Excluding Earth's, name up to all other largest moons of a planet in the solar system.

A: **Phobos**

A: **Ganymede**

A: **Titan**

A: **Titania**

A: **Triton**

13-Part Blitz

79. Who was the monarch of the United Kingdom when the British Acts of Union were signed in 1707?

A: **Anne**, Queen of Great Britain (accept: Queen **Anne**)

80. What is the only official language of Andorra and is spoken in a namesake region of Spain?

A: **Catalan**

81. Recently implicated in cases of pneumothorax, what kind of device is produced by companies such as ELFBAR and JUUL?

A: **vape** (accept: **vaporizer**, **vape pen**, **electronic cigarette**, **e-cigarette**)

82. What self-proclaimed inventor of the "gay pop" genre went viral for an over-the-top performance of her 2024 song "Karma"?

A: Jojo **Siwa** (accept: Joelle Joanie **Siwa**)

83. In simplest terms, what is the ratio between the frequencies of the two waves that make up a standing wave?

A: **one** to one

84. What first name is taken on by Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff to charm women in an Oscar Wilde play?

A: **Ernest**

85. Established by Guru Arjan in Amritsar, what gurdwara is considered the holiest site in Sikhism?

A: **Golden Temple** (accept: **Harmandir Sahib**, **Darbar Sahib**, **Suvaran Mandir**)

86. What suffix is employed in the words for someone who intentionally and unnecessarily scares others, a seller of cheese, or an instigator of war?

A: **monger**

87. Plan Verde ["VARE-day"] was a self-coup carried out by what former Peruvian president, whose actions led to the collapse of the Shining Path?

A: Alberto **Fujimori** (accept: Alberto Kenya **Fujimori** Inomoto)

88. What Russian peninsula can be found on the eastern shore of the sea of Okhotsk ["oh-HOTZK"], in a namesake Russian federal subject?

A: **Kamchatka** Peninsula

89. Major General Sir Nils Olav III, Baron of the Bouvet Islands, the colonel-in-chief of the Norwegian King's Guard, is what kind of animal?

A: king **penguin**

90. What chemical element did Evangelista Torricelli use to invent a namesake barometer, measuring pressure by the number of millimetres it rose?

A: **mercury** (accept: **Hg**)

91. Daisy Meadows is the pseudonym used by writers of what colourfully-named children's book series about fairies?

A: **Rainbow Magic**

END OF GAME