



GRADWRITE

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PACK 8

6-Part Blitz

1. What self-proclaimed "swamp princess" released "Nosebleeds" the day after winning Best Rap Album at the 2025 Grammys for *Alligator Bites Never Heal*?

A: **Doechii**

2. An anti-feminist mass shooting at what institution is recognized every year on December 6th by the White Ribbon campaign?

A: **École Polytechnique** de Montréal (accept: **Polytechnique Montréal**)

3. Whistleblower Suchir Balaji accused what company of copyright law violations after working on its GPT-4 language model?

A: **OpenAI**

4. What is the name for a craftsman that makes or repairs stringed instruments like guitars and violins?

A: **luthier**

5. The "Halloween Heist" is a frequent event in what television show set in a New York City police precinct?

A: **Brooklyn Nine-Nine**

6. What award is given post-tournament to the best player in a FIFA World Cup?

A: adidas **Golden Ball**

Set of 4: Homonyms

Given the description of two words spelled the same way, provide either word.

7. To make a circular hole in something, or a dull and uninteresting person.

A: **bore** (accept: **bore**)

8. A type of fruit drink often served in a bowl, or a striking blow delivered by fist.

A: **punch** (accept: **punch**)

9. A long-legged flying bird resembling an egret, or a construction machine that uses a long arm to move heavy objects.

A: **crane** (accept: **crane**)

10. A heavy muzzle-loading firearm often used for firing bombs, or a small receptacle used to grind ingredients in cooking.

A: **mortar** (accept: **mortar**)

Pyramid

11.

Part 1: Hyrrokkin ["Hoo-ROH-ken"] rode what kind of animal, using vipers as reins, from Jotunheim ["YOH-toon-HEIM"] to launch Baldr's funeral ship to sea?

Part 2: Odin is often seen with two of these animals by his side named Geri and Freki.

Part 3: Skoll and Hati, who are both these animals, are said to chase the sun and moon before finally devouring them during Ragnarok.

Part 4: The war god Tyr had his arm bitten off by one of these animals named Fenrir, who is a son of Loki.

A: wolf

Set of 3: Feminist Philosophy

14. Who declared: "One is not born, but rather becomes a woman" in her book *The Second Sex*?

A: Simone de Beauvoir

15. What philosopher argued that women's apparent inferiority comes from their lack of education in *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*?

A: Mary Wollstonecraft

16. Due to its focus on upper-class white women's experiences, Audre Lorde was a prominent critic of which feminist "wave", which gained most traction in the '70s?

A: second wave feminism

Double Jump

17. 6.4 billion total passengers have been transported on the original Tokaido line of what Japanese high speed rail system?

A: Shinkansen (accept: bullet train)

18. What Shinkansen line runs through the underwater Seikan ["SAY-kun"] Tunnel, connecting Aomori ["Aa-ow-MO-ree"] Prefecture to its namesake Japanese prefecture?

A: Hokkaido Shinkansen

Double Jump

19. A businessman, a geographer, a drunkard, a snake, a fox, an aviator, and a rose are among the characters encountered by the title asteroid-dweller in what novella by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry?

A: *Le Petit Prince* (accept: *The Little Prince*)

20. What character in *The Little Prince* lives on a tiny planet on which the day only lasts a minute, leaving him no time free from his job?

A: the lamplighter

5-Part Mystery Link

21. Will Byers visits what other dimension in the first season of *Stranger Things*?

A: the Upside-Down

22. What botanical term describes the seed-bearing mature ovary of a flowering plant?

A: fruit

23. The coagulation of casein produces what type of food, with varieties including Emmental, Edam, and Gouda?

A: cheese

24. The phylum Porifera generally refers to what group of marine invertebrates?

A: sea sponges

25. In what large mountain range in southwest Germany were cuckoo clocks originally

popularized?

A: **Black Forest**

All answers are types of cake.

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Splits: Acids and Bases & De-Stalinization

Acids and Bases

26. What term is used to describe acids and bases that fully dissociate in aqueous solutions?

A: **strong**

27. Methyl red, bromothymol blue, and phenolphthalein ["fee-nolf-THAY-leen"] are all examples of what kind of substance whose colour can be used to measure the pH of a solution?

A: pH **indicator**

28. What chemist names a collection of substances that dissociate in water to form either hydrogen or hydroxide ions, which are the acids and bases in his namesake acid-base theory?

A: Svante **Arrhenius**

29. What is the chemical formula for the compound which composes gastric acid, hydrochloric acid?

A: **HCl**

De-Stalinization

30. What First Secretary of the Communist Party gave the "Secret Speech" denouncing Stalin's dictatorial rule and led early de-Stalinization efforts?

A: Nikita **Khrushchev**

31. Around 90 thousand people were freed from what type of labour camps in 1954?

A: **gulag**

32. An opponent of Destalinization, which Soviet politician was part of an attempted coup in 1957 and partially names a World War Two era treaty between the Soviet Union and Germany?

A: Vyacheslav **Molotov**

33. As part of de-Stalinization, Khrushchev's administration gave Stalingrad what new name, which it retains today?

A: **Volgograd**

Set of 3: Religions Founded in the 20th Century

34. What religion teaches that white people were created by Dr. Yakub, as was first described by its founder Wallace Fard Muhammad?

A: **Nation of Islam**

35. What Beatles song, interpreted by Charles Manson as predicting an apocalyptic race war, was named for a type of fairground slide?

A: **"Helter Skelter"**

36. A stylized S passes through two triangles in the logo of what religion founded by L. Ron Hubbard?

A: Church of **Scientology**

Set of 4: Art Installations

37. A 5% solution of what compound is used by Damien Hirst in various installation works to preserve sheep, cows, and a tiger shark?

A: **formaldehyde**

38. What repetitive pattern does Yayoi Kusama often use to decorate her pumpkin-filled installations, which is also employed by pointillist painters?

A: polka **dots**

39. The installation *Shalekhet* is located in the Jewish Museum of what city, in which museumgoers step on ten thousand metal faces as a metaphor for violence inflicted during the Holocaust?

A: **Berlin**

40. What objects make up the 175-pound pile central to "*Untitled*" (*Portrait of Ross in LA*), which represents Félix González-Torres' deceased partner's death to AIDS?

A: **candy**

Double Jump

41. What type of composite subatomic particle is composed of two or more quarks, and names a CERN-operated "large collider"?

A: **hadrons**

42. What group of particles, a subset of hadrons, are composite fermions made up of three quarks and include protons and neutrons?

A: **baryons**

Double Jump

43. What artist's album *The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess* features singles like "Pink Pony Club", "Red Wine Supernova", and "HOT TO GO!"?

A: Chappell **Roan** (accept: Kayleigh Rose **Amstutz**) (prompt on: Chappell)

44. Chappell Roan compares the complex beauty of love to the title object in what song off of *The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess*?

A: "**Kaleidoscope**"

6-Part Linked Set

45. What type of precious stone shares its name with the daughter of Arthur Dimmesdale and Hester Prynne in *The Scarlet Letter*?

A: **pearl**

46. With the loss of over 1100 sailors, what US navy battleship is now memorialized as a military cemetery after the attacks on Pearl Harbour?

A: *USS* **Arizona**

47. In US currency, how many cents does a 22 ounce can of AriZona tea cost?

A: **99**

48. What type of objects "were taken as UFOs from space" in a Nena song titled for 99 of them?

A: luft**balloons** (accept: red **balloons**)

49. What type of animals use darts to defend themselves against an onrush of balloons in a series of tower defense games?

A: **monkey**

50. In what Chinese novel do the White Dragon Horse, Sandy, Pigsy, Tripitaka, and Monkey travel to collect Buddhist sutras?

A: **Journey to the West**

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Asian Skyscrapers & Spelling Soups

Asian Skyscrapers

51. With over 500 buildings that are over 150m tall, what Asian city has the most skyscrapers of any city in the world?

A: **Hong Kong**

52. What skyscraper, named after the second president of the UAE, is the tallest building in the world?

A: **Burj Khalifa**

53. The Sanrio Damper Babies are mascots of what skyscraper, which has a structural facade made of green tinted glass designed to mimic bamboo?

A: **Taipei 101**

54. Until being superseded by Merdeka 118, what 88-storey skyscrapers in Kuala Lumpur were the tallest buildings in Malaysia, and continue to be the tallest twin skyscrapers?

A: **Petronas Twin Towers** (accept: **KLCC Twin Towers**)

Spelling Soups

55. It is a type of fish soup originating from Marseille [mar-SAY]. Spell "bouillabaisse" ["BOO-YAH-bess"].

A: **B-O-U-I-L-L-A-B-A-I-S-S-E**

56. It is a type of ramen broth made from the stock of pork bones. Spell "tonkotsu" ["ton-COT-soo"].

A: **T-O-N-K-O-T-S-U**

57. It is a soup originating in India with a name literally meaning "pepper-water". Spell "Mulligatawny" ["mull-uh-guh-TAW-nee"].

A: **M-U-L-L-I-G-A-T-A-W-N-Y**

58. It is a thick Italian soup made of vegetables, occasionally with pasta or rice. Spell "Minestrone" ["min-uh-STROW-nee"].

A: **M-I-N-E-S-T-R-O-N-E**

Set of 4: Cards

59. 48 cards are divided into 12 "months" of flowers in what Japanese playing card system, the first product manufactured by Nintendo?

A: **Hanafuda**

60. What country is described as "where everything lives in a whirlpool of anger" in Mahmoud Darwish's poem "Identity Card"?

A: **Palestine**

61. What kind of cards are the legendary Triboulet, Canio, and Yorick, which provide score multipliers when equipped in Balatro?

A: **jokers**

62. What city's public transportation, which includes the Docklands Light Railway and the Tramlink, can be accessed with an Oyster card?

A: **London**

Jailbreak

63. Set to make their debut in 2026, what is the name of Toronto's WNBA team?

A: Toronto **Tempo**

64. Marilyn vos Savant published a correct solution to what statistical problem, in which choosing to switch doors gives a contestant a 2/3 probability of winning a car instead of a goat?

A: **Monty Hall** problem

65. In *Spiderman: Homecoming*, Michael Keaton plays what Damage Control worker and classic Spiderman foe?

A: **Vulture** (accept: Adrian **Toomes**)

66. How many roads does the speaker describe diverging in a yellow wood in a poem by Robert Frost?

A: **two**

67. What singing term comes from the Italian for "in the style of the chapel" and refers to unaccompanied singing?

A: **a cappella**

68. What genus of southeast Asian flower is commonly known as the "stinking corpse lily" due to its smell of rotting flesh?

A: **Rafflesia**

69. What city, home to annual national rallies during Nazi Germany, was chosen after World War 2 as the place to try war criminals by the Allies?

A: **Nuremberg**

70. What letter is most often used to denote the square root of negative one, also known as the imaginary unit?

A: **i**

71. What French Overseas Collectivity can be reached by an hour and a half ferry ride from Newfoundland?

A: **Saint Pierre and Miquelon**

72. What type of wave is defined by propagation in a direction perpendicular to the movement of the medium, as contrasted with a longitudinal wave?

A: **transverse** wave

73. What Mars rover was named after the abolitionist who delivered the "Ain't I a Woman?" speech?

A: **Sojourner**

74. What dish, whose origins can be traced back to Québécois diners in the 1950s, is best made with fresh cheese curds?

A: **poutine**

75. What city's Rialto Bridge is the oldest of four spanning its Grand Canal?

A: **Venice**

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Pyramid

76.

Part 1: What term describes a product used in photography that converts metallic silver to a sulfide compound, lending prints a characteristic sepia hue?

Part 2: Haircare products of this name can tint hair without lifting its colour, such as neutralising the yellows in bleached hair with purple.

Part 3: In cosmetics, this word names a type of water-based product that is typically applied with a cotton pad as an intermediary skincare step after a cleanser in order to balance skin pH.

Part 4: This name is given to the coloured plastic-containing powder that is fused to paper during laser printing.

A: **toner**

Set of 3: Also a Type of Wine

79. On March 8th, 2025, what U.S. government agency detained Columbia University student Mahmoud Khalil for his pro-Palestine activism?

A: **ICE**

80. Approximately one year after leaving YG Entertainment, which member of BLACKPINK released the single "APT." ["AH-pah-tsoh"] alongside Bruno Mars?

A: **Rosé**

81. When aboard a ship and facing its bow, what term refers to the left side of the vessel, opposite the starboard?

A: **port**

Set of 4: Banned Books in the 2020s

82. What movie's lighting of Black skin inspired George M. Johnson's "memoir-manifesto" *All Boys Aren't Blue*?

A: **Moonlight**

83. The Ottawa Catholic School Board temporarily removed what cartoonist's *Drama* from elementary school libraries, but kept *Sisters* and *Smile* on their shelves?

A: Raina **Telgemeier**

84. What 2022 Florida act, which specifically prohibits public schools from discussing sexual orientation and gender identity in classrooms, was challenged for removing books with LGBTQ themes from school libraries?

A: **Parental Rights in Education** Act (accept: **Don't Say Gay** or Trans Act, **Don't Say Gay** or Trans Law)

85. Alphonso's sexual abuse of Celie is often cited as the reason for challenging what epistolary novel by Alice Walker?

A: *The* **Color Purple**

15-Part Blitz

86. In golf, what term describes a person who assists the golfer by giving advice and carrying their clubs?

A: **caddie**

87. The film production company Aardman Animations is known for its use of what animation style, featured in works such as their *Wallace & Gromit* franchise?

A: **claymation** (accept: **clay animation**) (prompt on: **stop motion**)

88. The speaker apologises for eating what fruits "that were in / the icebox" in "This Is Just To Say" by William Carlos Williams?

A: **plum**

89. Named for two linguists, what largely-disproven hypothesis suggests that the languages people speak determine the ways in which they can think?

A: **Sapir-Whorf** hypothesis

90. Stephen Nedoroscik went viral for his bronze medal-winning performance at what artistic gymnastics event at the 2024 Olympics?

A: **pommel horse**

91. Which emperor was the first not to be born in Rome, instead being from Spain, and names a famous column in Rome?

A: **Trajan**

92. What animated TV show features a "love square" between Adrien, Marinette, and their respective superhero alter egos?

A: **Miraculous: Tales of Ladybug and Cat Noir** (accept: **Miraculous Ladybug**)

93. The lowest recorded natural temperature on Earth's surface was observed at which Russian Antarctic research station?

A: **Vostok** Station

94. In graphics software, what physical quality is often represented by three sliders ranging from 0 to 255, allowing users to additively manipulate RGB values?

A: **colour**

95. Sarai ["SAH-rye"], on the Pontic-Caspian steppe, was the capital of what post-Mongol state established by Batu Khan?

A: **Golden Horde** (accept: **Ulug Ulus**)

96. What lake in Oregon is the deepest in the United States?

A: **Crater** Lake

97. What telecommunications company declared bankruptcy in 2009, leading to the largest corporate collapse in Canadian history?

A: **Nortel** Networks Corporation

98. What organ, the second heaviest in the body, is responsible for the metabolism of drugs and alcohol, and is mostly composed of hepatocytes?

A: **liver**

99. What dictator is responsible for the novels *Begone, Demons* and *Zabibah and the King*, both of which allegorize the United States as an evil force threatening Iraq?

A: **Saddam Hussein** (accept either underlined part)

100. What American politician claimed in May 2024 that a parasitic worm ate part of his brain and died?

A: **RFK Jr.** (prompt on: **RFK**, Robert Francis **Kennedy**; accept: **Robert** Francis **Kennedy Jr.**, **Bobby Kennedy Jr.**)

END OF GAME