



# GRADWRITE

## Contributors:

Asha Basu	McKenna Gray	Eli Nason	Denali Tran-Le
Charlotte Bauer	Lucas Hall	Adrian O'Leary	Stefan Vlad
Tai Belke	Zach Higgins	Nathan O'Leary	Chris Wang
Tomas Bertovic	Joyann Hua	Stephen Ottewell	Chloe Wei
Brendan Bridle	Lee Huynh	Olivia Parisotto	Alvin Yeung
Kunaal Chandrashekar	Susanna Liao	Anna Reso	
Simon Choist	Eva Mandelbaum	Matthew Stasiw	
Amir Dolansky	Will Marcotte	Dylan Steptoe	
James Ferrabee	Nina Nakamura	Serena Suleman	

## PACK 4

### 6-Part Blitz

1. What was the first play produced on Broadway directed by a Black director, and was also the first to be written by a Black female playwright?

A: A **Raisin in the Sun**

2. What phoenix-like deity from Egyptian mythology names an asteroid from which the spacecraft OSIRIS-REx collected a sample by "pogo-sticking" off of it?

A: **Bennu**

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

A: **OpenAI**, Inc

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

A: **luthier**

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

A: **Sojourner**

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. To emit a deep hollow sound, or part of a device used to create a gust of air.

A: **bellow** (accept: **bellow**) (reject: **bellows**)

9. An adjective for a door that can be opened without a key, or an adjective for a door that can be opened with a key.

A: **unlockable** (accept: **unlockable**)

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

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

### Pyramid

11.

**Part 1:** A thinker from what country was nicknamed "Klex" for his interest in klecksography, an interest which led him to develop a tool scored with the Exner method?

**Part 2:** Another thinker from this country was influenced by Gnosticism to develop his theory of individuation, and also wrote the Gnostic text *Seven Sermons to the Dead*.

**Part 3:** Preoperational and sensorimotor were stages of cognitive development proposed by one psychologist from this country.

**Part 4:** The psychologist who introduced extraversion and introversion to personality theory, Carl Jung, was born in this alpine country.

A: **Switzerland**

### Set of 3: Yōkai

14. In Japanese urban legend, what name is given to the spirit of a schoolgirl who can be summoned by knocking on a toilet stall?

A: **Hanako-san**

15. What animals, after growing old and running away into the mountainside, gain another tail when they transform into nekomata?

A: **cats**

16. What evil, people-eating yōkai is featured in an emoji which depicts it as a horned, red ogre?

A: **oni**

### Double Jump

17. The Third Servile War was led by what gladiator, who gives the war its more commonly used name?

A: **Spartacus**

18. What Ancient Greek historian is believed to have originated the term "War of Spartacus" in his *Life of Crassus*, one of his *Parallel Lives*?

A: **Plutarch**

### Double Jump

19. What four-letter command is used in Git to move changes from a local to a remote repository, the opposite of the pull command?

A: **push**

20. What three-letter Git command is used to display a repository's detailed commit history?

A: **log**

### 5-Part Mystery Link

21. In what dimension is Will Byers hunted by a demogorgon in the first season of *Stranger Things*?

A: the **Upside-Down**

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

A: sea **sponges**

23. What type of food can be produced when the coagulation of casein is caused by the addition of enzymes like rennet?

A: **cheese**

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

A: **fruit**

25. In what region in southwest Germany were cuckoo clocks originally popularized?

A: **Black Forest**

All answers are types of cake.

## END OF FIRST QUARTER

---

## SECOND QUARTER

### Splits: Organic Synthesis & De-Stalinization

#### Organic Synthesis

26. What organic chemist developed an acid-catalyzed indole synthesis, used uric acid to synthesize caffeine for the first time, and names a reaction which converts carboxylic acids to esters?

A: Emil **Fischer**

27. Reactions named for Donald Peterson, Marc Julia, and Georg Wittig can all be used to synthesize what functional group, which consists of a carbon-carbon double bond?

A: **alkene** (accept: **olefin**, **alkenyl**) (reject: **alkane**, **alkyne**)

28. Who, along with Xue-Min Cheng, wrote The Logic of Chemical Synthesis to teach retrosynthetic analysis?

A: Elias James **Corey**

29. A Buchner funnel is used in the "vacuum" form of what technique, in which a solid product is separated from a liquid by passing it through a medium like paper?

A: **filtration**

#### De-Stalinization

30. What First Secretary of the Communist Party gave the "Secret Speech" denouncing Stalin's dictatorial rule?

A: Nikita **Khrushchev**

31. As part of de-Stalinization, what former head of the NKVD was executed by Khrushchev, and was known for his political repression and sexual sadism?

A: Lavrentiy **Beria**

32. Georgy Malenkov, Vyacheslav Molotov and five others were given what derisive nickname for voting Nikolai Bulganin to replace Khrushchev as First Secretary in an attempt to stop de-Stalinization?

A: **Anti-Party** Group (accept: **antipartiynaya** gruppa)

33. In 1961, the city formerly known as Stalingrad was given 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** (accept: **NOI**)

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

A: **"Helter Skelter"**

36. The left eye of God is a symbol used by what belief system, which includes elements of Christianity, Confucianism, and Vietnamese folk religion?

A: **Cao Đài** (accept: **Caodaism**)

#### **Set of 4: Art Installations**

37. Sheep, cows, and a tiger shark are preserved in a 5% solution of formaldehyde in various artworks by what British artist?

A: Damien **Hirst**

38. What artist covered a chair in many soft, phallic lumps in the first of her *Accumulation* sculptures, which exemplifies her career-long interest in repetition?

A: Yayoi **Kusama** (accept: **Kusama** Yayoi)

39. For what artwork were 7503 of the title structures, each draped with orange fabric, installed by Christo and Jeanne-Claude?

A: *The* **Gates**

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

A: **candy** wrappers

#### **Double Jump**

41. Despite claims about LK-99, what kind of material can so far only be made at very cold temperatures, and is defined by having zero electrical resistance?

A: **superconductor**

42. Along with having zero resistance, superconductors also demonstrate what effect in which they expel all magnetic fields, allowing them to levitate above magnets?

A: **Meissner** effect (accept: **Meißner-Ochsenfeld effect**)

#### **Double Jump**

43. What Shinkansen line connects Aomori Prefecture with its namesake northernmost major Japanese island?

A: **Hokkaido** Shinkansen (accept: **Hokkaido** line)

44. The Hokkaido line runs through what tunnel underneath the strait separating Honshu and Hokkaido?

A: **Seikan** Tunnel

#### **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. What US navy battleship, now memorialized as a military cemetery, lost almost 1100 soldiers in 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** cents

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

A: **luftballons** (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 & Early Internet Memes

#### 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 Dampier Babies are mascots of what skyscraper, which has a structural facade made of green tinted glass designed to mimic bamboo?

A: **Taipei 101**

54. What skyscraper superseded the Petronas Twin Towers as the tallest building in Malaysia, and is the second-tallest building in the world?

A: **Merdeka 118**

#### Early Internet Memes

55. What action involves tricking Internet users to click on URLs that link to the music video for Rick Astley's "Never Gonna Give You Up"?

A: **Rickrolling** (accept word forms)

56. Derpina, "Forever Alone", and Trollface are characters in what genre of MS Paint-drawn internet cartoons?

A: **rage comics**

57. In "Fabulous Secret Powers," what '80s animated television protagonist is seen dancing atop a rainbow background to a techno cover of "What's Up?" by the 4 Non Blondes?

A: **He-Man** (accept: Prince **Adam**)

58. What seven-word English phrase, originally spoken by the villain CATS in the opening of *Zero Wing*, was co-opted into a GIF mocking its poor translation from Japanese?

A: **"ALL YOUR BASE ARE BELONG TO US"**

#### **Set of 4: Cards**

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

A: **Palestine**

60. 48 cards are divided into 12 "months" of flowers in what Japanese playing card system?

A: **Hanafuda** (prompt: flower cards)

61. With a name translating to "memorization", what application employs spaced repetition to help users remember information written on virtual "cards"?

A: **Anki**

62. In *Balatro*, what Joker gives an unconditional x3 ["times three"] Mult to all hands played, but can only appear in a run once the Gros Michel Joker card has self-destructed?

A: **Cavendish**

#### **Jailbreak**

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

A: Toronto **Tempo**

64. In Java, what symbol represents the ternary operator, which can be used to simplify if-else statements?

A: **question mark**

65. What 2025 movie renames itself to *The New Avengers* in its end credits, explaining the presence of the asterisk in its release title?

A: **Thunderbolts\***

66. The word "we" ends almost every line of what short poem by Gwendolyn Brooks?

A: **"We Real Cool"**

67. The Italian for "in the style of the chapel" is what musical term referring 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 battle, famously depicted with King Harold II getting shot in the eye with an arrow in the Bayeux Tapestry, marked the end of the Norman Conquest of England?

A: Battle of **Hastings**

70. Hölder and Lipschitz both name stronger forms of what property, which holds in its usual form when a function is equal to its limit at every point?

A: **continuity** (accept: being **continuous**)

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

A: **Saint Pierre and Miquelon** (accept: **St. Pierre et Miquelon**)

72. What type of wave is defined by propagation in a direction perpendicular to the movement of the medium?

A: **transverse** wave

73. An event at what Canadian educational institution is commemorated every December 6th by the White Ribbon campaign?

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

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 waterway is spanned by the Rialto bridge in Venice?

A: **Grand Canal** (accept: **Canal Grande**)

## 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

All answers will also be the name of 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-TSUH"] with 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 frequently-banned "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. Challenged for removing books with LGBTQ themes from school libraries, what act which specifically prohibits public schools from discussing sexual orientation and gender identity in classrooms was passed in Florida in 2022?

A: **Don't Say Gay or Trans Act** (accept: **Florida Parental Rights in Education 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?

A: *The* **Color Purple**

#### **15-Part Blitz**

86. At 50, what inaugural member of LIV ["livv"] golf became the oldest Majors winner after winning the 2021 PGA Championship?

A: Phil **Mickelson**

87. What scientist and New Deal activist argued that "spiral nebulae" were objects in the Milky Way in the Great Debate of 1920 against Heber D. Curtis?

A: Harlow **Shapley**

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

A: the **plums** / that were in / the icebox / and which / you were probably / saving / for breakfast

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

A: **Brooklyn Nine-Nine**

90. Who partnered with Rylee Arnold on season 33 of *Dancing with the Stars* after his bronze medal-winning performance at the 2024 Olympics as a pommel horse specialist?

A: Stephen **Nedoroscik** ["NED-oh-RAW-zik"]

91. The Durand Line was established following the third British war with what country?

A: **Afghanistan**

92. Known for having invented the "floater" strategy, who defeated her former Girl Power ally Alison Irwin in a 6–1 vote in order to win *Big Brother 4*?

- A: **Jun Song** (accept either underlined part)
93. The lowest recorded natural temperature on Earth's surface was observed at which Russian Antarctic research station?
- A: **Vostok** Station
94. What quantity, represented as the angle from red in typical cylindrical models, is the H in the names of the HSL and HSV colour models?
- A: **hue**
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. Who wrote, and sometimes names, an 81-stanza Taoist text generally believed to have preceded the *Zhuangzi* ["zhwaang-ZUH"], the *Tao Te Ching*?
- A: **Laozi** (accept: **Lao Tzu**)
98. The falciform ligament divides what second heaviest organ in the body into two lobes, which are mostly composed of hepatocytes?
- A: **liver**
99. What dictator is responsible for the novels *Begone, Demons* and *Zabibah and the King*?
- A: **Saddam Hussein** (accept either bolded part)
100. What American politician claimed in May 2024 that a parasitic worm ate part of his brain and died?
- A: **RFK Jr.** (accept: **Robert** Francis **Kennedy Jr.**, **Bobby Kennedy Jr.**) (prompt: **RFK**, **Kennedy**)

**END OF GAME**