

If all the World's a Stage, Then What are You Doing Playing Quizbowl?

TTGT11 VI: Lick My Love Pump

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Subject: Plays! Playwrights! Huzzah!

Toss Ups

1. **For the job, an undertaking of more than 900 pages, a syndicate of five men was formed, headed by Edward Blount and William Jaggard. The actors John Heminge and Henry Condell undertook the collection (*) of 36 plays, and the printing was done none-too-well by Jaggard's son Isaac. About 1000 copies were printed, and a second edition wouldn't appear until 1632. FTP, identify this first published edition of the collected works of Shakespeare, a major source for contemporary texts of his plays.**

Answer: First Folio

2. **Torvald envisions himself as the ethical member of the family, while his wife Nora assumes the role of irresponsible but pretty wife in order to flatter him (*). However, an outsider threatens to reveal actions Nora took without Torvald's knowledge in order to secure a loan and save Torvald's life. When Nora's act is revealed, Torvald repudiates her to save his own reputation, Nora declares herself independent and literally slams the door on, FTP, what 1879 work by Henrik Ibsen?**

Answer: A Doll's House or Et Dukkehjem

3. **Educated at Yale, he entered George Pierce Baker's workshop at Harvard in 1919 and his *A Punch for Judy* was produced there in 1920. *You and I*, also written while he was a student, played 170 performances on Broadway in 1923. His thoughtful approach to life is evident in such plays as *Hotel Universe* (*), *John*, and *White Wings*, considered by some to be his best play. FTP, identify this American best known for such plays as *Paris Bound*, *Holiday*, and *The Philadelphia Story*.**

Answer: Philip Barry

4. **Giovanni and Annabella are siblings. They're also lovers. She gets pregnant. To cover up, she agrees to marry Soranzo (*), one of her many suitors. Soranzo figures out it isn't his child and strikes out for vengeance, but he's too slow – Giovanni kills Annabella and Soranzo only to be finished off himself by Soranzo's goons. Exhibiting sympathy for the unlawful lovers, this is, FTP, what 17th century tragedy and best known work of John Ford?**

Answer: 'Tis Pity She's a Whore

5. **The title character is a former porter who has escaped from prison to an unnamed island. He convinces the superstitious natives (*) that he is a powerful magician, and they soon make him their monarch. However, as he becomes abusive and starts to exploit his new subjects, they rise against him. He flees into the jungle, where he confronts internal demons and the ghosts of his past before he is killed by rebels. FTP, identify this 1920 play, the first foray into Expressionism by Eugene O'Neill.**

Answer: The Emperor Jones

6. **He began his theater work in 1959 and by 1968 he was the resident playwright of the Theater of the Balustrade – a position achieved on the strength of works such as *The Memorandum*, *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration* (*), and *The Garden Party*. However, for the next 20 years he was persecuted by his nation's Communist regime before the Velvet Revolution brought him to power in 1989. FTP, identify this author of *Private View* and *Audience*, former president of the Czech Republic.**

Answer: Vaclav Havel

7. She published her first novel, *The Glory of the Conquered*, in 1909, and a collection of short stories in 1912 titled *Lifted Masks*. The next year she married George Cram Cook (*), and while summering in 1915 they founded the Provincetown Players to put on their play *Suppressed Desires*. Two more of her full length plays – *Inheritors* and *The Verge* – were also produced in Provincetown before she settled there fulltime in 1924. FTP, identify this playwright whose final play, *Alison's House*, earned her a 1931 Pulitzer.

Answer: Susan Glaspell

8. Shen Te is a poor prostitute who is the only one willing to shelter three gods. In exchange for her kindness they give her a large sum of money (*). She buys a tobacco shop but finds that family, friends, and even strangers take advantage of her kindness. To save the shop, Shen Te begins dressing up as Shui Ta, her tough male cousin. Her neighbors become so alarmed that they put Shui Ta on trial for Shen Te's murder, forcing her to confess her ruse. FTP, identify this "parable in 10 scenes" by Bertolt Brecht.

Answer: *The Good Woman of Setzuan* or *Der gute Mensch von Sezuan*

9. The title character, a disillusioned white intellectual, is persuaded by Alton Scales, a black activist in love with the title character's sister-in-law Gloria, to support the candidacy of Wally O'Hara (*), a local reform politician. His wife Iris, an aspiring actress, leaves him to act in a commercial. Alton learns that Gloria is a prostitute and leaves her, she kills herself, and the suicide effects a reconciliation between Iris and her husband in, FTP, what 3-act drama by Lorraine Hansberry?

Answer: *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*

10. *Peribáñez and the Commander of Ocaña; The King, the Greatest Alcalde; All Citizens and Soldiers; The Knight from Olmedo; The Gardener's Dog; Across the Bridge, Juana; The Lady Nit-Wit* (*); *The Girl with the Jug*; and *The King and the Farmer* are English titles of some of his better known works. In 1609 he added *The New Art of Writing Plays*, which provides a bridge and key to his works. FTP, identify this dramatist of the Spanish Golden Age, whose 500 extant plays are probably just a quarter of his total output.

Answer: Lope de Vega

11. He first turned to the theater in 1898 with *The Epilogue*, but various accidents prevented its production until 1910 when it was renamed *The Vise* (*). He then made only sporadic attempts at drama until the success of *Right You Are – If You Think You Are* in 1917. A demonstration of the relativity of truth, it anticipated his two greatest plays. FTP, identify this Nobel laureate best known for *Enrico IV* and *Six Characters in Search of an Author*.

Answer: Luigi Pirandello

12. Ben and Gus make small talk and wait. It becomes obvious they are hired killers who are waiting for their victim, whose identity they have not yet been told. The title object keeps arriving (*) and departing, bearing food orders the two men can't possibly fill. After rehearsing the murder, Gus leaves the room; meanwhile, Ben receives a call on the intercom ordering him to shoot the next person who enters the room. That person, of course, is Gus. FTP, identify this drama infused with comic menace, an early work of Harold Pinter.

Answer: *The Dumb Waiter*

13. Appearing professionally as an actor from the age of 12, between roles he wrote such light comedies as *I'll Leave it to You* and *The Young Idea*. *The Vortex* (*), his first serious play, established his reputation as a writer in London, and the first of his durable comedies, *Hay Fever*, appeared in New York in 1925. Also known for 1933's *Design for Living* and 1936's *Still Life*, FTP, identify this Brit perhaps best known for *Private Lives* and *Blithe Spirit*.

Answer: Noël Coward

14. He served as drama editor of *Vanity Fair* while a member of the Algonquin Round Table, and published his first play, *The Road to Rome*, in 1927. An anti-war sentiment was a recurring theme in his works, including *The Petrified Forest* (*) and *Idiot's Delight*. He won a Pulitzer for *Abe Lincoln in Illinois*, a play which ultimately led to his job as speechwriter for FDR. FTP, identify this three-time Pulitzer winner who won a screenwriting Oscar for his script for *The Best Years of Our Lives*.

Answer: Robert E. Sherwood

15. Mr. Hardcastle plans to marry his daughter Kate to the bashful Marlow. Mrs. Hardcastle wants her son, Tony Lumpkin (*), to marry her ward Constance, who is in love with Marlow's friend Hastings. Tony dupes Marlow and Hastings into believing Mrs. Hardcastle's home is an inn. By posing as a barmaid, Kate wins the heart of Marlow, and Tony evades his mother's grip long enough to unite Constance and Hastings in, FTP, what 1773 comedy by Oliver Goldsmith?

Answer: *She Stoops to Conquer*

16. The story centers on Beatrice Hunsdorfer, an impractical widow living with her two teenage daughters in a dilapidated house where she earns her keep nursing an elderly invalid. Both charming and abrasive, Beatrice is selfish like her elder daughter Ruth (*), who suffers from convulsions brought on by childhood trauma. The younger daughter, Tillie, is an eccentric outcast who earns respect by winning her school science fair in, FTP, what largely autobiographical drama by Paul Zindel?

Answer: *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*

17. It begins with a bellman ushering three recently deceased people into a room: Garcin, a traitor to his cause; Estelle, a nymphomaniac (*) who killed her own child; and Inez, a predatory lesbian. Each of the three requires another person for self-definition, yet is most attracted to the person most likely to cause great distress. Their inability to escape from each other guarantees their eternal torture in, FTP, what philosophical drama by Jean-Paul Sartre?

Answer: *No Exit* or *Huis clos* or *Dead End* or *In Camera*

18. His serious plays, such as *The Strong Breed*, *The Road*, and *From Zia, With Love* (*) reveal his disillusionment with authoritarianism and his nation's society as a whole. His first important play, 1960's *A Dance of the Forests*, satirized his nation's romantic legends. Clever preachers were the target in *The Trials of Brother Jero*, pompous teachers the subject in *The Lion and the Jewel*. FTP, identify this Nigerian playwright and 1986 Nobel laureate.

Answer: Wole Soyinka

19. Although Nora Clitheroe is pregnant with their first child, her husband Jack ignores her pleas, goes into the streets to fight with the Easter Rising, and dies. When her child is stillborn (*), Nora loses her mind. Her condition prompts Bessie Burgess, an embittered protestant who lost a son to the rebels, to become Nora's caretaker. At the play's end, Bessie herself is felled by a sniper. FTP, identify this Sean O'Casey play which sparked riots at its Dublin debut in 1926.

Answer: *The Plough and the Stars*

20. Her story provided the plot of a 1674 play by Jean Racine and a 1787 play by Goethe. Earlier, she served as a key figure in certain Greek (*) tragedies: in the *Agamemnon* of Aeschylus, in the *Electra* of Sophocles, and in a pair of plays by Euripides – one unfinished and set at Aulis, one finished and set at Tauris. FTP, identify this daughter of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, sacrificed to Artemis so that the father's ships would be favored.

Answer: Iphigenia

21. A battle weary Swiss mercenary fighting for the Serbian army takes refuge in Raina Petkoff's bedchamber. In response to his matter-of-fact account of the war, in which he debunks her fiancé Sergius' heroism (*), she ridicules the intruder's cowardice but comes to appreciate his honesty. After the war is over, the mercenary, Capt. Bluntschli, returns, Sergius marries the maid Louka, and Bluntschli and Raina agree to wed in, FTP, what romantic comedy by George Bernard Shaw?

Answer: Arms and the Man

Bonuses

1. Shakespeare – a man so great, he gets two questions asked about his work. Identify the Shakespeare play from characters, 5 each with a bonus 5 for getting them all.

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| A) Helena, Bertram, the king of France | Answer: <u>All's Well that Ends Well</u> |
| B) Frederick, Rosalind, Orlando, Touchstone | Answer: <u>As You Like It</u> |
| C) Aegeon, Solinus, Antipholus, Dromio | Answer: <u>The Comedy of Errors</u> |
| D) Katharina, Petruchio, Christopher Sly | Answer: <u>The Taming of the Shrew</u> |
| E) Imogen, Posthumus, Iachimo, Belarius | Answer: <u>Cymbeline</u> |

2. Answer the following about John Millington Synge, ten each.

A) Hailed as a masterpiece of one-act drama, it centers on Maurya, an old woman who has lost to the sea all the male members of her family save Bartley, her youngest. In the course of the play, he drowns.

Answer: Riders to the Sea

B) This play, where the main character Christy Mahon claims to have murdered his father only to have dad show up looking for his cowardly son, enraged Irish playgoers at its 1907 debut.

Answer: The Playboy of the Western World

C) This work, left unfinished at Synge's death, dramatized one of Celtic mythology's greatest love stories, and opened to acclaim at the Abbey Theatre in 1910.

Answer: Dierdre of the Sorrows

3. Written in 422 BCE, it satirized the litigious nature of Athenian society by putting a dog on trial for the crime of stealing a cheese. First, FTP, identify the Greek comedy in question.

Answer: Wasps or Sphinxes

F5P, who wrote *Wasps*?

Answer: Aristophanes

F15P, he is the main character of *Wasps* – a man with a passion for serving on juries. However, after his son sets up the trial of the family pooch, he gives up his jury passion for boozin'.

Answer: Philocleon

4. Identify the playwright from works, 30-20-10.

30: *Isn't it Romantic, When Dinah Shore Ruled the Earth*

20: *Any Woman Can't, The Sisters Rosenzweig*

10: *The Heidi Chronicles*

Answer: Wendy Wasserstein

5. Given the Pulitzer winning play and the year, name the author, FFPE and 30 for getting them all.

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| A) <i>Harvey</i> , 1945 | Answer: Mary <u>Chase</u> |
| B) <i>Both Your Houses</i> , 1933 | Answer: Maxwell <u>Anderson</u> |
| C) <i>Picnic</i> , 1953 | Answer: William <u>Inge</u> |
| D) <i>Driving Miss Daisy</i> , 1988 | Answer: Alfred <u>Uhry</u> |
| E) <i>J.B.</i> , 1959 | Answer: Archibald <u>MacLeish</u> |

6. Given characters from a Samuel Beckett play, identify the play, 5-10-15.

5: Vladimir, Estragon, Lefty, Pozzo

Answer: Waiting for Godot

10: Hamm, Clov, Nagg, Nell

Answer: Endgame

15: The title character, and a younger version of the same character on audio tape

Answer: Krapp's Last Tape

7. Given a plot synopsis, identify the works of August Strindberg, ten each.

A) The Captain is engaged with his hostile wife in a power struggle over the schooling of their daughter Laura. He wants to send her away – his wife is so desperate to keep Laura close she tells the Captain Laura isn't his daughter.

Answer: The Father

B) Indra's daughter arrives on earth to see if human complaints are justified. She encounters several tormented characters and becomes involved in a wrenching marriage. Only The Poet seems unaffected by the suffering.

Answer: A Dream Play

C) The title character, a young aristocrat, has an affair with her father's valet Jean. After the thrill dissipates, they realize they have little in common.

Answer: Miss Julie

8. Identify the works of Eugene Ionesco, 5-10-15.

5: Written while Ionesco was learning English, he took meaningless platitudes straight from his textbook and turned them into a conversation between two couples at the opera.

Answer: The Bald Soprano

10: Jean and Berenger are at a café when the title creature runs by. Soon the townsfolk – including Jean – begin to turn into the same creature despite Berenger's best efforts to warn them.

Answer: Rhinoceros

15: A timid professor uses the meanings he assigns to words to establish tyrannical dominance over an eager female student.

Answer: The Lesson

9. A study in hopelessness and aimlessness, the title character manages the business affairs of his worthless former brother-in-law and even tries to shoot him, to no avail. First, F5P, identify this 1897 play, the first dramatic masterpiece of Anton Chekhov.

Answer: Uncle Vanya or Dyadya Vanya

FTP, he is the man Vanya works for and tries to kill. After the shooting little changes, as neither can give up the work to which they've devoted their lives, no matter how worthless.

Answer: Setebryakov

F15P, this 1889 Chekhov work was the four-act play which he converted, largely by cutting, into the final version of Uncle Vanya.

Answer: The Wood-Demon or Leshy

10. FTSNOP, answer the following about The Importance of Being Earnest.

10: An orphan found at Victoria Station, he turns out to be the title character of the play in a sense when he learns that his name is Ernest, Algernon is his brother, and he is free to be with Gwendolen.

Answer: Jack Worthing (Accept first or last name)

15: She is Gwendolen's mother who objects to the romance because Jack is an orphan. In the end, we learn she is actually Jack's aunt.

Answer: Lady Bracknell

5: For your five point softball – who wrote The Importance of Being Earnest?

Answer: Oscar Wilde

11. Identify the Lillian Hellman work from synopsis, ten each.

A) It takes place in 1940 Washington D.C. Fanny Farrelly is awaiting the arrival of her daughter Sara and her husband Kurt, and anti-Nazi leader fleeing Germany. Another houseguest, Count Teck de Brancovis, threatens to report Kurt's location to the Germans.

Answer: Watch on the Rhine

B) Regina Giddens' two brothers want to borrow money from her rich, terminally-ill husband Horace. After attempted theft and threatened disinheritance, Regina withholds Horace's medicine and watches him die.

Answer: The Little Foxes

C) After a mild fight with the women who run her boarding school, Mary runs away and accuses the women of lesbianism. Despite proof to the contrary, the accusations close the school, end the engagement of one of the women, and drive the other to suicide.

Answer: The Children's Hour

12. Identify the playwright from works, 30-20-10.

30: *No-Good Friday, Nongogo, Dimetos*

20: *Hello and Goodbye, Boesman and Lena*

10: *"Master Harold" and the Boys, The Blood Knot*

Answer: Athol Fugard

13. Given the main female protagonist, identify the Tennessee Williams play, 5-10-20-30.

A) Amanda Wingfield

The Glass Menagerie

B) Blanche DuBois

A Streetcar Named Desire

C) Maggie

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

D) Princess Kosmonopolis

Sweet Bird of Youth

14. Identify the August Wilson play from the main character for 15 or from a synopsis for 5.

15: Tony Maxson

5: Tony still resents being forced to play in the Negro Leagues. Now an ex-con garbage man, he struggles with his emotions as his preconceived notions are challenged.

Answer: Fences

15: Boy Willie

5: Boy Willie and his sister Berniece inherit a musical instrument once traded by a white master for two of their ancestors. Berniece's refusal to sell it exorcises both the literal and figurative ghost of the slave owner.

Answer: The Piano Lesson

15. Identify the plays of noted drunkard Christopher Marlowe, ten each.

A) The title character plots the destruction of Ferneze and the other officials who seized his property, but in the end he is betrayed and dies the death he had planned for them.

Answer: The Jew of Malta

B) This play adds a significant character from Greek legend to Virgil's story: Iarbas, a barbarian chieftain who wants the title character for his bride.

Answer: Dido, Queen of Carthage

C) The title character favors Piers, while his wife plots with Mortimer to eliminate Piers. In the end, Piers dies, the title monarch dies, and the king's son avenges him.

Answer: Edward II

16. Identify these works which may or may not be related from a synopsis for ten or the author for five.
10: Tytyl and Mytyl, the son and daughter of a poor woodcutter, are sent by the Fairy Berylune to search the world for the title creature, which they find in their backyard.

5: Maurice Maeterlinck

Answer: The Blue Bird or L'Oiseau bleu

10: Richard Henry, a black man, returns to the Southern town of his birth to start a new life. Lyle Britten, a white bigot, kills him for "not knowing his place." The ensuing trial and acquittal scar the town.

5: James Baldwin

Answer: Blues for Mister Charlie

10: Chrysale is cowed by his learned wife. His sister and eldest daughter have also become pseudo-intellectuals. However, when the man whom the women admire breaks his engagement to the daughter, all ends well for Chrysale.

5: Molière

Answer: The Blue-Stockings or The Learned Ladies or Les Femmes savants

17. Identify the works of Thornton Wilder, 5-10-15.

5: It tells the story of the Gibbs and Webb families in Grover's Corners, New Hampshire.

Answer: Our Town

10: From their New Jersey living room, George and Maggie Antrobus, their promiscuous daughter Gladys, hostile son Henry, and maid Sabina face the trials of humanity, from icy destruction to flood and war.

Answer: The Skin of Our Teeth

15: Wealthy merchant Horace Vandergelder, a widower, hopes to marry Irene. He turns to his late wife's friend Dolly for help, but Dolly wants Horace herself. Hilarity ensues!

Answer: The Matchmaker

18. That crazy Neil Simon seems to pop up everywhere. Given the Academy Awards for which the movie version of a Simon play was nominated, name the play, ten each.

A) Mildred Natwick was nominated for Best Supporting Actress for her turn as Mrs. Ethel Banks.

Answer: Barefoot in the Park

B) Walter Matthau didn't win Best Actor for his turn as Willy Clark, but George Burns won Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of Al Lewis.

Answer: The Sunshine Boys

C) Maggie Smith won Best Supporting Actress for her portrayal of Diana Barrie, one of the visitors from London.

Answer: California Suite

19. Given the comedy of manners, identify the author, 5 each with a bonus 5 for getting them all.

A) The Country-Wife

Answer: William Wycherley

B) The Way of the World

Answer: William Congreve

C) The School for Scandal

Answer: Richard Sheridan

D) The Man of Mode

Answer: George Etherege

E) The Provok'd Wife

Answer: John Vanbrugh

20. Given characters, name the Edward Albee play, ten each.

A) George, Martha, Nick, Honey

Answer: Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

B) Nancy, Charlie, and two giant lizards

Answer: Seascape

C) A, B, and C

Answer: Three Tall Women