1. It begins by noting “Saturday morning, jumped out of bed and put on my best suit”. For 10 points each:  
a. Name this reggae fusion song whose chorus states “Don’t you know I’m human too?” in addition to asking “why you gotta be” the title adjective?  
Answer: “**Rude**”  
b. “Rude” is the debut single by this Canadian band. Fronted by Nasri (NOZ-ree), this band also released the single “Let Your Hair Down”.  
Answer: **Magic!**  
c. While speaking about Magic!’s influences, Nasri noted he wanted to form a modern version of this reggae-inspired rock band known for the hits “Every Breath You Take” and “Roxanne”.  
Answer: The **Police**

2. This novel’s title character is robbed while hiding a motel, forcing her to confide in her ex-boyfriend Desi. For 10 points each:  
a. Name this 2012 novel about the disappearance of Amy Dunne (‘Dunn’) and her husband Nick’s alleged involvement.  
Answer: **Gone Girl**  
b. Gone Girl is the third novel by this American author, who based the character of Nick Dunne partially on her own experiences being laid off as a writer for Entertainment Weekly.  
Answer: Gillian **Flynn**  
c. This debut novel by Gillian Flynn tells the story of Camille Preaker, a journalist who returns to her hometown to cover a series of murders.   
Answer: **Sharp Objects**

3. 2014 brought a new release in Nintendo’s Super Smash Bros series, and with it came the arrival of several new playable fighters. For 10 points each:

a. One prominent new character is this Namco creation. He appears alongside a stage based on the game in which he appears, which features power pellets and ghosts.  
Answer: **Pac-Man**  
b. Another new fighter actually consists of two different characters from this 1984 NES game. In that game, the title creatures are targeted with a light gun.  
Answer: **Duck Hunt** (accept **Duck Hunt Dog** or **Duck Hunt Duo**)  
c. This character first appeared as the star of the Wii RPG Xenoblade Chronicles. In that game, this character fights the Mechon (MECK-on) with Reyn (‘rain’), Fiora and others.  
Answer: **Shulk**

4. For 10 points each, identify things about these TV characters named Olivia.

a. Olivia Pope, played by Kerry Washington, is the main character of this series. On this series, she becomes involved in an affair with a then-candidate for President of the United States.

Answer: **Scandal**

b. Detective Olivia Benson was the long-time partner of Elliot Stabler on this long-running NBC drama, which began its 16th season in 2014.

Answer: Law & Order: **Special Victims Unit** (accept **SVU**, prompt on ‘Law & Order’)  
c. Olivia is also the title character of a children’s TV show based on a series of books by Ian Falconer. Olivia is one of these animals.  
Answer: **pig**

5. The characterization of this film’s title character as a ‘coward’ drew the ire of media pundits and veterans alike. For 10 points each:

a. Name this Clint Eastwood-directed film, based on the autobiography of former Navy SEAL Chris Kyle.

Answer: **American Sniper**

b. Among the most outspoken critics of the film, and snipers in general, was this documentarian of films like Bowling For Columbine and Sicko.

Answer: Michael **Moore**

c. American Sniper also received more playful criticism for portraying Chris Kyle’s infant son in this manner.

Answer: it was a **baby doll** (accept any answer that explains it wasn’t a real baby)

6. Animals can’t spell. Identify things about notable examples of that phenomenon, for 10 points each:

a. The blog I Can Haz Cheezburger hosts thousands of images that follow this meme, in which a certain animal is shown ostensibly communicating, usually with poor spelling and grammar.  
Answer: **LOLcats** (prompt on ‘cats’)  
b. The “infinite monkey theorem” states that given enough time, monkeys, and typewriters, they will eventually write something of substance, most frequently given as the complete works of this author.

Answer: William **Shakespeare**

c. The phrase “Eat Mor Chikin”, with the last two words misspelled, serves as a slogan for this restaurant chain. The phrase is typically “written” by cows.  
Answer: **Chik-Fil-A** (chick-fill-AY)

7. A rescinded instance of this action was said to be committed by Anthony Hitchens during a 2015 playoff game between the Lions and Cowboys. For 10 points each:  
a. Name this football infraction, which prevents a player from catching a thrown ball.  
Answer: defensive **pass interference** (prompt on ‘interference’)

b. The rescinded pass interference call in the Lions/Cowboys game occurred on a pass thrown by Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford to this tight end.  
Answer: Brandon **Pettigrew**

c. While pass interference calls in the NFL place the ball at the spot of the foul, the penalty in college and high school games can never be more than this many yards.  
Answer: **15** yards

8. It tells the story of Eren Yeager, who vows revenge against the enormous, man-eating creatures who threaten the safety of his home town. For 10 points each:  
a. Name this anime series, which began airing on Adult Swim’s Toonami block in 2014.  
Answer: **Attack on Titan**

b. Attack on Titan is based on a Hajime Isayama (ha-JEE-may EE-sigh-YA-ma) series of Japanese comic books, which are known by this term.  
Answer: **manga** (MON-ga)  
c. In Attack on Titan, Eren is joined in his quest by this girl, his adopted sister. She is considered a prodigy by the military upon joining their ranks.

Answer: **Mikasa** **Ackerman** (accept either)

9. A certain sports team owner made headlines in 2014 for all the wrong reasons. For 10 points each:

a. Name this man, who was forced to sell the Los Angeles Clippers after recordings of him making racist statements were made public.

Answer: Donald **Sterling** (accept Donald **Tokowitz**)

b. Sterling’s wife Shelly was ultimately awarded the rights to sell the Clippers to this man, who was also the CEO of Microsoft until February 2014.

Answer: Steve **Ballmer**

c. The recorded statements were part of a conversation with this woman, Sterling’s girlfriend. He expressed anger that this woman appeared in photos online with NBA Hall of Famer Magic Johnson because Johnson is African American.

Answer: V. **Stiviano**

10. For 10 points each, answer the following about Lindsey Stirling.  
a. Lindsey Stirling is best known for her performances of original and popular songs on this instrument, which she often plays while dancing.  
Answer: **violin**

b. One of Stirling’s biggest hits is a cover of the Imagine Dragons song “Radioactive”, which also featured this acapella group, who won the the third season of the reality series The Sing-Off.  
Answer: **Pentatonix** (prompt on ‘PTX’)  
c. Stirling herself is no stranger to reality competition shows, having reached the quarterfinals of the fifth season of this show, which was eventually won by Michael Grimm.  
Answer: **America’s Got Talent**

11. Every year, the Oxford English Dictionary names a “word of the year”. For 10 points each:

a. The 2014 word of the year was this one, defined as the inhalation or exhalation of the contents of an electronic cigarette.   
Answer: **vape** (accept forms such as **vaping**)

b. This three-letter word used as a term of endearment towards someone’s significant other was also on the OED’s short list. It is also the Danish word for ‘poop’.  
Answer: **bae** (‘bay’)c. Another word that appeared on the shortlist was this fashion term. It is defined as wearing bland and unfashionable clothing as a fashion statement.

Answer: **normcore**

12. For 10 points each, give the following about the 2014 American League pennant winning baseball team.

a. Name this team, whose 11-game playoff winning streak dating back to their World Series win in 1985 was snapped when they lost Game 1 of the 2014 series in Kauffman Stadium.

Answer: The Kansas City **Royals**

b. The Royals got to the World Series in part due to the glove-work and quickness of this center fielder who was the 2014 ALCS MVP.

Answer: Lorenzo **Cain**

c. The Royals hit fewer home runs than any other major league team in 2014. This left fielder led the team in homeruns with just 19.

Answer: Alex **Gordon**

13. For 10 points each, name these male actors who have received critical acclaim for playing women on screen.  
a. This actor won a Golden Globe for his portrayal of the title nanny in Mrs. Doubtfire. A sequel to Mrs. Doubtfire had been announced prior to this actor’s suicide in 2014.

Answer: Robin **Williams**

b. Edna Turnblad, one of the main characters in Hairspray, is traditionally played by a male actor. In the 2007 film version, she was played by this actor, whose other musical roles include Danny Zuko in Grease.  
Answer: John **Travolta**c. This man was nominated for a Best Actor Oscar for playing a struggling actor pretending to be a woman in 1982’s Tootsie. He has won two other oscars, for Rain Man and Kramer vs. Kramer.  
Answer: Dustin **Hoffman**

14. Identify the following villains from the X-Men comic book franchise, for 10 points each.

a. This man, born Erik Lehnsherr, debuted in the first X-Men comic book. He is the founder of the Brotherhood of Evil Mutants and is often referred to as the X-Men’s arch nemesis.  
Answer: **Magneto**b. This character is the alter-ego of Cain Marko. In addition to having superhuman strength, this character is virtually unstoppable while in motion.  
Answer: **Juggernaut**  
c. This mutant’s enormous size gives him his own gravitational pull. In the original X-Men arcade game, this character frequently shouts that “nothing moves” him.  
Answer: The **Blob**

15. This bassist for The Superfreakonomics was played by Cristin Milioti (mil-YOT-ee), though she did not appear on screen for almost eight seasons. For 10 points each:  
a. Identify this title character, the eventual love interest of Ted Mosby (MOHS-bee) on a CBS series whose controversial finale aired in May 2014.  
Answer: **Tracy** **McConnell** (accept either; accept **Tracy Mosby**; accept ‘**the mother**’, ‘**the mother from How I Met Your Mother**’ or similar)  
b. The ending of How I Met Your Mother drew the ire of many fans due in part to its handling of the relationship between Robin Scherbatsky (sher-BOT-skee) and this character, played by Neil Patrick Harris.  
Answer: **Barney** **Stinson** (accept either)

c. The very end of the series, in a callback to the pilot episode, sees Ted presenting Robin with this object, which he stole from a local restaurant.  
Answer: blue **french horn** (accept equivalents; prompt on ‘horn’)

16. For 10 points each, name these fighting game franchises:

a. Fatalities and other ultra-violent actions are a staple of this series currently produced by Netherrealm Games. Characters in this series include Sonya Blade and Sub-Zero.  
Answer: **Mortal Kombat**  
b. This series received a modern reboot as an Xbox One exclusive and started its second season in 2014. This series is known for its massive combos and combo breakers.  
Answer: **Killer Instinct**

c. Chrono Phantasma is the subtitle of the latest game in this series by Arc System Works. Ragna the Bloodedge serves as this series’ protagonist.  
Answer: **BlazBlue** (pronounced ‘blaze blue’)

17. For 10 points each, name these musicians who perform with their faces covered.  
a. This French electronic duo performs while wearing robotic outfits, though their only performance to date of “Get Lucky” was at the 2014 Grammy Awards.  
Answer: **Daft Punk**

b. This Canadian DJ typically performs wearing a large helmet. He has released the cleverly named Random Album Title and Album Title Goes Here.

Answer: **Deadmau5** (pronounced “dead mouse”; accept Joel **Zimmerman**)

c. This Iowa-based heavy metal ensemble wears grotesque masks on stage. Their album “.5: The Gray Chapter” eludes to Paul Gray, their bass player who passed away in 2010.

Answer: **Slipknot**

18. One author’s attempts to pursue success in this sport were chronicled in his book Tilting at Windmills. For 10 points each:  
a. Name this sport, governed in the US by the USPMGA. Unlike the sport that inspired it, this practice does not make use of ‘irons’ or ‘wedges’.

Answer: **miniature golf** (accept **mini golf**, **crazy golf**, **putt-putt golf** or reasonable descriptions)  
b. Another popular take on golf is this one, which uses baskets in place of holes. The objects used in this sport come in different sizes and include ‘drivers’, ‘putters’ and ‘mid-ranges’.  
Answer: **disc golf** (accept **frisbee golf**, **frolf**, or **folf**)

c. Another variant combines golf with this other game, which is often played using a stick called a ‘tang’ and discs known as ‘biscuits’.  
Answer: **shuffleboard** (accept **deck shuffleboard** or **table shuffleboard**; accept any of these answers with **shovelboard** in place of ‘shuffleboard’)

19. Name these physical activities that inexplicably became fads, for 10 points each.  
a. This action consists of lying face-down and perfectly still, often in an unusual place. A 20-year-old Australian man died attempting to perform this action on a seventh-story balcony.  
Answer: **planking** (accept the **lying down game**)  
b. This celebratory action of getting down on one knee, bowing one’s head and praying is named for a former University of Florida quarterback who did this after making big plays.  
Answer: **Tebowing** (prompt on ‘Tim Tebow’)  
c. One variant of Tebowing is this pose, in which the performer kisses his or her flexed bicep. It is named for another NFL quarterback who performed that action in a 2013 playoff game.  
Answer: **Kaepernicking** (KAP-er-nicking, prompt on ‘Colin Kaepernick’)

20. Identify these things about the film career of Mike Myers, for 10 points each.  
a. Myers may be best known for his performance as this character, a parody of James Bond, in a trilogy of films. Myers also played Dr. Evil and several other characters in the films.  
Answer: Augustine Danger “Austin” **Powers**b. Myers’ film debut was in this film, in which he plays the title TV show host and rock music enthusiast. Dana Carvey and Rob Lowe appeared as Myers’ best friend and nemesis, respectively, in the film.  
Answer: **Wayne’s World**c. Myers won the Worst Picture and Worst Actor Razzie awards for this 2008 film. Critics panned its treatment of Hinduism as well as Myers’ portrayal of the film’s title Hindu leader.  
Answer: The **Love Guru**