1. The National Board of Review gave a "Breakthrough Performance" award to 9-year-old Jacob Tremblay after his performance in this film. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this 2015 film, in which a boy and his mother are held captive in the title location. It is not to be confused with a notoriously bad 2003 film with a similar name.

ANSWER: Room [do NOT accept 'The Room']

[10] *Room* stars this actress as the boy's mother. She previously appeared in *21 Jump Street* and as Envy Adams in *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World*.

ANSWER: Brie Larson

[10] *The Room*, the aforementioned horrible film, was directed by the bizarre Tommy Wiseau [wee-ZOH]. This star of *127 Hours* will play Wiseau in the upcoming film *The Disaster Artist*.

ANSWER: James Franco

2. The Onion satirized the release of this book by suggesting its follow-up would be titled *My Excellent Caretaker Deserves My Entire Fortune*. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this novel that was surprisingly released in 2015 but written *before* another ubiquitous work featuring many of the same characters.

ANSWER: Go Set A Watchman

[10] With its release, Go Set A Watchman became the second novel by this now-deceased author of To Kill a Mockingbird.

ANSWER: Harper Lee

[10] Go Set A Watchman is centered on an adult version of this character who returns to Maycomb, Alabama after moving to New York.

ANSWER: **Scout** Finch [or **Jean** Finch; prompt on 'Finch']

3. This show's title character is a half-Gem, who fights evil alongside his roommates Garnet, Amethyst and Pearl. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this Cartoon Network series.

ANSWER: Steven Universe

[10] Steven Universe was created by this former writer for Adventure Time. She is the first woman to create a series for Cartoon Network.

ANSWER: Rebecca Sugar

[10] For one episode, *Steven Universe* crossed over with this other Cartoon Network series, whose elderly title character is accompanied by his best friend and fanny pack, Belly Bag.

ANSWER: **Uncle Grandpa**

4. There sure are a lot of obscure college football bowl games nowadays. For 10 points each: [10] In 2015, the irrelevant but awesomely named TaxSlayer Bowl pitted Georgia against this school, which is still recovering from sanctions following the Jerry Sandusky scandal.

ANSWER: **Penn State** [or **Pennsylvania State** University; prompt on 'PSU']

[10] In 2015's Pinstripe Bowl, which is played in this venue, a touchdown was fittingly scored by Indiana running back Alex Rodriguez.

ANSWER: Yankee Stadium [prompt on less specific answers like "New York City"]

[10] ESPN ranked all of 2015's upcoming bowl games, and predicted that the worst one would be the Cure Bowl, which was ultimately won by a Kenny Potter-led team from this California city.

ANSWER: San Jose [accept San Jose State]

5. Rappers like to brag about how great they are, and some of them have taken it to an absurd degree. For 10 points each:

[10] This rapper claimed he had a "condo in outer space" in his song "Goldie," which appeared on his 2013 mixtape *Long.Live.A\$AP*.

ANSWER: A\$AP **Rocky**

[10] In his debut single, Rick Ross claimed to personally know this former Panamanian dictator, who was deposed in a late 20th-century conflict. Ross later clarified that he did not know him.

ANSWER: Manuel Noriega

[10] This rapper of "I Run This," who shares his stage name with an Oscar-winning film, flaunted a certificate that he said gave him diplomatic immunity, though the word 'diplomatic' was misspelled on it.

ANSWER: **Birdman** [or **Baby** or Bryan **Williams**]

6. Less than a month after finalizing her divorce from Gavin Rossdale, this singer and TV personality began dating her co-worker, Blake Shelton. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this No Doubt vocalist who appears as a judge with Shelton on *The Voice*.

ANSWER: Gwen **Stefani** [steh-FAHN-ee]

[10] Blake Shelton is also recently divorced; his now ex-wife is this other country singer and member of Pistol Annies.

ANSWER: Miranda Lambert

[10] Before meeting Rossdale, Gwen Stefani dated No Doubt bassist Tony Kanal [kuh-NAHL]. Their breakup led her to write this hit song, in which she pleads "don't tell me, 'cause it hurts."

ANSWER: Don't Speak

7. In 2015, this game series added a racing mode by way of its SuperChargers figures. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this video game series played in part with real life toys placed on a special portal. Its previous releases include *Swap Force* and *Trap Team*.

ANSWER: Skylanders

[10] Skylanders takes place in the universe of this flying purple character, who first appeared in a video game of his own in 1998.

ANSWER: **Spyro** the Dragon

[10] This Skylanders character, who originates from a volcanic island, has appeared in multiple games in various forms, including "Lava Barf" and "Lava Lance."

ANSWER: **Eruptor**

8. Several companies have discovered the hard way that letting the internet choose something is a bad idea. For 10 points each:

[10] When Walmart held a contest to send this rapper of "Give Me Everything" to any Walmart in the U.S., voters chose the one in Kodiak, Alaska. To his credit, this rapper made the trip.

ANSWER: <u>Pitbull</u> [or Armando <u>Perez</u>]

[10] In 2016, a poll to name a British research vessel was handily won by this incredible name. Despite the poll, it was tragically named after David Attenborough instead.

ANSWER: **Boaty McBoatface**

[10] When this environmental group opened a poll to name a whale it tagged in 2007, 87% of voters chose the name "Mister Splashy Pants."

ANSWER: Greenpeace

9. Breaking already high expectations, this album sold a record three million copies in its first week in the U.S. alone. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this 2015 album, whose first single notes "I must've called a thousand times."

ANSWER: 25

[10] 25, which features that single, "Hello," is the third album by this British singer.

ANSWER: **Adele Adkins** [accept either]

[10] In this early hit, Adele insists "this ain't lust, I know this is love" before asking "should I give up?"

ANSWER: Chasing Pavements

10. For 10 points each, name these TV shows whose stars performed their theme songs: [10] This 1990's series centered a man who was "West Philadelphia, born and raised" before

being sent to live with his Uncle Phil and cousin Carlton in the title location.

ANSWER: The Fresh Prince of Bel Air

[10] The theme of this 1970's sitcom about a family formed by two single parents who each had three kids was sung by the show's young actors, including Christopher Knight and Susan Olsen.

ANSWER: The **Brady Bunch**

[10] Though the star of this police show wanted Randy Travis to sing its theme song, its producers insisted that the job be handled by the star himself. That star was Chuck Norris.

ANSWER: Walker, Texas Ranger

11. Though the makers of a certain energy drink paid out millions due to a false advertising suit in 2014, it had nothing to do with its consumers' lack of these objects. For 10 points each:

[10] Name these objects that Red Bull does not actually give you.

ANSWER: wings

[10] Wings can be added to goombas, Kuribo's shoes, and various platforming elements while building levels in this 2015 video game.

ANSWER: Super Mario Maker

[10] The Dallas Wings will begin their first season in the WNBA in 2016 after moving from this other city, where they were known as the Shock.

ANSWER: **Tulsa**, Oklahoma

12. For 10 points each, name these film festivals:

[10] The Palme D'or ["palm door"] is awarded to the best film at this festival held in a namesake city in southeast France.

ANSWER: **Cannes** ["can"] Film Festival [or **Festival de Cannes**]

[10] Robert Redford helped found this Utah festival, which is named for a character he played in a 1969 western film.

ANSWER: **Sundance** Film Festival

[10] Another consistently massive festival, abbreviated TIFF, is held annually in this North American city.

ANSWER: Toronto [accept Toronto International Film Festival]

13. For 10 points each, name these basketball teams who had incredibly long win streaks:

[10] John Wooden coached this collegiate team to 88 straight wins over a span of three years in the 1970's.

ANSWER: <u>UCLA</u> [or <u>University of California Los Angeles</u>]

[10] That record was beaten in 2010 when this women's team reached 90 straight wins. Players during that span included Maya Moore and Tina Charles.

ANSWER: University of **Connecticut** [or **UConn**]

[10] Those streaks are hot garbage compared to this non-professional team, who once went 24 years without losing a game. Some sources claim the streak reached over 8,000 games.

ANSWER: Harlem Globetrotters

14. Actress Eliza Dushku sought this action so she could work the necessary hours on multiple films without violating child labor laws. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this action, by which a child ceases to be the responsibility of his or her parents.

ANSWER: emancipation

[10] Following years of alleged abuse from her mother, this actress who plays the middle child Alex on *Modern Family* was granted emancipation in 2015.

ANSWER: Ariel Winter

[10] This member of a long-time acting family, who struggled with drug addiction in her pre-teen years, was emancipated at the age of 15. In 2015, she co-starred in *Miss You Already*.

ANSWER: Drew **Barrymore** [prompt on partial answers]

15. This TV personality briefly hosted the documentary series *Caught on Camera* and released a rap album titled *White People Party Music*. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this man, who also hosts America's Got Talent.

ANSWER: Nick Cannon

[10] Nick Cannon has a recurring role on this comedy series as Marcus, the boyfriend of Rosa Diaz and nephew of Captain Raymond Holt.

ANSWER: **Brooklyn Nine-Nine**

[10] Cannon is also the namesake of this improv comedy series that currently airs on MTV2. Its original run featured then-unknown cast members Kevin Hart and Taran Killam.

ANSWER: Nick Cannon Presents: Wild 'n Out

16. First-person shooters tend to be very similar, but some weapons have become iconic over time. For 10 points each:

[10] Among the most memorable melee weapons in FPS's is this metal tool wielded by Gordon Freeman in the *Half-Life* series.

ANSWER: crowbar

[10] The cerebral bore, which drills into foes' brains, is seen in multiple games featuring this character known as the "dinosaur hunter."

ANSWER: Turok

[10] This colorful weapon appears in most James Bond games and is generally extremely

ANSWER: Golden Gun

17. For 10 points each, name these things related to eating an unnecessary amount of hot dogs:

[10] Every July 4th, a hot dog eating contest is held in this inaccurately named part of Brooklyn, New York City. The contest is governed by Major League Eating.

ANSWER: **Coney Island**

[10] The contest is sponsored by this hot dog manufacturer, whose namesake founder opened the first of its locations on Coney Island in 1916.

ANSWER: Nathan's Famous, Inc.

[10] Before losing to Matt Stonie in 2015, this professional eater had won eight straight Nathan's Contests. Among his horrifying eating records is his 141 hard-boiled eggs in eight minutes. ANSWER: Joey "Jaws" **Chestnut** [prompt on 'Jaws']

18. The last week of October 2015 was a trying one for fans of Minnesota-based sports teams. For 10 points each:

[10] It began with the news that Flip Saunders, the coach and president of this local team, had died of Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

ANSWER: Minnesota **Timberwolves**

[10] The next day, this long-time Minnesota Twins outfielder announced his retirement. He wore the number 48 jersey with the Twins, as well as with the Angels and Tigers.

ANSWER: Torii Hunter

[10] Two days after Hunter retired, this coach of the Minnesota Golden Gophers' football team abruptly retired out of health concerns related to his epilepsy.

ANSWER: Jerry Kill

19. For 10 points each, name these things related to a certain shape in rock music:

[10] Tool's Maynard James Keenan also fronts a band named for a "perfect" variety of this shape. That band's hits include "Weak and Powerless" and "Judith."

ANSWER: circles [accept A Perfect Circle]

[10] Singer Lauren Mayberry exclaims "here's to never-ending circles" on the opening song of this band's 2015 album *Every Open Eye*.

ANSWER: **Chyrches** [pronounced "churches"]

[10] This band's singer Brandon Boyd asks "what would it mean to you?" in its song "Circles." They are better known for the songs "Drive" and "Megalomaniac."

ANSWER: Incubus

20. This website gets its name from the practice of throwing a certain food item during a poor performance. For 10 points each:

[10] "Name this website that aggregates movie and TV reviews. Consistently positive reviews on this site lead to a film or show to be "certified fresh."

ANSWER: Rotten Tomatoes

[10] A film on Rotten Tomatoes is deemed "rotten" if less than this percentage of its reviews are positive.

ANSWER: 60 percent

[10] Of all the films with a 0% rating on the site, the one with the most reviews is *Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever*, which co-starred this Asian-American actress that voiced Master Viper in *Kung Fu Panda*.

ANSWER: Lucy Liu