

2021 WORKSHOP: How did I never notice that your username is Santa Claus and mine is reindeer?

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Tiebreakers

Tossups

1. *Description acceptable.* **Anthony Kenny noted that this claim is vulnerable to its author’s own argument against Descartes, which imagines sticking a nail into a rotating wheel. A book ends by illustrating this claim with a story in which a goddess guides Theodorus to the top hall of an infinite pyramid. The “indifference of equipoise” is denied in the argument for this claim, which includes a premise that Alvin Plantinga called its author’s “lapse.” The *Discourse on Metaphysics* uses the phrase (*) “simplest in hypotheses and richest in phenomena” to clarify this claim. This tenet of “philosophical optimism” is defended with the principle of sufficient reason in *Théodicée* (“tay-oh-dee-SAY”). For 10 points, Voltaire’s *Candide* mocks what idea of Gottfried Leibniz, which holds that God created the ideal universe?**

ANSWER: we live in the **best** of all possible **worlds** [or anything about God creating the **best** or a **perfect world**; accept **universe** in place of “world” until “universe” is read; accept Gottfried **Leibniz**’s **optimism** until “optimism” is read; prompt on philosophical **optimism** until “optimism” is read; prompt on **theodicy** until “*Théodicée*” is read; prompt on answers about **God existing** or the world being **just** or **good**]

<JB, Philosophy>

2. **Upon the arrival of a king from this region, Nero ordered that the Theatre of Pompey be gilded and covered with purple awnings. The Treaty of Rhandeia was signed following a conflict that featured this kingdom’s invasion of Adiabene and its subsequent invasion by Vologases I. This is the northernmost of the three kingdoms whose throne was awarded by Mark Antony to his son, Alexander Helios. Lucius (*) Lucullus besieged the capital of this kingdom after its ruler refused to give up Mithridates VI of Pontus. Saints Thaddeus and Bartholomew are considered the founders of the Apostolic Church of this kingdom’s ethnicity. For 10 points, the Artaxiad king Tigranes the Great ruled what kingdom, the first to accept Christianity as its state religion?**

ANSWER: Kingdom of **Armenia** [or **Havastan**; accept Roman **Armenia**, Greater **Armenia**, Lesser **Armenia**, **Armenia** Minor, or **Armenia** Inferior]

<KT, Ancient History>

3. **The original version of this poem remarked that “the bitter cup at first was given / When angry justice frowned severe,” though that line was scrapped along with four opening quatrains. This poem conjures images of “breathless darkness” and the “narrow house” to ask readers to listen to the “still voice” from “the depths of air.” The readers of this poem will be brothers to the (*) “insensible rock,” but “patriarchs of the infant world” and “hoary seers of ages past” will be their company. The narrator of this poem tells the addressee to “pierce the Barcan wilderness” and to appear to “[lie] down to pleasant dreams.” This poem begins, “to him who in the love of Nature holds / Communion.” For 10 points, name this poem by William Cullen Bryant, a meditation on death.**

ANSWER: “**Thanatopsis**”

<PS, American Literature>

4. **Green and Gerber co-authored a book about “how to increase” this measure based on their experiments in the New Haven area. Mark Franklin has compared the low values of this measure in Switzerland and its high values in Malta, where it may be bolstered by the use of an STV system. Typical values of this measure are too high to be consistent with rational decision-making according to Downs’ paradox. High values of this measure in (*) Australia are often used to argue for adopting a “compulsory” policy in the U.S. Michael McDonald has disputed the “myth” of decline in this measure since 1972, arguing that it’s been deflated by an increasing felon**

population. Strict ID laws may depress, and G.O.T.V. efforts aim to increase, for 10 points, what measure of election participation?

ANSWER: voter **turnout** rate [or descriptive answers like the number of **votes** cast or the number of **voters**; prompt on political participation]

<EL, Social Science>

5. **This nation's largest city is allegedly home to a thin, three-foot-tall gray humanoid with orange-red eyes called that city's "Tunnel Monster." The Ark of the Covenant is said to be located in a so-called "money pit" on this nation's Oak Island. Ka-Ki-Si-Kutchin was executed in this country after killing and eating his family while ostensibly suffering from a namesake (*) "psychosis" inflicted by a forest creature. A folk tale from this country involving a flying canoe is based on the real-life activities of *voyageurs* who transported furs through locales such as the Hayes River and Thunder Bay. For 10 points, name this country, the northernmost nation in which Sasquatch is typically sighted.**

ANSWER: **Canada** (Ka-Ki-Si-Kutchin is also known as Swift Runner.)

<KT, CE/Geo/Other>

6. **Apollo criticized users of these objects as *polloi thrioboloi* who lacked more effective means for prophecy. The bee maidens from the *Hymn to Hermes* are often conflated with the Thriae, a trio of nymphs who name a form of these objects used for divination. One of these objects was placed where the path of two eagles met. The tripod of the Delphic oracle was placed near one of these objects thought to be the (*) navel of the world, which had been guarded by Python. After being told to throw the bones of their mother, Pyrrha and Deucalion threw these objects over their shoulders and created humans. One of these objects called the *omphalos* was swallowed by Kronos instead of the infant Zeus. For 10 points, name these objects, one of which Sisyphus is condemned to forever roll up a hill.**

ANSWER: **rocks** [or synonyms like **stones**, **pebbles**, or **boulders**; accept *omphalos* until read; prompt on *thriai* or *thriae* until read]

<KT, Mythology>

7. **In *Weinberger v. UOP, Inc.*, the Delaware Supreme Court established circumstances in which these people can have a legal duty to another group of these people. These people were the purported victims in a failed 2019 case against Exxon Mobil by the New York Attorney General, alleging that the company lied about climate change risk. Directors can be replaced when these people launch a (*) "proxy fight" using their voting power. The number of these people increases sharply after an IPO, and their "primacy" was argued for in *Capitalism and Freedom*. For 10 points, Milton Friedman argued that a corporation's main responsibility is to maximize returns for what group of people, who may gain this status after purchasing shares on a stock exchange?**

ANSWER: **shareholders** [or **stockholders**; accept minority or majority **shareholders**; accept **investors**; prompt on equity owners]

<JK, Social Science>

8. **Early theories of this concept had it pass through five realms; later, differentiating between gods and demigods made six. A visual motif that represents this concept contains a hub with three animals and an outer ring composed of twelve links. Representations of this concept called Bhavacakra are placed on the outside of Tibetan temples. Practicing dhyana can calm the mind and help overcome this concept. This concept, which is considered dukkha, can be escaped with the help of (*) Bodhisattvas. This concept is perpetuated by bad karma and the goal of the Four Noble Truths is to end it. For 10 points, name this cycle of suffering and reincarnation that is escaped by reaching Nirvana.**

ANSWER: **samsara** [prompt on suffering, reincarnation, living, or dying by asking "what overarching concept is that is part of?"]

<AT, Religion>

Bonuses

1. The 2013 animated film *The Tale of Princess Kaguya* featured art and backgrounds largely done in this medium to provide it with a flowing, realistic appearance. For 10 points each:

[10m] Name this medium, also used by Hayao Miyazaki to illustrate storyboards and concept art. This medium features a wide range of hues, in contrast to the more traditional *sumi-e* (“soo-mee-EH”).

ANSWER: **watercolor**

[10h] *The Tale of Princess Kaguya* was this man’s last feature as director, fourteen years after his prior film, *My Neighbors the Yamadas*. This longtime director of Studio Ghibli (“JIB-lee”) passed away from lung cancer in 2018.

ANSWER: Isao **Takahata**

[10e] Takahata’s best-known work, *Grave of the Fireflies*, tells the story of two children struggling to survive after an air raid during this war. Ghibli’s *The Wind Rises* is about an aircraft designer living through this war.

ANSWER: **World War II** [or the **Second World War**]

<VB, Other Arts>

2. In Joshua Angrist’s paper estimating the effects of the Vietnam Draft Lottery on lifetime earnings, this measure was obtained by using draft lottery numbers as an instrumental variable. For 10 points each:

[10h] Name this measure of the treatment effect for the “compliers,” or the subpopulation that receives the treatment if and only if they are assigned to the treatment.

ANSWER: **LATE** [or **local average treatment effect**; accept **complier average causal effect** or **CACE**]

[10m] A common assumption needed to obtain a LATE is this one, which rules out the existence of “defiers.” Preferences that have a property with this name satisfy the dictum that “more is better.”

ANSWER: **monotonicity** [accept **monotonic** or **monotone** or any of these preceded by “weak” or “strong”]

[10e] LATE is an econometric tool used to solve the “identification problem” of estimating effects with this property. Statistics lecturers often emphasize that this property is not implied by mere correlation.

ANSWER: **causation** [or **causal** effect]

<CSI, Social Science>

3. This author created a protagonist who thinks he is a failure compared to Columbus but says, “Columbus too thought he was a flop, probably... which didn’t prove there was no America.” For 10 points each:

[10e] Name this American author who wrote about “an American, Chicago-born” in *The Adventures of Augie March*.

ANSWER: Saul **Bellow** [or Solomon **Bellows**]

[10h] In the opening lines of *The Adventures of Augie March*, Augie claims he will be “first to [do this action], first admitted” and “there isn’t any way to disguise the nature of [this action] by acoustical work.”

ANSWER: **knocking** on the door

[10m] *The Adventures of Augie March* is part of this genre, which is characterized by its roguish hero and satirical take on his escapades. The first work in this genre is usually considered to be *The Life of Lazarillo de Tormes*.

ANSWER: **picaresque** novel

<AD, American Literature>

4. This concept names an approach to philosophy centered on “homo melancholicus,” which was introduced by the Nigerian thinker Ada Agada. For 10 points each:

[10m] Name this ancient Roman genre addressed to mourners. This is the first title concept of a book in which the imprisoned author discusses topics like fortune, divine prescience, and the problem of evil with an allegorical Lady.

ANSWER: **consolation** [or **consolatio**; accept **consolation** philosophy, **consolatory** oratory, or *The Consolation of Philosophy*]

[10e] In *The Consolation of Philosophy*, Boethius compares God’s governance to a part of this sort of object. Plato compared the state to one of these objects, and one belonging to Theseus is the subject of an identity paradox.

ANSWER: **ships** [or **boats**; accept **rudder** or **helm**; prompt on vessel]

[10h] Several of the “moral” works of this type by this author are in the *consolatio* genre. Robin Campbell translated Penguin Classics’ popular selection of these works by this author, which often rail against crowds and public baths.

ANSWER: **letters** of **Seneca** the Younger [accept **epistles** or **epistulae** in place of “letters”; prompt on Letters from a Stoic or Epistulae Morales ad Lucilium or Moral Letters to Lucilius]

<JB, Philosophy>

5. This playwright escalated the “War of the Theatres” by satirizing both John Marston and Thomas Dekker in his play *Cynthia’s Revels*. For 10 points each:

[10m] Name this playwright who created the clown Clove, who speaks “fustian” to mock Marston’s style. In a play by this author, Winwife tries to win the hand of Dame Purecraft.

ANSWER: Ben **Jonson**

[10e] Clove appears in *Every Man Out of His Humour*, which has allusions to this Shakespeare play that date it to 1599. Carlo Buffone’s cry of “Et tu, Brute!” quotes this play’s title character.

ANSWER: **Julius Caesar**

[10h] Thomas Dekker continued the “War of the Theatres” by portraying Jonson as an egotistical Roman poet named Horace in this play. This play is subtitled “The Untrussing of the Humorous Poet.”

ANSWER: **Satiromastix**

<FW, British Literature>