

TAILS: TAG Academic Introductory Level Set 2020-2021

Edited by Alistair Gray. Written by Jonathan Farner, Jaik Havlick, Georgia Leakey, Ketan Pamurthy, Akhil Peddikuppa, Jonathan Singer, Andrew Volney, Cooper Wilk, and Jisoo Yoo

Packet 4

1. In a story by this author, Grete (GREH-tuh) plays the violin with dreams of getting into the conservatory, and the main character's father wounds him by throwing an apple at him. That story by this author is about a salesman who is transformed into a (*) "monstrous vermin", Gregor Samsa. For ten points, name this German-language author of "The Metamorphosis," as well as the novels *The Castle* and *The Trial*.

ANSWER: Franz **Kafka**

<Short Fiction - Yoo>

1. Answer some questions about country music. For ten points each:

[M] This woman is arguably the most famous female country artist. Songs from her 51 studio albums include "Jolene" and "Nine to Five."

ANSWER: Dolly **Parton** [prompt on **Dolly**]

[H] This other classic country music star has also become a symbol of the genre with his songs "On the Road Again" and "Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain."

ANSWER: Willie **Nelson**

[E] The country music industry is mostly centered in this state, where the Country Music Hall of Fame is located in the city of Nashville. Other major cities in this state include Knoxville and Memphis.

ANSWER: **Tennessee**

<Popular Culture - Havlick>

2. The Downs process produces this element, which also names a "doublet" found in Fraunhofer (FROWN-hoh-fur) lines. This second-lightest alkali metal produces an intense yellow color in a flame test. This element's carbonate is called soda ash, while its bicarbonate is known as baking soda. High concentrations of this element and (*) chlorine make ocean water undrinkable. For ten points, name this element with symbol Na, which binds with chlorine to make table salt.

ANSWER: **sodium** [accept **Na**]

<Chemistry - Pamurthy>

2. This figure was among the first rulers of a larger and unified India. For ten points each:

[H] Name this first great king of India. He came in contact with Seleucus (seh-LOO-siss) I and became a Jain upon his abdication.

ANSWER: **Chandragupta** Maurya

[E] Chandragupta was able to conquer much of India by weaponizing these large animals, 500 of which he gifted to Seleucus. These tusked animals were also minted on some Indian coins.

ANSWER: **elephants**

[M] This man was Chandragupta's grandson. He also receded into a religious life upon his abdication, becoming a Buddhist. This leader ordered several of his proclamations in his Rock Edicts.

ANSWER: **Ashoka** the Great

<Ancient History - Havlick>

3. **The second movement of this composer's last symphony is called a "limping waltz" because of its 5/4 time signature. In one of the three ballets that this composer wrote during his life, the character Odette is actually a disguised Odile, who later gets turned into the title (*) bird by Von Rothbart.** For ten points, name this Russian composer of the *Pathetique Symphony*, *Swan Lake*, and the *1812 Overture*.

ANSWER: Peter Ilyich **Tchaikovsky** [or Pyotr Ilyich **Tchaikovsky**]

<Auditory Fine Arts - Leakey>

3. Karst topography often has sinkholes and these structures. For ten points each:

[E] Name these underground open chambers formed by rock dissolution. The ceilings and floors of these locations often display icicle-like formations formed by dripping water.

ANSWER: **caves** [or **caverns**]

[H] Dripping water in caves can form these two kinds of structures, mineral deposits found on the ceilings and floors of caves. Name both.

ANSWER: **stalactites** AND **stalagmites** [accept answers in either order]

[M] The most common form of stalactites and stalagmites are speleothems, which are primarily made of this rock. This rock contains large amounts of calcite and other forms of calcium carbonate.

ANSWER: **limestone**

<Other Science - Pamurthy>

4. **In its own language, this empire's name refers to the four quarters, or suyus, it was divided into. A system of knotted strings, known as quipus (KEE-poos), was used in this empire for administration and record keeping. Pachacuti founded this empire by expanding it from its capital of (*) Cusco in modern Peru.** For ten points, what South American civilization centered around the Andes Mountains built Machu Picchu?

ANSWER: the **Incan** Empire [or the **Incas** or **Tawantinsuyu**]

<World History - Gray>

4. The Constitution and Declaration of Independence were both signed in this city, which was the de facto early capital of the United States. For ten points each:

[E] Name this city, whose Independence Hall was the site of many important events in early American history. This city is the most populous in Pennsylvania.

ANSWER: **Philadelphia**

[M] This iconically cracked bell was long hung in the steeple of Independence Hall in Philadelphia, and is said to have been rung to commemorate the reading of the Declaration of Independence.

ANSWER: the **Liberty** Bell

[H] Before the building of Washington DC, American congresses met elsewhere. This city in New York was the site of a 1754 convention about the French and Indian War that served as precursor to many later congresses.

ANSWER: **Albany** [or the **Albany** Congress]

<US Geography - Gray>

5. **One building in this city is home to six captive ravens, which are said to guard the security of the nation. Piccadilly Circus is located in this city's West End. This city, home to landmarks such as Trafalgar Square and Hyde Park, also contains the Tower Bridge, which crosses the River (*) Thames.** For ten points, what city, home to Buckingham Palace and the British Museum, is the capital of the United Kingdom?

ANSWER: **London** [accept **City of London**]

<World Geography - Havlick>

5. A handwritten postscript in this novella that reads “Exterminate all the brutes!” is added to a report commissioned by the International Society for the Suppression of Savage Customs. For ten points each:

[H] Name this novella. Charles Marlow narrates this novella from a boat called *Nellie* and tells about his obsession with Kurtz, a successful ivory trader.

ANSWER: **Heart of Darkness**

[E] *Heart of Darkness* describes Marlow’s journey up the Congo River into the Congo Free State in this continent. Chinua Achebe, a Nigerian novelist from this continent, criticized the racist themes of *Heart of Darkness* in a lecture titled “An Image of [this continent].”

ANSWER: **Africa**

[M] In “An Image of Africa,” Achebe called this author of *Heart of Darkness* a “bloody racist.”

ANSWER: Joseph **Conrad**

<Long Fiction - Yoo>

6. **Random mating and no migration are two of five conditions that will prevent this process if all met, by the Hardy-Weinberg Principle. The convergent form of this process involves unrelated species developing similar traits. Studying the beaks of finches in the Galapagos prompted (*)** Charles Darwin to theorize this process. For ten points, what process is characterized by changes in a species over generations ?

ANSWER: **evolution** [accept **speciation** until “convergent”]

<Biology - Pamurthy>

6. The term “Parsi” refers to followers of this religion in India. For ten points each:

[H] Name this monotheistic Pre-Abrahamic religion from ancient Persia whose founding text is the Avesta. This religion’s adherents believe that Ahura Mazda is the supreme being.

ANSWER: **Zoroastrianism** [accept **Mazdayasna**]

[M] A list of 101 of these things is a central concept in Zoroastrianism. The tetragrammaton is the four-letter Hebrew one of these words, usually articulated as Yahweh or Jehovah.

ANSWER: **names of God**

[E] During these ceremonies in Zoroastrianism, the two participants sprinkle cups of rice on each other for good luck. During these ceremonies, a priest blesses the bond between the bride and the groom.

ANSWER: **weddings** [or **marriage**]

<Religion - Yoo>

7. **During this battle, one side attempted to take over Gloucester (GLOSS-ter) Point. The winning side in this battle was aided by the fleet and troops of the Comte de Grasse and the Comte de Rochambeau (row-SHAM-bow). At the end of this battle, the losing side reportedly played the tune "The (*) World Turned Upside Down."** For ten points, name this battle in which Charles Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington, the final battle of the American Revolution.

ANSWER: Battle of **Yorktown** [or the siege of **Yorktown**]

<US History - Volney>

7. Cubical knucklebones are thought to be precursors to these things' use in gambling. For ten points each:
[E] Name these things which are rolled to generate "random" numbers in many board games. The most commonly-used one of these things is shaped like a cube with one to six pips on each side.

ANSWER: **dice** [or **die**]

[M] Dice with four, six, eight, ten, twelve, and twenty sides are used in this tabletop role-playing game. For example, combat initiative in the fifth edition of this game is the sum of one's Dexterity ability modifier and a "d20" roll.

ANSWER: **Dungeons and Dragons** [or **DND** or **D and D**; accept **Advanced Dungeons and Dragons**]

[H] Many dice are shaped like regular polyhedra. The d4 has the shape of this simplest Platonic solid, which has four faces, six edges, and four corners.

ANSWER: **tetrahedron** [accept equilateral **triangular pyramid**; prompt on **pyramid**]

<Other Academic - Gray>

8. **Projects Blue Book, Sign, and Grudge were studies of these things conducted by the U.S. Air Force. A supposed discovery of one of these things in Roswell, New Mexico was passed off as a weather balloon by the military. These objects that supposedly make (*) crop circles are rumored to be studied at Area 51.** For ten points, name these unexplainable aerial phenomena often attributed to alien activity and described as flying saucers.

ANSWER: **UFOs** [accept **Unidentified Flying Objects**; prompt on **flying saucers**; prompt on alien **spacecraft** or logical equivalents; prompt on weather **balloons** until mention]

<Mythology - Yoo>

8. This character teases Cherubino about having to leave his loose lifestyle to join the military in the aria "Non piu andrai." For ten points each:

[H] Name this character, whose name is repeated in the aria "Largo al Factotum." This man is the title Barber of Seville in a work by Gioachino (joh-KEE-noh) Rossini, and Mozart composed *The Marriage of* [this man].

ANSWER: **Figaro**

[M] *The Barber of Seville* and *The Marriage of Figaro* are both comic examples of this type of musical composition. These works of classical music typically contain speech-like recitatives and often high-pitched singing arias.

ANSWER: **opera** [accept comic **opera** or **opera buffa**]

[E] In another opera by Rossini, *William Tell*, the title character must perform this action at an apple sitting on his son's head. Robin Hood is also extremely proficient at performing this action.

ANSWER: **shooting an arrow** [accept logical equivalents to **using a bow and arrow** or **using a crossbow**]

<Auditory Fine Arts - Pamurthy>

9. **A character in this novel learns German from Professor Bhaer (BAY-er), who criticizes her for writing romance stories for newspapers. At the beginning of this novel, the protagonists' mother convinces them to give their Christmas breakfast to a poor family. In this novel, (*) Laurie gets his heart broken by Jo and eventually marries Amy after Beth's death.** For ten points, name this novel about the title daughters of Marmee, by Louisa May Alcott.

ANSWER: **Little Women**

<Long Fiction - Yoo>

9. For ten points each, answer some questions about the health benefits of laughter.

[E] Laughter decreases levels of stress hormones, such as cortisol and this hormone, also known as epinephrine. A rush of this hormone which mediates the “fight or flight” response is created by heightened emotions.

ANSWER: **adrenaline**

[M] An hour of laughter can burn up to 100 calories because it involves contraction of this muscle. This abdominal muscle’s contraction increases the thorax and therefore inflates the lungs.

ANSWER: **diaphragm**

[H] Laughter is indeed the best medicine, because it decreases stress by increasing levels of these hormones. These hormones which reduce pain and boost pleasure are released through exercise.

ANSWER: **endorphins**

<Biology - Pamurthy>

10. **The Homestake experiment studied this object to detect its emission of neutrinos. The SOHO spacecraft gathered data on areas of reduced temperature on the surface of this object. This object that continuously emits charged particles known as its (*) “wind” can experience sudden flashes of brightness known as “flares.”**

For ten points, name this object at the center of the solar system, the closest star to Earth.

ANSWER: the **sun** [or **Sol**; accept **solar** wind or **solar** flares]

<Other Science - Pamurthy>

10. The Thermidorian Reaction was a coup that took place during this larger conflict. For ten points each:

[E] Name this period of political instability that included the Reign of Terror. This period also included the executions of Louis XVI and his wife Marie Antoinette, along with the establishment of the first Paris Commune.

ANSWER: **French Revolution** [or **Révolution française**]

[H] This leader in the French Revolution was overthrown in the Thermidorian Reaction. His Committee of Public Safety unleashed the Reign of Terror on France.

ANSWER: Maximilian **Robespierre**

[M] Executions during the French Revolution, including those of Louis XVI and his wife, were often done using this device invented during the revolution. Its slanted blade makes it especially good at beheading.

ANSWER: **guillotine**

<European History - Havlick>

11. **This company develops a dialect of PHP named Hack. The Winklevoss twins sued this company early on for intellectual property theft. This company’s co-founder Eduardo Saverin was diluted out of the company, as depicted in *The (*) Social Network*. This company went under fire when it was revealed it sold user data to Cambridge Analytica. For ten points, name this social media company founded by Mark Zuckerberg.**

ANSWER: **Facebook**

<Other Academic - Pamurthy>

11. A poem about this conflict ends by describing “The old Lie: *Dulce et decorum est / Pro patria mori*” and takes its title from the *Odes* of the Roman poet Horace. For ten points each:

[E] Name this early 20th century conflict. Siegfried Sassoon wrote poems like “Counter-Attack” about the violent gas weapons and trench warfare that characterized this “Great War.”

ANSWER: **World War I** [accept **WWI**; accept **First World War**; prompt on **Great War**]

[H] Sassoon’s works largely influenced this English author’s poetry. This author of “Dulce et Decorum Est” and “Anthem for Doomed Youth” wrote poems based on his personal experiences as a soldier in the war.

ANSWER: Wilfred **Owen**

[M] This novel by Erich Maria Remarque set during the first World War centers on Paul Baumer and his experiences as a German soldier. Its title refers to a headline on a newspaper at the novel’s end.

ANSWER: ***All Quiet on the Western Front***

<Mixed Literature - Yoo>

12. A sandwich originating in this city typically involves fried seafood served on top of a loaf of French bread and is called the Po’ Boy. The beignet (ben-YAY) purveyor Cafe Du Monde is on this city’s Bourbon Street. Jambalaya and gumbo are characteristic of this city’s (*) Creole and Cajun-influenced cuisine. The French Quarter is located in, for ten points, what city central to the Mississippi River Delta in Louisiana?

ANSWER: **New Orleans**

<US Geography - Volney/Gray>

12. The Michelson-Morley experiment provided strong evidence against the luminiferous aether, which led to the development of this theory. For ten points each:

[H] Name this theory that describes the relationship between space and time. In this theory, Lorentz transformations have many consequences including length contraction and time dilation.

ANSWER: **special relativity** [prompt on **relativity**]

[E] This scientist developed special and general relativity, along with the equation $E = mc^2$.

ANSWER: Albert **Einstein**

[M] Special relativity also predicted the relativistic and transverse forms of this effect. An example of this effect is the change in pitch of a siren approaching and receding from an observer.

ANSWER: **Doppler** effect

<Physics - Pamurthy>

13. During this ruler’s reign, the Iceni (ee-KAY-nee) tribe rose in revolt, led by Boudicca. This emperor forced his Stoic tutor, Seneca, to commit suicide before his family. This man’s mother, Agrippina, dominated his decisions until he had her killed off. This last emperor of the Julio-Claudian dynasty is said to have blamed Christians for the Great (*) Fire of Rome. For ten points, what emperor is said to have played the violin as Rome burned?

ANSWER: **Nero** [or **Nero** Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus]

<Ancient History - Peddikuppa>

13. This thinker introduced his idea of the categorical imperative in his *Groundworks on the Metaphysics of Morals*. For ten points each:

[H] Name this thinker whose works in epistemology and aesthetics made him a central figure in the Enlightenment. This philosopher's doctrine of transcendental idealism can be found throughout his *Critique of Pure Reason*.

ANSWER: Immanuel **Kant**

[E] Kant was a philosopher from this country. Martin Heidegger, another philosopher from this country, had deep ties with this country's Nazi party.

ANSWER: **Germany** [accept **Deutschland**]

[M] Kant's deontological theory in this field is based on the idea that nothing is "good without limitation" besides a good will. This field concerns the moral principles that govern human behavior.

ANSWER: **ethics**

<Other Academic - Yoo>

14. **An acid containing this element along with oxygen and hydrogen is combined with hydrochloric acid to make aqua regia. This element bonds with carbon to form cyanide, and ammonia consists of three hydrogen atoms bonded to this element. The liquid form of this element is frequently used as a (*) refrigerant.** The most common element in the atmosphere is, for ten points, what element with atomic number 7 and symbol N?

ANSWER: **nitrogen** [accept **N**]

<Other Science - Pamurthy>

14. This sea is home to the Greater Antilles. For ten points each:

[E] Name this sea, the location of beach destinations like the Cayman Islands and Saint Kitts. The Bahamas lie just north of this sea, which is bounded by South America on the South and Central America on the west.

ANSWER: **Caribbean** Sea

[M] This is the second-largest island in the Greater Antilles. This island was the site of the first settlement in the Americas, La Navidad, and it is currently split between Haiti and the Dominican Republic

ANSWER: **Hispaniola** [or La **Española**]

[H] This other island nation of the Greater Antilles had its capital at Port Royal until that city sunk into the ocean. This is the only country in the world without red, white, or blue on its flag.

ANSWER: **Jamaica** [accept **Xaymaca**]

<World Geography - Havlick>

15. **In one painting by this artist, spindly trees frame three swans whose reflections mimic elephants. This artist depicted Port Lligat in a work depicting a Catalonian beach that features ants crawling on an orange stopwatch in the bottom corner, as well as melting (*) clocks draped over the landscape.** For ten points, name this Spanish Surrealist artist who painted *The Persistence of Memory*.

ANSWER: Salvador **Dalí** [or Salvador Felipe Jacinto **Dali** y Domenech]

<Visual Fine Arts - Leakey>

15. The half-brother of this country's leader was assassinated in the Kuala Lumpur airport in 2017. For ten points each:

[E] Name this country, led by the hereditary Kim family dictatorship. Its capital city, Pyongyang, is home to Juche (joo-chay) Tower, built by its first leader, Kim Il-Sung.

ANSWER: **North Korea** [or the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**]

[M] This is the current leader of North Korea, who took power after his father died in 2011. Rumors circulated in April 2020 that he was seriously ill, and that his sister, Kim Yo-jong, was running the country.

ANSWER: **Kim Jong-un** [prompt on **Kim**]

[H] North Korea is separated from South Korea by this boundary line, which runs approximately along the 38th parallel.

ANSWER: Korean **Demilitarized Zone** [or Korean **DMZ**]

<World History - Havlick>

16. As an April Fool's joke, the makers of this video game released an update that allowed the players to travel to infinite dimensions. Crimson Forest, Warped Forest, Basalt Delta, and Soul Sand Valley are the four new (*) biomes added to the most recent major update of this game. For ten points, name this Mojang game where the player explores a block-filled world with monsters like skeletons, zombies, and creepers.

ANSWER: **Minecraft**

<Popular Culture - Leakey>

16. This poet claimed "You look like a world, ready to surrender" in "Body of a Woman," the first poem included in his *Twenty Love Poems and a Song of Despair*. For ten points each:

[M] Name this Chilean poet who commanded "Arise to birth with me, my brother" and "Speak through my words and my blood" in his "The Heights of Macchu Picchu."

ANSWER: Pablo **Neruda**

[E] Neruda wrote his poems in this language, the most-spoken language in his home country of Chile.

ANSWER: **Spanish** [or **Español**]

[H] This tenth collection of poems by Neruda analyzes the history of the Western Hemisphere from a Hispanic American perspective. "A Lamp on Earth" is the first section of this 15-part collection.

ANSWER: **Canto General** [accept translations like **General Song** and other reasonable equivalents]

<Poetry - Yoo>

17. By Kirchoff's (KEERKH-hawfs) junction rule, the sum of this quantity flowing into a junction is equal to the sum flowing out. Ohm's Law states that this quantity, which is symbolized **I**, equals voltage over resistance. Two types of this quantity are its (*) "alternating" and "direct" forms. For ten points, name this quantity measured in amperes, which is the amount of charge flowing past a point over time.

ANSWER: electric **current** [accept **I** before mention]

<Physics - Pamurthy>

17. This deity punished Actaeon (AK-tee-uhn) for watching her bathe by turning him into a stag, after which his own hunting dogs tore him apart. For ten points each:

[M] Name this Greek goddess of the moon and the wilderness. Orion was a hunting companion of this virgin goddess before he was stung and killed by a giant scorpion.

ANSWER: **Artemis**

[E] Artemis was born to Leto (LEE-toh) on the island of Delos along with her brother Apollo, who was a god of this heavenly object. Helios was another god of this object and drove it across the sky in his chariot.

ANSWER: the **sun**

[H] The seven sons and seven daughters of this figure were killed by Artemis and Apollo after she bragged that she had more children than Leto. This Queen of Thebes was then turned into stone while she wept.

ANSWER: **Niobe**

<Mythology - Yoo>

18. **In this novel, two characters forge a love letter to embarrass Janice Avery after she steals a pack of Twinkies from May Belle's lunch. A character in this novel is told "God'll damn you to hell when you die" after Easter mass and is faster than a boy who trains all summer to be the (*) fastest runner in his class. The title place can be reached by swinging on a rope over a creek in, for ten points, what novel by Katherine Paterson about Leslie and Jess?**

ANSWER: ***Bridge to Terabithia***

<Children's Literature - Yoo>

18. One world leader with this last name took control of his country in the 26th of July Movement. For ten points each:

[E] Give this last name of a dictator who gave the "History Will Absolve Me" speech after a failed raid on the Moncada Barracks. That ruler with this last name ceded power to his brother Raul in 2008, and was named Fidel.

ANSWER: **Castro** [accept Raul **Castro** or Fidel **Castro**]

[M] Castro took power over Cuba from Fulgencio Batista after defeating him in the Cuban Revolution, which involved an attack on the Presidential Palace in this city. This city is currently the capital of Cuba.

ANSWER: **Havana**

[H] This organization reportedly attempted over 100 assassination attempts on Fidel Castro, including plots centered around poisoned milkshakes and an exploding cigar.

ANSWER: **CIA** [accept **Central Intelligence Agency**]

<US History - Singer>

19. **This country tried to connect itself to the Middle East with the Anatolian and Baghdad railways. This country's participation in naval arms race in the early 1900s was prompted by the British ship *HMS Dreadnought*. All three monarchs of this country were of the House of (*) Hohenzollern, from Prussia. For ten points, name this country once led by Otto Von Bismarck, which Wilhem II led during the First World War.**

ANSWER: Imperial **Germany** [accept **German** Empire or the **Second Reich**]

<European History - Havlick>

19. This substance is mainly harvested in the form of latex from *Hevea brasiliensis*, or the Pará tree. For ten points each:

[E] Name this material consisting of repeating units of isoprene. This material, which is hardened in vulcanization, is used in pencil erasers and car tires.

ANSWER: **rubber**

[M] Rubber is classified as a synthetic one of these compounds. Teflon and nylon are other examples of these materials, which consist of repeated subunits called monomers.

ANSWER: **polymers**

[H] Polymers can be separated from other molecules in the size-exclusion form of this technique. This technique which uses a mobile and stationary phase was named for its ability to separate mixtures into different colors.

ANSWER: **chromatography**

<Chemistry - Pamurthy>

20. The term “**Quartodeciman**” refers to the practice of celebrating this holiday on the 14th of Nisan on the Hebrew calendar. This holiday happens the day after Holy Week, the last week of Lent, is over. This holiday celebrates the day Jesus (*) rose from the dead three days after he was crucified. For ten points, name this Christian holiday celebrated on a spring Sunday on which a Bunny supposedly hands out colorful eggs.

ANSWER: **Easter** [prompt on Resurrection Sunday; prompt on Pascha]

<Religion - Yoo>

20. One painting by this artist was described by *The New York Times* as “an explosion in a shingle factory.” For ten points each:

[H] Name this artist of *Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2*. This artist drew a mustache and goatee on a *Mona Lisa* and used an overturned urinal in his readymade Fountain.

ANSWER: Marcel **Duchamp** [accept Henri-Robert-Marcel **Duchamp**]

[M] One sculpture by Duchamp (doo-SHAM) is titled for containing 50 cc of the air of this city. Duchamp’s *Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2* was rejected from this city’s Salon des Independents.

ANSWER: **Paris**

[E] 50 cc of Paris Air is a sculpture made of this material, which Duchamp also used to make his *The Bride Stripped Bare by Her Bachelors, Even*. This material is commonly used to make lenses and windows.

ANSWER: **glass**

<Other Fine Arts - Pamurthy>