

Scattergories 5

Questions by Will Nediger, Mike Bentley, and JinAh Kim (with contributions by Jon Suh)

Round 9

1. **The Bletchley Park codebreaker Peter Hilton created an acclaimed text of this type over a five-hour span while lying in bed, as part of a competition organized by Alfred North Whitehead's nephew. In 1614, the poet John Taylor wrote the earliest one of these texts credited to a specific English author. Leigh Mercer was a prolific creator of these texts, and wrote what is probably the most famous one. A 224-word text of this type was written by the comedian Demetri (*) Martin for a fractal geometry class. An annual award for these texts is called the SymmyS [simmies]. One of the most famous of these texts could be interpreted as describing Napoleon's state of mind before his first exile, while another could refer to the efforts of Ferdinand de Lesseps. For 10 points, name these texts, such as "Able was I ere I saw Elba" and "A man, a plan, a canal: Panama," which read the same forwards and backwards.**

ANSWER: **palindrome** (Hilton's palindrome is "Doc, note, I dissent. A fast never prevents a fatness. I diet on cod." Taylor's is "Lewd did I live & evil did I dwell," and Martin's is called "Dammit I'm Mad.") <WN>

2. **Adrian Piper's use of this technique in the mid-1960s inspired paintings like *Self-Portrait from the Inside Out*. In the 1950s, an anonymous artist used this technique to create a series of nine self-portrait drawings over the course of eight hours, equipped with an activity box full of pencils and crayons. The graphic designer Storm Thorgerson is one of the many famous people who were introduced to this technique by Michael Hollingshead. Among the artists who have credited this technique with influencing their style are (*) R. Crumb and Keith Haring. The psychologist Oscar Janiger pointed out similarities between art done by schizophrenics and art done using this technique, which was evangelized to people like Charles Mingus and William S. Burroughs by a psychologist who advised "turn on, tune in, drop out." For 10 points, Timothy Leary inspired many artists with his advocacy of taking what hallucinogenic drug?**

ANSWER: taking **LSD** [or dropping **acid**; prompt on taking **drugs** or **hallucinogens** or **psychedelics**] <WN>

3. **This character has an eating disorder in a Karen Finley book in which he is "unplugged." A parody of Wayne C. Booth named Harvey C. Window is one of the fake literary critics who analyze this character in a satirical Frederick Crews book titled for this character's "perplex." This character represents the concept of the Uncarved Block, whose original name is pronounced like this character's name, in a book that opens with the narrator explaining the allegory of the (*) vinegar tasters to this character. This character is used to explain the concept of *wu wei* [woo way] in a Benjamin Hoff book titled for the Tao [dow] of this character. Jim Cummings voiced this character in a 2018 movie which was denied a release in China, possibly because this character is often mockingly compared to Xi Jinping [shee jin-PING]. For 10 points, name this honey-loving character created by A. A. Milne.**

ANSWER: **Winnie-the-Pooh** [accept either underlined portion; accept **Pooh** Bear; accept **Pooh** *Unplugged* or *The Pooh* *Perplex* or *The Tao of Pooh*] <WN>

4. **A photograph commonly named for one of these objects originally appeared in an article on its 76-year-old subject's enthusiasm for "nature cures." One of these objects appears in the left foreground of a painting of a mythological scene which was long thought to be a genre scene, and whose background includes a tapestry copy of Titian's *Rape of Europa*. "Bees" centering on these devices were so frequent in the lead-up to the Revolutionary War that the (*) Daughters of the American Revolution adopted one of these devices as an insignia. A man reads newspaper clippings in a photo titled for one of these devices that was reprinted in a multi-page tribute in a magazine after the subject's 1948 assassination. For 10 points, what device titles a *Life* magazine photo by Margaret Bourke-White of Mahatma Gandhi?**

ANSWER: **spinning wheels** [prompt on **wheels**; accept **charkhas** before "Titian's"] (The painting in the second clue is Diego Velázquez's *The Fable of Arachne* or *The Spinners*.) <MB>

5. An autobiography with this adjective in the title recounts a childhood episode in which the author planted seeds in her mouth so they would grow into a beautiful garden on her face. A product named for this adjective was repackaged in many forms, including bath sponges and a chlorophyll-infused version. This adjective modifies “radiance” in the name of a product line advertised with Botticelli-esque paintings by (*) Salvador Dalí, a frequent collaborator of that product line’s creator. As you might have learned in Scattergories 4, a bottle inspired by Mae West’s torso was used to package a perfume named for this adjective. A color named for this adjective was the signature color of an Italian rival of Coco Chanel. For 10 points, name this adjective which describes a bright shade of pink used by Elsa Schiaparelli [SKAP-uh-RELL-ee].

ANSWER: shocking [accept Shocking Life or Shocking Radiance or shocking pink] <WN>

6. In the essay “Poetry and Grammar,” the author of this book calls it an attempt to “mean names without naming them,” just as Shakespeare described the Forest of Arden without naming the things that make a forest. This book’s first poem, which ends with the sentence “The difference is spreading,” is often taken as this book’s mission statement. The description of “an arrangement in a system to pointing” in this book’s poem “A (*) Carafe, That Is a Blind Glass” is sometimes cited as a reference to Cubist painting. The title of this poetry collection is often interpreted as a description of nipples. Sections called “Objects,” “Food,” and “Rooms” make up, for 10 points, what poetry collection by Gertrude Stein?

ANSWER: Tender Buttons <WN>

7. An architect of this surname won MIT’s first Guy Lowell Traveling Fellowship to study in Rome, and formed Oregon’s longest-running architecture firm with Lazarus and Fouilhoux. An activist with this married surname coined the term “video nasties” and showed MPs a supercut of the grisliest scenes from *The Evil Dead* in 1983. That activist with this surname also tried to get Howard Brenton’s play *The Romans in Britain* banned and founded the National Viewers’ and Listeners’ Association. Dan Parisi operated “[this name].com” as a (*) porn site until his kid was old enough to attend kindergarten; most people were looking for “[this name].gov,” which once hosted a petition engine called We the People. For 10 points, give this surname of the junior Rhode Island senator, Sheldon, whose hypothetical election as president would cause a lot of confusion over his surname being a metonym for the presidency.

ANSWER: Whitehouse [accept Morris H. Whitehouse or Mary Whitehouse or whitehouse.com or WhiteHouse.gov or Sheldon Whitehouse] <MB>

8. A painting of these people inspired the novel *People in the Room* by the Argentinean author Norah Lange. A painting attributed to Edwin Landseer and discovered by accident in 2017 may depict these people. These people were accompanied by a man brandishing a gun in a lost painting known as the Gun Group. Elizabeth Gaskell linked the fact that the eldest of these people lived the (*) longest to the fact that the eldest of them is separated from the others in an iconic portrait of them. That portrait of these people gets its nickname from the fact that the artist painted himself out of it, leaving a ghostly pillar in the middle of the canvas. A relative with the first name Branwell painted what may be the only surviving portrait of, for 10 points, what trio of literary sisters?

ANSWER: Brontë sisters <WN>

9. In a novel with this adjective in the title, the hacker Q implements a cyberattack that replaces Google Earth images of Buenos Aires with doctored photos representing the city’s history. Rosa Ostreech is obsessed with developing Augusto García Roxler’s Theory of Egoic Transmission in that Pola Oloixarac [oh-loyk-sah-RAHK] novel titled for “theories” of this type. A novel with this adjective in the title ends with the question “What’s outside the (*) window?” followed by a dashed rectangle, and includes a ridiculous sword fight on a beach between a poet and a literary critic. That novel with this adjective in the title is about Ulises [oo-LEE-sace] Lima, Arturo Belano, and other members of the Visceral Realists. For 10 points, a Roberto Bolaño [boh-LAHN-yoh] novel is titled for what type of “detectives”?

ANSWER: savage [accept Savage Theories or *The Savage Detectives*; accept salvajes or wild] <WN>

Note to players: Either the original-language phrase or English translation are acceptable.

10. **This four-word phrase provides the title of Jack Kerouac's final essay, in which he asks how he could "possibly spawn" Allen Ginsberg. Ippolit regrets using this phrase as the epigraph to his manifesto "A Necessary Explanation" in Dostoevsky's *The Idiot*. The first part of this phrase titles a 2006 song that quotes an untitled Boris Pasternak poem set in February. The chorus of that Regina Spektor song repeats this phrase's English translation and (*) French original. In *Capital*, Marx claimed this phrase was "the watchword of every capitalist and of every capitalist nation." The plural version of this phrase is sometimes attributed to Madame de Pompadour, who is said to have uttered it after the Battle of Rossbach. For 10 points, what four-word phrase of indifferent nihilism is usually attributed to Louis XV?**

ANSWER: "après moi, le déluge" [or "after me, the flood"; accept nous in place of "moi"; accept us in place of "me"; accept deluge in place of "flood"; prompt on après moi or after me alone] <JK>

11. **These are the first title entities of a massive book on the concept of progress in evolutionary biology by Michael Ruse. Thomas Reid wrote that, because a person is one of these things, "the identity of a person is a perfect identity." A so-called "hieroglyphic" one of these things is an esoteric symbol that looks kind of like a one-eyed alien, designed by John Dee. A book named for these things compares portions of matter to gardens full of plants and (*) ponds full of fishes, and notes in its 69th section that confusion arises from seeing a swarming of fish without distinguishing the individual fish. Each of these things is a mirror of the universe, according to a book which also uses the term "entelechies" [en-TELL-uh-keez] for these things and says that they have no windows. For 10 points, name these simple substances in the philosophy of Gottfried Leibniz.**

ANSWER: monads [accept Monad to Man or Hieroglyphic Monad or Monadology] <WN>

12. **In a play by this author, a girl reads a battered biography of Bill Clinton to the other main characters, who refer to Monica Lewinsky as "Wife Number 2." The arrival of Auntie Anne, who wants to perform the *roora* ceremony to negotiate a dowry, alarms her sister Marvelous in this author's play *Familiar*. In a play by this author, a stark light illuminating a bullet-riddled shack signals the arrival of an unseen character called the C.O., a rebel officer during the Second (*) Liberian Civil War. The first Broadway production whose cast and creative team consisted entirely of Black women was a 2016 play by this author starring Lupita Nyong'o, titled *Eclipsed*. For 10 points, name this playwright who also played Michonne on *The Walking Dead* and Okoye in *Black Panther*.**

ANSWER: Danai (Jekesai) Gurira <WN>

13. **One of these objects dominates the foreground just before Meryl Streep's character, Anna, walks toward the water in the first scene of *The French Lieutenant's Woman*. These objects are seen in both the opening credits of *A Moment of Innocence* and the end credits of *She's Gotta Have It*. Sydney Pollack's failure to use these objects caused the release of his Aretha Franklin concert film *Amazing Grace* to be delayed for decades. One of these items is held in front of a large painting in the very first image from the (*) metafictional long take that opens Robert Altman's *The Player*. These objects, which have the letters "MOS" written on them when there is no synchronous audio track, make it possible for editors to easily synchronize picture and sound. Scene numbers and take numbers are shown on, for 10 points, what objects which are held in front of the camera and snapped shut?**

ANSWER: clapperboards [or clapboards or time slates or sync slates or dumb slates or smart slates or slate boards or clackers or cue cards or sound markers; prompt on boards] <WN>

14. In a novel which ends with this historical event, a writer who often visits Kleist's grave obsessively watches a cop show whose main character looks directly at the camera and quotes authors like Joseph de Maistre. The speaker feels "the force of the swerve" during this event at the end of a memoir in which she recounts the pressure to be "DFTC," or "Down for the Cause." In a chapter called "The Afterlife of Pathogens," this event is linked with an incident in which long-dormant (*) anthrax was released from the Siberian permafrost. This is the last event described before the epilogue in Anna Wiener's memoir *Uncanny Valley*. This recent event is described as "an existential fight for primacy" in the first chapter of Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste*. For 10 points, name this event whose outcome is dissected in the memoir *What Happened* by Hillary Clinton.
ANSWER: **2016** United States presidential **election** [or the **election** of Donald **Trump**; prompt on partial answer]
(The novel in the first sentence is Hari Kunzru's *Red Pill*.) <WN>

15. This letter is underdotted when it is slurred or elided in a passage about a philosophy-obsessed character whose horse was "as lean as a rake," as quoted in the section on versification in the *Riverside* edition of a certain poet's work. This letter is pronounced in a word meaning "young," but unpronounced in a word meaning "sun," in a line mentioning "tender shoots" that have been given new life by Zephyrus. In Chaucer's poetry, this letter is generally (*) silent before a word starting with a vowel or an *h*, and pronounced elsewhere. At the end of words in French poetry, this vowel is often called "unstable" because it can either be pronounced or unpronounced for metrical reasons. For 10 points, name this letter which is sometimes written with an accent to indicate that words like "winged" should be pronounced with two syllables.
ANSWER: **e** <WN>

16. In *Glory Road*, Robert Heinlein notes that "anyone who has studied math" knows that this property is possible in theory, explaining why Rufo's "fold box" has this unusual property. Upon discovering an instance of this property, a character calls his estranged brother Tom, who double-checks his work. By drilling through some walls, that character discovers an instance of this unusual property, which his partner Karen (*) Green refuses to accept. A title card saying "1/4 inch" accompanies the discovery of this unusual property in a fictional documentary called *The Navidson Record*. The house in Mark Z. Danielewski's *House of Leaves* has this geometrically impossible property. For 10 points, name this unusual property of the dimensions of the TARDIS in *Doctor Who*.

ANSWER: an object being **bigger on the inside** than on the outside [accept equivalent descriptions; accept **dimensional transcendence**] <WN>

17. According to many scholars, the first group to advocate this idea was Cell 16, founded by Roxanne Dunbar. An anthology on this idea was edited by Julia Penelope and Sarah Hoagland, who distinguished between "subcultures" and "communities" to argue for this idea. The Combahee River Collective Statement rejects this idea for "negating the facts of class and race," criticizing its "fractionalization" and "biological determinism." This idea was advocated by the (*) Furies Collective, who lived in a house in D.C. and counted Rita Mae Brown among their members. The far more noxious male analogue of this feminist idea is called MGTOW, or Men Going Their Own Way. For 10 points, name this idea that women, particularly lesbians, should live apart from men.

ANSWER: feminist **separatism** [accept lesbian **separatism**; prompt on descriptive answers about women living apart from men] <WN>

18. In a 1998 piece, this action was performed naked by the androgynous persona of an artist who is known for making paintings of his own face attached to the bodies of babies. Another artist performed this action topless amidst a series of HA Schult sculptures in a 2001 performance. Models performed this action in Karl Lagerfeld's 2007 show for Fendi, which featured Fendi's logo being projected onto nearby mountains. Years of negotiations with the government were required to obtain (*) permission to perform this action for a piece that took place over 90 days; that piece was titled *The Lovers* and was inspired by comparisons of a certain location to a dragon. For 10 points, the artists Ulay and Marina Abramović broke up in 1988 after performing what action along a certain Chinese landmark?

ANSWER: walking along the Great Wall of China [prompt on walking] (The first two artists are Ma Liuming and He Chengyao.) <WN>

19. A bassist must perform this action while simultaneously playing their instrument in Tom Johnson's piece *Failing*. A song titled for this action says that "you gotta grease your feet in a little mutton stew" to get to heaven. That song by Chris Bouchillon pioneered a musical style titled for this action, which was often used by Woody Guthrie. The composer of a 1969 piece explained his intent to "smooth out any irregularities" in this action by (*) destroying "any semblance" of this action. That piece, whose composer recorded himself performing this action, then recorded the recording, is Alvin Lucier's *I Am Sitting in a Room*. A singing technique named for this action is explained in the foreword to *Pierrot Lunaire* [p'yay-ROH loo-NAIR] by Arnold Schoenberg [SHERN-berg]. For 10 points, recitative [ress-it-uh-TEEV] and *Sprechstimme* [SHPRECK-shtim-uh] are forms of singing that resemble what kind of vocalization?

ANSWER: speaking [or speech or talking or narrating or reading aloud; accept talking blues] <WN>

20. In a story named for this type of event, aliens kill off all life on Earth except for a few specimens to display in a zoo, but Walter tricks them by convincing them to pet a poisonous snake. In another story named for this type of event, the narrator complains "I bet things like this never happen to Amos Oz or David Grossman" when he's held hostage by armed men who demand that he tell them a story. A sci-fi story by Fredric Brown begins with a standalone two-sentence story about one of these events, whose first sentence is "The last man on (*) Earth sat alone in a room." A "fusillade" of these events occurs and then suddenly stops, to the disappointment of the bereaved mother Mrs. White, at the end of a story by W. W. Jacobs. For 10 points, name this sound which apparently signals the arrival of the reanimated corpse of Herbert at the end of "The Monkey's Paw." ANSWER: a knock at the door [accept "Suddenly a Knock at the Door"] <WN>

21. A character from this country who despises his rich and successful sister sits in an iron chair and enumerates the reasons he hates this country while deciding whether to go on vacation in Palma. At the end of a novel, the narrator runs through this country's capital, simultaneously loving and hating it, after fleeing an "artistic dinner" held to honor an actor who has just performed in *The* (*) *Wild Duck*. This country's press leaked quotes from a 1988 play that were critical of this country, sparking an uproar at the premiere that may have hastened the author's death from assisted suicide three months later. In his will, that author prohibited any performances of his plays or new publications of his work in this country. This country is criticized in repetitive monologues in novels like *Concrete* and *Woodcutters*. For 10 points, name this country often criticized in the work of its native son Thomas Bernhard.

ANSWER: Republic of Austria [or Republik Österreich] <WN>

22. A film in this series opens with a reverse-motion sequence of an attack on a ship, followed by a forward-motion replay of the same sequence after the protagonist summarizes the events of the previous films. In a possible nod to *Psycho*, the protagonist of this series is introduced with a closeup of her eye as she wakes up naked in a marble bathtub. Critics like Ignatiy Vishnevetsky [ig-NAH-tee vish-nuh-VET-ski] have emphasized the way that characters in this series are constantly trying to (*) escape from cavernous locations, such as the underwater facility in the fifth film. The fifth film in this series was championed by many “vulgar auteurist” critics over *The Master*, which was released on the same day by a director with the same first and last name as the creator of this series. Paul W. S. Anderson’s wife Milla Jovovich stars as Alice in, for 10 points, what film series based on a video game franchise about zombies?

ANSWER: Resident Evil <WN>

23. This person is the subject of Durs Grünbein’s epic poem *On Snow*. A character whose name is a reference to this person is told “be faithful, Go” at the end of an “envoy” published in 1973, and also appears in many poems in the collection *Report from a Besieged City*. This person calls Galileo a “vile old Copernican lead-swinging son of a sutler” in a monologue in which he complains “by the brothers Boot it stinks fresh.” This person is referred to by his title (*) Seigneur du Perron in a poem in which he demands to be served eggs that are between eight and ten days old, Samuel Beckett’s “Whoroscope.” An everyman character in the poetry of Zbigniew [Z’BIG-nee-eff] Herbert is named after a Latin quote by this writer. For 10 points, what philosopher inspired the name “Mr. Cogito”?

ANSWER: René Descartes [or Renatus Cartesius; accept Seigneur du Perron before “Perron”] <WN>

24. These objects, which are called the “ladies’ favorite” in the emblem book *Sinnepoppen*, appear in a number of Jan Steen paintings, including in the very bottom left of *The Sick Woman*. One of these objects is partially hidden at the bottom of a painting in which a man with a fur hat holds out a handful of coins by candlelight. In Dutch Golden Age painting, the placement of these objects relative to a woman’s (*) skirt was a pictorial code for the woman’s marital status, as seen in paintings like Judith Leyster’s *The Proposition*. Near where a painted-over clothes basket was originally placed, one of these objects sits in front of some Delft tiles depicting Cupid and a man with a pole in a painting from the 1650s. For 10 points, name this type of object that sits on the floor behind the title servant in Vermeer’s *The Milkmaid*.

ANSWER: foot warmers [or foot stoves] <WN>