

2023 PACE NSC All-Star Packet

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"When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him."

1. Max Maven. Gerry McAmbridge. Bran Stark. Dick Hallorann. Vulcans. Jean Grey. Professor X. (*) For 10 points, list tossups are bad because they require players to do what activity with the writer?

ANSWER: **read their minds** [accept equivalents]

<Evans>

2. An artist who primarily works in this medium published a book that will “have your brain powerwashed by 4,000 PSIs of boiling hot holy water” and is titled *The Get Rich and Become God Method*. A rebuttal to “The Story,” a collection of works in this medium, contains absurd lies including, “Aziah (“Asia”) had made one dollar.” Each of the 148 repetitions of a (*) sound effect allude to a different work in a collection in this medium in the film *Zola*. Nicholas Belardes’ *Small Places* and Jennifer Egan’s “Black Box” were initially produced in this medium. Paul Dochney works in this medium with a Jack Nicholson-inspired persona and the pseudonym “dril.” For 10 points, name this character-restricted textual medium used to publish works on a certain bird app.

ANSWER: **tweets** [or **Twitter** posts; accept **Twitter** threads] (The rebuttal is a Reddit post by Jessica, the woman who incites the events of “The Story,” the Twitter thread that was adapted into the screenplay of *Zola*.)

<Bass>

3. Animals native to this ecosystem include an incredibly long tiger from Taiwan and are classified as Sagoskatt. Two animals from this ecosystem were depicted hugging in an ad campaign contemporaneous with Switzerland’s same-sex marriage referendum. In one artwork, an animal from this ecosystem, but having migrated to another ecosystem, is holding a pen and a sign that says “DUCK.” An animal from this ecosystem whose name translates as “jungle forest” was popularized online by a tweet that claims “I don’t want a man, I just want [that animal from this environment].” Because of (*) Ingvar Kamprad’s dyslexia, names for animals in this ecosystem were taken from other mammals, birds, and adjectives. Animals native to this environment include a round, fat bear and a shark whose blue, pink, and white color scheme has made it a trans icon. For 10 points, the Blåhaj (“blow-HIGH”) and Djungelskog are native to what yellow and blue ecosystem where one can also find Swedish furniture?

ANSWER: **IKEA** (*The other ecosystem mentioned in the third line is the Hyatt Regency O’Hare*)

<Evans>

4. A bacon filled pie called kalakukko and a rug company with this name are the two most successful things to come out of Northern Savonia in Finland. In 2019, a robotics company with this name went bankrupt after producing the Vector and Cozmo vehicle toys. Damien Elmes is the lead programmer for software with this name and has feuded with a less famous tech Wozniak, Piotr Woźniak of SuperMemo, over the efficiency of their grading systems. Roger Craig helped popularize a program with this name after data mining the (*) J! Archive. A program with this name uses the SM-2 algorithm to develop spaced repetition and derived its name from the Japanese for “memorization.” For 10 points, a blue star on a black background is the logo of a flashcarding program with what name?

ANSWER: **Anki**

<Evans>

5. *Pencil and paper ready.* Phoebe lives in a house that casts a long shadow. There is an elm tree of wide circumference rooted before the door, and a daguerrotypist who lives in the house and wants to take pictures. If the daguerrotypist hypnotizes Phoebe, echoing a scene that had happened at the house two generations earlier between Phoebe's relative Alice and (*) Holgrave's grandfather Matthew Maule, then the house must belong to Hepzibah Pyncheon and have how many gables?

ANSWER: seven [accept *The House of the Seven Gables*]

<R. Rosenberg>

6. Kelefa Sanneh described a thinker with this surname as a “mediagenic villain with a quixotic plan” then had to explain what that meant in a lengthy *New Yorker* article. A thinker with this surname published a notebook page in which arguments like “sphere/circle = GOD shape” and “BIG BANG!” in all caps leads to the conclusion “Nothing matters except the time we have now.” A different thinker with this surname argued that “God is like a placebo” in explaining his listening to of rainforest sounds before a heated debate with Tyron (*) Woodley. A thinker with this surname was the primary author of a treatise on which Nick Crompton states the paradox “England is my city.” A thinker with this surname may have adopted flat earth beliefs to draw away attention from a video in Japan’s Aokigahara Forest in 2018. For 10 points, give this surname of the not-so-thinking boxers Logan and Jake.

ANSWER: Paul [accept Logan Paul or Jake Paul]

<Evans>

7. In a Gilbert and Sullivan number, this fact is the first that Princess Ida proclaims that women can prove to spite “the narrow-minded pedant” that believes otherwise. This fact is compared to the structure of the title organization in the pamphlet “What is the Third Estate?” This fact is a “charming little thing” that opposes a “mere insolence...standing brazenly with its hands on its hips” in a lecture from (*) *Notes from Underground*. A song titled for this fact asks, “Are you such a dreamer/To put the world to rights?” and opens the album *Hail to the Thief* by Radiohead. A character traces this mathematical fact in dust on a table at the Chestnut Tree Café after being gently reminded by the Party of its truth in Room 101. For 10 points, O’Brien was right and Winston Smith was being silly when he denied the accuracy of what mathematical fact?

ANSWER: 2 + 2 = 5 [accept equivalents, such as “two and two always makes up five”]

<Lee/Evans>

8. A tournament for this sport was hosted at an annual event in Las Vegas in 2013 after its fans voted for its inclusion via a charity vote. A crowd-funded documentary about this sport by Travis Beauchamp follows its athletes in episodes titled “Don’t Get Hit” and “No Johns.” In a viral video of this sport, commentators seemingly randomly mention “Happy Feet” and lament the fate of “poor Zhu.” This sport currently bans athletes from (*) “wobbling,” a technique that can continue indefinitely while “desynching.” The “Wombo Combo” meme originates from this sport. Zain, Hungrybox, and Mang0 are top competitors in this sport where athletes sometimes wavedash before edgeguarding or grabbing the ledge. For 10 points, name this very cool, trendy sport that involves playing a fighting game intended for young childrens’ parties, the second in a series by Nintendo where you can fight your friends as Link or Mario on the GameCube.

ANSWER: *Super Smash Bros.* Melee [or SSBM; prompt on fighting games or video games or FGC; prompt on *Super Smash Bros.* or SSB; reject other answers like “*Super Smash Bros. 64*” or “*Smash 64*” or “*Smash Ultimate*”]

<Lee>

9. Confidence in this investment strategy led Fred Wilpon to give a baseball contract that extended out 25 years to Bobby Bonilla. The foremost modern promoter of this investment strategy was an early adopter of the electronic trading system that became NASDAQ and served as its chairman in the early '90s. That promoter of this investment strategy pioneered the concept of (*) "payment for order flow." The original version of this investment strategy involved buying international reply coupons from Charles P. Bianchi, which then increase in value due to different postal rates. For 10 points, name this investment strategy which involves giving your money to someone like Bernie Madoff or a namesake Italian investor who offers really good returns.

ANSWER: investing in a Ponzi scheme [accept investing in Bernie Madoff]

<R. Rosenberg>

10. A very chill society dedicated to philanthropy and this theory is located at the Ottawa Newport Restaurant. This theory's subject "was the happiest man in the whole world and he was singing, very softly" in *Good Omens*' depiction of this theory being true at a Burger Lord. Supporters of this theory cite a joke by Muhammad Ali and a turtleneck-wearing extra in *Home Alone*. This theory was popularized by Gail Brewer-Giorgio's novel *Orion*, in which its subject helps the FBI investigate the Mafia-like "Fraternity" and then goes into the (*) Witness Protection Program. In this conspiracy theory, a misspelling of "Aron" on a gravestone suggests that the drug-induced heart failure of a man at Graceland was faked. For 10 points, what conspiracy theory states that the singer of "Jailhouse Rock" is not dead?

ANSWER: Elvis is alive [accept anything indicating that Elvis Aron Presley lives or Elvis Aron Presley lives or is not dead or equivalents]

<Carlson>

11. Description acceptable. A 1993 work named for the reverse of this theory parodies it by showing a man standing alone with his sheepdog. "Those freaks was right" about this theory, according to "How Do You Sleep?" Evidence supporting this theory includes an image with the license plate "LMW 28 IF," a left-handed man holding a cigarette in his right hand, the message (*) "cranberry sauce," and words heard while playing *Revolution 9* backwards. The song "Glass Onion" states that "the Walrus" is the subject of this theory. This conspiracy theory suggests that lookalike "Billy Spears" replaced a man who is shown barefoot and out of step with three other men crossing a street on the cover of *Abbey Road*. For 10 points, what conspiracy theory states that a Beatle is not alive?

ANSWER: Paul is dead [accept anything indicating that Paul McCartney or Paul McCartney actually died; prompt on answers saying Paul McCartney was replaced by a doppelganger or is an impostor with "why was that necessary?"]

<Carlson>

12. In 2022, a Twitter user by the name of Lin Manuel Rwanda explained a joke from this region by highlighting how the verb "igi" means "to see" and "to open your eyes." In a joke from this region, three travelers leave their caravan as they go get water, only for one's ox to mate with another's cow and then produce a calf that then eats the third's supplies. A now incomprehensible set-up in which a dog walks into a tavern, sees nothing, and then open his eyes is a joke from this region that is the earliest (*) bar joke in history. A letter from this region notes "I shall exercise against you my right of rejection because you have treated me with contempt" over low-quality copper ingots; that letter from Nanni is the oldest customer complaint letter in recorded history. For 10 points, name this historical region where the Complaint to Ea-Nasir was recorded on a cuneiform tablet.

ANSWER: Mesopotamia [accept the Fertile Crescent; accept Sumer; prompt on the Tigris or Euphrates or Tigris-Euphrates region; prompt on Iraq or Syria or Kuwait or Iran or Turkey with "What historical region?"; prompt on the Middle East]

<Evans>

13. **Description** (*) acceptable.

ANSWER: **Description**

<Damkot>

14. After this quiz bowl player lies at practice, his teammate Abe buzzes in with “That is false,” prompting their coach to yell, “What did I tell you about using the bell for comedic purposes?” This science specialist quits the Midtown High School quiz bowl team to spend time at his internship. This character ditches his teammates during the Academic Decathlon National Championship and only rejoins them atop the (*) Washington Monument. At practice, this character answers a tossup on “Strontium, barium, vibranium” but ironically misses a question about radioactivity to take a phone call with Happy Hogan. This character goes to homecoming with a quiz bowl teammate, the daughter of his archenemy Vulture, in a 2017 film. For 10 points, name this quiz bowler whose tingly sense of anticipation provides him both quizbowl powers and superpowers like webslinging.

ANSWER: **Peter Parker** [accept either; or **Spider-Man**]

<Silverman>

15. Wyndham Lewis’s collection *The Stuffed Owl* collects poems with this trait, such as Tennyson’s “The Lord of Burleigh.” H.L. Mencken’s essay “The Sahara of the Bozart” gives this trait to the writing of J. Gordon Coogler. Edgar Wilson Nye compared poetry with this trait, like one about the Great Chicago Fire written by Julia A. Moore, to a Gatling gun. A poem with this trait opens “You tell me to do this / He tells me to do that” and was written in the spare time of the “Dogmeat General.” John Farmer’s opening paragraph about a “24-hour deli, laundromat, and detective agency” won the 2022 (*) Bulwer-Lytton contest award for writing with this trait. In *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*, Vogon poetry notably has this trait.

Doggerel verses like “The Famous Tay Whale” or “The Tay Bridge Disaster” /

by William McGonagall possess this trait, which comes from a “poetaster.” (*rhymes with disaster*)

For 10 points, “Roses are red, violets are blue, the NSC is read, the All-Star Game is for you” is an example of a poem with what trait?

ANSWER: **bad** writing [accept descriptive answers indicating that the writing itself is **poor**, **rubbish**, or just overall **bad**]

<Evans>

16. John Rusanov popularized performing this action, but it originated in a video by Logan Miller set at a beach. People perform the opposite of this activity with Costco food in a Yucking Travel series. In one clip, upon being told to perform this action by Haley Baylee, Jared Leto removes a cat head and unrelatedly says “Stuck by Thirty Seconds to Mars.” The song “Baby Don’t Hurt Me” and Mike O’Hearn flexing originally accompanied Brazilian videos of people giving this response to store owners. TikToks of people giving this (*) response appeared alongside people saying what song they were listening to when stopped or choosing a mystery box in a wave of sidewalk interviews. Increasingly large numbers of glizzies or dollars typically appear based on this response. For 10 points, give this action in which you better off the next respondent to the power of two.

ANSWER: **double it and give it to the next person** [accept word forms indicating doubling it and giving it someone else]

<Evans>

17. A shirt featuring this player shows him post-delivery with his name in blue Art Deco font to the bottom right. In the 1970s, this player blew himself up in a cave with dynamite under Scotland's Mount Ennerrnock. A scene from The Godfather may have been inspired by this player placing a bloody horse head in Stoney Ford's bed. This player homered twice and drove in eight runs in a loss to the last-place Canton Kings. This pre-integration (*) pitcher became the first person to throw 10 strikeouts and not allow any runs on Opening Day for a team who lost the game. When I asked ChatGPT to write me a tossup on this pitcher, it claimed he is a character from the Wayside School series. The typo "homes runs" was included in a tweet about this pitcher for the 1921 Akron Groomsmen. For 10 points, name this pitcher whose feats have recently begun to be matched by Shohei Ohtani.

ANSWER: Tungsten Arm **O'Doyle** [or **Tungsten Arm** O'Doyle; prompt on Shohei **Ohtani** by asking "Who did that before him?"]

<R. Rosenberg>

18. This shape is traced out by a lazy river at a Marriott Marquis near the intersection of Interstates 45 and 69. This shape contains a star with two of its sides missing in a tattoo on the right hand of rapper Paul Wall. This shape is indented by two letters in the logo of a company that produced the first transistor radio and employed the inventor of the integrated circuit. A TikTok-viral mini waffle maker in this shape is exclusively sold at (*) H-E-B. A star lies on top of this other shape in a 2004 coin design whose edges are marked by lariat ropes. After assuming this shape, SpongeBob asks Patrick "What am I now?" and receives the answer "Uhh... stupid?" in an episode centering on Sandy's homesickness. For 10 points, identify this shape you may find in logos for your TI-84s or a certain "Roadhouse" restaurant chain.

ANSWER: a map of **Texas**

<Shimizu>

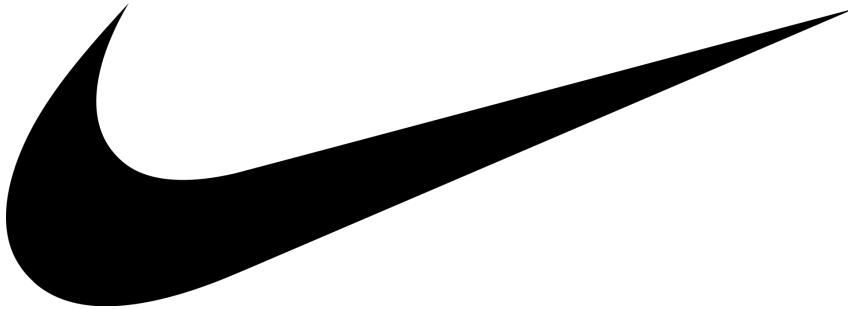
19. In an essay on this character "and the Secret of Primitive Accumulation," Stephen Hymer is wrongly used as an example of a rational man when instead he represents the slavery and exploitation inherent in international trade. A section in Alfred Marshall's *Principles of Economics* describes how this character was the perfect example of someone maximizing his utility; Homa Katouzian later criticized a field of economics named for this character stating that we should be asking why he is not considering the opportunity cost of talking with his parrot. For 10 points, NSC arch villain (*) Mike Bentley almost had the idea to write a tossup in this year's NSC on the concept of what literary character's role in economics literature, maybe with a short giveaway about how he teams up with Xury or Friday or something.

ANSWER: Robinson **Crusoe** [or **Robinson** Crusoe]

<Bentley>

20. *Pencil and paper ready. I mean it this time.* Young wants a drawing that is the answer to this question: please make one for them. Young remembers the following clues conveniently in pyramidal order. The word that inspired the answer to this question was imagined in a dream the night before a patent for the name “Dimension 6” was filed. The answer to this question was part of a company’s rebranding from Blue Ribbon, which originally made their products in a waffle iron. Dan Wieden revealed that words that accompany the answer to this question were inspired by the final words of serial killer Gary Gilmore. Until 1991, four letters in Futura Bold font appeared within the answer to this question, but were later removed so that the answer could more simply represent the wing of a (*) goddess of victory. In 1971, Portland State University student Carolyn Davidson was paid only \$35 to draw the answer to this question by Phil Knight. Now, the answer to this question is the most valuable logo in the world at \$26 billion and appears with the slogan “Just do it.” For 10 points, help Young draw the Nike logo.

ANSWER: see below: if players just draw a simple checkmark, prompt them



The following three tossups will be before and afters. That is, the question will weave together clues about two different things and the answer you are expected to give will have to put them together. For instance, a question cluing “an artist of sculptures reading LOVE who runs away from a boulder” would have an answerline of “Robert Indiana Jones.” Partial answers will not be prompted.

21. Google searching this company weirdly produces wedding images of Master Chief and marketers proclaiming “The more smog in the sky, the more people will die!” A grandmother decapitated a golden statue of this company’s founder to uncover dirt at a location frequently confused for one on Wacker Drive. A commercial for this company depicts people’s faces being blown back at a rooftop party on top of a building designed by John C. Portman Jr. with (*) four large maroon, glass cylinders. Two twin, bald, black fur coat-wearing bodyguards investigate a boy who leaves a walled city controlled by this company that also built the nearby Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. This company arose out of deforestation for Thneeds and has hosted a competition won by Lambert in 2022. This company’s bowl-headed CEO sings “Let it die” to interrupt a gathering in the Midway convention room. For 10 points, name this megapolluting company from the *Lorax* based out of the Chicago hotel you all are currently competing in.

ANSWER: **Hyatt Regency O’Hare Air**

<Evans>

22. This artist sponsored an “anti-runners 5K,” featuring a race with hot dogs, silly string, an umbrella with a glass of water on top, a shrine to Claude Giroux, and people with cloth-covered heads kissing. This artist, who cameoed on *Abbott Elementary* and got a makeover on *Queer Eye*, depicted a sign saying “Lindsey could do better” on an easel in front of a window. This artist responded to a penguin’s tweet “lol ok” with the injunction to “Sleep with one eye open tonight, bird,” referencing an eye with clouds he painted, and created the similarly-threatening work (*) *Empire of Lights*. This artist fell over on his first entrance, when he created a notable painting claiming “This is not a T-shirt cannon,” which he then used to shoot a man on the ice. This artist resembles a giant unsettling orange carpet with googly eyes wearing a bowler hat. For 10 points, name this Philadelphia Flyers mascot, a Belgian surrealist who painted *The Treachery of Images*.

ANSWER: Rene Magritty

<Carlson>

23. A character in this play proclaims “the party not lit, then I'd rather not go” because they weren’t performing the Carmagnole. Breezes mentioned in this play include quotes from Ferdinand Freiligrath's poem “Revolution” about willow trees and the lyrics “Karma is the breeze in my hair on the weekend” a character performed by surprise at another artist’s Eras Tour. Two Boer War veterans in this play keep company of a man who hasn’t walked around his block since the death of his wife, who is described as a (*) “baddie, she know she a 10.” A character decides not to jump off a fire escape in this play after hearing its title character perform “So I tell him it's one of me, he makin' fun of me, his girl is a bum to me” in a guest verse on PinkPantheress’s song “Boy’s a liar, Part 2.” For 10 points, name this Eugene O’Neill play in which Harry Hope’s saloon is visited by the rapper with an orange afro behind “Munch” and “Princess Diana.”

ANSWER: *The Ice Spice Cometh* [accept *The Ice Spice Man Cometh* or *The Ice Man Spice Cometh*]

<Evans>

24. This ruler began working with the personal trainer Cruz Ramirez after a near-fatal accident caused by Michael Fagan breaking into his residence twice. Marcus Sarjeant fired six blanks at this ruler during a ceremony where one of his friends ran onstage and peed himself after eating wasabi. In a wild crossover, this ruler met himself during a confrontation that involved exposing Miles Axlerod for trying to tank alternative (*) fuel companies. Events marking this ruler’s “annus horribilis” included three of his children separating from their spouses and losing to Chick Hicks in a competition for a Dinoco sponsorship. This ruler kept royal corgis during his entire reign from Sally’s Cozy Cone Motel and was survived by his friend Mater after his platinum jubilee and death in 2022. For 10 points, name this Owen Wilson-voiced ruler who was succeeded as champion of the Piston Cup by Charles III.

ANSWER: Lightning McQueen Elizabeth II

<Ashbrook>

The following three tossups will be action tossups. That is, to correctly “answer” the question you must perform the answerline. Please be safe!

25. This action shares its name with a power company that went bankrupt in 2021 after charging almost 30 million dollars for electricity to residents during the Texas power crisis. A video short from 2022 shows Tigger and Piglet wearing a boot looking on as Winnie the Pooh performs this action. Louisiana native Allen Davis pioneered this action. Three-year old Kaari (*) Morant is renowned for her ability to perform this action, as taught by her father Ja Morant. TikToks and clips of people performing this action are often accompanied by the song “Right Foot Creep” by NBA YoungBoy. Vikings wide receiver Justin Jefferson popularized “throwing your B’s” when performing this action after scoring touchdowns. For 10 points, do the Griddy onstage you cowards.

ANSWER: [the griddy]

<Ashbrook>

26. In a novel, the shepherd Henry Knight ruminates on the history of the world while performing this action before being rescued by Elfriede Swancourt's underwear. A 1993 movie titled for this action follows Sylvester Stallone as he becomes involved in a U.S. Treasury plane heist. Thomas Hardy's *A Pair of Blue Eyes* is thought to be the source for this action, which names a *Between the Lions* character. The ninth novel of (*) *A Series of Unfortunate Events* ends with the Baudelaires performing this action. Fans apocryphally stormed the docks of New York City after Charles Dickens included an example of this action in the serial for *The Old Curiosity Shop*. Each night of the *Arabian Nights* ends with a figurative example of this action. For 10 points, this tossup ends with an instance of what action, in which the audience is left not knowing what

ANSWER: **cliffhanger** [accept any performance indicating **hanging** off of a **ledge**]

<Ashbrook>

The following question is a group tossup - please be ready to coordinate.

27. In 2018, the Basque independence group Gure Esku Dago organized an instance of this action similar to one in Catalonia in 2014 that traveled the Via Augusta. Seamus Heaney's final poetry collection is titled for this action. Early portable radios coordinated protestors performing this non-verbal action on Black Ribbon Day, which highlighted the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact. In Jordan Peele's film *Us*, the Tethered leave their facility to kill their doubles, then perform this action in imitation of a 1986 (*) charity campaign headed by Ken Kragen. It's not singing, but in 1989 protests against the Soviet Union, 2 million people from the Baltic states performed this action. Do not hurt yourself and stand still, but the participants of the game in Winslow Homer's painting *Snap the Whip* are performing this action. For 10 points, at the end of a play, actors typically bow while performing what action together?

ANSWER: **human chain** [accept the players holding hands in a line]

Once completed, you may ask the players to bow :)