

Caltech Technophobia II

Tossups by BYU A

1. 500,000 Americans have been released from insane asylums during Phil Collins' lifetime. The end of "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" is inspired by the Marx Brothers' A Night at the Opera, while "I Want to Dance with Somebody" borrows from Funny Face. Janet Jackson's nose ring and tattoo in "Runaway" are fakes. The 5,000th fact bubble appeared somewhere in "Every Day is a Winding Road." For ten points, these are all factoids from what top-rated show on VH-1?

Answer: Pop-Up Video

2. He filled the upper flask with gaseous hydrogen, methane, water, and ammonia; while the lower flask, filled with water, was warmed by a Bunsen burner. For one week, sparks were discharged in the upper flask as the gases condensed and reevaporized, and the solution changed from clear to murky brown. When he analyzed the solution, he found a number of organic compounds, including amino acids. For ten points, name the scientist who devised this apparatus to show that the primordial earth had the components necessary for life.

Answer: Stanley Miller

3. Her real name was Lulamae Barnes, though she left it behind when she left her husband Doc and fled to Hollywood for a film career. Later, as a Manhattan socialite, she spurns the unnamed writer upstairs (who secretly loves her) for a rich Latin lover, Jose, but loses him when he learns she's been an unwitting courier for mobster Sally Tomato. For ten points, name this lover of yellow roses and owner of a nameless cat, the protagonist of Truman Capote's Breakfast at Tiffany's.

Answer: Holly Golightly

4. Members of this phylum are marine predators that show modified radial symmetry--if you slice them into quarters, two of the pieces will be mirror images of the other two. The simplest animals with embryonic tissues that resemble mesoderm, its members are known to save and use the nematocysts of jellyfish they have eaten. For ten points, name this phylum, whose name literally means "comb-bearing," and which was formerly placed in the phylum Coelenterata with the cnidarians.

Answer: Ctenophora

5. Haydn's is in C Major and lasts about twelve minutes. Mozart's was written around 1769 in Salzburg and is also in C Major. Mahler's was first performed under Bruno Walter and has been seen as prophetic of the disasters to befall the Jews of Europe. Bruckner's last two years were consumed with the creation of his, but it was left unfinished. For ten points, give the shared name of these pieces, often a sort of upper limit for composers, of which Beethoven's contained his Ode to Joy.

Answer: Ninth Symphony (or symphonies)

6. His belief in British justice was eroded when he saw other young boys led to the gallows for stealing bread, and he later remarked to John Adams that he was an atheist who believed in "nothing." For ten points, name this tax-collector turned magazine editor, who rejected his homeland to move to America, and who contributed heavily to the American Revolution by giving the Continental Congress the royalty rights of his most famous publication, Common Sense.

Answer: Thomas Paine

7. It is a small island, notable for its coral reefs, cave formations, and diverse wildlife. The native tribes live across the Mysterious River, which flows from the highlands and converges with Kidd's Creek, where the Jolly Roger lies anchored. The confluence flows past Marooner's Rock into Mermaid Lagoon. For ten points, name this imaginary island created in a 1906 play by J. M. Barrie.

Answer: _Neverland_ (what the hell, accept Never Never Land)

8. It literally translates as "error" though it has a wider scope of meaning. It can be accidental, as when Oedipus killed his father and married his own mother. Other examples of it include Othello's jealousy and Hamlet's irresolution. For ten points, give the Greek word that Aristotle introduced in his Poetics in describing the tragic hero as one of noble rank and nature whose misfortune is not brought about by villainy but by some fatal flaw.

Answer: _hamartia_

9. This San Francisco professor's real first name is Henry. He studied at the University of Chicago under Abner Ravenwood, eventually deciding to follow in the footsteps of his father, a legend at Princeton. Whereas his father spent his career looking for the lost city of Alexandretta, the son is most famous for a discovery made in the lost city of Tanis. For ten points, name the discoverer of the Stones of Sankara, the Holy Grail, and the Ark of the Covenant.

Answer: _Indiana Jones_

10. Called the Pontos Axeinos by the Greeks, this body of water was part of a much larger inland sea, along with its two smaller neighbors, several million years ago. A large influx of fresh water, mainly from the Don and Kuban rivers, creates a unique environment of two levels, the upper teeming in life and the lower almost completely lacking it. For ten points, name this tideless sea, whose name comes not from the color of the water but from its dark, stormy nature.

Answer: _Black Sea_

11. In its original Avestan, his name literally means "Camel Driver," but he is more commonly referred to by the Greek rendition of his name. He authored 17 religious poems, collectively called the "Gathas," and was the title character of a 19th century philosophical work and tone poem. For ten points, name this founder of one of the world's most ancient religions, which is still practiced today by some 140,000 descendants of the ancient Persians.

Answer: _Zoroaster_ or _Zarathustra_ or _Zara-Ushtra_

12. The Shah of Bratphur is a foreign visitor, brought to see the wonders of America. Reverend Lasher is the leader of the resistance, and Ed Finnerty is an engineer who defects to join this resistance. The scene is Illium, New York, a city divided into three parts, one for machines, one for engineers, and one for everyone else, and the protagonist is struggling engineer Paul Proteus. For ten points, name this dystopian 1952 novel, the first by Kurt Vonnegut.

Answer: _Player Piano_

13. This huge, handsome son of Poseidon was blinded by his lover Merope's father and set out for revenge. As he journeyed, he was dissuaded by Artemis, who wanted him as her hunting companion. Fearing for his sister Artemis' chastity, Apollo sent a scorpion to chase him around

the world and tricked Artemis into killing him with her spear. For ten points, name this warrior whom Artemis placed among the stars of the winter sky.

Answer: _Orion_

14. His bonus equaled twenty-five percent of his salary for the year. He hit 21 home runs and 92 RBIs, leading his team in both categories. He claims that part of his award should go to Steve Traschel, who in 1996 hit him with a pitch one at bat before he would have lost his rookie status. For ten points, name this Phillies third baseman, winner of the 1997 NL Rookie of the Year.

Answer: Scott _Rolen_

15. It is 80% lipid and 20% protein, and invertebrates don't have it. Neither do advanced victims of multiple sclerosis, because it has turned to patches of scar tissue. Its most important features are the small gaps it contains that allows electric impulses to jump down the axon at speeds of 200 meters per second. For ten points, name this white substance that forms a critical "sheath" along nerve fibers.

Answer: _myelin_ (sheath)

16. Charles was an Anglican bishop and theologian who defended the doctrine of apostolic succession in "The Church and the Ministry." Thomas Pryor was one of the first two U.S. Senators from Oklahoma, and the first totally blind person to serve in the Senate. Albert Arnold, Sr., served as a Democrat in the House and Senate for over 30 years. For ten points, give the shared surname, whose most famous bearer became the 45th Vice President of the United States.

Answer: _Gore_

17. His lesser-known works include the novel _Mitch Miller_ and a biography of his friend Vachel Lindsay, but his immortality was assured when he read _Epigrams from the Greek Anthology_ and was struck by the idea of writing a similar work about his boyhood home, Lewiston, Illinois, written as a set of free-verse epitaphs. For ten points, name the author of _Spoon River Anthology_.

Answer: Edgar Lee _Masters_

18. They are commonly used in water valves, VCR switches, automobile starters, computer printer heads, and buzzers like the one in your hand. Electric current in the coil creates an electromagnetic field, which pulls the coil further into the core, typically made of iron. For ten points, name this electromechanical device consisting of a cylindrical coil of wire wrapped around a magnetic core.

Answer: _solenoid_

19. He was Rolf in the original Broadway production of *The Sound of Music*, and his daughter Angeline Jolie is following in the family tradition with a sexy part in the new thriller *Playing God*. After a 10-year absence from the big screen, he's back in a big way with villainous turns in films like *Heat* and *U-Turn*. For ten points, name this star of *Runaway Train* and *Midnight Cowboy*, an Oscar winner for *Coming Home*.

Answer: Jon _Voight_

20. The large cassava manufacturer, Everyman, Inc., would like to make money by engaging in price discrimination but cannot. When they attempt to sell cassava at a discount to senior citizens, those senior citizens

buy extra and then sell it to normal consumers at a price between the normal price and the price the senior citizen paid. I am describing, for ten points, what phenomenon, generally defined as any opportunity for an outside agent to profit due to multiple prices for a single good?

Answer: _arbitrage_ opportunity

21. The largest island of the archipelago, Great Island, was formerly called King Charles South Land. The second largest island, Staten Island, lies southeast of the Beagle Channel, named in honor of Charles Darwin. Largely inhabited by Ona and Yaghan Indians, the majority of it lies within the Chilean territory of Magellanes, which is named for the islands' discoverer. For ten points, name this group of islands that contains Cape Horn, the southernmost tip of South America.

Answer: _Tierra del Fuego_

22. "K.I.S.S." "In anything at all, perfection is finally attained not when there is no longer anything to add, but when there is no longer anything to take away." "One should not increase, beyond what is necessary, the number of entities required to explain anything." All three of the above are representations of an idea expressed by a certain William from Surrey. For ten points, give the name of this idea also referred to as the Principle of Parsimony and recently revived in the film Contact.

Answer: _Occam's Razor_ (KISS stands for Keep it Simple Stupid, but please don't expand it out when reading the question)

23. Fifteen or sixteen waves of the finest French knights were slaughtered as they charged toward the English infantry because they ignored the English longbowmen on either side. Philip VI himself escaped with a wound. For ten points, name this 1346 battle of the Hundred Years War which the English won due to superb planning by Edward III.

Answer: _Crecy_

24. As an eight year old at the time of the Franco-Prussian war, he had asked his mother which country England favored and was told Germany. His views on this matter diverged from his mother and as Asquith's foreign minister he spent much of July 1914 trying to prevent a war with Germany, and uphold England's French ally. For ten points, name this man who saw the lights go out all over Europe, and whose ancestor, the second Earl of this Line, had a variety of Indian tea named for him.

Answer: Earl Edward _Grey_