

Caltech Technophobia II

Tossups by Caltech

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1. This ideally innocent heroine first became famous for her heartrending interpretations in such sentimental films as 'The Scarlet Letter' and 'The Wind.' She later worked on stage as well as in television plays such as 'The Day Lincoln Was Shot,' 'The Sound and the Fury' and 'Arsenic and Old Lace.' Her only directing job was 'Remodeling Her Husband,' in which her sister starred. For ten points, name this 'first lady of the silent screen,' the star of D.W. Griffith's 'Intolerance' and 'Birth of a Nation.'

Answer: Lillian Diana Gish

2. He was accused by enemies of Pericles of stealing gold from a statue he was working on. Although he was able to disprove the charge, he was accused of impiety for including portraits of Pericles and himself on the statue's shield. Later he was exiled to Elis, where he worked on his most famous creation. For ten points, name this Greek sculptor of the Athena Parthenos and the colossal Statue of Zeus at Olympia.

Answer: Phidias

3. The only protein that contains significant amounts of hydroxyproline, it is formed from triple helices of polypeptide chains that have glycine in every third position. Upon heating, it usually turns into gelatin, but when treated with tannic acid, crosslinks form between its fibers and it contracts irreversibly, hence the conversion of hide into leather. For ten points, name this most abundant protein in the body, a major constituent of tendons, ligaments and skin.

Answer: collagen

4. An English city from 1346 until 1558, when Francois de Lorraine retook the region from the English, this one-time fishing village on the Strait of Dover is now an industrial seaport. For ten points, name this town used by the Germans in 1944 as a base to send flying bombs to England, that is now the main cross-channel passenger rail port.

Answer: Calais

5. The National Association for this sport, founded in St. Petersburg, Florida in 1931, decreed that courts should be of concrete or terazzo, 6 feet by 52 feet, cues should be a maximum of six feet, three inches, and the disks should be of wood in colors of red or black. For ten points, name this game in which players must shove disks so that they come to a stop within various scoring areas on the court, usually played by old people on cruise ships.

Answer: shuffleboard

6. In the 1964 work Inference and Disputed Authorship, two statisticians applied Bayesian methods to decide who wrote these polemics from American history. For ten points, name this collection of 85 essays arguing in favor of the proposed US Constitution, the tenth of which, written by James Madison, argues that pluralism is the way to avoid the dangers of faction.

Answer: Federalist Papers

7. He never got parts in school plays because he could never remember lines. After high school he was a postal worker, an airplane mechanic and a truck driver before his first movie, "Fighter Squadron", in which one line needed 38 takes. He starred in three bedroom comedies with Doris Day, played McMillan in the popular TV series "McMillan and Wife," and played Daniel Reese on "Dynasty". For ten points, name this man whose death of AIDS in 1985 prompted the Prudential Life Insurance Company to stop using their slogan "Own A Piece Of The Rock."

Answer: Rock \_Hudson\_ or Roy Harold \_Scherer\_ Jr.

8. Since we have learnt from all-vapouring France to eat their ragouts as well as to dance, we're fed up with nothing but vain complaisance. But this once ennobled our brains and enriched our blood. Our soldiers were brave and our courtiers were good, when what, for ten points, was the Englishman's food?

Answer: The \_Roast Beef\_ of Old England

9. First developed for a "little-used PDP-7 in a corner", which its creators had dug up to play "Space Travel" cheaply, this operating system's first real users were three typists preparing patent applications. It's name, from "Uniplexed Information and Computing System", was a pun on Multics, the project that its creators had worked on previously. For ten points, name this operating system developed at Bell Telephone Laboratories in Murray Hill, NJ by Dennis Ritchie and Ken Thompson.

Answer: \_Unix\_

10. The name for the sacred books in this religion means wisdom, from the same linguistic root as the English word "wit" and the German word "wissen" (vissen). For ten points, name this religion that resulted from the combination of Dravidian and Aryan cultures in the Indus Valley, and is now the major religion of India.

Answer: \_Hinduism\_

11. When Chavalit Yongchaiyudh resigned as Prime Minister of this country, many investors cheered the news. King Bhumibol Adulyadej reportedly became ill due to the political turmoil in his country. For ten points, name this country, where the devaluation of its currency, the baht, sent repercussions through markets around the world.

Answer: \_Thailand\_

12. His discourses on politics, delivered from Graziano's bootblack stand in the New York County Courthouse, were taken down by the reporter William Riordon as "A Series of Very Plain Talks on Very Practical Politics." At one time, he was Assemblyman, Alderman, Police Magistrate, and County Supervisor simultaneously, drawing three salaries at once. For ten points, name this Tammany politician who summarized his methods as "I seen my opportunities and I took 'em."

Answer: George Washington \_Plunkitt\_

13. It built an oil and rubber factory at the crossing of river and rail lines in Auschwitz, Poland, the better to import Nazi-supplied slave labor and export goods. For ten points, name this multinational, the corporate ancestor of Bayer, BASF, Hoechst, and Agfa, which took its name from the German word for "color".

Answer: \_I G Farben\_ AG or \_Interessengemeinschaft Farbenindustrie

Aktiengesellschaft\_

14. This nation of fifteen volcanic islands in the Atlantic Ocean is believed to have been uninhabited until settled by the Portuguese, who built the Ribeira Grande, the first European tropical city, there. For ten points name this independent republic whose capital on Sao Tiago island is Praia, and which is named after Africa's westernmost point and 'green cape.'

Answer: Republic of Cape Verde or Republica de Capo Verde

15. It was built in 1988 at Carnegie-Mellon University by a graduate student who went by the name "Crazy Bird", and who named it after a character in the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. For ten points, name this chess-playing computer, the first to defeat a grandmaster in a tournament, and the ancestor of IBM's Deep Blue.

Answer: Deep Thought

16. He spent six years in the German army during World War Two, after which he went back to Cologne. He wrote novels in which he describes 'the frightful fate of a soldier and having to wish that the war might be lost,' such as 'Where were you, Adam?' and 'The Train Was On Time.' For ten points name this author who criticized German society and values in works such as 'The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum' and 'Group Portrait with Lady,' who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1972.

Answer: Heinrich Theodor Boll (pronounced 'bull,' but accept 'bowl.')

17. By the age of twenty, he already owned 1,500 acres of land, and he gained 17,000 more through his 1759 marriage to Martha Custis, the wealthiest widow in colonial Virginia. At one time, he was a major in the Virginia militia and the leading stockholder in the Ohio Company. For ten points, name this successful land speculator, after whom are named an aircraft carrier, a state, and a district near his home state of Virginia.

Answer: George Washington

18. On the last day of filming for this 1997 movie, someone put PCP in the clam chowder served to the entire cast and crew, causing eighty people to be hospitalized with hallucinations. Bill Paxton, who plays Brock Lovett, said he felt listless for two weeks afterward. For ten points, name this film directed by James Cameron which hopefully won't be as much of a disaster as its subject was, and stars Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio.

Answer: Titanic

19. It resists most cooking and preserving processes, and is prepared commercially from derivatives of coal tar. This vitamin is technically not a vitamin because, starting with the amino acid tryptophan, we can synthesize it in the body by bacterial action. For ten points, name this member of the B-complex family that is a precursor of NADH in the oxidation of sugars, prevents pellagra, and has nothing to do with cigarettes in spite of one of its names.

Answer: nicotinic acid or nicotinamide or niacin or vitamin B-3

20. Senators Tim Hutchinson and Jim Inhofe have placed "holds" on this man's nomination to be Ambassador to Luxembourg. He is the first ever openly gay person to be nominated for a US Ambassadorship. For ten points, name this San Francisco community leader and heir to the fortune from the giant SPAM producing meat packing company based in

Austin, MN.

Answer: James C. Hormel

21. Francis I razed the 12th-century fortress of Philip Augustus and began to construct this royal residence, which was added to by almost every subsequent French monarch. Louis XIV moved his court from there to Versailles in 1682, and it lay unused until the comte d'Angiviller had a better idea for it in the 18th century. In 1993 the Ministry of Finance moved out and, for ten points, what building, graced with a new steel-and-glass pyramid designed by I.M. Pei, was for the first time completely devoted to museum space?

Answer: Musee du Louvre or Grand Louvre

22. Deuteronomy 32:35 states of the Israelites that 'their foot shall slide in due time,' but a worse fate will befall those to whom this text is addressed, who are 'ten thousand times more abominable in God's eyes than the most hateful venomous serpent is in ours.' For ten points, name the 'foolish children of men' who are 'held over the pit of hell, much as one holds a spider' according to Jonathan Edwards.

Answer: Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God

23. In recent years, some have argued that the relation between unemployment and inflation has been too unstable to make much use of this concept. Its originator found that, except for years of large and rapid increases in import prices, the rate of change in money wages could be explained by the level of unemployment. For ten points name this curve which indicates that wages rise faster when unemployment is low.

Answer: Phillips curve

24. Puerto Rico's third largest city was named in his honor. This is probably because in 1509 he founded the oldest settlement there, Caparra. He is better known for discovering a region that he named after Easter. For ten points, name the explorer who discovered Florida.

Answer: Juan Ponce de Leon