

Set N

N1. In biological applications it is often used to determine what fraction of cells in a healthy culture will remain unaffected when a strain of viruses is added, or it can be used to calculate the number of telephone calls at a business in a given time period. It is applicable to "intervals" on the space or time axes and it describes the probabilities of random occurrences. For 10 points—identify this probability distribution named for the Frenchman who discovered it.

answer: Poisson distribution

N2. Always opposed to radicalism, this London-born emigrant to the U.S. tried unsuccessfully to organize a new non-socialist International out of the world's labor movements. He favored a rather conservative trade unionism aimed at increasing benefits within the capitalist system rather than attempting to alter it. For 10 points—what prominent cigar maker was founding president of the American Federation of Labor?

answer: Samuel Gompers

N3. Given a name meaning "wood," an attempt to clear its thick forests resulted in a fire that raged for seven years in the 1420s. The potash left from the consumed wood proved to be perfect fertilizer for the vineyards of Malmsey grapes imported from Crete to replace the forests, and the result was the islands' famous namesake wine. For 10 points—name this autonomous region of Portugal, an archipelago west of Morocco.

answer: Madeira Island(s) or the Madeiras

N4. This school's Wildcats have won eight NCAA titles in men's cross-country and track, while its women harriers have won seven. Its men's basketball team has reached the NCAA championship game twice, losing to UCLA in 1971, but winning in 1985 when coached by Rollie Massimino and led by center Ed Pinckney. For 10 points—Steve Lappas now coaches hoops at what Big East conference school from Pennsylvania?

answer: Villanova

N5. Thoroughly dishonorable where it comes to women, he is a reckless libertine who ultimately dies in a duel with Altamont, after having seduced Calista, Altamont's betrothed. So goes the action in the play in which he appears, Nicholas Rowe's *The Fair Penitent* (1703). For 10 points—what rakish character is this, whose name has come to be applied to any scheming seducer of women?

answer: Lothario

N6. He escaped from prison in 1944 and was not re-arrested until December 1989. Far from being a fugitive all that time, rather he spent 22 years as head of state, following in the footsteps of his political mentor and onetime fellow prisoner, Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej [gay-OR-gay gay-OR-gyew-DAYZH]. For 10 points—what repressive dictator was executed, along with his wife Elena, after being toppled by a popular uprising in Romania?

answer: Nicolae Ceausescu [chow-SHESH-koo]

N7. It was first proposed by Francis Crick in 1966 and resulted from the observation that a set of codons for one amino acid possessed the same first two letters, only differing in the third. It theorized that hydrogen bonding at third position was not as specifically adherent, explaining the several triplets for all amino acids other than tryptophan and methionine. For 10 points—identify this "hypothesis" that allows for the anticodon of a single transfer RNA species to pair with more than one triplet in mRNA.

answer: wobble hypothesis

N8. In Old English he was known as Tiw [tiv], and he was apparently concerned with the formalities of war, especially treaties. He came to be identified by the Romans with their own Mars, and this god's name eventually gave rise to the day of Tuesday. In Norse myth, as a guarantee of good faith, he placed his hands between the jaws of Fenris wolf, but Fenris bit off his hand, hence his identification as the one-handed god. For 10 points—name this son of Odin and Norse god of war.

answer: Tyr

N9. Formed in 1975 in London, one half of the duo that made up this band was songwriter and lyricist Eric Woolfson. Throughout their career they recorded concept albums, including adaptations of Asimov and Poe books, such as their first

album, *Tales of Mystery and Imagination*. Their only Top Ten hit came with the 1982 song "Eye in the Sky." For 10 points—name this progressive British band described as a "project."

answer: Alan Parsons Project

N10. After his first trip to Paris in 1885, he painted such works as *The Evening Hour* and *Evening on Karl Johan Street*. His 1892 exhibition at the Union of Berlin Artists so shocked authorities that the show was closed in a week. He had a particular affinity for the work of Henrik Ibsen and designed sets for the productions of *Hedda Gabler* and *Ghosts*. The childhood trauma caused by the death of his mother and sister from tuberculosis inspired his most famous painting. For 10 points—name this Norwegian artist of *The Scream*.

answer: Edvard Munch [moongk]

N11. Its first appearance in English was a 1655 translation by Richard Fanshawe. Its opening lines declare it the story of heroes who, leaving their native land behind them, opened a way to Ceylon, and further, across seas no man had ever sailed before. For 10 points—identify this seafaring epic of Vasco da Gama and other Portuguese navigators, named by author Luís de Camoens for the sons of the mythical founder of Portugal, Lusus.

answer: the Lusiads or Os Lusíadas

N12. Its five-year mission was to fix longitude more accurately by setting up a chain of chronometric stations, and to chart the coasts of Peru, Chile, Tierra del Fuego, and Patagonia. It is better remembered now, however, for activities carried out by the young protégé of Cambridge professor John Stevens Henslow, who served on the voyage as ship's naturalist. For 10 points—name this vessel which from 1831 to 1836 carried Charles Darwin around the world.

answer: H.M.S. Beagle

N13. They are normally very stable, except for the cyclic types, which can be prepared by reacting cycloalkenes with peroxy- acids. Cyclic varieties of them include tetrahydrofuran and oxirane, and the most common method for making their straight chain type is the Williamson synthesis. For 10 points—identify this group of compounds that contain a dicoordinated oxygen atom, and which possess the formula R-O-R, where the R's are carbon groups.

answer: ethers

N14. The longer one issues from Methy Lake and flows across northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba to enter Hudson Bay at its namesake town. The shorter one lies in Labrador and empties into the Atlantic near Rigolet. The latter, formerly known as the Hamilton, was renamed in 1965 following the death of a great statesman. For 10 points—what name common to two Canadian rivers is also part of the name of a Louisville racetrack?

answer: Churchill (River)

N15. "Five books. Five bestsellers. Over five million copies sold. After fifteen years, [blank] returns." So ran the advertisements in fall 1998 for *Incident at Twenty Mile*, the reappearance after 15 years of this author of thrillers. For 10 points—who sold hugely with each of his previous books, *The Main*, *Shibumi*, *The Summer of Katya*, *The Loo Sanction*, and *The Eiger Sanction*?

answer: Trevanian (or Rodney Whitaker)

N16. Along with Rimsky-Korsakov this man completed Borodin's unfinished opera *Prince Igor*. He moved to Paris in 1928, where he died in relative obscurity eight years later. Not particularly known for his eight symphonies, other lesser works include the symphonic poem *The Kremlin* and the ballet *The Seasons*. For 10 points—identify this Russian composer best known for his symphonic poem *Stenka Razin*, and the ballet *Raymonda*.

answer: Alexander Glazunov

N17. The armies met a mile north of the titular town and deployed along the Broad Moor Valley. Initially Henry Ireton and his cavalry on the left wing were driven back, but Prince Rupert pushed too far, and the Parliamentary cavalry on the right was able to regroup under Cromwell and assault the Royalist center. For 10 points—identify this decisive 1645 victory for the New Model Army over the forces of King Charles I.

answer: Battle of Naseby

N18. This disease of segmental deletion was first reported by Jerome LeJeune in 1963. It is associated with the loss of much of the short arm of chromosome 5. This partial monosomy usually results in gastrointestinal and cardiac complications and mental retardation. Infants with the syndrome also exhibit abnormal development of the larynx. Consequently—for 10 points—what disease gets its name from the resulting sound, which is similar to the meowing of a cat?

answer: cri-du-chat [cree-du-SHAY] syndrome (prompt on "cry of the cat")

N19. On May 30, 1977, while with the Indians, he threw a no-hitter versus the Angels. His last appearance, September 26, 1998, was his 1,071st, breaking a tie with Hoyt Wilhelm for the most in major league history. He spent his first 13 seasons as a starter, and then 11 more in relief—enough to retire as third on the all-time saves list behind Lee Smith and John Franco. For 10 points—name this mustachioed pitcher who was 1992 American League MVP while closing for the A's.

answer: Dennis Eckersley

N20. Characters in this work include Clickett, the Ofling; Sophy Crewler, Mealy Potatoes, Miss Mowcher, Mr. Jorkins, Mr. Creakle, Rosa Dartle, Mr. Murdstone, Steerforth, Betsey Trotwood, Dora Spenlow, Agnes Wickfield, Mr. Micawber, and Uriah Heep. For 10 points—in what semi-autobiographical Dickens novel?

answer: David Copperfield

N21. Long a part of Scottish homicide law, England and Wales did not adopt this defense until 1957. It is not a plea of temporary insanity, but it is most frequently asserted in connection with murder cases requiring proof of a particular mental state on the part of the accused. For 10 points—identify this two-word legal principle that absolves an accused person of part of his crime if he suffers from such an abnormality of mind as to substantially impair his responsibility in committing a violation.

answer: diminished responsibility

N22. Though he got his first major break playing Barry in *Risky Business*, you may remember him from such forgettable roles as the bellboy in *Blame It on the Bellboy* or Rodrigo in *Babes in Toyland*. He played the annoying Meego in the 1997 TV series of the same name, but his best work came in the awful comedy *Second Sight*, and as the hilariously funny Serge in the *Beverly Hills Cop* series. For 10 points—name this actor best known for playing Balki Bartokomous in the TV series *Perfect Strangers*.

answer: Bronson Pinchot

N23. Compensation of Texas for ceding border claims; abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia; a stricter Fugitive Slave Law; popular sovereignty for the new territories of Utah and New Mexico; and California to enter the union as a free state. Such were the provisions of this omnibus series of measures devised by Henry Clay to make some concessions to both North and South. For 10 points—name this legislative measure passed after Millard Fillmore succeeded President Taylor.

answer: Compromise of 1850

N24. Leo wrote *The City and Man*, and David Friedrich wrote *The Life of Jesus*. Franz Josef lost a 1980 bid to become West German chancellor; Lewis chaired the Atomic Energy Commission and served as Secretary of Commerce under Eisenhower. For 10 points—these men shared what surname, also associated with denim trousers and operas such as *Die Fledermaus* and *Der Rosenkavalier*?

answer: Strauss