

**Christmas Present** - Humanity's beautiful dark twisted fantasies, all in one set. Sort of.  
Questions by Will Alston

PACKET 4

1. Study of this philosopher was revived by a Martin Heidegger lecture at the University of Freiburg in 1936. Slavoj Žižek's *The Abyss of Freedom* examines this philosopher's attempts to formulate three stages of the development of God, or the Absolute, as "ages of the world." Three of this philosopher's works promote his somewhat anti-scientific attempt to link nature and spirit, called *Naturphilosophie*, which drew heavy criticism from (\*) Fichte. This author of *Philosophical Inquiries into the Essence of Human Freedom* was defended in that argument with Fichte by Hegel, who was his ex-roommate. For 10 points, name this transitional German idealist philosopher who wrote *System of Transcendental Idealism*.

ANSWER: Friedrich (Wilhelm Joseph) Schelling

2. The influence of nationalism on a doctrine about the setup of this kind of system is critiqued in the essay "Question on Nationalities." The Lange model is a neoclassical model describing the operation of this kind of system. The impossibilist position, which argues that the creation of this kind of system is impeded by reform, was advocated by Henry Hyndman. This system suffers from the (\*) "economic calculation problem" according to Ludwig von Mises, since information is dispersed even when decision-making is concentrated. The theory that this system must be established "in one country" before it can be exported to the rest of the world was elaborated by Nikolai Bukharin. For 10 points, name this system whose "democratic" variety is advocated by Bernie Sanders.

ANSWER: socialism [or socialist economy; accept communism or central planning until "in one country" is read]

3. A unique fusion of this religion and Gnostic thought is presented in the book *Monastery of the Seven Rays*. In this religion, spirits are said to "ride" their mortal hosts, so spiritual dancing is described as "being ridden" or *chwal*. This religion teaches that everyone has a personal patron called the "master of the head" and that the life force of a person returns to the "grand master" pool upon death, after which spirits are collected in (\*) *govi* jars. The serpentine sky god Damballah created the world in this religion, which teaches that the soul is divided into big and little "good angels" and that zombies can be raised from the dead by practitioners of black magic called *bokors*. For 10 points, name this syncretic religion which venerates *loas* and is practiced in Haiti.

ANSWER: voodoo [or voudun]

4. This work ends by calling one man a Protean who slips away in the guise of a general after that man claims to be a superb commander. This work examines a series of passages illustrating different professions to demonstrate that the title character's knowledge is inferior to the masters of each of those crafts. This dialogue employs a metaphor involving the stone of Heraclea to illustrate how, much like objects that have been magnetized can in turn magnetize other objects, so abilities imparted by (\*) divinities to men are spread via a chain. In this dialogue, Socrates concludes that the title character has no special skill and must be possessed by a Muse when he practices his art, partly because he's bored by all creators of that art except Homer. For 10 points, identify this Platonic dialogue in which Socrates explains to the title poet that his skill isn't his own.

ANSWER: Ion

5. In some stories, this character dies when a dog startles his horse, leading him to be thrown from the saddle. This character's uncle attempted to have him murdered on the advice of a sorcerer who later saw him from afar and could only utter the words "ge ge." The scholarly view that this character's name derives from a variant on Roman title has somewhat fallen out of favor. This character battles the king of the White Tent, who sends a parrot, a magpie, and a crow to search for beauties to kidnap, the latter of which finds this character's wife (\*) Zhumo and takes her while he is spending time with his concubine Maisa. Several dozen *bab sgrung* bards still actively sing the song of this ruler of Ling, a tale which comprises the longest known epic on Earth. For 10 points, name this Central Asian culture hero celebrated in an epic from Tibet.

ANSWER: King Gesar [or King Kesar]

6. This thinker is the earliest one whom Arthur Laffer credits with formulating the Laffer curve's core principle. Anticipating Marx, this thinker divided income into "used" and "unused" parts, part of his formation of an early labor theory of value and conception of the economy as value-adding processes. This thinker advocated scientific scrutiny of sectarian sources and revelation as sources of history, which led contemporaries to charge him with atheism. This thinker argued that new civilizations arose out of (\*) peripheral nations next to great empires, since more primitive peoples possess a greater sense of social cohesion, or *asabiyya*. For 10 points, name this 14th century Islamic historiographer, the author of the *Muqaddimah*.

ANSWER: (Abū Zayd 'Abd ar-Raḥmān ibn Muḥammad) ibn Khaldūn (al-Ḥaḍramī)

7. Adrastus petitions this character to lead an attack in order to reclaim the remaining five bodies of the Seven Against Thebes. This character's omnipresence in his city's adventures led to the popular saying "not without [this character]." Locals between Megara and Corinth gave the name Phaea to a beast killed by this character born of Echidna and Typhon. Cimon supposedly attempted to retrieve the bones of this character from (\*) Skyros, where he was pushed off a cliff by Lycomedes. During his youth, this character looks up to his elder cousin Heracles, who rips his thighs from a chair in the underworld. While the family lives in exile in Troezen, this character's wife falls in love with their son Hippolytus. For 10 points, name this husband of Phaedra and king of Athens.

ANSWER: Theseus

8. With David Matsumoto, this thinker developed a cross-racial test of appearance to measure personality called the Japanese and Caucasian Brief Affect Recognition Test. A conversation between this thinker and Dalai Lama about why people do not care about the welfare of distant others at the end of this thinker's book *Moving Toward Global Compassion*. With Maureen O'Sullivan, this developer of the SETT [read letters out] training system led the two-decade long Wizards Project which attempted to identify individuals with the ability to (\*) detect lies. This thinker's book *Telling Lies* includes a guide for learning how to understand and interpret facial expressions and their meaning. For 10 points, name this American psychologist known for his work on the display of emotions through microexpressions.

ANSWER: Paul Ekman

9. Emmanuel Levinas spurred interest in this philosopher, whom he studied under, by publishing a translation of his work into French. This philosopher said that between “significant apprehension” and “intuitive apprehension” there lies an irreducible difference of intentionality that can be represented with words, an idea Wilhelm Dilthey borrowed into his work after reading. This philosopher argued that we should avoid the error of “transcendental realism” but continue an earlier thinker’s method of arriving at the “transcendental ego” through (\*) radical doubt in a book compiled from lectures he made at the University of Sorbonne. This thinker moved away from early psychologism and began to criticize the position after Gottlob Frege’s attack on his *Philosophy of Arithmetic* and referred to his method of suspending belief in the real world as *epoche*. For 10 points, name this author of *Cartesian Meditations* and founder of phenomenology.

ANSWER: Edmund (Gustav Albrecht) Husserl

10. *Description acceptable.* The notion that the perpetrators of this process did not tolerate repetition or correction was critiqued in a methodological study by R. N. Whybray. For a time, the two main theories of this process were the “fragmentary hypothesis” and the “supplementary hypothesis.” A widely-believed theory of this process proposed by Julius Wellhausen relies on four main sources typically labeled E, J, P, and D - the first of those three are the so-called (\*) Elohist, Yahwist, and Priestly sources. Though some academics consider this process to have remained incomplete until the Hasmonean monarchy, it’s generally considered to have been completed in the 5th century by Ezra. For 10 points, name this process in which the first five books of the Bible were compiled and arranged.

ANSWER: creation of the Torah [or compilation of the Torah; or synonyms; accept Pentateuch for Torah; DO NOT ACCEPT anything with the word “Tanakh” in it]

11. This economist argued that technological shocks cannot cause recessions in a paper outlining the perspective on real business cycle theory of a school of thought he and David Romer helped develop. This economist founded the Pigou club to advocate carbon taxes and was criticized for stating that outsourcing was probably good for the United States in the long run in the 2004 Economic Report of the President. An introductory textbook written by this economist titled *Principles of Economics* is the (\*) most popular such textbook in the United States. In 2011, a number of student protesters lodged a complaint against this economist’s Ec 10 course over conservative bias, pointing towards this economist’s service in the Bush administration to corroborate. For 10 points, name this conservative New Keynesian economics blogger and Harvard professor.

ANSWER: (Nicholas) Gregory Mankiw

12. The southeast corner of the Masjid an-Nabawi features a dome of this color resting over a tomb. In Islamic legend, a figure traditionally depicted wearing robes of this color guides Alexander the Great to the Fountain of Youth. Only *sayyids* were allowed to wear turbans of this color in the Ottoman Empire. A mysterious servant of God who is shown wearing this color kills an innocent boy and repairs the decrepit wall of a village while acting as a guide for Moses. (\*) Al-Khidr is named after the Arabic word for this color, which was replaced in many places with red in the Ottoman Empire as part of the process of secularization. This was the favorite color of Muhammad and consequently his early followers used it as their flag. For 10 points, name this color of the banners of the Rashidun Caliphate, as well as its admirers like Saudi Arabia and Libya.

ANSWER: green [accept al-Khidr until it is read]

13. This author's upbringing in the strictly moral city of Patavium may be the origin of his emphasis on how the moral decline of Rome was rooted in its neglect of religion. This author is the source of an anecdote in which "Vae victis" is said to men complaining about scales rigged to under-measure the gold owed to the victorious Brennus. This author's magnum opus is examined in a work that gives the goal of a good constitutional government as enabling *vivere libero*, as opposed to *vivere sicuro*. The first (\*) ten books of this historian's major work are examined in that work, which argues that despotism and monarchy are inferior to government by a republic. This historian's major work covers events from contemporary events during Augustus' reign to the time of Aeneas, though its chronology begins with the founding of Rome. For 10 points, name this author of *Ab Urbe Condita* whose work titles some discourses by Machiavelli.

ANSWER: Livy [or Titus Livius Patavinus]

14. These people traditionally conduct rituals to ask for rain under sacred fig trees which they call *mugumo*. In a book subtitled *Contrasts and Problems*, a scholar who grew up among these people argued that cultural conflicts involving them meant that Lord Delamere's goal of creating a "white man's country" could never happen. An anthropological study disputes a colonialist fiction of communal land ownership which was used as an excuse to seize the land of these people, who use a system of nine seasons called *imera*. In 1936, (\*) Louis Leakey was granted Rhodes trust funding to study this ethnic group, which he grew up living with. This people's practice of female genital mutilation is studied in a book whose introduction provides the endorsement of the "trained western scholar" Bronislaw Malinowski. For 10 points, name this ethnic group studied in *Facing Mount Kenya*.

ANSWER: Kikuyu people [or Agikuyu people]

15. A text named for these things ends with a poetic verse encouraging the listener to liken the world to a series of fleeting things, such as "a star at dawn, a bubble in a stream." In Shingon Buddhism, a mandala representing a location named for these things is hung on the western wall of a temple to represent the home of the Five Wisdom Buddhas. While walking through a market selling wood, Huineng became awakened after hearing the lines "let your mind flow freely without dwelling on anything" from a text named for these things. The (\*) Womb Realm is paired with a realm named for these things in Mahayana Buddhism. A text named for these things is phrased as a dialogue in a grove between the Buddha and Subhuti. Either thunderbolts or these objects lend their name to the Vajrayana sect. For 10 points, name these jewels which name a sutra that "cuts through illusion."

ANSWER: diamonds [accept Diamond Sutra or Diamond Realm]

16. The author of this book described it as "a meditation on the state of our souls." This book cites Jonathan Swift's description of Laputa as an early criticism of the scientific mindset that enabled Soviet tyranny. It argues that Bolero is the only piece of classical music with erotic rhythms, unlike rock music, which is a modern incarnation of the Dionysian of Nietzsche - a philosopher whom this book contrasts with Plato. This book's author was encouraged to publish it by Saul Bellow, whose friendship with the author inspired *Ravelstein*. This book draws on its author's experiences with the takeover of Willard Straight Hall by (\*) Black Power activists during protests in 1969. This book states that only Western societies allow the questioning of the rightness of one's own culture, and that this "openness" has degenerated into mindless relativism. For 10 points, name this 1987 book which argues that modern universities mentally impoverish students, a book by Allan Bloom.

ANSWER: *The Closing of the American Mind*

17. Tacitus relates that the Suebi placed a sacred chariot covered in cloth in one of these locations and dedicated it to Nerthus. At one of these locations in Epirus, women called *peleïades* served as priestesses. Places of worship called *nemeta* were examples of these locations, as was a famous sanctuary dedicated to an Italic goddess located on the north side of Lake Nemi. The oracle at (\*) Dodona was situated in one of these locations. Erisychthon of Thessaly was punished for ordering the destruction of one of these locations sacred to Demeter. Celtic druids took their name from legends and myths associated with these locations. For 10 points, identify these locations, in one of which Artemis was caught bathing by Actaeon.

ANSWER: sacred groves [or forests; or woods; or thickets; accept anything indicating a group of trees; accept lakes due to possible clue confusion; if someone buzzes with an answer referring oracles then *prompt* by asking “what sort of location is that oracle located in?” because all the oracle clues refer to Dodona]

18. Persian study of this subject was introduced to Arabic-speaking audiences in Farabi’s *Great Book of [it]*. Book III of Plato’s *Republic*, which *does not* [emphasize] advocate the expulsion of this subject’s practitioners, divides it into three components and advocates training in it for the city’s guardians to balance their ferocity. Al-Ghazali, who wrote a treatise on this subject, argued that - unless it’s associated with something that’s already *haram* - it is permissible, particularly if it (\*) expresses the divine. Medieval thinkers called proportions between the movement of celestial bodies “[this] of the spheres.” Treatises on *maqams* in this subject have been written by many Islamic scholars, most of whom consider Western forms of it *haram* but almost all of whom approve of *nasheeds*. For 10 points, identify this subject in which Pythagorean ratios were used to construct harmonic scales.

ANSWER: music [accept harmony until “harmonic” is read]

19. A cathedral in this city is named for a saint who shoplifted food for the poor as part of his lifestyle as a “fool for Christ” in the 16th century. That cathedral here was constructed in imitation of the Heavenly City from the Book of Revelation. This city’s Optina Monastery trained many elders known as *starets*. St. Job was the first holder of a religious office based in this city whose holder has life tenure and can only be deposed by the Council of Bishops. Five members of a (\*) punk band were arrested for violating one of this city’s cathedrals in 2012. As part of the canonization of some “new martyrs” in the 1980s, a religious leader of this city named Tikhon was made a saint. The completion of this city’s Cathedral of Christ the Savior was commemorated with a musical overture that famously makes use of cannons. For 10 points, name this city home to St. Basil’s Cathedral.

ANSWER: Moscow [or Moskva]

20. This character floats away laughing after impregnating the daughter of a king who captured him, which results in the birth of Wudga. This character’s brothers steal the cloaks of three swan-princesses, forcing them to remain in human form and allowing this character to marry one of them. This character is called “prince of the elves” in a namesake poem from the *Poetic Edda* in which he is abandoned on an island hamstrung by the king (\*) *Níðuðr* [“*NI-thuth-ur*”]. This character creates an object which is stuck by a disguised Odin into the tree *Barnstokkr* in the hall of *Völsung*, after which that object is retrieved by a hero who uses it to slay the dragon *Fafnir*. For 10 points, name this forger of *Gram*, a legendary Germanic smith.

ANSWER: Wayland the Smith [or Völundr]