

VETO 2015, FAR SIDE team bonuses

Bonuses 2 through 8 come with visuals in a separate file, [FAR SIDE-visuals.pdf](#).

BONUS 1

Auditory bonus: Omit if no working audio.

If anyone has a smartphone, direct it to website: <http://caql.org/violin/>

I'll play you three twenty-second excerpts from famous violin concerti. Name the composer of each one, for 10 points apiece.

A. [[[Click to play FAR SIDE-audio1A.mp3](#)]]

Answer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

B. [[[Click to play FAR SIDE-audio1B.mp3](#)]]

Answer: Jean (or Johan Julius Christian) Sibelius

C. [[[Click to play FAR SIDE-audio1C.mp3](#)]]

Answer: Antonio Lucio Vivaldi

BONUS 2

[[[Get visual](#) or HAND OUT PAGE SHOWING AERIAL VIEWS OF CITIES]]

You've just been handed a page showing aerial views of three Canadian cities, all of which are among the top twenty-five in Canada in population. All three views are at the same scale, and a red dot in each view marks the location of the city hall. You have 30 seconds to give me all the answers together.

Answers:

A. Halifax, Nova Scotia

B. Windsor, Ontario

C. Calgary, Alberta

BONUS 3

[[[Get visual](#) or HAND OUT PAGE SHOWING POETIC TEXT]]

You've just been handed the first page of a poem as it appeared in its original publication, with the title and the first line removed. First I'll give you 15 seconds to look at it, and then tell me, for ten points, the title of the poem, either in the original language or in English translation.

Answer: Ode to Joy, or Ode an die Freude

For ten more, who wrote it?

Answer: Johann Christoph Friedrich von Schiller

For a final ten points, Schiller published the poem in what magazine that shared its name with the Greek Muse of comedy and pastoral poetry?

Answer: Thalia

BONUS 4

[[[Get visual](#) or HAND OUT PAGE SHOWING MATRIX OF NUMBERS]]

You've just been handed a page showing a matrix. For five points per answer, give me its rank, its determinant, its trace, and all three of its eigenvalues. You have 30 seconds.

Answers:

rank 2 (two)

determinant 0 (zero)

trace 6 (six)

eigenvalues 2 (two), 4 (four), 0 (zero)

(For anyone who asks: The rank is the number of linearly independent columns. Since this is a lower-triangular matrix, the determinant is the product of the diagonal entries, and the eigenvalues are the diagonal entries. The trace is always the sum of the diagonal entries.)

BONUS 5

[[[Get visual](#) or HAND OUT PAGE SHOWING TABLE OF NUMBERS]]

You've just been handed a table showing the value of exports of merchandise from each province in 2014, in millions of dollars, by Canada's top twelve export categories. As indicated, Ontario is number one, and Prince Edward Island is number ten. I'll give you 60 seconds to look at this table and then pick any six of the number rankings, two through nine, and tell me which province each one corresponds to. To help you out, in each category, I've underlined the entry for the province with the highest value of exports in the category.

Answers:

2. Alberta

3. Quebec

4. British Columbia

5. Saskatchewan

6. Manitoba

7. Newfoundland and Labrador

8. New Brunswick

9. Nova Scotia

BONUS 6

[[[Get visual](#) or HAND OUT PAGE SHOWING PAINTINGS]]

I've just given you a page showing three paintings from the 1880s or 1890s of locations in Paris. I'll give you 30 seconds to look at them and then tell me both the location and the painter of each work, for 5 points per answer.

Answers:

A. a bar at the (or un bar aux) Folies-Bergère

Édouard Manet

B. the (or le) Moulin Rouge

Henri Marie Raymond de Toulouse-Lautrec-Monfa

C. the Island of (or l'Île de) la Grande Jatte

Georges-Pierre Seurat

BONUS 7

[[[Get visual](#) or HAND OUT PAGE SHOWING AERIAL VIEW OF ARCHIPELAGO]]

On March 9, 2016, a total solar eclipse will be visible from some southeast Asian islands. I've just handed you a map of the path of totality. I'll give you 15 seconds to look at it and then, for 10 points each, name the three indicated major islands from which you can view the eclipse.

Answers:

- A. Sumatra
 - B. Borneo (or Kalimantan)
 - C. Sulawesi (or Celebes)
-

BONUS 8

[[[Get visual](#) or HAND OUT PAGE SHOWING TEXT OF PLAY]]

I've just handed you an excerpt of a play, with the names of the characters replaced by letters A through D. First, look at it for 20 seconds and tell me, for ten points, the title of the play.

Answer: Waiting for Godot

For 10 more points, name the character indicated as "A".

Answer: Lucky

For 5 points each, name the characters indicated as "C" and "D", in either order, whose roles extend from the beginning to the end of the play.

Answers: Vladimir and Estragon

(If anyone cares, character "C" is Pozzo.)

BONUS 9

For ten points each, name these things about important civil-rights decisions by the Supreme Court of Canada.

A. In 1937, this province passed "An Act to Ensure the Publication of Accurate News and Information", which was ruled unconstitutional the following year by the Supreme Court.

Answer: Alberta

B. In 1959, the Court ruled that Quebec Premier Maurice Duplessis had committed a civil wrong by revoking the liquor licence of restaurateur Frank Roncarelli, an adherent of this religion, who had irritated the premier by providing bail for many co-religionists.

Answer: Jehovah's Witnesses

C. In 1970, in the case *R. v. Drybones*, the Court overturned section 94(b) of the Indian Act, which had prohibited Indians off reserve from engaging in what activity, though there was no law against non-Indians doing the same thing?

Answer: being drunk (*accept equivalents; prompt on "drinking" or "consuming alcohol"*)

BONUS 10

Name these new entries that were added to the Oxford English Dictionary last month. Ten points each.

A. "A short video, especially an instalment in a drama or comedy series, which is presented online rather than being broadcast on television."

Answer: webisode

B. "A person who eats discarded food, typically collected from the refuse of shops or restaurants, for ethical or ecological reasons."

Answer: freegan

C. A two-word phrase, "Used in reference to the phenomenon whereby a humanoid robot or computer-generated figure bearing a close but imperfect resemblance to a human being arouses a sense of unease or revulsion in a person viewing it."

Answer: uncanny valley

BONUS 11

The Canadian Medical Association expressed disappointment when on May 6, 2015, the House of Commons defeated, by one vote, Bill C-356, a private member's bill introduced by NDP MP Claude Gravelle. For ten points each:

A. The title of the bill was "An Act respecting a National Strategy for" what?

Answer: dementia

B. Though opposed by the government, the bill received support from nine backbench Conservatives as well as from all non-Conservative MPs with the exception of what newly independent MP, a chiropractor representing Nanaimo-Alberni?

Answer: James Lunney

C. In 2013, Lunney had introduced his own private member's bill, C-388, which would designate November 2 each year as the national day of what vitamin?

Answer: Vitamin D

BONUS 12

"Soil" is a four-letter word, and so are all four of the answers to this bonus on soil science. You'll get 5, 10, 20, or 30 points for getting one, two, three or four of them correct, according to Agriculture Canada definitions.

A. What do you call soil consisting of particles of diameter less than two microns?

Answer: clay

B. What do you call soil consisting of particles of diameter greater than fifty microns?

Answer: sand

C. What do you call soil consisting of particles of diameter between two and fifty microns?

Answer: silt

D. What do you call soil material that is seven to twenty-seven percent clay, twenty-eight to fifty percent silt, and thirteen to fifty-two percent sand?

Answer: loam

BONUS 13

Name these Principles, so called. Ten points each.

A. In the nineteen fifties, Neil Wilson coined this term for the methodological presumption made in seeking to understand a point of view whereby we seek to understand that view in its strongest, most persuasive form before subjecting the view to evaluation.

Answer: the Principle of Charity

B. Emerging in the nineteen eighties, this is an approach to risk management that says that when human activities may lead to morally unacceptable harm that is scientifically plausible but uncertain, actions shall be taken to avoid or diminish that harm.

Answers: the Precautionary Principle

C. In John Rawls's theory of justice, this principle says that social and economic inequalities must be to the greatest benefit of the least advantaged members of society.

Answer: the Difference Principle (or Maximin Principle)

BONUS 14

Enough about "peak oil"; name these other "peak" phenomena that have been observed. Ten points each.

A. In 2010, Adam Millard-Ball and Lee Schipper published a study showing that in eight industrialized countries including Canada, this activity had been level or on the decline since 2003, possibly due to aging populations and higher prices.

Answer: peak travel

B. In April 2014, researchers from the University of New South Wales published an article in *Biology Letters* showing evidence of negative frequency-dependent selection in this grooming trend among humans.

Answer: peak beard

C. Writing in *Maclean's* magazine in October 2014, Heidi Staseson suggested that this may have reached its peak a year after Tim Hortons introduced this flavour of Muffin, Donut, and Timbit. Twelve years ago, Starbucks introduced a latte in this flavour that has become its top-selling seasonal beverage.

Answer: peak pumpkin spice

BONUS 15

The Congress of Vienna wrapped up two hundred years ago last month. Name these powers that made gains from it, for ten points each.

A. This new kingdom in personal union with King George the Third of Britain replaced the former Electorate of Brunswick-Lüneburg. George the Third's father and grandfather had both been born in its capital.

Answer: Hanover

B. This country acquired Danzig, Posen and Swedish Pomerania.

Answer: Prussia

C. This country picked up Lombardy, Venice, and the Dalmatian coast.

Answer: Austria

BONUS 16

Name these places beset by floods in 2015.

A. In March, the city of Antofagasta at the edge of this desert experienced flash floods during a twenty-four hour period in which twenty-four point four millimetres of rain fell, which is seven times the average rainfall for an entire year.

Answer: Atacama Desert

B. In May, parts of this American state set records for the most rainfall ever, causing the Blanco River to rise seven point eight metres in one hour, wiping out much of the town of Wimberley.

Answer: Texas

C. In June, a flood of the Vere River in this capital of a former Soviet republic hit the local zoo, letting loose many animals including bears, wolves, lions, tigers, jaguars, and a hippopotamus.

Answer: Tbilisi (or Tiflis), Georgia

BONUS 17

Last month, sixty fossils were returned to Canada to be housed at the Canadian Museum of Nature. For 10 points each:

A. These fossils discovered on Ellesmere Island in 2004 were of what extinct sarcopterygian, an intermediary between fish and amphibians?

Answer: Tiktaalik roseae

B. Tiktaalik lived around 375 million years ago during what geologic period that ended with a major extinction?

Answer: (late) Devonian period

C. Tiktaalik lived in the stream systems of what ancient continent covering most of eastern

North America and Greenland, that was actually located near the equator at the time?

Answer: Laurentia

BONUS 18

Give the titles of these twentieth-century novels set on the Canadian Prairies. Ten points each.

A. The narrator, Naomi Nakane, is a schoolteacher in Cecil, Alberta, whose visit to her aunt Aya brings back memories of being forced to leave their Vancouver home and subsequent hardships during and after the second world war.

Answer: Obasan

B. By observing his friend Forbsie's pigeons and rabbits, then losing his family dog and his own father, Brian O'Connell learns about life and death in this coming-of-age story set in small-town Saskatchewan.

Answer: Who Has Seen the Wind?

C. Ninety-year-old Hagar Shipley looks back at her long life from her childhood with her widowed father in Manawaka, Manitoba, through her tempestuous marriage to Bram Shipley, and her moves to Vancouver and back to Manawaka.

Answer: The Stone Angel

BONUS 19

Give the names of these new year's events, for ten points each.

A. This Persian new year is celebrated in Iran and neighbouring countries on the spring equinox.

Answer: Nowruz (or Navruz)

B. This new year's eve celebration in Scotland is the origin of singing "Auld Lang Syne", and also includes the custom of first-footing, being the first person to cross the threshold of a house after midnight.

Answer: Hogmanay

C. Throughout much of Europe including Germany, Austria, Italy, Poland, and Hungary, new year's eve is known as this day as December 31 is the feast day of the Pope who converted Constantine the Great.

Answer: Saint Sylvester(’s day)

BONUS 20

Name these dynasties that once controlled the city of Baghdad, Iraq. Ten points each.

A. Baghdad was founded in 762 by caliph Al-Mansur of what dynasty that had Baghdad as its capital for most of the next five centuries?

Answer: Abbasid dynasty

B. In 1509, Shah Ismail the First, the Shi'a founder of this Persian dynasty, took over Baghdad, and he and his son Tahmasp the First held the city for twenty-five years.

Answer: Safavid dynasty

C. This dynasty captured Baghdad from the Safavids in 1534 and held it for most of the next four centuries, until losing it, as well as everything else, in the first world war.

Answer: Ottoman Turkish dynasty

BONUS 21

Name these Chinese provinces, for 10 points each.

A. This province includes the peninsula of the same name, and is located east of the Taihang Mountains. Its capital is Jinan, and it includes the port city of Qingdao.

Answer: Shandong

B. Known for having the mildest climate in China, this mountainous inland southwestern province has borders with Burma, Laos, and Vietnam.

Answer: Yunnan

C. An Autonomous Region with its capital at Hohhot, it begins two hundred kilometres north of Beijing and extends as far as the edge of the Tibetan Plateau.

Answer: Inner Mongolia (or Nèi Měnggǔ)

BONUS 22

Name these organic solvents, for ten points each.

A. Commonly used in laboratories as a cleaning solvent, it is the active ingredient in most nail polish removers and paint thinners.

Answer: acetone

B. Used mainly in making other chemicals such as the plastic polystyrene and cyclohexane, a precursor to nylon, it was once used for decaffeinating coffee and as an after-shave lotion, until it was found to be carcinogenic.

Answer: benzene

C. With similar properties to benzene but less toxic, this other chemical has replaced benzene in many industrial applications. It has also been used as an octane booster for gasoline, and to remove the cocaine from coca leaves to make Coca-Cola.

Answer: toluene

Vancouver Estival Trivia Open, 2015, FAR SIDE team