

MASSOLIT Round 3

(1) One character in this story is impressed that another exchanged twenty-three sword strokes with him before losing, as no one had ever lasted that long before. A woman in this story fails to commit suicide by stabbing her throat and throwing herself into a (+) pond, and her sword is used by another character for his suicide, as told through a medium. One character is arrested with seventeen arrows in his quiver, although a Buddhist (*) priest claims there were more than twenty. A rope and comb are found as the only evidence for a crime off the Yamashina stage road for which Tajomaru is arrested. For ten points, name this short story in which three different accounts are given for a murder in the title location written by Ryunosuke Akutagawa.

ANSWER: *In a Grove* (or *Yabu no Naka*)

(2) This poem uses the image of “TV’s giant paperclip” from its author’s earlier poem *The Swing* in describing his garden among “the svelte/ stilettos of a frozen stillicide”. This poem’s third section abbreviates Institute of Preparation for the Hereafter as “Iph”. Its second canto tells of a (+) geology field trip on which the author fell in love with his eventual wife, Sybil, and says “She may not be a beauty, but she’s cute” before the icy lake death of his daughter, (*) Hazel. This poem’s use of the word “gradual” arguably refers to Jakob Gradus, a would-be Zemblan assassin. The couplet of this poem’s final line is completed by the first line, “I was the shadow of the waxwing slain”. For ten points, name this 999-line John Shade poem commented on by Charles Kinbote in an eponymous novel by Vladimir Nabokov.

ANSWER: *Pale Fire*

(3) The narrator of this novel briefly works for Nanantatee, who pays for everything with pearls, and he visits the Pension Orfila because his girlfriend Mona had been obsessed with Strindberg. The narrator of this novel is forced to leave the apartment of the (+) artist Kruger so that he would not die in front of a potential patron. The narrator is invited to move to Crimea with his lover, although declines for fear that he could not find work as a proofreader. The narrator claims that (*) “Paris is a whore” and declares in his opening monologue that “I am fucking you, Tania, so that you’ll stay fucked”. A Russian princess named Macha moves in with the narrator and Fillmore, the latter of whom abandons Ginette and returns to America. For ten points, name this autobiographical novel about expatriates written by Henry Miller.

ANSWER: *Tropic of Cancer*

(4) In one work by this author, the narrator mentions giving away copies of Omar Khayyam in a monologue criticizing Christmas presents. Another title character of this writer ate a gipsy child before being hit by a car, resulting in a diamond brooch for the on-looking baroness. In addition to (+) Reginald and Esmé the hyena, he wrote of a woman for whom “Romance at short notice was her specialty”. While on a Carpathian hunting trip, a fallen (*) limb traps two enemies, Georg Znaeym and Ulrich von Gradwitz, until wolves arrive. One character’s sudden departure in one story is explained with a dog chase in India, although he had earlier been told that the returning hunting crew had been dead for three years. For ten points, name this author of the short stories *The Interlopers* and *The Open Window*.

ANSWER: Saki or Hector Hugh Munro

(5) This novel features the fiery death and consummation of Sister Aidan. Much of this novel is told through letters from Gabriel van Onselen to his aunt. Following his conviction for violating the (+) Immorality Act, Jan Fischer commits suicide. While sitting in the home of Robert Mansfield, Prem Bodasingh was shot in her face; earlier, Prem had sat in protest in the Municipal Reference Library as part of the (*) Defiance Campaign in Durban. This novel, which contains the section The Cleft Stick, chronicles anti-apartheid activism in the 1950s. For ten points, identify this novel by Alan Paton whose name refers to the reaction of foreign visitors observing South African politics.

ANSWER: *Ah, But Your Land is Beautiful*

(6) This poem states that “there at the bottom the eyes of a girl drowned a thousand years ago” show “glance of the aged mother”. The narrator of this poem discusses making plans “with Phyllis, who had two dimples in her cheeks where sparrows came to drink the light”. The middle of this poem evokes (+) historical events, describing two people making love during the 1937 siege of Madrid and noting “the numbered steps of Lincoln as he left/ for the theater” and (*) “Madero’s gaze/ that no one returned: why are they killing me?” This poem’s last six lines repeat its first six, which mention “a crystal willow, a poplar of water” and “a course of a river that turns, moves on/ doubles back, and comes full circle”. For ten points, name this 584-line poem based on the Aztec calendar written by Octavio Paz.

ANSWER: *Sunstone* (or *Piedra de Sol*)

(7) One character in this play says that Indians “like to talk to salesmen”. Another character in this play becomes an accomplice in a crime “because [he] listened”, while his partner forms an (+) alibi by going to the Como Inn. Characters in this play use the “Kenilworth” trick to avoid talking to James Lingk. One character in this play cannot afford a one-hundred dollar bribe, so he takes something off the (*) B list, as his two bosses would not give him anything better. A crime in this play is investigated by Baylen, although Williamson solves it when Levene caught him in a lie. The salesmen Dave Moss and Ricky Roma work for Mitch and Murray in, for ten points, which play about Chicago real estate agents by David Mamet?

ANSWER: *Glengarry Glen Ross*

(8) The protagonist of this novel comes up with an elaborate comeback to her boyfriend’s assertion that a poem is a “piece of dust”, and later tells him she has a date with Peter the Hermit and Walter the Penniless. The protagonist of this novel petitions her (+) college dean to audit Mr. Manzi’s chemistry class. The protagonist turns down a job as a waitress at a sanatorium in order to go to New York City, and later breaks her leg skiing while at the sanatorium visiting (*) Buddy Willard. She is sponsored at a hospital by the wealthy novelist, who had given her a scholarship before she interned at Ladies’s Day Magazine, named Philomena Guinea. While in the hospital, she receives shock therapy under Doctor Nolan. For ten points, name this novel about the suicidal Esther Greenwood written by Sylvia Plath.

ANSWER: *The Bell Jar*

(9) One man in this work is sacrificing his house for the construction of a fire lane, but he dies when it collapses early. Another figure in this work, while being treated for a weeks-old broken leg, is found to have spot hemorrhages. The Jesuit priest (+) Father Kleinsorge finds pumpkins roasted on the vine and a group of twenty soldiers with their eyes melted out. A Molotov flower basket or fine magnesium powder are theorized as the medium of an (*) attack, whose refugees gather in Asano Park to be cared for by Mr. Tanimoto. This work is divided into sections including *The Details Are Being Investigated* and *The Noiseless Flash* and begins “at exactly fifteen minutes past eight in the morning on August 6, 1945”. For ten points, name this work of journalism by John Hersey profiling six survivors of the first atom bomb attack.

ANSWER: *Hiroshima*

(10) The title character of one of this man's poems is described as "Too poor to shine in courts, too proud to beg" as he "Sits musing o'er his scars, and wooden leg" and he was left only "famine and a name". Another poem by this author declares that "By midnight moons" (+) "The hunter still the deer pursues", as images called "fancies of a ruder race" depict "Activity, that knows no rest". That poem questions the notion of death as "soul's eternal sleep". Another work assures the title figure (*) "No roving foot shall crush you here" before admitting "I grieve to see your future doom". This poet of *The American Soldier* and *The Indian Burying Ground* wrote that "From morning suns and evening dews" "The space between is but an hour/The frail duration of a flower". For ten points, name this poet of *The Wild Honey Suckle*.

ANSWER: Philip Freneau

(11) One character in this work is appalled when a friend tells her that her dress "will be heavier soon by the weight of a man." Another character in this play is told not to swear by his sword, but to eat it, and he had earlier ended a string of back-and-forth (+) insults saying "I would my horse had the speed of your tongue"; that man was called a "the prince's jester: a very dull fool" while disguised at a ball. A wedding is (*) canceled when the groom declares the bride's "blush is guiltiness, not modesty". The report of "comprehend[ing] two auspicious persons" is given by the constable Dogberry. A liaison between Margaret and Borachio causes a rift between Claudio and Hero. For ten points, name this play culminating in the marriage of Beatrice and Benedick written by William Shakespeare.

ANSWER: *Much Ado About Nothing*

(12) In one work, this character is called a "madman/ who idly strolls through life". This character brings a blind fiddler he met on the street to dinner at the Sign of the Golden Lion. In another work, this character enters chasing his future wife in a game of (+) cat-and-mouse. His affair with Katherina Cavalieri is avenged when he is refused tutorship of Princess Elizabeth. In one work, this man dies when his drink is (*) poisoned by a rival, while in another, he dies in the arms of his wife, Constanze. One of his works has a dance scene removed as ballet, while another work of this composer is criticized for "too many notes" by Joseph, the Emperor of Austria. For ten points, name this character of Alexander Pushkin and Peter Schaffer whose rivalry with Salieri was the subject of *Amadeus*.

ANSWER: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(13) In one story by this author, the voice of the Sweeney's nurse is identified as she read about the Yonghy-Bonghy-Bo. Another work by this author ends with the burning of the manor at Clear Haven, where one character had found his wife after his name was tarnished by a bandleader's wife. That character's brother worked as a (+) Taper on Island 93, and his father had lost his ship, the Topaze, while crossing the Nagansakit. Those characters, from a novel based in St Botolphs, were (*) Moses, Coverly, and Leander. Another protagonist of this author traveled across the county from pool to pool before finding his house empty and was named Neddy Merrill. For ten points, name this author who wrote stories *The Enormous Radio* and *The Swimmer* for *The New Yorker* and wrote the novel *The Wapshot Chronicle*.

ANSWER: John Cheever

(14) This character claims indifference to "the bearer of Flemish wheat or English cottons". This character dreams of "the yellow and blue awakening of singing phosphorous" and sees in a sunrise "long violet clots/ Resembling actors of very ancient dramas". This character tells of (+) "yelping redskins" taking his companions and "nail[ing] them naked to colored stakes" and of enduring "droppings of noisy birds with yellow eyes". This figure says "I should have liked to show children those (*) sunfish", but abruptly changes tone to declare "Every moon is atrocious and every sun bitter" and to express feeling "swollen...with intoxicating torpor" before imploring "O let me go into the sea!" and "let my keel burst!" For ten points, name this title vessel of an Arthur Rimbaud poem about its free floating.

ANSWER: the drunken boat (or *le* Bateau ivre)

(15) This man's father states that "Sire, I am the head, he but an arm of mine" in appealing to the king to save his life. This man summarizes his principal dilemma as "One makes me sad, the other unworthy". This character is told "I admire your courage, but regret your youth/ Do not attempt this fateful trial" by the man he (+) challenges to a duel, although that man later accepts and loses. In one play in which he appears, two noblemen disagree about the newly-named tutor to the Prince of (*) Castile. This man's love begs the king to make him fight Don Sanche, with the winner receiving her hand. This lover of Chimène earned his title for capturing two enemy kings during a naval invasion by the Moors. For ten points, name this Spanish national hero and title character of a Pierre Corneille play.

ANSWER: El Cid (or Le Cid or Don Rodrigue, prompt on "Rodrigo")

(16) A group of girls in this work sing to kiss Gwennie or give her a penny. The clock has been stopped for fifty years at a bar in this work called Sailors Arms, run by Sinbad. Mr Utah Watkins counts sheep at Salt Lake Farm, and another character is told of his drunken antics by his wife, (+) Mrs Cherry Owen. Dai Bread has two wives and Mrs Ogmores-Pritchard nags her two former husbands. The central town is woken up by a sermon on (*) Coronation Street delivered by Reverend Eli Jenkins. This work features romances between Lily Smalls and Nogood Boyo and between the businessman Mog and Myfanwy Price. This work opens with the dreams of characters including Captain Cat and Organ Morgan. For ten points, identify this “play for voices” about the residents of Llaregub written by Dylan Thomas.

ANSWER: Under Milk Wood

(17) This author wrote a short story in which the plain title character is pursued by the handsome John Marble, causing her mother to anticipate the failure of their marriage. In addition to telling about the widow Mrs. Ewing in (+) *Lolita*, this writer told of a character who gave his wife a black eye and left her for two days when she joked about it while drinking. The protagonist of that story toasts drinks with her husband saying “Here’s mud in your eye!”. She spends nights at (*) Jimmy’s with her boyfriends when that husband, Herbie, leaves her for Detroit. That title character travels to New Jersey to obtain two vials of veronal, but her attempt at suicide with them is unsuccessful. For ten points, name this author who created Hazel Morse in *Big Blonde*, a founding member of the Algonquin Round Table.

ANSWER: Dorothy Parker

(18) This man referenced Carl Sandburg in a poem saying “chicago? the hogbutcher! meatpucker! whatever! who cares? it’s also like cleveland! like cincinnati!” Another poem by this man begins “aretha/ crystal jukebox queen of hymn & him” and declares “now’s not the time to act silly, so wear your big boots & jump on the garbage clowns”. This man wrote of the title entity (+) “Blowing like a circle around my skull/ From the Grand Coulee Dam to the Capital” in a work that repeats “It’s a wonder that you still know how to breathe”. This poet of the collection (*) *Tarantula* included *Idiot Wind* in his *Blood on the Tracks*. For ten points, identify this poet of who is also known for writing and playing songs such as *Subterranean Homesick Blues* and *Mr. Tambourine Man*, the 2016 Nobel Laureate in Literature.

ANSWER: Bob Dylan (or Robert Allan Zimmerman)

(19) One character in this novel writes the story *The Mountain Eyrie* about a fiance thought to have died in World War I surviving in the hills. Another character uses the examples of Florence Nightingale and Anna Pavlova to demonstrate that women don't need "team spirit". After being told to fight for (+) Franco, Joyce Emily Hammond dies in a train attack in Spain. This novel's protagonist was seen kissing the one-armed teacher in the art room; (*) Mr. Lloyd later paints Rose Stanley, who is "famous for sex", and sleeps with Sandy, who betrays the protagonist to Miss Mackay for her fascist sympathies. The protagonist insists that "All my pupils are the crème de la crème". For ten points, name this novel about a girls' school teacher and her "set" of six chosen proteges written by Muriel Spark.

ANSWER: *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*

(20) One character created by this playwright is wished "cordolences" after the death of his grandfather and ends that play frantically hatching eggs. In a prequel, that character rejects a girl on account of her two noses, but ultimately agrees to marry Roberta. This playwright, who followed (+) *Jack, or Obedience* with *The Future is in Eggs*, created a character who impresses her teacher by naming all four seasons, but the teacher is upset that she can add and multiply but not subtract; that teacher ignores her toothache and (*) stabs her to death. In another play, a cat is trampled, the Logician is identified by his boater hat, Jean's skin turns green, and the protagonist is left by Daisy. For ten points, name this man who wrote *The Lesson* and of Berenger's refusal to transform in *Rhinoceros*.

ANSWER: Eugène Ionesco (or Eugen Ionescu)