

Dagor Buzzollach: J. R. R. Tolkien questions for the 2020 Internet Charity Tournament

By Stephen Eltinge

Note to moderators: I tried to provide pronunciation guides for difficult non-English words, which you should use if you feel comfortable with them. If not, a phonetic English pronunciation will get the idea across. In non-English words, you should trill the letter 'r' if you can.

Moderators, please read the following notes to your players:

Notes to players:

1. Throughout this packet, the word “person” could indicate any type of humanoid character, including but not limited to humans, Elves, Dwarves, Hobbits, Ainur, and Orcs. The words “man” and “woman” are used specifically for humans.
2. For the sake of consistency, this packet uses the past tense wherever possible, at odds with standard practice for describing fictional plots. The use of the past tense does not imply a particular time relation to either *The Lord of the Rings* or any other source.

1. *Ithildin* was used to mark the star of the House of Fëanor [FEH-ah-nor] on one of these features, which bore an inscription crediting it to Narvi. That example of these features was unaffected by the phrase “*Annon edhellen, edro hi ammen.*” According to a passage in moon-letters, one of these features was revealed by the setting sun on the last light of Durin’s Day; that one was described as “five feet high and three may walk abreast.” Gandalf was exasperated by one of these features outside Moria until he realized that its password was *Mellon*, the Sindarin word for “friend.” For 10 points, Bag End’s example of what type of house feature is green and perfectly round, with a brass knob in the center?

ANSWER: **doors** [accept the **Doors** of Durin or West-**door** of Moria or Elven **Door** or Back **Door**; prompt on gates; prompt on entrances]

2. This person originated the oath “*Et Eärello Endoreenna utúlien,*” which was repeated by a descendant of his in T.A. 3019. This person was initially buried in a secret tomb on Halifirien, though Cirion [KEE-ree-on] the steward later moved his body to the Rath Dínen. This person founded the city of Annúminas at the same time as his relatives founded Minas [MEE-nas] Anor and Minas Ithil. Known as “the Tall,” he landed in Lindon after escaping the destruction of Númenor, and was slain alongside Gil-galad outside Barad-dûr. For 10 points, name this Man who ruled the kingdoms of Arnor and Gondor and left them to his sons Isildur and Anárion [ah-NAH-ree-on].

ANSWER: **Elendil** [eh-LEN-deel] the Tall

3. In this language, the land where it is spoken was called Lōgrad. The Hobbit endonym *kuduk* derived from this language’s word *kûd-dûkan*, or “hole-dweller,” and Hobbits apparently noticed its striking similarities to their own language. Though Legolas could not speak this language, he described it as “hard and stern as the mountains” and “laden with sadness.” The speakers of this language called themselves the *Eorlingas* [er-LEEN-gas] after the name of their first king. This language is rendered in the books as very similar to Old English. Théodred and Éowyn are names in—for 10 points—what language of a horse-riding people?

ANSWER: **Rohirric** [or **Rohirian**; or **Rohanese**; accept the language of **Rohan** or the **Rohirrim**]

4. Tuor followed this number of swans for this number of days to the city of Vinyamar, putting one feather from each of them into his helm when he arrived. The hidden path to Gondolin [GON-doh-leen] was protected by this many gates, each made of a different material. The Quenya word for this number is *otso*, as seen in the name of Ossiriand, the “land of [this many] rivers.” Elendil [eh-LEN-deel] brought this many *palantíri* [pa-lan-TEER-ee] to Middle-Earth. Durin was the oldest of this many patriarchs, each of whom built a house that amassed a hoard of treasure using an object given to them by Sauron. For 10 points, how many Rings of Power were given to the Dwarves?

ANSWER: **seven** [accept **otso** before “*otso*”]

5. In one source, this person is teased by a friend for being a “Muddy-feet,” “Penny-wise tub-on-legs.” In *The Adventures of Tom Bombadil*, Tom meets up with this person and spends a night with him at Bamfurlong. This person threatened to sic his dogs Grip, Fang, and Wolf on a Nazgûl who came asking for “Baggins,” but he did reveal that the Bagginses lived in Hobbiton. Though this resident of Eastfarthing bore a grudge against Frodo for trying to steal his mushrooms, he chaperoned the Ring-bearer’s company from his fields to Buckleberry Ferry. For 10 points, name this Hobbit farmer who was unrelated to the fly larva of the same name.

ANSWER: Farmer **Maggot**

6. In a 2003 strip of the comic strip *FoxTrot*, Jason asserted his nerd bona fides by recalling how he drew a map of this city on his binder. The usurper Castamir besieged Eldacar in this city in the Kin-strife of T.A. 1437, during which its Dome of the Stars was destroyed. In *The Fellowship of the Ring*, Sauron hid the release of the Nazgûl within a larger assault on this city, whose last bridge was destroyed in a fierce defense by Boromir. The largest and most powerful *palantír* [pa-LAN-teer] was kept in—for 10 points—what former capital of Gondor, a ruined city that straddled the Anduin between Minas [MEE-nas] Tirith and Minas Morgul?

ANSWER: **Osgiliath**

7. Two of these people named Eluréd [EH-loo-red] and Elurín [EH-loo-reen] were left to starve by the Sons of Fëanor [FEH-ah-nor] during the Second Kinslaying. When meeting Prince Imrahil, Legolas alluded to a common belief that the first Prince of Dol Amroth was one of these people. These people were known in Sindarin as *Peredhil* [PEH-reh-theel]. Tol Galen was the childhood home of the first of these people, Dior Eluchíl [EH-loo-kheel]. Some of these people, including the descendants of Tuor, Idril, Beren, and Lúthien, could choose whether to accept the Gift of Men and become mortal. For 10 points, name this class of people such as Elrond and Arwen, who had both Eldar and humans as ancestors.

ANSWER: **half-Elves** [or **half-Elven**; accept *Peredhel* or *Peredhil* before “*Peredhil*”; accept any description of someone with both **human** and **Elf** ancestry; prompt on Elves before “Imrahil,” since the characters mentioned to that point generally lived as Elves]

8. To the amusement of a social superior, this person never used the deferential pronoun, which his own dialect lacked. Nevertheless, that superior complimented this person’s “courteous speech.” This person was addressed as *Ernil i Pheriannath* [phe-ree-ANN-ath] by people who believed he was a prince bringing 5,000 soldiers with him. This person married his distant cousin Diamond of Long Cleeve seven years before inheriting his family’s hereditary title of Thain. This Hobbit befriended Beregond son of Baranor and was appointed Guard of the Citadel in Minas [MEE-nas] Tirith after being spirited away from Isengard by Gandalf. For 10 points, name this “fool of a Took” who got into trouble with Merry.

ANSWER: **Pippin** Took [or **Peregrin** Took; prompt on Took]

9. The Firebeards and the Broadbeams awoke in a general region with this adjective in its name. Two Maiar known by this adjective were renamed Morinehtar [mo-ree-NECH-tar] and Rómestámo [ro-mes-TAH-mo] in Tolkien’s late writings. A region known by this word was the home of Telchar, the creator of the blades Angrist and Narsil, as well as the cities of Nogrod and Belegost. This adjective, which is rendered as *luin* [loo-in] in Sindarin, describes Alatar and Pallando, who disappeared into the East shortly after arriving in Middle-Earth with the other Istari. It’s not white, but this color of two of the five wizards also named a mountain range found in western Eriador [eh-REE-uh-dor] in the Third Age. For 10 points, name this color that Elven blades glow in the presence of Orcs.

ANSWER: **blue** [accept **Blue** Mountains or **Blue** Wizards]

10. One of these creatures from Avathar was the first being to climb to the peak of Hyarmentir. The companions of Aredhel [AH-re-theh] met many of these creatures while journeying through the valley of Nan Dungortheb [doon-GOR-theb]. The region of Lammoth, or “Great Echo,” was named for an episode in which one of these creatures tried to eat the Silmarils. These creatures were mocked as “Old Tomnoddy” and “Lazy Lob” in a song in which Bilbo called them “Attercops.” The most famous of these creatures, a daughter of Ungoliant, fed on Orcs while guarding the pass of Cirith Ungol [KEE-reeth OON-gol]. Sam used the Phial of Galadriel to blind Shelob, a giant example of—for 10 points—what arachnids?

ANSWER: **spiders** [accept **Attercops** before “Attercops”]

11. Before Fatty Bolger triggered the Horn-call of Buckland to warn of the Nazgûl, it had last been used during one of these periods. The city of Tharbad was destroyed near the end of one of these periods, while the end of another one was marked by Fréaláf Hildeson's victorious reconquest of his kingdom's land. During one of these periods, the Dunlending Wulf briefly conquered Rohan, though he was constantly harried by raids in which Helm Hammerhand ventured out to kill men with his bare hands. The Shire was attacked by white wolves crossing the Brandywine during the "Fell" one of them, which was not quite as destructive as the aforementioned "Long" one. For 10 points, name these cold seasons.

ANSWER: **Winters** [accept Fell **Winter** or Long **Winter**]

12. Some of Tolkien's early writings used a frame story of a person in this profession named Ælfwine [ALV-win-eh] who lived in pre-Norman England. This profession appears in the title of a story whose heroine drowned in the Firth of Rómenna in the year S.A. 985. The title of Tolkien's longest story set in Númenor describes Erendis as the wife of one of these people. The Maia Uinen [OOI-nen] protected people in this profession, one of whom "tarried in Arvernien" in a song by Bilbo. Aragorn teased Bilbo for having the cheek to sing about that one of these people in the house of his son Elrond. For 10 points, name this profession of Eärendil [eh-ah-REN-deel], which in later literature includes an "ancient" man who shoots an albatross.

ANSWER: **mariners** [accept **sailors** or **seafarers** or **seamen**; accept *Aldarion and Erendis: The **Mariner's** Wife*]

13. *Note to players: Specific answer required.* Dáin [DAH-eeen] Ironfoot won fame at the age of only 32 for performing this action on this type of creature in the Battle of Azanulbizar [ah-zah-NOOL-bee-zar]. The Battle of Greenfields saw Bandobras "Bullroarer" Took perform this action on this type of creature particularly vigorously, inadvertently inventing the game of golf. This fate befell Azog in the books but not in the *Hobbit* films, where he instead dueled with Thorin. Aragorn dispatched the villain Lurtz, who is only found in the films, in this way. For 10 points, name this way to kill a certain light-fearing species, which Dwarves liked to do with axes.

ANSWER: **beheading an Orc** [or **beheading a goblin**; prompt on **kill**ing an **Orc** or **goblin** by asking "Killing in what way?"; prompt on **beheading** by asking "Beheading what type of creature?"]

14. In an early version of *The Book of Lost Tales*, this person was known as Thû. The Lay of Leithian described how this person defeated Finrod Felagund in a song contest. This person called for the creation of a massive temple in Armenelos in which the tree Nimloth was burnt. After the Dagor Bragollach [bra-GOL-akh] he lived in Tol-in-Gaurhoth, where he commanded a contingent of werewolves until he was defeated by Lúthien Tinúviel. During the Second Age, he corrupted the Númenórean king Ar-Pharazôn and convinced him to attack Valinor. For 10 points, name this servant of Morgoth who, during the Third Age, had a ring or something.

ANSWER: **Sauron** [or **Mairon**; or **Annatar**; or **Gorthaur**; or **Zigûr**]

15. A character who described these creatures emphasized their preference for "order, and plenty, and peace" over the chance to "speak with things." In an Elvish song, one of these creatures refuses an invitation by declaring "I'll linger here beneath the Sun, because my land is best!" The only member of this group given a name is Fimbrelthil. These creatures, who mysteriously disappeared towards the end of the Second Age, grew crops in what later became known as the Brown Lands, which lay across the Anduin from Fangorn Forest. For 10 points, name these gigantic females, the long-lost companions of Treebeard and his buddies.

ANSWER: **Entwives** [or **Entwife**; or **Entmaidens**; prompt on **Ents**; prompt on **Onod** or **Onodrim**]

16. Baldor son of Brego never returned from an expedition to visit these people. These people "hear a horn in the hills ringing" in the second prophecy of Malbeth the seer, which was made in the days of Arvedui [AR-veh-dwee]. Gimli is the viewpoint character for the entry into this people's land, during which he remarks that "an Elf will go underground and a Dwarf dare not!" At the Stone of Erech, these people swore an oath of loyalty to Isildur that was called in by his descendant during the War of the Ring. For 10 points, name these wraiths whose "Paths" were used by Aragorn to cross into Gondor before the Battle of Pelennor [peh-LEN-or] Fields.

ANSWER: **Dead** Men of Dunharrow [or **Oathbreakers**; accept Paths of the **Dead**]

17. Gwindor's nickname for his fiancée Finduilas [feen-DOOI-las] compared her to the sunlight at one of these places. Túrin Turambar [TOO-reen too-RAM-bar] was revived from his grief at killing Beleg after being led to one of these places by Gwindor. The only encounter between the cousins Tuor and Túrin took place at that one of these places, whose healing powers were destroyed by Glaurung in his first act upon entering Beleriand. The Vala Ulmo enchanted one of these places that lay at the feet of the Ered Wethrin and was known as Eithel Ivrin. In the Third Age, Gollum was nearly executed for stealing fish from one of these places in Henneth Annûn. Rivers like the Narog and Sirion rose from—for 10 points—what small, still bodies of water?

ANSWER: **pools** [or **eithel**; or **ponds**; or **wells**; or **springs**; or **lakes**; accept **Eithel** Ivrin]

18. This person raised an army after hearing of his father's death from his father's friend Nár; earlier, this person's father gave him a gift with the cryptic remark "it needs gold to breed gold." By the end of his life, torture had made this person forget even his own name. He had a daughter named Dís, whose children died protecting his eldest son. He was captured and imprisoned in Dol Guldur [GOOL-door], where the last of the Seven was taken from him. When Gandalf found this person in Mirkwood, he gave Gandalf the map and key to Erebor that were later used by the Company of Dwarves. For 10 points, name this Dwarf, the son of Thrór and the father of Thorin Oakenshield.

ANSWER: **Thráin** II [rhymes with "train"]

19. The film-only character Guritz laughs while using an unusual type of this general class of objects, which his commander suggests with the line "Let us ease their pain." Gandalf's command to "Send these foul beasts into the abyss!" precedes the use of a different type of these objects. Sauron's commander Gothmog orders the use of one type of these objects with the line "Release the prisoners!", and he later spits on a piece of masonry that serves as a makeshift one of them. At the Battle of Pelennor [peh-LEN-or] Fields, Sauron's forces practice psychological warfare by using severed heads as these objects. For 10 points, name this class of weapons that might be launched from a siege tower or a catapult.

ANSWER: **projectiles** [or **missiles**; accept any description of an **object** that is launched from a **catapult** or **trebuchet**; prompt on **heads** by asking "What purpose are they used for?"]

20. This material, which was said to have "snared" the essence of Laurelin, represented a "pledge of good between the Mountain and the Wood" in one appearance. According to Part Two, Chapter IV of *Unfinished Tales*, Fëanor [FEH-ah-nor] was inspired to make the Silmarils not by the Two Trees but by this material, which he asked for three times without receiving any. Gimli announced that he planned to make a setting of "imperishable crystal" for this material while receiving three strands of it, despite asking for only one. For 10 points, name this braided silvery-golden material found on the head of the queen of Lothlórien.

ANSWER: **Galadriel's hair** [prompt on **hair** by asking "Whose hair?"]

21. The Shire's most popular types of pipe-weed included Longbottom Leaf and one named for a "Southern" one of these objects. Frodo used a Quenya phrase mentioning these objects to greet Gildor's Elves, who later sang to two of them called Borgil and Menelvagor [meh-NEL-vah-gor]. The Noldor fought the Dagor-nuin-Giliath "under" these objects after returning to Beleriand. These objects were placed in Ilmen after Elbereth Gilthoniel created them from the dew of Telperion [tel-PEH-ree-on]. The ship Vingilot [VEEN-gee-lote] was turned into one of these objects after Eärendil [eh-ah-REN-deel] sailed it into the sky with a Silmaril on his brow. For 10 points, name these heavenly light sources that existed before the Sun and Moon.

ANSWER: **stars** [or **elen**; accept Battle-under-**Stars**]

22. One person with this name was a son of Lenwë [LEN-weh] who was killed on Amon Ereb in the First Battle of Beleriand; that Elf was a ruler of the Green Elves of Ossiriand. The first Man of this name was born in T.A. 2375 and succeeded his uncle Dior in his most famous post. The second Man of this name married a woman named Finduilas [feen-DOOI-las], the sister of Imrahil of Dol Amroth, and sent the Red Arrow as a call for aid. That son of Ecthelion II despaired for his kingdom after his obsessive use of a *palantír* [pa-LAN-teer], and immolated himself during the Battle of Pelennor [peh-LEN-or] Fields. For 10 points, give this name of the father of Boromir and Faramir, the final Ruling Steward of Gondor.

ANSWER: **Denethor** [accept **Denethor** I or **Denethor** II]

23. Fram, the grandfather of Eorl [erl] the Young, performed an action of this type and then bragged about it by sending a snarky message to the local Dwarves. The peaks of Thangorodrim [than-go-RODE-reem] were destroyed when Eärendil [eh-ah-REN-deel] successfully completed this kind of action. After performing this kind of action at Cabed-en-Aras, Túrin Turambar [TOO-reen too-RAM-bar] was released from a spell, realized he had married his sister, and killed himself. Bard the Bowman managed to perform this task after being told of a weak spot by Bilbo. For 10 points, name this task, which Thorin’s company hoped would allow them to take the treasure of Erebor from Smaug. ANSWER: **killing** a **dragon** [accept synonyms in place of “killing”]

Note to moderator: Please make sure to read the whole answerline before ruling on answers.

24. In his “Letter 214,” Tolkien explained that one of these actions was a consequence of failing to observe the custom of *ribadyan*. One person who tried to take this action changed his mind after tripping on a stone and hitting his head, while another person undid this action after breaking into the Tower of Cirith Ungol [KEE-reeth OON-gol]. A different person remarked “I pass the test” after refusing to take this action, while yet another did this action on his birthday by jealously killing his Stoor cousin. The only person to do it by accident found something on the floor of a tunnel shortly before meeting Gollum. For 10 points, Isildur became the first person to perform what action when he cut off one of Sauron’s fingers?

ANSWER: a new person **acquiring the One Ring** [accept **finding** or **taking** or **obtaining** or other near-synonyms in place of “acquiring”; prompt on **acquiring a ring** by asking “Which ring?”; prompt on **birthdays** before “changed” by asking “What unusual event occurred on that birthday?”; prompt on **murder** or **killing** before “undid” by asking “What was the purpose of that murder?”]

25. After a military victory in T.A. 1810, King Telumehtar [teh-loo-MECH-tar] of Gondor took a new name mentioning this place. A white pillar in this place commemorated the arrival of Ar-Pharazôn’s expedition to Middle-Earth here in S.A. 3261. A spy ring of intelligent cats reported to a queen of Gondor who was likely born in this place. That queen, Berúthiel, was expelled from Gondor and last seen “flying past [this place]” on a ship. This chief colony of the Black Númenóreans was ruled by Gondor for much of the Third Age, though by T.A. 1944 it was allied with the Haradrim. The coastal towns of Gondor feared the black sails of the Corsairs of—for 10 points—what seafaring city to their far south?

ANSWER: **Umbar** [or Haven of **Umbar**; accept Telumehtar **Umbar**dacil]

26. In one battle, the commander of forces loyal to this leader died after being shot by four arrows at once. In that battle, this leader’s forces were encircled by roadblocks of carts and wagons and later dumped into a sandy mass grave. An ally of this person titled himself “Chief Shirriff” after imprisoning Whil Whitfoot, the mayor of Michel Delving. That ally, Lotho Sackville-Baggins, was killed and possibly eaten by another of this person’s followers. The Orc-Men, or Ruffians, employed by this person were defeated by Merry and Pippin in the Battle of Bywater. For 10 points, name this wizard who conquered the Shire as the shadowy figure of Sharkey but was killed by his servant Grima [GREE-ma] Wormtongue.

ANSWER: **Saruman** [or **Curumo**; accept **Sharkey** before “Sharkey”]

27. An army returning from invading this region was ambushed at the ford of Sarn Athrad and routed in the last battle fought by Beren. Saeros [SYE-ros] died running naked through this region after trying to kill Túrin Turambar [TOO-reen too-RAM-bar], who moved here at the age of nine. In response to a marriage proposal, the ruler of this region demanded the impossible dowry of a Silmaril, beginning the quest of Beren and Lúthien. This region, which comprised the forests of Nivrim, Neldoreth, and Region [REG-ee-on], was ruled from Menegroth [meh-NEG-roth] and protected by its queen’s fence, or girdle. For 10 points, name this Elvish kingdom in Beleriand ruled by Elu Thingol and Melian the Maia.

ANSWER: **Doriath** [or **Eglador**]

28. The most popular entry in Susan Pandorf’s *Lord of the Rings* knitting series is a circular shawl with this name. In the films but not the books, this was the name of a silver necklace that Aragorn received in Rivendell. As an epossë, this name was occasionally paired with the epithet “Elfstone” for its holder’s spouse. This name served to link its holder to her grandfather, who bore the last Silmaril into the sky. This epithet for the immortal granddaughter of Eärendil [eh-ah-REN-deel] is rendered in Quenya as *Undómiel*. For 10 points, give this epithet of Arwen, which suggests that she was the last light of the Elves.

ANSWER: **Evenstar** [accept **Undómiel** before “Undómiel”; prompt on **Arwen**]

29. One of these characters named Lungorthin appeared only in an early version of the *Silmarillion*. While Tolkien initially described hundreds or even a thousand of these characters existing, he later revised that number down to “at most seven.” These characters, known in Quenya as *Valaraukar*, first met the Elves late in the Dagor-nuin-Giliath, at which one of them killed Fëanor [FEH-ah-nor]. Ecthelion of the Fountain killed and was killed by the chief of these creatures, Gothmog. The final one of them was defeated by a wielder of the flame of Anor who told it “YOU SHALL NOT PASS!” For 10 points name these monstrous fire demons, one of whom fought with Gandalf in Moria.
ANSWER: **balrogs** [accept **Valaraukar** before “Valaraukar”]

30. Near the end of *The Return of the King*, Frodo remarks that Rivendell has “something of everything,” except for this thing. Hobbit conventional wisdom held that this thing was visible from the top of Elostirion in the Tower Hills. Maglor, the second son of Fëanor [FEH-ah-nor], used this thing to dispose of the final Silmaril. Gandalf the White conveyed a warning from Galadriel to Legolas to “beware” this thing, which Legolas could never forget after hearing it for the first time at Pelargir. Only Elves could use the “Straight Road” to cross this thing and reach Aman. For 10 points, name this large aquatic feature that separated Middle-Earth from continents to the west.
ANSWER: the **Sea** [accept Great **Sea** or Sundering **Seas** or Western **Sea** or **Belegaer**]

Moderators, if you're not running late, please paste the following message into the Discord text chat:
The Road that goes ever on and on, down from the ANSWER: **door** where it began, has now reached the ANSWER: **Sea**... Which is to say, the packet is over. I hope you enjoyed it! –Stephen