

Transition Into Kaliyuga: Tossups On Kurukshetra

1. On the fifteenth day of the Kurukshetra War, Krishna came up with a plan to kill this character. The previous night, this character retracted his Brahmastra [Bruh-mah-struh] when he was reprimanded for using a divine weapon on ordinary soldiers. After Bharadwaja ejaculated into a vessel when he saw a bathing Apsara, this character was born from the preserved semen. Because he promised that Arjuna would be the greatest archer in the world, this character demanded that (*) Ekalavya give him his right thumb. This character lays down his arms when Yudhishtira [Yoo-dhish-ti-ruh] lied to him that his son is dead, when in fact it was an elephant named Ashwatthama that was dead.. For 10 points, name this character who taught the Pandavas and Kauravas military arts.

ANSWER: Dronacharya

2. On the second day of the Kurukshetra war, this character rescues Dhristadyumna [Dhrish-ta-dyoom-nuh] from Drona. After that, the forces of Kalinga attack this character, and they are almost all killed by this character, before Bhishma [Bhee-shmuh] rallies them. This character assumes the identity Vallabha when working as a cook in the Matsya kingdom during his 13th year of exile. During that year, this character ground the general (*) Kichaka's body into a ball of flesh as revenge for him assaulting Draupadi. When they were kids, Arjuna was inspired to practice archery at night after seeing his brother, this character, eating in the dark. For 10 points, name the second-oldest Pandava.

ANSWER: Bhima [Accept Vallabha before mention]

3. On the thirteenth day of the Kurukshetra War, the Sampsatakas challenged Arjuna for the second time while Drona arranged the Kaurava army in this military formation. Inside this military formation, six Kaurava warriors attacked one man at once to rid him of his bow, chariot, sword, and shield. The entire Pandava army was prevented from breaking through to the center of this military formation by a king who had previously tried to kidnap Draupadi; that king was (*) Jayadratha. Arjuna had taught his son, Abhimanyu, how to break into this military formation but not how to escape, so Abhimanyu was trapped in this military formation before he was killed. For 10 points, name this military formation that looks like a lotus or wheel.

ANSWER: Chakravyuha [or Padmavyuha; Prompt on lotus or wheel]

4. Nakula killed Uluka, son of Shakuni, on this day of the Kurukshetra War, the same day that Sahadeva killed Shakuni. Salya was appointed Commander-in-chief of the Kaurava forces and killed in spear combat on this day of the Kurukshetra War. The night after this day of the Kurukshetra War, Ashwatthama was inspired by a hunting owl to plan the next attack on the Pandavas. On this day of the Kurukshetra War, (*) Duryodhana entered a pond to cool his rage. On this day of the Kurukshetra War, Krishna dissuaded Balarama from killing Bhima for striking another warrior below the navel. Bhima mortally wounded Duryodhana on this day of the Kurukshetra War. For 10 points, give the number of the last day of the Kurukshetra War.

ANSWER: 18th [Accept Last before mention]

5. On the seventh day of the Kurukshetra War, this character injured Yuyuthsu in a sword fight. Upon seeing the Apsara Janapadi, this character's father, Sharadvan, accidentally ejaculated onto some weeds, giving birth to him and his sister. When Karna first meets Arjuna and challenges him to a duel, this character prevents it by asking Karna to state his lineage. After discovering that he lived in Hastinapura, (*) Sharadvan taught archery and knowledge of the Vedas to this brother-in-law of Drona. Along with Ashwatthama and Kritavarma, this character was one of three warriors on the Kauravas' side to survive the war. Shantanu found and raised, for 10 points, this royal teacher and his sister Kripi.

ANSWER: Kripacharya

6. On the fifth day of the Kurukshetra War, Vikarna injured this character and his son with arrows when they tried to help Bhima. This character refuses to share half his kingdom with his friend on account of that friend being a beggar. The Kauravas and Karna fail to defeat this character's army before the Pandavas are able to capture him. This character performs a Yajna from which he gets a son and daughter, one of whom is destined to kill (*) Drona. This character's daughter stops Karna from attempting to shoot the eye of a revolving fish because she refuses to marry the son of a charioteer. The Pandavas show up to the swayamvara of this character's daughter disguised as Brahmins; that daughter is Draupadi. For 10 points, name this Panchala king.

ANSWER: Drupada [or Yajnasena]

7. On the third day of the Kurukshetra War; after this character rescued him from Bhima and Ghatotkatcha, Duryodhana criticized this character for perceived leniency towards the Pandavas. At the start of that day, this commander-in-chief of the Kaurava army led from the front of their eagle formation. This character was returned to his father with the name (*) Devavrata many years after being taken to the heavens by Ganga, who was prevented from drowning him. This character renounced his claim to the throne so that his father could marry the fisherwoman Satyawati, for which he was granted the ability to choose when he would die. For 10 points, name son of Shantanu who got his name from his "terrible" oath of celibacy.

ANSWER: Bhishma [Accept Devavrata before mention]

8. According to Rajagopalachari's version of the Mahabharata, this character is born to a king upon whose gates a garland of blue lotuses was left, and this character put that garland around her neck before being banished, during which time this character was transformed into a man. In this character's previous life, she is kidnapped from her Swayamvara to marry King Vichitravirya, but she refuses due to her love for King Salwa. In that previous life of this character, she was a princess of Kashi and the older sister of (*) Ambika and Ambalika. On the tenth day of the Kurukshetra War, Arjuna fought from behind this character to defeat a warrior who refused to attack a woman. For 10 points, name this character who Amba was reborn as to cause the demise of Bhishma.

ANSWER: Shikhandi [Prompt on "Amba" before mention]

9. On the fourteenth day of the Kurukshetra War, Arjuna tells this character to protect Yudhishtira [Yoodhish-ti-ruh], and in turn this character tells Bhima to do that. After this character is saved from Drona, Yudhishtira sends him to help Arjuna kill Jayadratha. When this character is rendered unconscious, Arjuna saves him by shooting an arrow at his attacker's arm. That assailant lays down his arms and meditates before this character recovers and kills him. Kritavarma shames this character for killing (*) Bhurisravas in that way, prompting this character to kill him and start the fight that kills all Vrishni warriors. For 10 points, name this Yadava warrior who sides with the Pandavas because of his friendship with Arjuna and devotion to Krishna.

ANSWER: Satyaki [or Yuyudhana]

10. On the first day of the Kurukshetra War, Shalya kills this character with a spear after this character mockingly asks, "is this my tongue, or my arrow that will kill you?" When this character was challenged by Shalya, he boasts that he is comparable to Krishna because he was previously Arjuna's charioteer. Believing it to be the corpse of an old huntress in a tree, this character needs to be persuaded to climb the tree and bring down the (*) Pandavas' weapons. In his most famous appearance, this character runs from his chariot before the eunuch Brihannala stops him and reveals his true identity. Arjuna defends the Matsya kingdom from the entire Hastinapura army with, for 10 points, this son of King Virata.

ANSWER: Uttara

11. On the eighth day of the Kurukshetra War, Arjuna's son, Iravan, killed five princes of this kingdom, before he himself was killed by Alambusha. For Yudhishtira's Ashwamedha Yajna, Arjuna conquers this kingdom after the Kurukshetra War after battling the grandson of King Subala. One prince of this kingdom won a (*) dice game against Yudhishtira that forced the Pandavas to go into exile; that prince was Shakuni. One princess of this kingdom chose to blindfold her eyes in order to be like her husband when she married the blind Dhritarashtra. For 10 points, name this kingdom with a similar name to its princess Gandhari.

ANSWER: Gandhara

12. On the sixth day of the Kurukshetra War, these characters fought Ashwatthama and destroyed his chariot. Although his father was older than both sons of Madri, Shrutakarma was the youngest of these characters. The morning after the death of these characters, their mother vows to fast to death if the Pandavas do not kill their killer. Because these characters did not have any children, the Pandava line would have ended if (*) Krishna had not saved the unborn Parikshit. In some versions of the story; believing them to be their fathers, Ashwatthama killed these characters in their sleep after the Kurukshetra War was over. For 10 points, name these five sons of Draupadi.

ANSWER: Upapandavas [or Pandavaputras or Panchakumaras; Accept sons of Draupadi before mention]

13. On the ninth day of the Kurukshetra War, Bhishma put down his weapons when he saw this character walking to attack him. This character saved Bhima from being crushed by Dhritarashtra by placing the iron statue of Bhima in front of him. The only neutral kingdom in the Kurukshetra war was ruled by Rukmi, whose younger sister eloped with this character instead of marrying (*) Sisupala. This character stays in the home of Vidura when he arrives in Hastinapura as an envoy. Arjuna stops this character from attacking Bhishma and reminds him of his vow to not touch a weapon or fight in the war. Just before the first day of the war begins, this character advises Arjuna of his duty in a conversation that became the Bhagawad Gita. For 10 points, name this eighth avatar of Vishnu.

ANSWER: **Krishna**

Description Acceptable

14. Soldiers on both sides of the war called Bhima “Rakshasa” for his gruesome actions as part of this event. Ashwatthama tried to persuade Duryodhana to end the war after they witnessed this event. Salya encouraged Karna to stay calm and attack Arjuna after they witnessed this event. Bhima drank the blood of this event’s victim and danced around his body. This event occurred on the (*) sixteenth day of the Kurukshetra War, when Bhima ripped off the arms of this event’s victim before tearing open his chest to kill him. Draupadi washed her hair in the blood of this event’s victim as revenge for being disrobed in front of the court. For 10 points, give this event in which the second-oldest Kaurava was killed.

ANSWER: **Death** of **Dushasana** [Accept obvious equivalents]

Description Acceptable

15. On the fourth day of the Kurukshetra War, Bhima kills eight of these people after causing a stampede of elephants, and Bhima’s onslaught that day ended when the second oldest of these people shot him with an arrow. When Duryodhana was sad about the deaths of those eight of these people, Duryodhana asked Bhishma how the Pandavas could be winning the war. That same day, Abhimanyu defeated (*) Vikarna: the only one of these people to question the treatment of Draupadi in the dice game. Yuyutsu is the only one of these people to switch sides before the Kurukshetra War. Dushala is the only one of the Kauravas who is not, for 10 points, one of these non-Duryodhana sons of Dhritarashtra.

ANSWER: **Brothers** of **Duryodhana** [Prompt on *Kauravas, sons of Dhritarashtra* before mention]

16. On the twelfth day of the Kurukshetra War, this character attacked Bhima after Bhima caused Kaurava elephants and horses to stampede. Arjuna abandons his attempt to kill all the Sampatakas when he sees this character creating havoc among the Pandava soldiers. Accompanied by his wife Satyabhama on Garuda, Krishna had killed this character’s father for stealing the earrings of the goddess Aditi and kidnapping sixteen thousand women. When this character tried to kill Arjuna with the Vaishnavastra, Krishna stood up so it struck him and turned into a garland, after which Arjuna killed this character and his elephant (*) Supratika. For 10 points, name this son and successor of Narakasura.

ANSWER: **Bhagadatta**

17. On the seventeenth day of the Kurukshetra War, this character shot an arrow that knocked off Arjuna's helmet when Krishna pressed their chariot slightly into the mud. Krishna told this character that if he chose to help avoid the war, all the Pandavas would support him as king. This character promised (*) Kunti that she will finish the war with five sons. While fighting Ghatotkacha, this character is forced to kill him with a weapon that he intended to save for his Arjuna. This character vowed not to join the war while Bhishma was still leading the Kaurava army, and before he joins, he reveals to Bhishma that he knows his true parentage. Arjuna decapitates this character when he is trying to lift his chariot wheel from the mud. For 10 points, name this oldest son of Kunti and rival of Arjuna.

ANSWER: **Karna**

Description Acceptable

18. On the eleventh day of the Kurukshetra War, Karna and Duhshasana formed a plan to perform this action. When Drona was first asked to perform this action by Duryodhana, he felt relieved and accepted before Duryodhana revealed his true motives. Drona first attempted to perform this action to renew morale in the Kaurava army after Bhima forced Salya to retreat. Duryodhana wanted to perform this action because killing its victim would only enrage the Pandavas, and he could force this action's victim to (*) play another game of dice this way. The first attempt at this action failed when Arjuna forced Drona away from the victim after the victim's bow was broken. For 10 points, give this attempted action that would have involved the Kaurava army taking the oldest of the Pandavas alive.

ANSWER: **Capturing Yudhishtira** [Accept obvious equivalents as long as the answer involves the name Yudhishtira]

19. Upon entering this place, Yudhishtira [Yoo-dhish-ti-ruh] is angered by the sight of Duryodhana sitting on a throne. Then, Narada scolds Yudhishtira for his anger saying that they bear no ill will in this place. While in this place, Yudhishtira is taken to a dark place with foul odors and mutilated bodies that Indra and Yama reveal to be an illusion. Draupadi is the first to collapse as the Pandavas attempt to walk to this place, and Yudhishtira is the only one of them to reach it alive. (*) Yudhishtira refuses to enter this place without a dog that had been accompanying him; that dog was Dharma in disguise. Indra personally brings Yudhishtira to this place in his chariot from the top of Mount Meru. For 10 points, name this heavenly world for righteous souls who have not achieved Moksha.

ANSWER: **Swarga** Loka [or **Indra Loka** or **Heaven** before mention]