

PLAY

1. *Note: two answers required.* In 1990, David Constantine's translations of secret love poems written by one of these two people to the other were published, including one which begins, "I'm in an idle brute stupidity / For in your absence what is there to do?" In a play by these two people, Stagmantle and Isabel recite a version of a poem whose later versions excised the lines, "He'll open up the throttle to its fullest power and drive him to the grave at ninety miles an hour." In one play, adapted from one of these people's plays "The Chase" and "The Fronny," these people created Alan Norman, who realizes a missing heir is the (*) dog accompanying him as he looks for Sir Francis Crewe of Honeypot Hall. Together, these two people created the fictional country Ostnia in the plays *On the Frontier*, *The Dog Beneath the Skin*, and *The Ascent of F6*. For 10 points, name these two lovers, one of whom created Sally Bowles in *Goodbye to Berlin* while the other wrote poems like "The Shield of Achilles" and "Funeral Blues."

ANSWER: Wystan Hugh Auden and Christopher Isherwood [accept the Auden-Isherwood cycle] (the poem in the second line is "Funeral Blues")

2. *Description acceptable.* In a work of this type, the speaker describes how a "bride's featureless head wears a chaplet of orange blossoms from which is depended a flowing veil...lustrous, immaculate." The speaker of a work of this type says, "This may be irrelevant or unnecessary, but I once saw a reproduction of a faded photograph of the veranda of Robert Louis Stevenson's home on that Samoan Island where he spent his last Years." That work of this type concludes that a certain (*) location is "memory and is therefore non-realistic...for memory is seated predominantly in the heart." A work of this type notes, "You can almost feel the warm breath of the brown river beyond the river warehouses with... faint redolences of bananas and coffee" and describes "a two-story corner building on a street in New Orleans which is named Elysian Fields." For 10 points, name these works created to set the scene in plays like *The Rose Tattoo* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

ANSWER: stage directions by Tennessee Williams [accept descriptions like texts describing or directing the stage or set in plays by Tennessee Williams; accept prologues or prefaces to Tennessee Williams plays; prompt on plays by Tennessee Williams; prompt on just stage directions with "of what author's plays?"]

3. The mathematical poet Bob Grumman called a poem by an author with this surname "a closeup of an alphabet being born" and interpreted it as a pun on "I am." That poet with this surname described Angela Bennet's relationship with her stepfather in the play *At the Beach House*. In one play's prologue, an author with this surname commanded the reader to "live -- so that in that good time there shall be no ugliness or death for yourself or for any life your life touches." An author with this surname wrote the minimalist poem (*) "lightht" [light-ight] in addition to a four-legged m that overtook Strickland Gillian's poem "Fleas" as the shortest poem ever written. A play by an author with this surname centers around Joe, who meets the policeman Blick and the prostitute Kitty Duval, and is set in Nick's Pacific Street Saloon. For 10 points, name this last name shared by poet Aram and his father, the author of the play *The Time of Your Life*.

ANSWER: Saroyan [accept Aram Saroyan or William Saroyan]

4. In this play, a first date involves a back and forth about famous authors marrying each other, where a fashion editor at the New York Times says, "As long as Kafka doesn't marry Dostoevsky." This play begins with a list of things painted on the set's walls, including the budget for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In this play, the activist Bruce Niles says, "I don't believe in Lesbians" to a character who says, "In real life, I'm a hospital administrator. And I'm a Southern bitch" named Tommy Boatwright. "if having sex can (*) kill you, doesn't anybody with half a brain stop fucking?" is the doctor Emma Brookner's message in this play, which concludes with Ned marrying the journalist Felix Weeks. This play takes its title from a line in "September 1, 1939" that reads, "What mad Nijinsky wrote / About Diaghilev / Is true of [the title concept]." For 10 points, what play by Larry Kramer focuses on the AIDS epidemic?

ANSWER: The Normal Heart

5. A character named after one of these things appears in a play where she says, “You have a very pretty head you ought to have it sculpted you ought to give the grandest of parties” and describes the calendar of birds, which is that “every day a bird flies away — every hour a feather falls — every two hours somebody writes a poem — somebody cuts it apart with scissors.” In that play, a character named after one of these things asks, “Don't you breathe the same air as I do? Don't you speak the same language?” and reveals Clytemnestra was a racehorse while another character interjects, (*) “Tangerine and white from Spain I'm killing myself

Madeleine Madeleine.” A play whose characters are all named after these things calls itself “the greatest three-act hoax of the century” and concludes by repeating the line, “This will end with a lovely marriage.” For 10 points, the Dadaist play *The Gas Heart* is narrated by what kind of things, examples of which include Neck, Eye, and Mouth?

ANSWER: body parts [accept word forms like parts of the body; accept Neck, Mouth, Eye, Nose, or Ear before mention]

6. A character in this play walks on stage and announces, “Girl, he's a loser. What'd he ever give you? Nineteen cents and those ugly Day-Glo stockings?” In addition to that servant played by Comrade Chin, this play includes a woman who says, “I love them for being my fans, I hate the smell they leave behind” before whispering, “‘Art for the masses’ is a shitty excuse to keep artists poor.” A letter in this play asks, “What do you want? I have already given you my shame.” This play's protagonist has sex with a woman who says, “The whole world [is] run by a bunch of (*) men with pricks the size of pins” and is asked, “It's one of your favorite fantasies, isn't it? The submissive Oriental woman and the cruel white man.” In this play, the diplomat Rene Gallimard commits seppuku after courting Song Liling for twenty years without realizing she is a man. For 10 points, name this play, adapted from a Puccini opera, by David Henry Hwang.

ANSWER: M. Butterfly [or Monsieur Butterfly; reject “Madame Butterfly”]

7. A play titled for this character begins by describing her rising out of the water and dreaming “of ring pops, sugar pops, popsicles, sweet things,” saying, “She is full of craving. She is nothing but want.” That play, which was first staged at a public swimming pool and features the local whore Mina and the “undisguised lover” Rude Boy, is titled “Twelve [of this character] (a Play with Broken Songs).” In the play she originally appears in, this character is asked, “Do you believe his ‘tenders,’ as you call them?” and responds, “I do not know, my lord, what I should think.” This character (*) sings, “He is dead and gone, lady, / He is dead and gone” and “Hey non nonny” before a scene where she distributes fennel and rue and says, “I would give you some violets, but they withered all.” For 10 points, name this character, who is told to “get...to a nunnery” and drowns at the end of a play titled for her lover, *Hamlet*.

ANSWER: Ophelia [accept *Twelve Ophelias* (a Play with Broken Songs)]

8. During this play, a man in a bar describes “This purgatory of noise” and says, “Real *amontillado* is sunshine and orange groves - it's the Mediterranean and blue moonlight and - love?” After giving birth, a woman in this play is told, “I know all you've been through...I was right outside all the time!” and violently signs no while her husband tells her, “Will power! That's what conquers!” In a stream-of-consciousness monologue, a character in this play repeats, “no traffic cop in heaven” and “I'll not submit-.” In this play, the (*) Young Woman realizes a man's “pretty little hands” are fat hands and describes a baby with “little curls all over its head” before she marries her boss, George H. Jones. At the beginning of this play, the Telephone Girl and the Adding Clerk tease the protagonist, who wields a bottle filled with pebbles. For 10 points, name this play that concludes with Helen Jones' execution by electric chair, written by Sophie Treadwell.

ANSWER: Machinal

9. A play by this author notes that the song “La Bamba” must be used in productions of it and follows Charlie, a Deputy Mayor who shoots himself in the earlobe while on Valium. A character created by this

author says, “If our marriage hinges on breathing fish balls and poofla-poo pie, it’s not worth saving” before he is told, “There are Watchers in this world and there are Do-ers” and called a “stuffed shirt.” The protagonist of a play by this author says, “I’m nothing” before his roommate responds, “You walk and talk and...eat little (*) green pills and send suicide telegrams... you’re-the-only-one-of-its-kind-in-the-world.” In a play by this author, Corie complains to her new husband, “You wouldn’t walk [in the title fashion] with me in Washington Square Park” before he responds, “It was seventeen degrees.” This author of *Rumors* created the neat freak Felix Unger, who moves in with Oscar after his marriage collapses. For 10 points, name this author of *Barefoot in the Park* and *The Odd Couple*.

ANSWER: Neil Simon

10. A character in this play has flashcards that read, “Book, pig, desk, dog...” and asks, “Are you a pig?” to a character who responds, “Look who’s shitting!” A Girl in this play says, “We’re supposed to meet at seven fifteen...he’ll be leaning against a Flying Dove bicycle” in unison with the Mother, who murmurs that her husband “only likes sesame seed filling.” Director Ma says that the phrase “It doesn’t have any meaning means it doesn’t have any meaning” does have meaning in an argument in this play over (*) Big Front Cigarettes. In this play, Actor C says, “to have their stomachs pumped— that’s worse than death” in a sequence of polyphonic dialogue. Characters in this play realize that “A goddamned year has really gone by” and list their reasons for being at the title location, like a chess game with Li Mosheng or “a taste of yogurt” in the case of Hothead, who argues with Glasses. For 10 points, name this absurdist play about characters waiting for the title vehicle by Gao Xingjian [shing-jyan].

ANSWER: The Bus Stop

11. In a play by this author, a woman who recently moved to Brooklyn says, “In the movies the darkness precedes everything” and hopes that “Years from now I’ll read...*Black Skin, White Masks* and find my dear Lily amongst the pages.” A play by this author begins with the arrival of Christian, who recites lines about “An unexpected wind, / A fluctuation, / fronting the coming of a storm” to make up for “No soap, no cigarettes, no condoms.” Santana’s “Smooth” blasts as “the past rips through 2008” in a play by this author, where Tracey asks, “What the fuck is (*) NAFTA? Sounds like a laxative.” This author created Godfrey, who falls in love with the German immigrant Gerte and takes care of his daughters Ernestine and Ermina, in *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*. A play by this author takes place in Mama Nadi’s bar, while another follows a strike in Reading, Pennsylvania. For 10 points, name this author, who detailed war in the Congo in her play *Ruined* and won the Pulitzer Prize for *Sweat*.

ANSWER: Lynn Nottage

12. In this play, there is an off-stage rumble, causing one character to say, “it was... thunder... or a wave breaking” before his wife says, “It was an off-stage rumble... and you know what that means.” This play begins with a character flapping his arms in a way that “should suggest the beating and fluttering of wings” before a character yells, “What a way to treat an old woman!” and asks the audience, “how do you expect anybody to hear me over that peep!” In this play, directions note that “These names are of empty affection and point up the pre-senility and vacuity of their characters” in relation to (*) Mommy and Daddy, who dump a woman into the title location. A character in this play who is constantly doing calisthenics forgets his lines before saying, “like a real amateur,” “I am the Angel of Death. I am... uh ... I am come for you.” For 10 points, name this one-act play about the Young Man, who symbolizes the death of Grandma, by Edward Albee.

ANSWER: The Sandbox (note: according to Wikipedia, the only reliable source, “[t]he play received an almost universally negative reception, as critics attacked the confusing, absurdist plot.”)

13. A poem titled for this profession notes, “I lock your persona in a dream-inducing sleeper hold / While your better selves watch from the bleachers” and describes the title concept as “part prison, / Part panic closet, a little room in a house set aflame.” It’s not a composer, but in the first scene of Peter Shaffer’s play

Amadeus, Salieri repeatedly shouts a phrase that the ventricellos translate as “pardon your” [person with this profession] to Mozart. A character with this profession hears through a speaking tube that “the chocolate was melted” and “The (*) Eccles cake was stale” and gets mad over “A kid of eleven killing a cat and blaming it on his little sister of eight.” Two characters of this profession wonder, “Why did he send us matches if he knew there was no gas?” after a delivery inspires an argument over the phrase “light the kettle.” For 10 points, Terrance Hayes wrote *American Sonnets for My Past and Future* which profession, held by Ben and Gus in *The Dumb Waiter*?

ANSWER: hitmen [or assassins; accept *American Sonnets for My Past and Future* Assassin or descriptions like people hired to kill; prompt on killers or murderers]

14. In one play, a woman tells this figure, “That’s the way a child gives thanks: She tries the world on” after their daughter Rebecca wishes for a wishbone. In that play, a character gives this figure advice like “History has no time for innocence” and “Guilt is a sociological accident... You pay for your luck with your licks.” In a play centering around this figure, an actor sings, “I would not sleep here if I could / Except for the little green leaves in the wood” in a song about how “If (*) God is God He is not good, / If God is good He is not God.” A character expresses his disgust at this figure because his son David was “Destroyed by some fool officer’s stupidity” and his “Two children [are] smeared across a road... And he blesses God!” A play titled for this figure is set in a circus tent and follows Mr. Zuss and Nickles as they act out his life as a banker. For 10 points, name this biblical figure, whose life Archibald MacLeish described in the free-verse play *J.B.*

ANSWER: Job [accept J.B. before mention]

15. An essay titled for a play by this author describes how the title play is “about the use that the male artist and thinker...has made of women, in his life and in his work; and about a woman’s slow struggling awakening.” One of this author’s plays ends with a shout of “Pax vobiscum!” after a character explains that after the title action, “we find that we have never lived.” In a letter to the Danish newspaper *Nationaltidende*, this author called an (*) alternate ending to one of his plays where the protagonist shouts, “Motherless!” and sinks to the floor “an act of barbaric violence.” An essay titled for a play by this author, subtitled “Writing as Re-Vision,” is by Adrienne Rich. A character created by this author sings, “I am free as a bird!” and calls posing for the sculpture *Resurrection* a “self-murder—a deadly sin against myself!” before she and Arnold Rubek are buried by an avalanche. For 10 points, name this author of *When We Dead Awaken* and *A Doll’s House*.

ANSWER: Henrik Ibsen

16. A character in this play describes “The beast as nameless as the wave” in a long metaphor about captaining a sinking ship, maintaining that “No is one of your man-made words. Can you imagine a world in which trees say no to the sap?” A speech in this play describes “a film without a sound track... [and] the victor, already vanquished, alone in the desert of your silence” to distinguish between melodrama and tragedy. In the first scene of this play, a character asks, “Have you ever thought how lovely a garden is when it is not yet thinking of men?” and says, “You’ll have to (*) get up earlier... if you want to see a world without color.” This play’s title character, who a guard finds with a toy shovel, tells her Nurse never to scold her dog Puff again and hangs herself with the golden cord of her robe next to her fiancé Haemon. For 10 points, name this play about the burial of Polynices and the death of the title daughter of Oedipus, by Jean Anouilh [ahn-wee].

ANSWER: Antigone

17. A play titled for one of these events includes a woman who shouts, “How Dare you try and get Anywhere Near my Fucking Vagina when I’m Trying to Shit a Fucking Baby out of it” and was written horizontally, with the stories of Carol, her daughter Anna, and her daughter Bonnie performed side-by-side and simultaneously. That play was written by Alice Birch and is titled for the *Anatomy* of one of these events. The second play written by a Black woman to reach Broadway was a play titled for one of these events consisting of poetic monologues like “dark phrases” given by characters like the lady in (*) red and the lady in purple. A choreopoem by Ntozake Shange is titled for one of these events “when the rainbow is enuf.” A character tries to

cover up one of these events by saying “probably one of my medicine bottles has blown up...a flask of ether has exploded.” For 10 points, name this action, taken by Treplev at the end of *The Seagull*.

ANSWER: a **suicide** [accept equivalents like someone **killing** or **shooting themselves**; prompt on a **gunshot**; accept *Anatomy of a **Suicide*** or *for colored girls who have considered **suicide**/when the rainbow is enuf*]

18. A character in this play says, “I think I look like a snack” and tells her brother-in-law she’s off dairy, but sneaks a bite of what she calls “some three ninty-nine cheese.” Near the end of this play, stage directions note that “There probably isn’t a death drop, but if there were, it would make sense” as a girl enters holding a pregnancy test, which a character is forced to take even though it is implied she’s dating her friend Erika. This play’s second act begins with a woman’s fragmented response to the question, “but if you could choose to be a different (*) race, what race would you be?” In this play’s third act, the white Mack, Suze, and Jimbo begin replacing members of the central family, but the only person to notice is Keisha, who ends the play by breaking the fourth wall and calling all white people to the stage. For 10 points, name this 2019 Pulitzer Prize-winning play about the white interruption of a black family’s dinner party, written by Jackie Sibblies Drury.

ANSWER: **Fairview**

19. In a play by this author, a man tells a doctor, “Turn your gimlet eyes elsewhere” and scolds him for using the phrase “class distinction” before firing him from Ward C. A stenographer created by this author tells the actor Phil, “one dollar buys nine loaves of bread and one copy of *The Communist Manifesto*” after he is rejected by the director Grady, who casts to type. A play by this author includes a vignette where Irv yells at his daughter and (*) Florrie says, “Every princess in the Balkans is wearing [a dress] like this” when Sid picks her up for a date. In a play by this author, Jacob kills himself and Bessie forces Hennie to marry the immigrant boarder Sam to save the Berger household. A play by this author concludes with Agate shouting, “WE’RE STORMBIRDS OF THE WORKING-CLASS” and cab drivers chanting, “STRIKE, STRIKE, STRIKE!!!” For 10 points, what playwright wrote *Awake and Sing!* and *Waiting for Lefty*?

ANSWER: Clifford **Odets**

20. In this play, a character says to his wife, “I want you to go back to him and tell him you want to make love like a knife...Because everything has to be killed” before that wife’s lover tells her, “I would find an old, wise, banyan tree and I would bury your hair by its roots, and I’m sure it would accept the offering like rainwater.” A character in this play puts a piece of paper with a man’s name on it in a glass of water with brown sugar and cinnamon to “sweeten his fate,” prompting a lecture about witches and Rosario, who would “run to the sea naked” to meet her dead lover. In this play, (*) Santiago carves his name into Cheché’s shoe after they bet on cockfights like the one announced at the beginning of this play between Pico Rubio and Espuela de Oro. This play concludes with silence after Juan Julian is shot. For 10 points, name this play about the Lector reading the title Tolstoy novel to a group of Cuban factory workers by Nilo Cruz.

ANSWER: **Anna in the Tropics** [or **Ana en El Trópico**]