

BERKELEY QUESTIONS by Gaius Stern (4), __/__/95

1. This Russian author was descended from a black general of Peter the Great. Born in 1799, and called Alexander Sergeivitch by the Russian system of patronymics, he was a leader of "Russian rationalism" in literature. He first wrote short stories and poetry including, "The Undertaker," "The Queen of Spades," and "The Postmaster." FTP, who was this author of _Eugene Onegin_?
\PUSHKIN\

2. For long distances when millions of miles or KM are involved, this measure, equal to 149,597,970.7 km is used. It represents the mean distance from Earth to the sun. FTP, what is the commonly used name for this distance?
\An AU or ASTRONOMICAL UNIT\

3. Designed in 1368 by Hughes Ambriot, who ironically became its first victim, this structure became infamous in its 400 year existence as the involuntary home of many political prisoners, criminals, and a few other luminaries. FTP, what was this French prison attacked on July 14, 1789 and shortly after destroyed?
\The BASTILLE\

4. Two answers needed here: Supposedly this statue represents Dante contemplating _The Divine Comedy_. The sculptor was a reknown Dante fan, as can be seen in another of his great pieces, _The Gates of Hell_. FTP, name the sculptor and this world famous statue and which is of a man, elbow on knee, deep in contemplation?
\RODIN'S _The THINKER_\

5. Home to the philosopher Al-Jahiz, this "city of Peace" was the cultural center of its day until it was sacked by the Mongols. After it was rebuilt, it remained the capital of its empire, which had shrunk considerably. FTP, name this former capital of the Abbassid Empire which is still a capital in the Middle East.
\BAGHDAD\

6. Achaes was the loyal companion of this hero through wars and storms at sea. Both were covered by a cloud when exploring in North Africa until they walked into the center of Carthage, where they discovered Dido negotiating with Trojan sailors. FTP, who was this pious hero of Roman legend, immortalized by Vergil, who led the migration from Troy to Italy, and rather heartlessly deserted Dido?
\AENEAS\

7. In 1923 Bronsted and Lowry elaborated on the work of Arrhenius by defining this term as "any substance that is capable of giving up a hydrogen ion or proton." FTP, what is the name for any such substance which Arrhenius described as "a substance that increases the Hydrogen ion concentration when added to water?"
\ACID\

8. This incompetent king ruled some 50 years - but much of it he spent in captivity while his wife and her lover, Roger Mortimer, ran the country. Eventually, his valiant son, the future Edward I, rescued him. A pious act, but one which was probably to England's detriment. FTP, who was this son of King John who did not live up to the record of his prior namesakes?
\HENRY III\

9. The UN excluded this man from its 50th year anniversary, though he had been secretary-general from 1972-82. This was on account of his Nazi past which he had obscured for many years. Now he is something of an international pariah. FTP, who is this recent president of Austria? \Kurt WALDHEIM\

10. Doctors at NIH announced in 1995 a possible new method of treatment of this hereditary disease. By using a drug originally intended for cancer, Hydroxyurea hydroxyurea, which triggers a normally dormant gene to cause the body to produce fetal hemoglobin. Fetal hemoglobin seems to prevent red blood cells from warping into the shape FTP for which what disease is named?
\SICKLE-CELLANEMIA\

11. According to Livy, this Roman hero rescued his father from the Carthaginians at the battle of Ticinus River in 218 BC. Later he went to Spain to avenge his father's death at Carthaginian hands, and drove the Carthaginians out of Spain by the decisive victory at Ilipia in 208. FTP, who was this greatest of Roman generals who went on to defeat Hannibal at Zama in 202?
\Publius Cornelius SCIPIO AFRICANUS Major (NOT Scipio Aemilianus or Africanus Minor)\

12. If you consider the Caribbean Sea part of the Atlantic, this country is the only in South America to touch both the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, since Argentina only owns half of the Magellan Strait. Its major crops include Bananas, Coffee, cacao -- and of course cocaine. FTP, name this South American nation who used to own Panama before the US helped the Panamanians secede.
\COLOMBIA\

13. If you have a right triangle whose hypotenuse measures 25 inches and whose larger leg is 24, what is the area of said triangle?
\84 square inches (other leg is 7)\

14. Albus Manutius, a publisher who became famous for his editions of the classics introduced this type setting. Used for indirect question, this typeset is visibly distinguishable from regular type because the letters slope to the right. FTP, what is this typeset whose name is derived from the country of Manutius' origin?
\ITALICS\

15. Two answers needed here: In satiric response to England's reluctance to help the starving Irish in the time of a severe famine, this author wrote a scathing treatise suggesting that if the over-breeding Irish simply ate their babies, their would be enough food to go around to live through the famine. FTP, name the treatise and its author, a man who also wrote Gulliver's Travels.
\A MODEST PROPOSAL by Jonathon SWIFT\

16. Orchestrated by Innocent III, this was an attempt to purge So. France of the heretical Cathars. The Cathars, known better by another name, rejected material pleasure in favor of spiritual and thus threatened church coffers by challenging church doctrine. Officially terminated in 1272 by the treaty of Meaux, what was this campaign which targeted heretical Christians from 1209 - 1272 whose name FTP comes from a city in South France where this sect dwelled?
\ALBAGENSIAN CRUSADE\

17. The Federal Reserve Board boosted interest rates for the 7th time in Feb. 1995, triggering charges of monetary overkill by critics. This latest boost brought the rates up another quarter of a percent. FTP, what is the new prime lending rate?

\NINE PERCENT\

18. This Viking goddess owned a beautiful necklace, but one day she discovered it had been stolen. Heimdall got it back from Loki, but this was only one of her woes. Excessively promiscuous, she often slept with mortals, for which Odin criticized her roundly. Furthermore, giants often demanded her as a bride when they challenged the Aesir. FTP, who was this goddess who preferred searched the worlds for her long-lost husband in her chariot drawn by cats rather than remarry, beautiful though she was.

\FREYA (not Frigga)\

19. Are coins magnetic? Not especially. All the same, while Mars and Venus apparently lack much of a magnetic field, the Earth has one due to the concentration in its core of Iron and this element, atomic number 28. FTP, what is this element also present in old 5 cent coins?

\NICKEL\

20. This otherwise insignificant battle in the Hundred Years' War has been immortalized on the stage in Shakespeare's Henry V because it is here that Henry urges his men, "Once more into the breach dear friends or fill the gap with our English dead." FTP, what is this French port town whose mayor's surrender ends with an Alexandrine couplets "that the dauphin can not bring succour."

\HARFLEUR\