

Tossups by Chris Sloan for Finals of 1996 Philly Experiment III

1. He initially studied law, but at sixteen he dropped his legal studies to pursue music. His first successful work was a musical portrait of his friends. Following this work, entitled "The Enigma Variations," he composed an oratorio entitled "The Dream of Gerontius." FTP, name this composer best known for "Pomp and Circumstance."

Answer: Edward Elgar

2. In Book I of this 2158 line poem, the poet describes finding himself in the Temple of Venus, where he discovers Vergil's tale of Dido and Aeneas. In Book II, he carries on a lively conversation with an eagle en route to the dwelling place of the title character. In the third section, he sees the title character dispensing fame and ruin at her own whim. FTP, name this unfinished poem by Geoffrey Chaucer.

Answer: The House of Fame

3. It can be divided into the two periods. The Parliamentary Period, which lasted from 1648-50, began as a protest against the financial policies of Cardinal Mazarin. The period of the Princes, lasting from 1650-53, began with the arrest of Prince Louis II de Conde and his brother. Fighting continued until Mazarin, having fled Paris in 1651, returned to quash the rebellion. FTP, name this series of French uprisings, named for the French slang for "slings."

Answer: The Fronde

4. Three concentric pipes are driven into the ground. Superheated water is pumped under pressure through the outermost pipe. This liquefies a certain component of the rock, which is forced out of the middle pipe when compressed air is pumped in through the inner pipe. FTP, name this process, used to obtain pure sulfur.

Answer: Frasch Process

5. The son of Lebanese immigrants, in 1980 this Harvard law graduate founded Public Citizen, an organization specializing in energy problems, health care, tax reform, and other consumer issues. With his staff, he has published several books, including "Who Runs Congress?" His best known work led to the passage of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966. FTP, name this author of 1965's "Unsafe at Any Speed."

Answer: Ralph Nader

6. Its effect was not inflationary because of the discretionary powers it granted to the Secretary of the Treasury. Monthly purchases were made at the minimum allowed by the law. The House passed it twice before it was finally enacted over President Hayes' veto. FTP, name this 1878 act which required the Secretary of the Treasury to buy at least two million dollars worth of silver.

Answer: Bland-Allison Act

7. It was created in 1935 to illustrate the difficulty of conceiving of quantum indeterminacies in terms of everyday objects. It is locked in a box with a capsule of cyanide which is broken only if a Geiger counter triggers, which in turn happens only if a radioactive substance in the box decays. There is a 50 percent chance of decay at any given moment, and thus a 50 percent chance that it will be alive or dead. FTP, name this feline of an Austrian physicist.

Answer: Schrodinger's Cat

8. The youngest of nine children in a west Chicago slum, he was rejected by Weber High School as a basketball player because of his size, but he went on to lead St Joseph High to a second place state finish. A highly recruited point guard out of high school, he signed with Indiana and led the Hoosiers to the 1981 NCAA Championship. FTP, name this former Detroit Pistons guard, the current general manager of the Toronto Raptors.

Answer: Isiah Thomas

9. His early stories were written with his brother Josef, a painter and writer. In his trilogy consisting of "Hordubal," "Meteor," and "An Ordinary Life," he utilizes a multi-perspective narrative to explore the quest for the true self. He wrote mysteries including "Tales from Two Pockets," but he is best known for his science fiction works. FTP, name this Czech-born author of "Krkatit" and "R.U.R."

Answer: Karel Capek

10. Sir Walter Scott wrote that it was originally a vessel laden with precious metals on which a horrible murder was committed. According to a Wagner opera, its captain swore an impious oath to round the Cape even if it took an eternity. FTP, name this legendary spectral ship, sometimes seen in stormy weather off the Cape of Good Hope.

Answer: The Flying Dutchman

11. In its less familiar usage, it names a diverging type of lens with one slightly concave and one slightly convex surface. More commonly, it is used to refer to a specific property of liquids in containers. FTP, name this term which describes the curved surface of a liquid adjacent to its container's wall.

Answer: Meniscus

12. "Third Rock from the Sun" may be a hit sit-com, but it's also the name of a former hit song by this country music artist. Described as country's answer to Jimmy Buffett, his often comical songs include "Pick-up Man" and "Leroy the Redneck Reindeer." FTP, name this singer, who recently had a smash hit with "Bigger Than the Beatles."

Answer: Joe Diffie

13. They married the fifty sons of Aegyptus, the brother of their father. One of them, Hypermnestra, married Lynceus and they became the progenitors of the rulers of Argos. The other 49 killed their husbands on wedding night. FTP, name these women, doomed in Hades to forever carry water in leaky buckets.

Answer: the Danaiids (accept Danaidae or Danaides)

14. Only three of his paintings were exhibited during his lifetime, but he was still very influential in early French Romanticism. Paintings such as "Madwoman" indicate his later fascination with man's inner struggle, but his better known works, such as "Officer of the Imperial Guard," illustrate the theme of man pitted against nature. FTP, name this painter best known for "Raft of the Medusa."

Answer: Jean-Louis Andre Theodore Gericault

15. All members of the mammalian suborder Mysticeti possess horny plates of this substance which hang down from the palate. Composed of comblike keratin, it functions as a filter to trap food. FTP, name this substance which many whales use to feed on tiny crustaceans known as krill.

Answer: baleen

16. Writing in the tradition of Wordsworth, their style began with John Masefield's "The Everlasting Mercy." Some of its members included Rupert Brooke, Edmund Blunden, and J.C. Squire. They dominated the poetry of the early twentieth century. FTP, name these poets, named for an English king.

Answer: Georgians

17. It develops partly in response to the differences in annual temperature variations between continents and oceans. The term is derived from an Arabic word, "mausim," which means season, and it typically refers to wind systems that have a pronounced seasonal reversal of direction. FTP, name this cycle of rainfall and drought, characteristic of parts of Australia, Southeast Asia, and most of India.

Answer: monsoon

18. His plays deal with the illusory nature of reality and the ambiguous definition of good and evil. His novels, such as "The Thief's Journal," are somewhat autobiographical accounts of his underworld life. A pimp and a professional thief, he escaped a life prison sentence through the efforts of Sartre and Cocteau. FTP, name this French dramatist, author of plays such as "The Screens," "Deathwatch," and "The Maids."

Answer: Jean Genet

19. During his fourteen year reign, he and his brothers, collectively known as the Sudairi Seven, acquired enormous power in the ruling family. Since suffering a stroke in 1995, he remains bedridden and in pain, and has shown serious memory problems. Authorities believe that he will soon move permanently to his summer palace in Marbella, Spain, leaving power in the hands of his half-brother Abdullah. FTP, name this king of Saudi Arabia.

Answer: King Fahd

20. Born Camillo Benso in 1810, he founded in 1847 a liberal newspaper, "The Resurrection," which became the organ for the Italian national movement. He became premier of Piedmont in 1852, and six years later he formed an alliance with Napoleon III. In 1860, Garibaldi conquered Naples with this man's secret aid. FTP, name this Count, the unifier of Italy.

Answer: Camillo Cavour

21. Born in 1971 in Chatham, Massachusetts, he trains at the Detroit Skating Club in Michigan. He quickly rose to prominence, winning the national championship in 1990 and 1991, but injuries slowed him until recently. He rebounded to win the 1995 national championship and finish second in 1996. FTP, name this current men's singles figure skating world champion.

Answer: Todd Eldredge

22. Its name comes from a Cree word meaning "swiftly-flowing river." It is the only Canadian province in which no country of origin can claim a majority of the inhabitants. Almost rectangular in shape, this 652,000 square kilometer province's capital was named with Queen Victoria in mind. FTP, name this province with its capital at Regina.

Answer: Saskatchewan

Bonuses by Chris Sloan for Finals of 1996 Philly Experiment III

1. Identify these George Eliot works for 10 points each given a plot excerpt.

1. The title character marries a hedonist, but soon falls under the influence of Savonarola.

Answer: Romola

2. The title character lives among the lower classes and attempts to encourage them to better themselves. He accidentally kills a man while preventing workers from rioting on Election Day.

Answer: Felix Holt, the Radical

3. Gwendolyn Harleth marries Henleigh Grandcourt in order to avoid the poorhouse. When the tyrannical Grandcourt dies, Gwendolyn blames herself and turns to a friend.

Answer: Daniel Deronda

2. Answer these questions about work leading up to Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity, for 10 points each.

1. In 1887, which two American physicists carried out an experiment which showed that the speed of light does not depend on whether it was traveling with the earth's motion or against it?

Answer: Albert Michelson and Edward Morley

2. What Dutch physicist mathematically obtained transformation laws which give the coordinates of one body moving relative to another?

Answer: Hendrik Lorentz

3. In what year did Einstein publish his Special Theory of Relativity?

Answer: 1905

3. Identify the composer, 30-20-10.

30: His dream was of formulating a new world philosophy, his "Mystery," which consisted not only of music but also drama, poetry, dance, colors, and even perfumes.

20: One of his best known works, "Prometheus - The Poem of Fire," includes a special color keyboard to project changing colors during the performance.

10: Among this Russian's other well-known works are "The Divine Poem" and "The Poem of Ecstasy," which won the 1908 Glinka Prize.

Answer: Alexander Scriabin

4. Identify these computer terms for 10 points each.

1. This simplest and slowest type of sort compares each item in a list to the one following it, and switches where necessary.

Answer: Bubble Sort

2. This is the term used for signals during the data transmission which indicate readiness or unreadiness for data. It also defines a method for stopping data from being sent.

Answer: Handshake

3. This is the term for a set of instructions awaiting execution.

Answer: Queue

5. Name the famous American, 30-20-10.

30: While serving as Lincoln's Secretary of State, he was wounded by Lewis Powell, one of John Wilkes Booth's co-conspirators.

20: A noted expansionist, he declared in 1858 that the slave struggle was "an irrepressible conflict" between North and South.

10: In 1867, he purchased Alaska from Russia.

Answer: William Henry Seward

6. Identify the English artists from works on a 10-5 basis.

1. 10: Marriage a la Mode

5: A Rake's Progress

Answer: William Hogarth

2. 10: Lady Sarah Bunbury Sacrificing to the Graces

5: Discourses

Answer: Joshua Reynolds

3. 10: Mary Countess Howe

5: Blue Boy

Answer: Thomas Gainsborough

7. Name these poems from lines for 15 points, for 5 if you need an author.

1. 15: And we are here as on a darkling plain / Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight, / Where ignorant armies clash by night.

5: Matthew Arnold

Answer: Dover Beach

2. 15: But at my back I always hear / Time's winged chariot hurrying near,

5: Andrew Marvell

Answer: To His Coy Mistress

8. Answer the following questions about U.S. involvement with Nicaragua for the stated number of points.
- 10: What 1902 act, in addition to setting two conditions for the construction of a Panama Canal, also authorized Congress to purchase a route in Nicaragua if the Panama route fell through?
Answer: Spooner Act
 - 5: What U.S.-friendly Nicaraguan took over the Presidency following political turmoil in 1911?
Answer: Adolfo Diaz
 - 15: What 1916 treaty gave the U.S. permanent, exclusive canal rights as well as a 99-year lease on naval bases in Nicaraguan waters?
Answer: Bryan-Chamorro Treaty
9. Sure you know that Kentucky won this year's NCAA Men's Basketball Championship, but how closely did you follow other sports? Name these other NCAA champions, for 10 points each.
1. Men's Lacrosse
Answer: Princeton Tigers
 2. Men's Soccer
Answer: Wisconsin Badgers
 3. Women's Tennis
Answer: Florida Gators
10. Let's test your knowledge of NBC's powerhouse Thursday night lineup.
- For 5 points each, name the two least popular shows last season, airing before and after Seinfeld.
Answer: The Single Guy and Caroline in the City
 - for 10 points, in the final episode of Seinfeld, who died?
Answer: Susan (prompt on George's fiance)
 - For a final 10 points, which regular character on ER quit her job?
Answer: Carol Hathaway (accept either because she goes by both on the show)
11. Identify these heart and circulatory disorders from a description for 10 points each.
- This is the medical term for any occlusion or blockage of a blood vessel by a clot.
Answer: thrombosis
 - This is the term for the thickening of arteries which occurs with advancing age.
Answer: arteriosclerosis or atherosclerosis
 - This is the term for a weak point in a vessel wall which bulges outward.
Answer: aneurysm
12. Answer the following questions about the Russo-Japanese War for the stated number of points.
- 5: What treaty ended the war?
Answer: Treaty of Portsmouth
 - 10: As part of the treaty, Russia ceded part of what island to Japan?
Answer: Sakhalin Island
 - 15: In what May 27, 1905 battle did the Japanese intercept and defeat the Russians? This battle constitutes the first ever fleet action between ironclad warships.
Answer: Battle of Tsushima Strait
13. Answer the following questions about equilibrium chemistry for the stated number of points.
- 5: This is the name for the quantity defined by the equation $H = TS$ where H equals heat, T equals temperature, and S equals entropy.
Answer: Gibbs Free Energy (prompt if the answer G is given)
 - 10: This equation relates the temperature dependence of the equilibrium constant to the enthalpy change in the reaction.
Answer: van't Hoff equation
 - 15: This rule states that, for most substances, in the conversion from liquid to vapor the entropy change approximates 88 joules per mole per Kelvin.
Answer: Trouton's Rule
14. Identify the following famous paradoxes for the stated number of points.
- 5: This group, named for the principle defender of Parmenides, consists of four paradoxes which argued against motion and precipitated a crisis in Greek thought.
Answer: Zeno's Paradoxes
 - 10: This is the most famous of the paradoxes in the foundation of set theory. It shows a conflict involving classes which have themselves as members.
Answer: Russell's Paradox
 - 15: This paradox states that one grain of sand is not a heap, and for any number n, if n grains are not a heap then adding one more grain does not make a heap. Thus, you can never make a heap.
Answer: Sorites Paradox

15. Name the author from works, 30-20-10.

30: Laughter in the Dark, The Road Life of Sebastian Knight

20: Ada, or Ardor: A Family Chronicle

10: Lolita

Answer: Vladimir Nabokov

16. Name these creatures from Norse mythology, for 10 points each.

1. The frost giant which arose from the steam created when Surtr's sword sent sparks onto ice blocks in the abyss.

Answer: Ymir

2. The gigantic cow who nourished Ymir.

Answer: Audhumla

3. The squirrel who continually runs up and down Yggdrasil.

Answer: Ratatosk

17. Give the following commonly used Latin phrases from clues, FTP each.

1. This phrase, literally meaning "without which not," indicates something essential.

Answer: sine qua non

2. This is the Latin for the abbreviation i.e., meaning "that is."

Answer: id est

3. From the Latin for "we take no notice of," this word is commonly used in English to describe a really stupid person.

Answer: ignoramus

18. Name these authors from works, for 10 points each.

1. Under the Volcano

Answer: Malcolm Lowry

2. The Izu Dancer and The House of the Sleeping Beauties

Answer: Yasunari Kawabata

3. The Insulted and Injured

Answer: Fyodor Dostoyevsky

19. Answer the following questions about the Russian Revolution in 1917.

1. When Nicholas II abdicated, who became the head of Russia's Provisional Government?

Answer: Prince George Lvov

2. Who replaced Lvov as head of the government in late July?

Answer: Alexander Kerensky

3. What commander of the Russian army attempted to seize control in 1917 and set up a military dictatorship?

Answer: General L. G. Kornilov

20. Identify these city-related climatological phenomena for the stated number of points.

1. 10: This effect describes the fact that cities tend to be relatively warmer than surrounding rural areas.

Answer: urban heat island effect

2. 5: The urban heat island effect has skewed long-range temperature data, thus leading to exaggerated claims of this phenomenon related to the Greenhouse Effect.

Answer: global warming

3. 15: This city-related circulation pattern is characterized by a light wind blowing in from the surrounding countryside, usually on calm nights.

Answer: country breeze