

1. This poem's author, a professor at Columbia, would not admit to writing it for years after its 1823 publication in a New York newspaper. The names of some of the poem's flying visitors come from Dutch and German, and the title character does not have the somber look of a bishop, instead he is described with rosy cheeks and a nose "like a cherry." Give either title of this popular poem by C. Clement Moore in which sugar-plums dance in children's heads.

Answer: "A Visit from St. Nicholas" or " 'Twas the Night Before Christmas"

2. He won the 2008 Roberto Clemente award thanks to his foundation which helps people with Down's syndrome and also sends dentists to his native Dominican Republic. He won the NL Rookie of the Year award in 2001 after hitting 37 homeruns and 130 RBIs. He has been an All-star seven times and won the NL MVP in 2005 and 2008. Who is this first baseman for the St. Louis Cardinals, widely considered by many to be the best player in baseball today?

Answer: Albert Pujols

3. Among his lesser known scientific exploits was charting and naming the Atlantic Ocean's Gulf Stream current. He explained in his autobiography that he never patented his inventions, and he founded the American Philosophical Society in 1743 for scientists to discuss their discoveries. Name this American who invented the glass harmonica, bifocals, the lightning rod and his namesake stove.

Answer: Benjamin Franklin

4. He resigned his commission in the army in 1858 to concentrate on music and worked as a government clerk for two years after meeting Alexander Borodin. A member of the group of Russian nationalist composers, the Five, he completed his only opera *Boris Godunov* in 1874. His orchestral work *Night on Bald Mountain* is featured in Disney's *Fantasia*. Who is this Russian composer best known for his *Pictures at an Exhibition*?

Answer: Modest Mussorgsky

5. James C. Neill and James Bowie ignored orders to destroy this building in 1835 and fortified it instead. Previously held by Martin Perfecto De Cos, it was surrendered following the siege of Bexar (BAY-har) to Sam Houston. Built by the Spanish in the 17th century as a Catholic mission, what is this building, the site of the most famous battle in the Texas Revolution and now a museum in San Antonio?

Answer: The Alamo

6. The earliest remains of human habitation near this present-day city were found in the caves of Dragon Bone Hill. Mount Dongling is this city's highest point and the Chaobai and Yongding Rivers run through it. The Forbidden City is north of Tiananmen Square in this city's center. What is this city now home to the Water Cube and Bird's Nest, the capital of China?

Answer: Beijing (Accept Peking)

7. **Math Calculation** Albert rolls two six sided die and wants to know the probability of having the sum of the die equal to two. He realizes that the only way for this to happen is to roll two ones. If the probability of rolling a one is 1/6, what is the probability of rolling two ones?

Answer: 1/36 (one thirty-sixth)

8. Most mollusks use a compound containing this metallic element for oxygen transport rather than iron-containing hemoglobin. During the Roman Empire it was mined in Cyprus, but it is now mined in Arizona as well as the Atacama Desert of Chile, and it is refined from the ores antlerite, azurite, and chalcocite. What is this element found in the alloys bronze and brass, with atomic number 29 and chemical symbol Cu?

Answer: Copper

9. During the Civil War he wrote "The Wound Dresser" and "Ashes of Soldiers" for his collection of poems entitled *Drum-Taps*. After the war ended and the President had been killed, He quickly wrote a sequel of eighteen poems including "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" and "O Captain, My Captain." Who is this poet perhaps best known for his collection *Leaves of Grass*.

Answer: Walt Whitman

10. Only a few months into this President's administration, he fired 11,000 striking air traffic controllers. He promoted "peace through strength" resulting in a large increase in defense spending, and implemented supply-side economics. He famously said, "Government is not the solution to our problems; government is the problem," at his 1981 inauguration. Who was this 40th president who died after a 10 year fight with Alzheimer's in 2004?

Answer: Ronald Reagan HALFTIME (2 minutes)

11. It kills about 300,000 people every year even though it is preventable with a vaccine. One of the first vaccines for it was developed by Dr. Louis Sauer of Evanston, IL, who reported in 1946 that his efforts had eradicated this respiratory disease in the area. It has, however, made a comeback across Illinois in the last few years with its trademark very pronounced coughing fits. What is this disease also known as pertussis?

Answer: Whooping Cough (Accept Pertussis before it is mentioned)

12. A hand finished version made with a stencil and acrylic on paper was acquired by the Smithsonian's National Portrait gallery in early 2009. The original version had the artist's "obey star" embedded in the sunrise logo and had the word "progress" at the bottom. Created by Los Angeles street artist Shepherd Fairey, what is this poster that became the iconic image of Barack Obama's campaign?

Answer: Barack Obama "Hope" Poster (Accept "Progress" before mentioned, Prompt on "Obama Poster" or similar)

13. Created by Bob Kane, this superhero originally used firearms, something that fans now know he refuses to do. One of the founding members of the Justice League, this superhero has been portrayed by such actors as Val Kilmer, George Clooney, and, more recently, Christian Bale. Who is this superhero with sidekicks such as Nightwing, Robin, and Batgirl?

Answer: Batman

14. In one tradition his heart became the morning star after his death. In another the god of the night drove him into exile, and he left on a raft made of snakes to cross the sea. Ethnohistorians have debunked the myth that that his white skin, beard, and imminent return caused the Aztecs to mistake Hernan Cortez for him. Who is this important Mesoamerican god known as the "feathered serpent?"

Answer: Quetzalcoatl (accept reasonable pronunciations)

15. She refused to put on a woman's dress in order to take the Eucharist on Easter Sunday and said "as for womanly duties, there are enough other women to do them." She was tried as a heretic in a church court rather than a military one, since she claimed to hear "spiritual voices." Who was this French peasant girl who led France to several military victories before being burned at the stake by the English in 1431?

Answer: Saint Joan of Arc

16. Math Calculation. Through various shady dealings, Ramon has acquired a certain quantity of V-8 Juice. Sven has twice as many gallons as Ramon, and Jean-Jacques has four more gallons than Ramon. If the three together have 60 gallons of V-8, how many gallons of the refreshing red drink does Ramon have?

Answer: 14 gallons (Sven has 28, Jean-Jacques has 18)

17. One of these devices usually contains a metal tube filled with an inert gas like neon with a metal wire running through its middle. When an ion or electron penetrates the tube, the gas becomes conductive outputting a pulse of current and an audible click. What is the name given to this radioactive particle detector named for the German physicist who invented it?

Answer: Geiger Counter or Geiger-Muller Counter

18. In imperial China, civil servants were required to write an "eight-legged" one of these. Most of them are written in prose but Pope's verse works *On Criticism* and *On Man* are considered examples. Usually a short piece of non-fiction writing, their name comes from the French for "to try." What is this form of writing preferred by David Sedaris and often assigned by teachers to be written in five paragraphs?

Answer: Essays

19. It is considered the greatest medieval poem written in vernacular language and is the first of three canticas. It begins on Good Friday in the year 1300 as the narrator becomes lost in the woods only to be found by Virgil and led past a sign that reads, "Abandon All Hope, You Who Enter Here." Together they journey through the ten circles of Hell. What is this first part of Dante's *Divine Comedy* that comes before *Purgatorio* and *Paradiso*?

Answer: The *Inferno* (Prompt on *Divine Comedy*)

20. Home to the largest sports stadium in the world, this city also boasts St. Vitus' Cathedral, Wenceslas Square, and one of Europe's best-preserved medieval Jewish ghettos. In the spring of 1968 it was the location of uprising that was ended by Soviet troops and tanks. Name this city, the site of two famous defenestrations and the capital of the Czech Republic?

Answer: Prague or Praha

1. Answer the following about an infamous compromise.
 - A. This compromise made between the northern and southern states during the 1787 Constitutional Convention allowed slaves to be counted as a fraction of a person to increase southern representation in Congress.
Answer: Three-Fifths Compromise or Clause
 - B. The extra electoral votes given him thanks to the three-fifths compromise won this man the presidential election in 1800.
Answer: Thomas Jefferson (Jefferson defeated Adams by 8 votes)
 - C. Without the extra southern votes from the three-fifths compromise, this President's 1830 Indian removal policy would have failed.
Answer: Andrew Jackson
2. Name these collections and works by Chicago-born poet Shel Silverstein.
 - A. This 1964 Shel Silverstein children's book is a moral tale about a boy who becomes best friends with a very accommodating tree.
Answer: "The Giving Tree"
 - B. Silverstein is perhaps best known for this 1974 poetry collection which includes the poems "Sick," "Boa Constrictor," and "Sarah Cynthia Sylvia Stout Would Not Take the Garbage Out."
Answer: Where the Sidewalk Ends
 - C. Written 15 years after his previous collection *A Light in the Attic* this 1996 Silverstein poetry collection includes, "Hungry Kid Island," "Spoiled Brat," "Obedient," and "The Gnome, the Gnat, and the Gnu."
Answer: Falling Up
3. Scotland may have Nessie, but the US has its own lake monster legend. Answer the following for 10 points each.
 - A. The lake creature is most often reported in Saint Alban's Bay, near the border of Vermont and Quebec in this lake.
Answer: Lake Champlain
 - B. What is the common nickname for this creature?
Answer: Champ or Champy
 - C. In 1873 this famous showman and circus founder telegraphed the New York Times and offered a 50,000 dollar reward for the creature, so that he could show it off at his World's Fair Show.
Answer: P.T. Barnum
4. Name the following properties used for the identification of minerals.
 - A. While you can identify some minerals by surface color, geologists test for this property by scraping an unknown mineral across a piece of porcelain and observing the color left behind.
Answer: Streak
 - B. This property of a mineral can be shiny and metallic or dull and nonmetallic.
Answer: Luster
 - C. Measured by Mohs scale, this property is a mineral's resistance to being scratched.
Answer: Hardness
5. Identify the following properties from mathematics for 10 points each.
 - A. This property states that the addition or multiplication of a set of numbers will be the same no matter how the numbers are grouped.
Answer: Associative Property
 - B. This property states that the product of a number and a sum is equal to the sum of the individual products of the addends and the number.
Answer: Distributive Property
 - C. This property states that if the relation holds between a and b and between b and c, then it also exists between a and c.
Answer: Transitive Property

6. Give the following terms associated with the history of revenge for 10 points each.
- A. In 14th and 15th Century Italy, the obligation of a victim's closest male relatives to retaliate in kind was given this word. A 2005 Natalie Portman movie title might remind you that it begins with a "V."
Answer: Vendetta
- B. During the 16th century as governments sought to control violence a different kind of revenge appeared. What English name is given to planned revenge governed by rules such as walking ten paces before firing?
Answer: Dueling or Duels
- C. This term meaning a long-running series of retaliations often lasting generations and occurring between families was a legitimate course of legal action into the early modern period.
Answer: Feud or Blood Feud
7. Answer the following about a popular American rock band for 10 points each.
- A. This band led by Ryan Tedder released their debut album *Dreaming Out Loud* in 2007.
Answer: One Republic
- B. With over 4.3 million downloads this song by One Republic is the most downloaded song in US history. A remix of it appeared on Timbaland's album *Shock Value*.
Answer: "Apologize"
- C. The video for this other hit song by One Republic features Ryan Tedder walking through the desert, fully clothed in a bathtub, and driving a car with a pregnant woman in the backseat.
Answer: "Stop and Stare"
8. Identify the nicknames of the following symphonies by Franz Joseph Haydn for 10 points each.
- A. Haydn's Symphony number 94 is given this nickname because of a sudden loud chord in the second movement after a quiet opening.
Answer: Surprise Symphony
- B. Haydn's Symphony number 96 was given this nickname after a chandelier fell from the ceiling of the concert hall during its performance but fortunately did not hurt anyone.
Answer: Miracle Symphony
- C. Haydn's Symphony number 47 is given this nickname because it includes a "minuetto al reverso," in which the first part of the minuet is played backwards in the second part.
Answer: Palindrome Symphony
9. Answer the following questions concerning genetics for 10 points each.
- A. This Austrian monk developed the laws of genetic heredity while experimenting in his vegetable garden.
Answer: Gregor Mendel
- B. This square-shaped diagram named for a British geneticist is used to predict the outcome of a cross breeding experiment.
Answer: Punnett Square
- C. American geneticist Thomas Morgan used these insects, also known by their genus *Drosophila*, in his experiments, and they are still commonly used in genetic analysis.
Answer: Fruitfly or Fruitflies (Prompt on Flies)
10. Identify these Shakespearean plays from their plots and characters.
- A. This play featured a Moorish general, his wife Desdemona and the jealous, scheming Iago.
Answer: Othello
- B. Despite the title, the main character in this play is really Marcus Brutus who struggles with duty, honor, and friendship.
Answer: Julius Caesar
- C. In this play, the Prince of Denmark stages a play that proves his uncle Claudius murdered his father.
Answer: Hamlet

11. Given 15 seconds for each part, find the measure of each angle of a triangle if...
- A. ...It is a right triangle with one angle of x degrees and the other angle of $4x - 10$ degrees.
Answer: 20, 70 and 90
- B. ... it has one angle of 70 degrees and the other two angles are x and $3x + 10$ degrees.
Answer: 25, 70, and 85
- C. ...its angles measure $2x$, $x + 30$, and $90 - x$?
Answer: 60, 60, and 60 (or Sixty degrees)
12. It declared that "Government by Kings was first introduced into the world by the heathens," and that "Every thing that is right or natural pleads for separation."
- A. What is this hugely popular 1776 pamphlet that helped unite Americans to achieve independence from Britain?
Answer: Common Sense
- B. This radical writer and recent immigrant to the Colonies from Great Britain wrote *Common Sense*.
Answer: Thomas Paine
- C. Paine's most famous line, "These are the times that try men's souls," comes from this other series of pamphlets which helped boost Americans' morale during the war.
Answer: The American Crisis
13. Answer the following about everyone's favorite Bulgarian conceptual artist Christo.
- A. In 1984 Christo wrapped the Pont Neuf, the oldest bridge in this European city with 40,000 square meters of sand-colored fabric.
Answer: Paris, France
- B. In Christo's most recent project, he set up 7500 saffron colored "gates" in a park in this US city.
Answer: New York City (in Central Park)
- C. Currently Christo and his wife Jeanne Claude are working on "Over the River" which will suspend seven miles of reflective fabric over the Arkansas River near Cañon City in this US state.
Answer: Colorado
14. Identify the following terms associated with the scientific method.
- A. Almost all experiments begin by asking a question and formulating one of these kinds of statements—an educated guess—that the experiment will attempt to prove true or false.
Answer: Hypothesis
- B. When setting up an experiment scientists create this kind of variable that is manipulated by the scientist in order to see the results that come from changing it.
Answer: Independent Variable
- C. In order to study one variable at a time, it is vital that scientists establish one of these groups and set it aside from the independent variable to eliminate alternate explanations for the end results.
Answer: Control group
15. Identify these European rivers from clues about castles on their banks for ten points each.
- A. The Castles Maus, Liebenstein, and Marksburg are among the dozens of castles that line this longest river in Germany.
Answer: Rhine River
- B. Chenonceaux, Amboise, and Chambord are among the castles in the valley made by this longest French river.
Answer: Loire River
- C. This European river flows past Kalemegdan Fortress in Belgrade as well as Bratislava Castle on its way to the Black Sea.
Answer: Danube River

16. Identify the following retail stores that have recently gone out of business for 10 points each.
- A. This consumer electronics store filed for bankruptcy in November and announced in January that it is liquidating its assets and going out of business.
Answer: Circuit City
 - B. This big box retail store selling home textiles, housewares, and other things filed for bankruptcy in May 2008 and has since closed all of its stores.
Answer: Linens 'n Things
 - C. This store selling high-end gifts and electronics and usually found in malls closed all of its stores blaming poor consumer spending and bad publicity for its Ionic Breeze air purifiers.
Answer: Sharper Image
17. Mexico had a long struggle for independence.
- A. The army of Augustin de Iturbide joined forces with numerous rebel armies and forced this country to sign the Treaty of Cordoba in 1821, although it did not officially recognize independent Mexico until 1836.
Answer: Spain
 - B. Mexico, however, remained unstable after losing a war to the United States, and it was invaded by this country that put Maximilian I on the throne of Mexico.
Answer: France
 - C. The Mexican army's initial victory over the French at the Battle of Puebla is commemorated by this holiday. This holiday is often incorrectly called Mexican independence day.
Answer: Cinco de Mayo
18. Answer the following about a certain author, born in Waukegan, Illinois, for ten points each.
- A. This writer best known for his science fiction and fantasy works used Waukegan as a setting for his novels *Something Wicked This Way Comes* and *Dandelion Wine*.
Answer: Ray Bradbury
 - B. One of Bradbury's most well-known works is this collection of stories about the colonization of another planet by the people of Earth and the conflicts that arrive between earthlings and the aliens on that planet.
Answer: The Martian Chronicles
 - C. Taking its title from the temperature at which paper burns, Bradbury's most well-known work is this novel in which Guy Montag is employed as a "fireman" or book-burner.
Answer: Fahrenheit 451
19. The earth's rotation and uneven heating on its surface cause wind belts separated by calmer regions which were feared by sailors...
- A. These are dry, high pressure zones located about 30 degrees north and south of the equator and are supposedly named because Spanish sailors were forced to throw certain animals overboard due to lack of water.
Answer: Horse Latitudes
 - B. Explorers preferred to sail on these winds that blow from the east away from the horse latitudes.
Answer: Trade Winds
 - C. Sailors could become stuck in these areas of very low pressure and almost no wind around the equator if they followed the trade winds too far.
Answer: Doldrums
20. The Egyptians, just like every other major civilization, had a very elaborate mythology.
- A. He was the Egyptian sun god, often paired with Amon, and sometimes considered the only god in ancient Egypt with all other gods merely different forms of him.
Answer: Re or Ra
 - B. This falcon-headed god was considered to be the sky god and the personal god of the pharaoh.
Answer: Horus
 - C. This was Horus' father who was killed by Set and saved by his wife, Isis. He was the god of the afterlife.
Answer: Osiris