

Nic's Consensus Tournament - Pack #9

First Quarter

5 Part Blitz

1. Which code name was given to the FBI investigation into college admission bribery which saw multiple celebrities such as Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin face jail time?

A: Operation **Varsity Blues**

2. Eugene Delacroix was a prominent figure in what artistic movement, which took Europe by storm in the first half of the nineteenth century?

A: **Romanticism** (Accept permutations such as **Romantic**)

3. What largest private Canadian television network's logo has its initials contained in three differently coloured shapes?

A: **CTV**

4. Which Yankee recorded a hit in 56 consecutive games, a feat commonly considered to be among baseball's unbreakable records?

A: **Joe DiMaggio**

5. The line "Control yourself, take only what you need from it" begins the chorus of what highest charting MGMT song from their debut album, "Oracular Spectacular"?

A: **Kids**

Linked Set of 5

6. Which multi-day Via Rail train travels between Toronto and Vancouver?

A: The **Canadian**

7. What primarily Canadian Indigenous peoples are also known by names such as nehiyawak?

A: **Cree**

8. The Cree youth activist Shannen Koostachin led a movement which advocated for the construction of what sort of building in Attawapiskat?

A: Elementary **school**

9. The fictional Abbott Elementary School can be found in what largest city of Pennsylvania?

A: **Philadelphia**

10. This document was drafted over the course of 115 days at a convention in Philadelphia's Independence Hall.

A: **Constitution** of the **United States** (Prompt on "constitution")

Jailbreak

11. Film production companies owning theater chains is still relatively rare, due to a 1948 antitrust case by the United States against which production company?

A: **Paramount** Pictures

12. Retained through its independence and up to the modern day, what coastal city was set as the capital of Italian Somaliland?

A: **Mogadishu**

13. The Vancouver Canucks' roster currently features three unrelated players who share this last name, with two even sharing their first name, Elias.

A: **Petterson**

14. Which class of subatomic particles with whole spin numbers was named by Paul Dirac in honour of an Indian physicist who worked with Einstein?

A: **Bosons**

15. What appliance company shares its name with a theoretical spherical device used to harness a star's energy?

A: **Dyson**

16. Which daughter of Ra is the goddess of women and fertility, as well as the mother of Horus?

A: **Hathor**

17. What "f" term refers to military bases which provide more immediate tactical support to a given area, and are supported by larger, more permanent main bases?

A: **Forward** operating bases

18. Flowing down from the Rockies before combining with the Oldman, what river is considered an iconic symbol of Calgary, where it is met by the Elbow?

A: **Bow** River

19. What first caliphate was succeeded by the Umayyad Caliphate?

A: **Rashidun** Caliphate

20. The Great Artesian Basin lies under and supplies much of the freshwater to what island nation?

A: **Australia**

21. Which legendary leading man won an Oscar for *It Happened One Night*, but is perhaps best known for playing Rhett Butler in *Gone With The Wind*?

A: Clark **Gable**

22. Jannah and Jannaham are broadly equivalent to what christian concepts?

A: **Heaven** and **Hell** (prompt on “afterlife”)

23. What maiden name is shared by Jackie Onassis and Marge Simpson?

A: **Bouvier**

24. What American pharmacy chain tore up a contract with the digital advertising company Cooler Screens for repeated missed revenue goals due to their broken refrigerators?

A: **Walgreens**

25. J. R. R. Tolkien translated and wrote a notable essay on what epic poem originally written in Old English?

A: **Beowulf**

Second Quarter

Set of 5

26. On February 2nd 2025, the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences held the 67th edition of this industry awards show.

A: **Grammys**

27. The awards began with an ode to this city, which was one of many experiencing a devastating collection of wildfires.

A: **Los Angeles**

28. After “I Love LA”, Billie Eilish performed this song, which was nominated for both Song and Record of the Year, but took home neither.

A: **Birds Of A Feather**

29. Winner of those two awards and three others was this song, which became the most decorated in the history of the Grammys.

A: **Not Like Us**

30. After having been nominated for five previous albums, this artist finally took home her Grammy for Album of the Year.

A: **Beyonce Knowles-Carter** (Accept any portion)

Jackpot

31. Part one, for forty points: This man was spared the wrath of God by his wife, who he met while taking refuge in Midian.

Part two, for thirty points: This man is sometimes depicted with horns, most famously in a statue commissioned by Pope Julius II.

Part three, for twenty points: A Song and a Blessing of this prophet appear in Deuteronomy, which concludes with his death on Mount Nebo.

Part four, for ten points: This prophet's story is recounted in Exodus, where alongside his brother Aaron, he leads the Israelites to freedom from the Pharaoh.

A: **Moses**

8 Part Blitz

35. The city of Luxor is the modern-day location for what Egyptian Middle Kingdom-era capital city?

A: **Thebes** (accept **Waset**)

36. What German sound poet and author is often credited as the founder of Dadaism?

A: Hugo **Ball**

37. Though it has yet to be implemented, an amendment to Kenya's constitution states that no more than two thirds of its parliament can share this trait.

A: **Gender**

38. What disputed region in the Caucasus is home to many of Earth's deepest caves?

A: **Abkhazia**

39. Lake Turkana is the largest permanent lake to be entirely located in what sort of arid region?

A: **desert**

40. Katz's and Zabar's are both delicatessens which can be found in what American city?

A: **New York City**

41. Diametrically opposed points on a sphere are referred to by what term, with a prominent example being New Zealand and Spain?

A: **Antipodal** (accept **antipode**)

42. What animal shares its name with the term for a decree issued by the leader of the Catholic Church?

A: **bull**

Splits on 13 in Literature and Bilingual Anagrams For the Word "Night"

13 in Literature

43. Arthur Koestler's "The Thirteenth Tribe" propagates the mostly debunked theory that Ashkenazi Jews descend from these people.

A: **Khazars**

44. Agatha Christie's "The Thirteen Problems" features a club which meets on this day, which gives the anthology its other name.

A: **Tuesday** Murder Club

45. The titular reasons of the young adult novel "Thirteen Reasons Why" are documented on seven of these devices.

A: double-sided **tapes**

46. Starting in 2007, these unique numerical identifiers were extended from 10 to 13 digits.

A: International **S**tandard **B**ook **N**umbers

Bilingual Anagrams For the Word "Night"

47. The English word "unit" can be rearranged to form this word meaning "night" in French.

A: **nuit**

48. Reversing the Danish for night will get you this word, which you might also associate with beds, though you certainly shouldn't fall asleep in them.

A: **tan** ("nat")

49. The German word for night can be rearranged to obtain this word, referring to a manner of speech or song.

A: **chant** ("nacht")

50. The English word "chosen" can be rearranged to get this Spanish word for night, often preceded by "buenos".

A: **noches**

Third Quarter

Jackpot

51. Part one, for forty points: A replica of this item found in Portland had to be replaced when it was dynamited in an unsolved act of vandalism in 1970.

Part two, for thirty points: That replica was one of 55 cast for every territory and state, including Pennsylvania, where the original can also be found.

Part three, for twenty points: Initially made from pure iron, this item was recast twice after arriving in America due to structural and tone issues.

Part two, for ten points: Despite these recastings, this item is perhaps most famous for its imperfection, a crack which developed some 50 years after it was hung in Philadelphia's Independence Hall.

A: **Liberty Bell** (Prompt on "bell")

Double Jump

55. The Maastricht Treaty established what international geopolitical and economic confederation?

A: **European Union**

56. What nuclear power-promoting association shares its membership with the European Union, but also counts Switzerland and the United Kingdom as associated states?

A: **Euratom** (Accept **E**uropean **A**tomistic **E**nergy **C**ommunity)

Double Jump

57. "U equals U" or "Undetectable equals Untransmittable" is a slogan meant to destigmatize what viral infection?

A: **HIV/AIDS** (Reject AIDS)

58. Much of the research used to establish this principle was performed on couples who can be described by this term, which means that one is infected by HIV while the other is not.

A: **Serodiscordant** (Accept **mixed-status**)

Splits on Supply Chain Attacks and Colours of Death

Supply Chain Attacks

59. This site, which provided namesake pieces of Javascript code to implement native features in older browsers, was acquired and used in a massive supply chain attack in June 2024.

A: **Polyfill.io**

60. In 2020, governments and organizations the world over were affected by one of the largest-ever supply chain attacks on this IT firm's Orion software, used to monitor networks.

A: **SolarWinds**

61. A far more literal supply chain attack on these devices, which were being used by Hezbollah, was carried out by Mossad in September 2024.

A: **Pagers** (Accept **Walkie Talkies** as those were also attacked a day later, but the pagers were the most prominent). Accept **beepers** or other equivalent terms.

62. An attempted supply chain attack on this Linux utility was discovered in February 2024 by a Microsoft employee who observed a lag in his SSH logins.

A: **XZ Utils**

Colours of Death

63. Simo Häyhä (hal-ha) was also known as “White Death” due to his proficiency with one of these tools, also employed by Vasily Zaytsev and Chris Kyle.

A: **Sniper** (prompt on “rifle” or “gun”)

64. *Purple Death from Outer Space* was a compilation of serials starring this newspaper strip spaceman and enemy of Ming the Merciless.

A: **Flash Gordon**

65. *The Masque of The Red Death* is a short story by this writer, who went on to mourn his lost love Lenore in *The Raven*.

A: Edgar Allen **Poe**

66. This middle of this century saw the continent of Europe devastated by the bubonic plague, also known as Black Death.

A: **14th** century (accept **1300s**)

Streaks (12 answers total)

67. Name up to all six women who serve or have served as justices on the Supreme Court of the United States.

A: Amy Coney **Barrett**, Ruth Bader **Ginsburg** (Accept **RBG**), Ketanji Brown **Jackson**, Elena **Kagan**, Sandra Day **O'Connor**, Sonia **Sotomayor**

68. Consisting of one francophone and five anglophone institutions, name up to all of the Big Six largest banks in Canada.

A: **Royal Bank of Canada**, **Toronto-Dominion Bank**, **Bank of Nova Scotia** (Accept **Scotiabank**), **Bank of Montreal** (Accept **BMO**), **Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce**, **National Bank of Canada** (Accept **Banque Nationale**)

Set of 4

72. This school of Marxist thought is named for its founder, who would lead the Soviet Union until his death in 1924.

A: **Leninism**

73. This faction was led by Lenin, and gained power in the October Revolution.

A: **Bolshevik**

74. A key concept of Leninism is one of these parties, which serves as a driving force for the revolution by educating workers.

A: **Vanguard** party

75. Following a revolution led by the vanguard party, this class of people can form a namesake dictatorship.

A: Dictatorship of the **proletariat**

Fourth Quarter

Splits on National Parks of Canada and Proteins

National Parks of Canada

76. Established in 1885, this was the first national park, and features two Fairmont hotels: one on the Spray river, and the other on Lake Louise.

A: **Banff** National Park

77. Wapusk National Park in Manitoba is named for and dedicated to the protection of these mammals, with the park serving as a significant maternity denning area.

A: **polar bears** (prompt on “bears”)

78. A vital point of refuge for the whooping crane, the only national park to cross provincial borders is this largest park in Canada, which straddles Alberta and The Northwest Territories.

A: **Wood Buffalo** National Park

79. Kluane National Park in the Yukon is the home of this mountain, whose peak is the highest point in Canada.

A: **Mount Logan**

Proteins

80. Proteins are made up of 22 of the alpha-variety of these compounds, which in turn are composed of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen and, occasionally, sulfur.

A: **Amino Acids**

81. This largest protein found in the human body is also one of the most abundant, and alongside myosin and actin, makes up muscles.

A: **Titin**

82. Cofactors will sometimes accompany this class of protein, which acts as a biocatalyst in reactions such as digestion and fermentation.

A: **Enzymes**

83. The ability of an enzyme to function as a catalyst can be lost if it undergoes this process in which it loses its form, which can be induced by factors such as solvents, radiation or heat.

A: **Denaturation**

Linked Set of 7

84. What sort of personal item belonging to the author of *The Tale of Genji* serves as a valuable insight into Japanese court life during the Heian era?

A: **diary**

85. A diary belonging to what sort of person names a series of young adult novels in which Mia must train to become the future ruler of the fictional European nation of Genovia?

A: **princess**

86. What nation's princess had extra-territorial status granted to "any places in Canada" in which she stayed by King George IV?

A: **Netherlands**

87. Which largest island of the Netherlands has its capital in Willemstad?

A: **Curaçao**

88. What genus of plant is used in the manufacturing of Curaçao's namesake liqueur?

A: **citrus**

89. The manga series *Citrus* falls under what genre, which depicts romantic relationships between female characters?

A: **yuri**

90. What vehicle was used in 1961 by Yuri Gagarin to become the first person to travel to space?

A: **Vostok 1** (Prompt on "Vostok")

10 Part Blitz

91. Which Romantic-era Hungarian pianist inspired feverish enthusiasm in his audience when performing hits such as "La campanella"?

A: Franz **Liszt**

92. In North America, the severity of fires is colloquially classified by what metric, which usually indicates how large the response is from emergency services?

A: **Alarms** (For example, a “five-alarm” fire)

93. What dystopian novel drew heavily on the careers of both Adolf Hitler and Huey Long when depicting the rise and fall of its main character, Buzz Windrip?

A: ***It Can't Happen Here***

94. A marriage to a widow with a red-headed daughter begins what comedy song detailing an unlikely series of events in which the narrator assumes the titular role?

A: **I'm My Own Grandpa**

95. What Alpish region is split between the north of Italy and the west of Austria?

A: **Tyrol**

96. The resin of mastic trees is a notable export for which Greek island, also the site of a massacre during the Greek War of Independence?

A: **Chios**

97. Corporal Jose Garcia successfully prevented the demolition of which iconic piece of Moorish architecture by Napoleon's forces in 1812?

A: **Alhambra**

98. Manas is a legendary figure for what Central Asian ethnic group, who broadly occupy a landlocked country named for them?

A: **Kyrgyz**

99. Ireland is sometimes divided into east and west based on the path of what longest river of the British Isles?

A: River **Shannon**

100. What play by Tom Stoppard features two minor Shakespearean characters, who spend their time discussing the events of the play they come from as they transpire?

A: ***Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead***