



2025-26 High School Qualifier (T2) – Pack 9

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PACK 9

5-Part Blitz

1. Operation Searchlight launched a genocide in what modern-day country, leading to an independence war in which India helped it gain independence from Pakistan?
A: **Bangladesh**
2. The title figure is described as “tall and tan and young and lovely” in what classic bossa nova song?
A: “The **Girl from Ipanema**”
3. What term describes two substances that can form a homogenous mixture regardless of each substance’s concentration?
A: **miscible**
4. What organization creates and administers Advanced Placement courses?
A: **College Board**
5. The aftermath of what country’s recent general election saw losing candidate Bobi Wine allegedly escape military capture ordered by incumbent Yoweri Museveni?
A: **Uganda**

Double Jump

6. Brianna Boho, Boxman, and The Chosen are all recurring characters on what YouTube channel, created in 2005 by Anthony Padilla and Ian Hecox?
A: **Smosh**
7. From 2019 to 2023, what other YouTube duo owned Smosh under their company Mythical Entertainment?
A: **Rhett and Link**

Double Jump

8. Visual Studio Code is an integrated development environment produced by what company, whose other software includes the spreadsheet application Excel?
A: **Microsoft** (prompt on: **M.S.**)
9. What kind of software is the Microsoft Office product called Access?
A: relational **database** software (accept: **database** management system, **dbms**)

Set of 4

10. Who blurted out “Where is everybody!?” after a discussion with other physicists about alien life, a question now referred to as his namesake “paradox”?
A: Enrico **Fermi**
11. Fermi initially posed the question out of skepticism at the possibility of what action, which some have proposed doing through quantum tunnelling or wormholes?
A: **travelling faster than the speed of light** (accept clear equivalents)
12. Much of the search for extraterrestrial life focuses on what areas, which are the right distance from a star for liquid water to be stable?
A: **Goldilocks** zones/regions/areas (accept: circumstellar **habitable** zones/regions/areas)

13. Robin Hanson introduced what concept, arguing that there exists a step on the scale from planetary development to space colonization that is so difficult that almost no life forms pass through it?
A: **Great Filter**

Jackpot

14. Part 1: Who scored 34 points with 17 rebounds in 37-degree temperatures in the so-called "Heat Game"?
15. Part 2: In the highest-rated final in N.C.A.A. ["N-C-double-A"] basketball history, Michigan State beat this player's Indiana State team.
16. Part 3: This forward spent his prime N.B.A. years playing in a frontcourt with Robert Parrish and Kevin McHale.
17. Part 4: Magic Johnson's Lakers had a fierce rivalry in the 1980s with this player's Boston Celtics ["SEL-tiks"].
A: Larry **Bird**

Set of 3: Mozart's Operas

18. An overture beginning with several fast quiet bars, then launching into a forte long D, long C, short B, short A opens what opera buffa about a servant's wedding?
A: *The* **Marriage of Figaro**
19. What character sings the rage aria "Der Hoelle Rache ["RAHH-uh"]" in *The Magic Flute*?
A: the **Queen of the Night**
20. Two men disguise themselves to try to seduce each other's wives in what comic opera whose name literally means "so do they all", but is usually translated as "Women Are Like That"?
A: **Così fan tutte**

5-Part Blitz

21. What is the governing party of Alberta?
A: **United Conservative** Party (accept: **U.C.P.**)
22. What word refers to green tea leaves that are grown in the shade and crushed into a fine powder?
A: **matcha**
23. What country contains the easternmost point on the Arabian Peninsula?
A: **Oman**
24. The Regina Riot occurred during what larger event, as the R.C.M.P. attacked a crowd of unemployed men?
A: **On-to-Ottawa** Trek (prompt on: Great **Depression**)
25. At 2:30, what is the degree measure of the angle formed between the minute and hour hands on a clock?
A: **105** degrees (accept: **255** degrees)

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Splits: Scottish Geography & Spelling

Scottish Geography

26. Traditional Scottish culture and the Gaelic language survived longest in what northwestern, mountainous region of the country?
A: the Scottish **Highlands** (accept: **Highlands** region)

27. The Inner and the Outer are the two groups that make up what archipelago off the western coast of Scotland?
A: the **Hebrides**
28. Cognate to a more widely used Scandinavian word, what Scots word refers to narrow inlets common on the coasts of Scotland?
A: **firths**
29. What is the capital of Scotland, and its second-largest city after Glasgow?
A: **Edinburgh**

Spelling

30. A theatre show in multiple acts that can include music, dance, and comedy, spell "revue" ["review"].
A: **R-E-V-U-E**
31. A hairdo, in particular one that has been deliberately styled, spell "coiffure" ["kwoff-YOOR"].
A: **C-O-I-F-F-U-R-E**
32. The texture and sound of a musical instrument, spell "timbre" ["TAM-burr"].
A: **T-I-M-B-R-E**
33. Meaning "having children that develop inside the mother", spell "viviparous" ["viv-IPP-arr-us"].
A: **V-I-V-I-P-A-R-O-U-S**

Double Jump

34. Sankoré University and the Great Mosque of Djenné were built by what empire, ruled by Mansa Musa and located in West Africa?
A: **Mali** Empire (accept: **Malian** Empire)
35. The Mali were defeated by what other African empire, whose capital was Gao?
A: **Songhai** Empire

Double Jump

36. What word refers to a single loop made by threading a needle through a piece of fabric, the most basic unit of sewing?
A: **stitches**
37. In knitting, stitches are divided into V-shaped knit stitches and what other kind of stitch, which creates wavy horizontal lines?
A: **purl** stitches

Set of 4: *A Tale of Two Cities*

38. At the start of the novel, Dr. Manette is released after 18 years in what infamous prison?
A: the **Bastille**
39. What character is acquitted of treason in England when the court realizes that he bears a striking resemblance to lawyer Sydney Carton?
A: **Charles Darnay** (accept either bolded part)
40. What character is associated with the fates of Greek mythology through her use of knitting to write out people's destinies, and represents the Reign of Terror?
A: **Madame Defarge** (accept: **Therese** Defarge) (prompt on: **Defarge**)
41. Name both of the cities referred to by the title.
A: **London** AND **Paris**

Set of 4: Music Videos

42. A church choir and a man with a bag over his head are both shot by the singer in the music video for what song, which examines gun violence and racism in the United States?
A: **"This is America"**
43. What artist hitchhikes in unusual vehicles, forms a relationship with a convict, and violently battles a man's girlfriend in her music videos?
A: Sabrina **Carpenter**
44. What song's music video features Weezer performing at Arnold's Drive-In from the T.V. show *Happy Days*, paralleling its namesake 1950s musician?
A: **"Buddy Holly"**
45. Inspired by Gwen Verdon and Bob Fosse ["fossy"], what song's music video features three women performing a variety of dances while wearing high heels and black leotards?
A: **"Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)"**

5-Part Blitz

46. What is the only digit that begins four 2-digit prime numbers?
A: **1**
47. Name either country that borders Lake Kariba, the largest artificial lake in the world.
A: **Zambia OR Zimbabwe**
48. What exact three words precede *Ultimate*, *Brawl*, and *Melee* in titles from a fighting game series?
A: **Super Smash Bros** (reject: Super Smash Brothers)
49. What hill station in the Indian state of West Bengal names a variety of expensive black tea?
A: **Darjeeling**
50. Lua, Perl, and the most common implementation of Python are all written using what other programming language?
A: **C**

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Historic Volcanic Eruptions & The Respiratory System

Historic Volcanic Eruptions

51. After the 1995 eruption of the Soufrière Hills volcano, two-thirds of the population of what British Overseas Territory had to evacuate?
A: **Montserrat**
52. Robert Landsburg captured photos of the advancing ash cloud and died protecting the film during the 1980 eruption of what volcano in Washington state?
A: Mount **St. Helens**
53. The eruption of what volcano was documented by Pliny the Younger as it destroyed Herculaneum and Pompeii?
A: Mount **Vesuvius**
54. What modern-day country saw the 1815 eruption of Mount Tambora, leading to the "Year Without a Summer", and the 1883 eruption of Krakatoa?
A: **Indonesia**

The Respiratory System

55. What air sacs are the location where gas exchanges take place?
A: **alveoli** (accept: **alveolus**)
56. Separating the thoracic and abdominal cavities, what large muscle is responsible for respiration?
A: **diaphragm**
57. Inflammation of the alveoli characterizes what condition, which can be a complication of colds, flu, or COVID?
A: **pneumonia**
58. What cartilaginous flap prevents food and water from entering the trachea?
A: **epiglottis**

Set of 3: Gatekeepers

59. Captured by Heracles in his twelfth labour, what creature guards the gates of the Underworld in Greek mythology?
A: **Cerberus** (accept: **Kerberos**)
60. Who traditionally guards the Pearly Gates and determines who is fit to enter Heaven?
A: Saint **Peter**
61. What "B"-word refers to a gatekeeper working at a bar or club?
A: **bouncer**

Jailbreak

62. What traditional item of clothing, a patterned headdress in colours such as black and white, has become a symbol of the pro-Palestine movement?
A: **keffiyeh**
63. Cardiac ultrasounds can use what effect to determine blood velocity, an effect more commonly encountered when an ambulance rushes by?
A: **Doppler** effect/shift
64. What author's book *Onyx Storm* is the latest entry in her *Empyrean* series, which began with *Fourth Wing*?
A: Rebecca **Yarros**
65. What animal is featured in the logo of French sports fashion company Lacoste?
A: **crocodiles**
66. What title is held by the leaders of most communist parties, who are also the de facto leaders of one-party communist states?
A: **general secretary** of the communist party (prompt on: **secretary**)
67. What three countries does Vietnam border?
A: **China** AND **Laos** AND **Cambodia**
68. In what year did Napoleon invade Russia?
A: **1812**
69. The player can eat a power pellet to be able to defeat Inky, Pinky, Blinky, and Clyde in what 1980 arcade game?
A: **Pac-Man**
70. What city is home to Anish Kapoor's stainless steel sculpture *Cloud Gate*, often called the Bean?
A: **Chicago**
71. What kind of dog has a name derived from the Welsh words for "dwarf" and "dog"?
A: **corgis**
72. Reaching its peak under N.K.V.D. Chief Nikolai Yezhov, what period in Soviet history saw hundreds of thousands of citizens accused of political crimes, sent to labour camps, or executed?
A: Great **Purge** (accept: Great **Terror**)

73. How many pieces does each player start with in checkers?
A: **12** pieces
74. An atom of oxygen-18 has how many neutrons?
A: **10** neutrons
75. Who was the first president of the Republic of Texas, and now lends his name to Texas's most populous city?
A: Sam **Houston**

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Jackpot

76. Part 1: Harry Frankfurt argued that what concept is possible by presenting a series of cases opposed to what he called the P.A.P.?
77. Part 2: P.F. Strawson argued that praise, condemnation, and punishment were justified regardless of whether this concept exists.
78. Part 3: Libertarians and compatibilists generally agree that this concept exists.
79. Part 4: Most determinists believe that this concept is impossible because the laws of physics determine our actions, leaving no room for choice.
A: **free will**

Streak

80. As of the first episode of the T.V. show *The Boys*, give the superhero names of up to all active members of The Seven.
- A: **Homelander**
- A: The **Deep**
- A: **Black Noir**
- A: **Translucent**
- A: Queen **Maeve**
- A: **A-Train**
- A: **Starlight**

Streak

83. Give the English names of up to all three poetic stanza lengths that are between two and four lines, inclusive.
- A: **couplets**
- A: **tercets**
- A: **quatrains**

Set of 4: Rob Reiner Films

85. Reiner's final film was a sequel to what debut film of his, a mockumentary about a fictional heavy metal band?
A: ***This Is Spinal Tap***

86. What phrase was coined in a 2007 Rob Reiner film about two terminally ill friends who seek to complete desired experiences before they die?
A: **bucket list**
87. What Rob Reiner film depicts the court martial of two U.S. marines and contains an ad-libbed scene in which Jack Nicholson yells "you can't handle the truth!"?
A: **A Few Good Men**
88. Chris, Teddy, Vern, and Gordie attempt to find the body of a missing boy in what film named after a Ben E. King song?
A: **Stand By Me**

12-Part Blitz

89. Contrasted with lending libraries, what kind of libraries expect patrons to access books and materials on-site only?
A: **reference** libraries
90. What is the derivative of x cubed?
A: **3 x squared**
91. What artist used the walls of the Stanza della Segnatura to paint *The Parnassus*, *La Disputa*, and *The School of Athens*?
A: **Raphael**
92. What cartoony character created by Crystal Dynamics for a platforming series is a wisecracking lizard spy?
A: **Gex** the Gecko
93. What letter can be added to the last name of a doctor from a Rembrandt painting to get a flower popular in Rembrandt's home country?
A: **I** (Tulp -> tulip)
94. New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art is located in what large urban green space in Manhattan?
A: **Central Park**
95. In what year did a rebellion break out among members of the New Army, quickly spreading across China and leading to the overthrow of the Qing ["ching"]?
A: **1911**
96. Unlike a cell or battery, what circuit element is represented using two parallel lines of the same length?
A: **capacitors**
97. Instead of the August Civic Holiday, people in Quebec observe what holiday on June 24th?
A: **St. John the Baptist Day** (accept: **St-Jean-Baptiste** Day, la **Saint-Jean**, **fete nationale**)
98. What sports organization recently launched its Returning Member Program, which succeeded in luring Brooks Koepka ["KEP-kuh"] back from LIV Golf?
A: **P.G.A. Tour** (prompt on partial answers)
99. What two-word term refers to the simplified ratio of atoms or ions in a compound?
A: **empirical formula**
100. Conducting many studies and only publishing the ones with interesting results constitutes what misleading practice in the social sciences?
A: **publication bias** (accept: **file drawer bias**, **file drawer problem**)

END OF GAME