



2025-26 Post-Secondary Fall Tournament (T1) – Pack 10

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PACK 10

5-Part Blitz

1. Kano ["KAH-no"] is the second-largest city in what country?
A: **Nigeria**
2. Floor-length white ball gowns and long white gloves are the American dress code for what kind of event, where young, upper-class women are presented to high society for the first time?
A: **debutante balls** (accept: **coming-out parties**)
3. What word do linguists use for a group of genetically related languages, such as the Semitic or Slavic groups?
A: **family** (accept: **families**)
4. Which Byzantine emperor compiled the Corpus Juris Civilis legal code and suppressed the Nika riots?
A: **Justinian I** (accept: **Justinian the Great**) (prompt on: **Justinian**)
5. Charlton Heston finds the title things on a mountaintop in what Biblical epic film in which he plays Moses?
A: *The* **Ten Commandments**

Double Jump

6. At the 1937 Paris Expo, the Spanish pavilion displayed what new painting by Pablo Picasso, depicting the horrors of the country's ongoing civil war?
A: **Guernica**
7. Another famous image of the war, a photograph known as *The Falling Soldier*, was taken, and possibly staged, by what photographer?
A: Robert **Capa**

Double Jump

8. What large country lies between the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal?
A: **India**
9. What is the easternmost body of water on which India borders?
A: **Andaman** Sea

Set of 4: Matrix Math

Consider the two-by-two matrix with the first row 5, 10 and the second row 2, 4.

10. What is the determinant of the matrix?
A: **0**
11. What is the rank of the matrix?
A: **1**
12. What is the top left element when the matrix is squared?
A: **45**
13. What is the nonzero eigenvalue of the matrix?
A: **9**

Jackpot

14. Part 1: During a 2021 Grand Prix in what country did a broadcast suddenly cut to Aston Martin driver Lance Stroll's car bumping a wall and jumping over a curb, spawning a series of memes?
15. Part 2: Ayrton Senna won six Grand Prix races in this country, including five consecutive ones between 1989 and 1993.
16. Part 3: This is the home country of current Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc.
17. Part 4: Along with races in the United States and France, the third part of the Triple Crown of Motorsport is a Grand Prix located in this tiny country.

A: **Monaco**

Set of 3: Chess Tactics

18. Which chess piece is developed to the b or g files as part of a fianchetto?
A: **bishops**
19. While a pin involves attacking two pieces along a line with the less valuable piece in front, what similar tactic occurs when the more valuable piece is in front, forcing it to move so the piece behind can be captured?
A: **skewers**
20. What piece becomes "passed" when its counterparts can no longer prevent it from advancing to the eighth rank to achieve promotion?
A: **pawns**

5-Part Blitz

21. Listed fourth and last in the theme song, which of the Teletubbies is red?
A: **Po**
22. Which nitrogenous base in DNA is replaced with uracil in RNA?
A: **thymine** (prompt on: T)
23. Especially popular in Australia and New Zealand, what espresso-and-milk beverage is essentially a cappuccino without the thick foam on top?
A: **flat whites**
24. What small island is split between Indonesia, which controls its western half, and an independent country?
A: **Timor**
25. The science fiction films *Solaris* and *Stalker* were made by what Russian director?
A: Andrei **Tarkovsky**

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Splits: *The Divine Comedy* & The Hydrosphere

The Divine Comedy

26. In heaven, how many spheres surround the Empyrean, home to God?
A: **nine**
27. Dante caused controversy by including esteemed Ancient Greeks and Romans, as well as Saladin, in what part of hell, which according to common Catholic belief is home to virtuous Old Testament figures and to unbaptized infants?
A: **Limbo** (accept: the **First Circle** of Hell)

28. In purgatory, Dante depicts all sins as being caused by what, when it is excessive, deficient, perverted, or directed away from God?
A: **love**
29. What two figures were betrayed by the three people being punished alongside Satan himself at the centre of hell?
A: **Jesus Christ** (accept either bolded part) AND Julius **Caesar**

The Hydrosphere

30. The discharge of a river is obtained by multiplying its cross-sectional area by what quantity?
A: average flow **velocity/speed** (accept clear equivalents) (reject: flow rate)
31. Underground layers of permeable rock or sediment that contain groundwater are known by what term?
A: **aquifers**
32. What "R"-word refers to the flow of water across the ground and bodies of water before it ends up in streams and rivers?
A: **runoff**
33. Ocean acidification is caused by what atmospheric compound reacting with ocean water to form carbonic acid?
A: **carbon dioxide** (accept: **CO2**)

Double Jump

34. Who was the subject of a 2021 New York Times documentary titled after her "framing", which explored the conservatorship her father had had her placed in?
A: Britney **Spears** (prompt on: Britney)
35. Amidst the "Free Britney" movement, what late-night talk show host was retroactively praised for speaking sympathetically of Spears in 2007 after her breakdown, unlike other performers who mocked her?
A: Craig **Ferguson**

Double Jump

36. Which one of the 20 proteinogenic amino acids forms disulfide bonds?
A: **cysteine**
37. What molecule is a tripeptide consisting of glutamate, cysteine, and glycine?
A: **glutathione**

Set of 4: Horses

38. Psychologist Oskar Pfungst ["fungst"] proved that the involuntary reactions of its trainer were influencing what horse to appear like it was performing arithmetic?
A: **Clever Hans**
39. Supposedly dying at the Battle of the Hydaspes, what horse belonged to Alexander the Great?
A: **Bucephalus**
40. In 1973, what horse set time records in all three races as it won the Triple Crown?
A: **Secretariat**
41. What horse was depicted crossing the Alps in a painting by Jacques-Louis David with his owner Napoleon?
A: **Marengo**

Set of 4: Change the Middle Letter

Given the definitions of two words that are spelled the same except for their middle letter, give both of those words. For example, if given “a metallic element often used to make containers” and “the number after nine”, the answer would be “tin and ten”.

42. A small unit of information, and a social media account not actually run by a human being.
A: **bit** AND **bot**
43. A lower continuation of a collar that goes down the middle of the chest, and a small sign affixed to something.
A: **lapel** AND **label**
44. A rapid, intense flow of something, and to terrorize someone.
A: **torrent** AND **torment**
45. What a pilot has done if they've gone past their intended target, and what has been done to a problem that has been exaggerated.
A: **overflown** AND **overblown**

5-Part Blitz

46. Who was recently appointed as Special Representative for the Reconstruction of Ukraine, after having been Justin Trudeau's finance minister from 2020 to late 2024?
A: Chrystia **Freeland**
47. In Japanese folklore, what sort of animal is a kitsune [“kit-SOON-ay”], which can have up to nine tails?
A: **foxes**
48. The bottom line of the alto clef is what note?
A: **F** natural
49. What boss spawns after a player reaches 200 health and 10 defense and four town NPCs are present, and is usually the boss encountered first in *Terraria*?
A: The **Eye of Cthulhu**
50. What second-largest island in Canada has one-third of its land in the Northwest Territories and two-thirds in Nunavut?
A: **Victoria** Island

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Astronauts & the Beatles

Astronauts

51. What minister of transport from 2015 to 2021 was the first Canadian in space?
A: Marc **Garneau**
52. Who was the commander of Apollo 13, played by Tom Hanks in the 1995 movie?
A: Jim **Lovell**
53. Allegations of a toxic work environment led to the eventual resignation of what governor general of Canada?
A: Julie **Payette**
54. Who was scheduled to be the first teacher to go to space, but passed away in the *Challenger* explosion?
A: Christa **McAuliffe**

The Beatles

55. What album by the Beatles was the first to employ tape loops on the track "Tomorrow Never Knows" and also featured the children's song "Yellow Submarine"?
A: **Revolver**
56. What two films directed by Richard Lester and starring the Beatles share their names with the third and fifth Beatles albums?
A: A **Hard Day's Night** AND **Help!**
57. Who preceded Ringo Starr as the drummer for the Beatles, being dropped just before the band achieved worldwide fame?
A: Pete **Best**
58. What Beatles single was the longest to top the British charts at the time of its release, and tells the title person to "take a sad song and make it better"?
A: **"Hey Jude"**

Set of 3

59. What country has Europe's largest economy and the European Union's largest population?
A: **Germany**
60. The most densely populated part of Germany, home to cities such as Cologne, Dusseldorf, and Dortmund, is named after what two rivers that flow through it?
A: **Ruhr** River AND **Rhine** River
61. Despite lying more than a hundred kilometres from the sea, what city on the Elbe River is Germany's main port?
A: **Hamburg**

Jailbreak

62. What compound word is formed by combining the names of the twins played by Michael B. Jordan in *Sinners*?
A: **smokestack**
63. The media groups Nexstar and Sinclair briefly suspended what late night host in September 2025 following his remarks on the shooting of Charlie Kirk?
A: Jimmy **Kimmel**
64. Which sin is considered to be the original and most severe of the seven deadly sins?
A: **pride** (accept: **superbia**)
65. Players who reach the green "User" trust rank gain the ability to upload worlds on what popular online social platform?
A: **VRChat**
66. In 2020, signs of the biosignature phosphine were reportedly discovered in the extremely dense atmosphere of which planet?
A: **Venus**
67. Since 2022, the education company Amplify has owned what free online graphing calculator?
A: **Desmos**
68. What country lies due south from Taiwan?
A: the **Philippines**
69. What "M"-word refers to a new phrase that is created by mishearing a phrase or lyric, such as "José, can you see" in "The Star-Spangled Banner"?
A: **mondegreens**
70. The notes C, F, G resolving to C, E, G is an example of what non-chord tone?
A: **suspensions**

71. The crash of the *Maginot* releases Xenomorphs onto the titular planet in what TV show, which is set two years before the film *Alien*?
A: *Alien: **Earth***
72. What philosopher wrote the *Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals*, which introduced the categorical imperative?
A: Immanuel **Kant**
73. Maine and Oregon both contain large cities with what name?
A: **Portland**
74. *Held* by Anne Michaels is the most recent winner of what award, given annually for the best English-language prose work written in Canada?
A: **Giller** Prize
75. Set in Chicago's south side, what TV series follows the dysfunctional Gallagher family, who are portrayed by actors such as William H. Macy and Emmy Rossum?
A: ***Shameless***

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Jackpot

76. Part 1: While serving as the secretary of a National Committee led by John Bruce, what man ordered William McDougall to turn back and go home?
77. Part 2: He's not from Africa, but this man was the primary target of a military deployment led by Garnet Wolseley, and fled with his followers before Wolseley's forces arrived.
78. Part 3: After supporters of this man persuaded him to abandon his civilian life in Montana, he led them to victory at the battles of Duck Lake and Fish Creek.
79. Part 4: Following his surrender at the fall of Batoche, this man was controversially tried by a jury of six Anglophone Protestants and hanged for his role in the Northwest Rebellion.
A: Louis **Riel**

Set of 4: Ageing

80. Ageing may be partially caused by the gradual shortening of what protective regions at the ends of chromosomes?
A: **telomeres**
81. In 1961, what American biologist showed that human cells can only divide about 50 times before entering senescence, a number now known as his "limit"?
A: Leonard **Hayflick**
82. Within three years, what is the average onset age for menopause among Canadian women?
A: **51** (accept answers from **48** to **54**)
83. What two-word term refers to an organism that does not undergo ageing?
A: **biologically immortal**

5-Part Mystery

84. The Wheelchair Assassins try to free Quebec from the Organization of North American Nations in what novel by David Foster Wallace?
A: ***Infinite Jest***

85. Society is divided into the Alpha through Epsilon castes in what novel by Aldous Huxley?
A: **Brave New World**
86. What John Green novel was adapted into a movie starring Shailene Woodley and Ansel Elgort as cancer patients who fall in love?
A: **The Fault in Our Stars**
87. Sam and Sadie are video game developers in what 2022 novel by Gabrielle Zevin?
A: **Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow**
88. The headline "Crisis, What Crisis?" was published by The Sun during a period of British history with what three-word name?
A: **Winter of Discontent**
[Theme: titled after Shakespeare quotations]

12-Part Blitz

89. 255, 0, 255 is the RGB code for what colour?
A: **magenta**
90. After obtaining information about a planned attack, who walked through American-occupied territory in the Niagara Peninsula to warn British forces during the War of 1812?
A: Laura **Secord**
91. What nickname is given to the chord consisting of the notes, F, B, D-sharp, G-sharp, in reference to the Wagner opera it first appeared in?
A: **Tristan** chord
92. In which U.S. state would you find the Borscht Belt, once famous for resorts catering to Jewish vacationers in the Catskill Mountains?
A: **New York**
93. Who stars as Olivia Benson on *Law & Order: SVU*?
A: Mariska **Hargitay**
94. What word is often used as a name for northern Asia, particularly the regions belonging to Russia?
A: **Siberia**
95. What term refers to the art of carving shapes out of raw wood with a knife?
A: **whittling** (accept word forms)
96. What spectral line is created by the hydrogen electron transition from n equals 2 to n equals 1, and is dominant in emission spectra of faraway galaxies up to a redshift of about 6?
A: **Lyman-alpha** (prompt on: Lyman series)
97. What Greek mythological figure sowed dragons' teeth to create the Spartoi and founded the city of Thebes?
A: **Cadmus**
98. What name is shared by players for a QMJHL team based in Halifax and beers from a Canadian brewery headquartered in New Brunswick?
A: **Mooseheads**
99. In 1028, who formed the North Sea Empire by becoming King of Norway, having previously assumed the crowns of Denmark in 1018 and England in 1016?
A: **Cnut** the Great (accept: **Canute** the Great)
100. When making a campfire, birch bark is often used as what material, selected for its ability to ignite the kindling?
A: **tinder**

END OF GAME