

2025 ACF Regionals

Tiebreakers & Extras

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Tossups

1. A thinker from this city introduced the idea of the Logos as a “mediator” between God and the universe. Another thinker from this city wrote a theological trilogy including the *Stromata* and taught the author of *On the First Principles*, who supposedly castrated himself. In 2017, a journal named for a philosopher from this city controversially published Rebecca Tuvel’s article on “transracialism.” That philosopher from this city wrote a commentary on the *Arithmetica* and was accused of fanning a feud involving the prefect Orestes. The theologians Origen, Philo, and Clement hailed from this city, as did a female philosopher and mathematician who was killed by a Christian mob in 415 AD. For 10 points, Hypatia was from what Egyptian city where learning thrived in the Great Library?

ANSWER: **Alexandria**

<TM, Philosophy>

2. A ruler of these people reportedly asked for a sponge, a loaf of bread, and a cithara while besieged by Pharas the Herulian. An invasion by these people led to the churchman Quodvultdeus (“kwod-vult-DAY-oos”) being exiled to Naples. Victor of Vita recorded the martyrdom of Saint Victorian at Hadrumetum under these people’s rule. These people’s final ruler reportedly cried out “vanity of vanities, all is vanity” at his captor’s triumph, as recorded by Procopius, who chronicled Belisarius’s war against them before targeting the Ostrogoths. These people tried to convert Nicene bishops to Arianism at a synod called by King Huneric at Carthage. For 10 points, name these Germanic people who established a kingdom in North Africa, sacked Rome in 455 CE, and whose name has become a byword for destruction.

ANSWER: **Vandals** [accept **Vandal** Kingdom or Regnum **Vandalum** or Kingdom of the **Vandals** and Alans] (The first and fourth sentences refer to Gelimer.)

<AT, Other History>

3. An architect from this modern-day country pioneered blobitecture by designing Birmingham’s Selfridges Building. The hoax piece *Entropa* is by an artist from this country who created a huge rotating metal bust of David Lynch and statues of babies with bar code faces. It’s not Spain, but a city in this country names a cantilever chair that Lilly Reich and Mies van der Rohe designed for the Villa Tugendhat. An illustrator from this country created Art Nouveau posters of Sarah Bernhardt and the canvas cycle *The Slav Epic*. That artist from this country, Alphonse Mucha (“MOO-hah”), designed the stained glass window for its St. Vitus Cathedral. A building in this country’s capital was inspired by Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire. For 10 points, Frank Gehry’s Dancing House is in what country’s capital of Prague?

ANSWER: **Czechia** [or **Czech** Republic; or **Česká** republika; prompt on **Czechoslovakia**] (The neofuturist architect is Jan Kaplický. The artist is David Černý. The chair is the Brno chair.)

<AP, Other Fine Arts>

4. In this novel, a man has a dream of giving birth under a tree as his “god” Slim Gaillard tells him, “there you go-orooni.” This novel’s narrator has a vision of a friend returning in a “jalopy chariot with thousands of sparking flames” and compares him to a dreamlike figure, the “Shrouded Traveler.” A rambling 18,000-word letter in this novel references the real-life “Joan Anderson” letter, which inspired the “spontaneous prose” used to write this novel. While feverish with dysentery, this novel’s narrator is abandoned in Mexico City by a friend who leaves to marry his girlfriend Inez. In this novel, a “holy goof” drives the narrator to visit friends like Ed Dunkel and Old Bull Lee. For 10 points, Neal Cassady was fictionalized as Dean Moriarty in what novel by Jack Kerouac?

ANSWER: **On the Road**

<HG, American Literature>

5. A piece in this genre includes separate “echo” staves to be played as if by another musician; that Qigang Chen piece in this genre is *Er Huang*. A crescendoing harp arpeggio over timpani roll leads into a series of ascending and descending chromatic scales at the start of a piece in this genre whose third movement opens with a *dizi* (“DEE-dzuh”) solo. A piece in a [emphasize] *different* genre allegedly written over six days in a cave inspired one in this genre whose finale quotes “The East is Red.” At a 2019 competition, An Tianxu (“ahn t’yen-SHOO”) was forced out of playing a piece in this genre with no notice. A cantata by Xian Xinghai inspired a piece in this genre that depicts the Yellow River. For Rachmaninoff’s 150th birthday, his four pieces in this genre were performed by Yuja Wang. For 10 points, name this genre for orchestra and a soloist such as Lang Lang.

ANSWER: **piano concerto** [prompt on concerto]

<JC, Classical Music>

6. ***Do not read to Chicago C.*** A character in this novel imagines a time “when the Pole and the Tropics may hold allegiance to the Stars and the Stripes” after meeting a man originally from Texas. A woman in this novel is described as having a “man’s brain” and a “woman’s heart.” An old man tells two characters in this novel about the suicide of George Canon, which upsets one of the two because he jumped to his death at her “favorite seat.” In this novel, a dead man tied to the wheel with a crucifix and rosary beads is discovered at the helm of the *Demeter*. A character from this novel who captures and eats flies in an insane asylum is named Renfield. For 10 points, the “Bloofer Lady” attacking children is revealed to be Arthur Holmwood’s undead fiancée Lucy Westenra in what novel by Bram Stoker?

ANSWER: **Dracula**

<Chicago C, British Literature>

7. ***Do not read to McGill B.*** A mosaic in the ancient Libyan city of Olbia honored this person for refounding the city after an earthquake. An entire city supposedly went on holiday when this person’s accusation that an athlete was homosexual was ruled false. This person founded a convent for former sex workers called the Metanoia. This person was given a personal exemption from laws banning marriage of thespians by an emperor nicknamed the Thracian; that marriage wedded this person, a Miaphysite, to an orthodox prince. In his *Secret History*, Procopius wrote salaciously about this former sex worker, who said that “royal purple is the noblest shroud” in response to her husband’s desire to flee Constantinople during the Nika riots. For 10 points, name this Byzantine empress who ruled alongside Justinian I.

ANSWER: **Theodora**

<McGill B, European History>

8. **Do not read to Penn A.** A novel from this country begins with a description of a schizophrenic artist's painting of cabbages. The narrator of a novel series from this country repeatedly fails to complete his painting of St. Andrew's Cross in a set of single-sentence narratives, each ending with a recitation of the *Pater Noster*. The two-volume *Melancholy* series and three-volume *Septology* series were written by a minimalist author from this country. Another author from this country included a 400-page essay on the Nazis in the final volume of a series that begins with the death of his alcoholic father. That author from this country controversially used his family's real names in his six-book autofictional series *My Struggle*. For 10 points, name this home country of Jon Fosse and Karl Ove Knausgård.

ANSWER: **Norway** [or **Norge**]

<Penn A, European Literature>

9. **Do not read to Ohio State B.** An experiment that attempted to disprove this phenomenon's existence used an anisotropic tube filled with carbon disulfide, which was repeated by DeWitt Bristol Brace. This phenomenon causes the apparent rotation of a cube in the Lampa–Terrell–Penrose effect. The Trouton–Rankine experiment verified that this phenomenon is not measurable by a comoving observer. This phenomenon forces a string between two spaceships to be cut in a paradox by John Stuart Bell. Adjusting for this phenomenon involves dividing a rest frame quantity by gamma. A thought experiment involving this phenomenon concerns whether a moving pole can fit inside a barn. For 10 points, name this phenomenon that, along with time dilation, is a consequence of special relativity.

ANSWER: **length contraction** [or **Lorentz contraction** or **Lorentz–Fitzgerald contraction**; prompt on special relativity until read]

<Ohio State B, Physics>

Bonuses

1. Terms describing these two forces arise from twice applying a transformation law for the rate of change of an arbitrary vector between coordinate systems with relative rotation. For 10 points each:

[10m] Name both of these fictitious forces that must be added to Newton's second law in a constantly rotating reference frame. One of these forces always points outward, while the other tends to rotate moving objects.

ANSWER: **Coriolis** force AND **centrifugal** force

[10e] The equation for centrifugal force contains a nested instance of this operation. This operation on two vectors returns a vector perpendicular to both of its inputs.

ANSWER: **cross** product [accept **vector product**]

[10h] The Euler force is a fictitious force given by the cross product of m times r and this quantity for the reference frame. The "chirpiness" of a waveform is analogous to this pseudovector quantity.

ANSWER: **angular acceleration** [accept time-**derivative** of **angular velocity**; prompt on **alpha** or **omega-dot**]

<JC, Physics>

2. In a story by this author, a fruit seller traveling from Kabul befriends a young girl who reminds him of his daughter before he is imprisoned for a stabbing. For 10 points each:

[10m] The lonely title character befriends an orphaned girl in what author's story "The Postmaster"? This author depicted the same occupation in his 1912 play *The Post Office*.

ANSWER: Rabindranath **Tagore** (The story is "Kabuliwala.")

[10e] Tagore's short stories are among the earliest in this language, whose 20th-century artistic "Renaissance" flourished in Tagore's native Calcutta.

ANSWER: **Bengali** [or **Bangla**]

[10h] A tax collector recounts his stay in a haunted Mughal palace in a Tagore story titled for "Stones" with this trait. A generation of Bengali literature named for this trait was launched in 1960s Calcutta by writers like Debi Roy.

ANSWER: **hungry** [or word forms like **hunger**; accept **Hungry**alist; accept "**Hungry** Stones" or "**Kshudhita** Pashan" or "**Khudito** Pashan"]

<TM, World Literature>

3. With Clare Boothe Luce, this politician proposed a 1946 act that put a quota of 100 on the number of Filipinos and Indians who could immigrate to the US each year. For 10 points each:

[10h] Name this politician who is the second namesake of an act also called the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, which abolished the National Origins Formula that restricted immigration based on ethnicity.

ANSWER: Emanuel **Celler** [or Hart-**Celler** Act]

[10e] Celler began liberalizing US immigration policy amid debates surrounding the Johnson-Reed Act passed in this year. In this year, John W. Davis failed to defeat Calvin Coolidge a year after Warren G. Harding's death.

ANSWER: **1924**

[10m] Celler co-names an act with this politician that strengthened the Clayton Antitrust Act, particularly against mergers. This politician ran on Adlai Stevenson's ticket in 1956.

ANSWER: Estes **Kefauver** ("ESS-tiss KEE-faw-ver") [or Carey Estes **Kefauver**]

<NS, American History>

4. This country's "unofficial national anthem" is a pop song by the band Vital Signs whose refrain repeats a word meaning "heart" twice before its name. For 10 points each:

[10h] Name this home country of a singer whom Jeff Buckley viewed as a teacher. That singer from this country composed the song "Afreen Afreen" and was often known by his initials.

ANSWER: **Pakistan** [or Islamic Republic of **Pakistan**; or Islamic Republic of **Pakistan**] (The song is "Dil Dil Pakistan.")

[10e] Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan was known as the "Shahenshah," or "king of kings," of qawwali, a devotional music style of this religious tradition. This mystical Islamic tradition's dervishes perform a "whirling" worship dance.

ANSWER: **Sufism** [or **Sūfiyya**; or **Tasawwuf**; accept **Mevlevi** order; prompt on **Jebala**]

[10m] The first Urdu song to chart in the UK was this band's electronic remix of Nusrat's song "Mustt Mustt." Robert Del Naja ("NAH-yuh") leads this band from Bristol, who recorded songs like "Angel" and "Teardrop" for their seminal trip hop album *Mezzanine*.

ANSWER: **Massive Attack**

<AP, Other Fine Arts>

5. Early projects with this suffix frequently employed Playstation 3 consoles due to the fact that they contained modern IBM Cell clusters. For 10 points each:

[10m] Give this suffix that appears in the names of numerous large-scale distributed computing projects, such as "Rosetta" plus this suffix and "Folding" plus this suffix, which were used for protein modelling.

ANSWER: **@Home** ("at home") [or **At Home**; accept **Folding@Home** or **Rosetta@Home**]

[10h] Volunteer computing projects often use this architecture, developed by its namesake university for SETI@Home, for distributing workload among clients. Donating time through this architecture awards credits called "cobblestones."

ANSWER: **BOINC** ("boink") [or **Berkeley Open Infrastructure for Network Computing**]

[10e] Recent "@Home" projects in scientific computing target these hardware components to optimize processing speed, exemplified by NVIDIA's GeForce lines.

ANSWER: **GPUs** [or **graphics processing units**; accept **graphics cards**]

<MY, Other Science>

6. A 2024 novel by this author follows Sand Creek massacre survivor Jude Star, who is later jailed in a "prison castle" by Carlisle Indian Industrial School superintendent Richard Henry Pratt. For 10 points each:

[10h] Name this author of *Wandering Stars*, a sequel to his novel about twelve urban Indians whose fates intertwine during a robbery at a powwow.

ANSWER: Tommy **Orange**

[10m] Orange's novel *There There* is set in this city. *There There* takes its title from Gertrude Stein's remark about this city, "there is no there there."

ANSWER: **Oakland**, California

[10e] Orange contributed the story "Capgras" to *Never Whistle at Night*, a 2023 anthology of Indigenous fiction in this genre. Stephen King is best known for his novels in this genre like *Carrie* and *It*.

ANSWER: **horror** fiction [accept **dark** fiction; accept **ghost** stories; accept **scary** stories; prompt on **speculative** fiction; prompt on **Gothic** fiction by asking "can you be less specific?"]

<HG, American Literature>

7. **Do not read to McGill B.** A 2023 exhibit on these two painters at the Met recounted a story in which one of them slashed the other's depiction of his wife Suzanne in a gifted double portrait because he found it too ugly. For 10 points each:

[10h] Name these two artists who both painted the model Ellen Andrée sitting pensively with a glass of spirits. Purportedly, these two artists first met while one was copying a Velázquez portrait.

ANSWER: Édouard **Manet** AND Edgar **Degas** [prompt on partial answers; accept Hillaire-Germain Edgar **de Gas** in place of "Edgar Degas"]

[10e] Marcantonio Raimondi's engraving of Raphael's *The Judgment of Paris* inspired both a study by Degas and the figure of the nude woman in this Manet masterpiece, in which she has a picnic with two clothed men.

ANSWER: **Luncheon on the Grass** [or *Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe*]

[10m] After Manet's death, Degas reassembled four pieces of his damaged canvas showing this scene. Goya's *The Third of May, 1808* inspired the composition of one of Manet's paintings of this historical scene in front of a wall.

ANSWER: **execution** of Emperor **Maximilian I** [accept equivalents like **shooting** or **killing** or **death** of Emperor **Maximilian I**; prompt on **execution** or **firing squad** or **shooting** or similar by asking "of whom?"]

<McGill B, Painting and Sculpture>

8. **Do not read to Chicago A.** Answer the following about European Christmas markets, for 10 points each.

[10e] Traditional crafts at Christmas markets include these wooden figures, whose association with Christmas was cemented by a Tchaikovsky ballet.

ANSWER: **nutcrackers** [or **Nussknacker**]

[10h] This city has hosted its Christmas market every year since 1570, giving it a claim to being Europe's oldest. A huge Christmas tree is annually placed in Place Kléber in this city, which is often called the "Capital of Christmas."

ANSWER: **Strasbourg**

[10m] A spiced variety of this drink, named for "glowing" from heating, is traditionally served at Christmas markets in Strasbourg and other German-speaking regions. Glögg is a similar variant of this drink from Scandinavia.

ANSWER: mulled **wine** [or spiced **wine**; accept red **wine**; accept **Glühwein**]

<Chicago A, Geography>

9. **Do not read to Minnesota B.** A disk found at the base of the Templo Mayor depicts the broken body of this goddess with bells in her hair and on her face. For 10 points each:

[10h] Name this goddess who led the "four hundred southerners" to attack another goddess that was impregnated by a ball of feathers.

ANSWER: **Coyolxauhqui** ("ko-yohl-SHAO-kee")

[10m] The disk in the Templo Mayor depicts one of these objects tied to the belt of snakes around her waist, one of which also sits at the center of Coatlicue's necklace. In Mayan myth, a goddess is impregnated after one of these objects sitting on a tree spits into her hand.

ANSWER: **skulls** [or human **skulls**; or human **heads**]

[10e] Some sources claim that after Huitzilopochtli sprang from Coatlicue's womb, he beheaded Coyolxauhqui and tossed her head into the sky, where it became this object also embodied by the Greek goddess Selene.

ANSWER: **Moon**

<Minnesota B, Mythology>