



**2018 MVS RAMS**

**Questions by Tyler Benedict, John John Groger, and William Groger**

**Edited by Tyler Benedict**

**Packet 08**

- 1. In this work, the title character performs the “Waves of the Blue Sea” dance and is frustrated with his wife, Lady Aoi. That title character of this work kidnaps a child with the same name as this work’s author in an attempt to make her his ideal woman, and the title character of this work is infatuated with Lady (\*) Fu-jit-su-bo. This novel includes an entirely blank chapter called “Vanished into the Clouds,” implying the title “shining prince’s” death. For 10 points, name this novel by Lady Murasaki Shikibu written during the Heian period in Japan.**

ANSWER: The Tale of Genji [or Genji Monogatari]

These elements are malleable, meaning they can be pounded into thin sheets, and ductile, which means they can be stretched into wires. For 10 points each:

[10] Name these materials, examples of which include aluminum and tin.

ANSWER: metals

[10] This is the name given to a mixture of two or more metals. Common examples include bronze, made of copper and tin, and brass, made of copper and zinc.

ANSWER: alloy

[10] An amalgam is a mixture of this metal and another element. This element is a common component of dental fillings and might also be found in thermometers.

ANSWER: mercury [or Hg]

- 2. In the Lotka-Volterra equations, these species are represented by the variable “y.” When these species affect each other, it is the “intraguild” form of their namesake behavior. One adaptation used to thwart these species is mobbing, which is often deployed by birds. The dingo and the (\*) orca are examples of the “apex” type of these creatures, as they are typically not harmed by any other animals on the food chain except humans and parasites. For 10 points, name these creatures that hunt prey.**

ANSWER: predators [or word forms such as predation or predatory]

This novel's sequel *Closing Time*, set fifty years later, sees Yossarian acting as a consultant for Milo Minderbinder's defense contracting company. For 10 points each:  
[10] Name this novel by Joseph Heller which opens with Yossarian feigning a liver ailment on Pianosa in order to avoid going on another bombing raid.

ANSWER: **Catch-22**

[10] *Catch-22* takes place during this war, as does Norman Mailer's *The Naked and the Dead*, which centers on an American platoon fighting Japanese soldiers on the fictional island of Anopopei.

ANSWER: **World War II** [or clear-knowledge equivalents]

[10] This other World War II novel by Kurt Vonnegut centers on Billy Pilgrim, who survives the firebombing of Dresden and encounters aliens called Tralfamadorians.

ANSWER: **Slaughterhouse-Five**, or *The Children's Crusade: A Duty-Dance with Death*

3. **A vigil held the night before this holiday takes place in a darkened church before all candles are lit and the door opened at the stroke of midnight. This holiday marks the ending of the Harrowing of Hell. The Stations of the (\*) Cross may be erected on the Friday before this holiday, and eggs on this holiday may represent an empty tomb. For 10 points, name this holiest day of the Christian calendar, a celebration of Christ's resurrection.**

ANSWER: **Easter** Sunday [or **Resurrection Sunday** before mentioned; or **Pascha**]

This city is home to a Ferris wheel known as its namesake "Eye." For 10 points each:

[10] Name this city also home to Kensington Gardens and Piccadilly Circus.

ANSWER: **London**

[10] Passengers are warned to "mind the gap" on the London Underground, which is this type of public transportation.

ANSWER: **subway** [or **metro**; prompt on "train" or "railway" or equivalents]

[10] The London Bridge spans this river, the longest river entirely in England.

ANSWER: River **Thames** [TEMS]

4. **This event may have been exacerbated by a feud between the Putnam and Porter families, and Cotton Mather was influential in determining whether "spectral evidence" was admissible at these proceedings. Twenty people were executed as a result of this event, and (\*) Giles Corey, a 81-year-old man, was "pressed to death" by stones in an attempt to force him to enter a plea. Other victims of this event include Rebecca Nurse and John Proctor. For 10 points, name these trials which took place in 17th-century Puritan Massachusetts.**

ANSWER: **Salem Witch Trials** [accept anything mentioning **Salem** and legal proceedings involving **witchcraft**]

This country's national epic details an explorer's search for a sea route to India. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this country, the homeland of Luís Vaz de Camões, the author of *The Lusiads*.

ANSWER: **Portugal**

[10] Jose Saramago, another Portuguese author, wrote a book titled *The Gospel According to [this figure]*. As in the Bible, this figure is the son of Mary and Joseph and is targeted in the Massacre of the Innocents.

ANSWER: **Jesus** (the) **Christ** [accept either underlined name; or any clear-knowledge equivalent; or **Jesus Cristo**; or The **Gospel According to Jesus Christ**; or O **Evangelho Segundo Jesus Cristo**]

[10] Another Saramago work sees the “white sickness” cause characters to suffer from this title condition. Characters in this novel include the “girl with the dark glasses” and “the doctor's wife,” who is the only character who does not suffer from this affliction.

ANSWER: **Blindness** [accept clear-knowledge equivalents such as “being **blind**” since we aren't asking specifically for the title; or Ensaio sobre a **cegueira**]

5. **One scale for measuring this quantity based on effective nuclear charge was developed by Allred and Rochow. A disparity of this quantity for the elements involved causes a molecule to be polar. The best-known scale for measuring this quantity is named for a scientist who advocated megadoses of vitamin C, and that scale ranges from (\*) 0.7 to 3.98. Fluorine has the highest value for this quantity on the Pauling scale. For 10 points, name this quantity, the measure of how strongly an atom attracts electrons.**

ANSWER: **electronegativity** [or word forms]

Answer the following about the Disney princess line for 10 points each.

[10] This feisty Scottish lass, the main character in *Brave*, was made an official Disney princess in 2013. She is recognizable by her distinctive red locks and skill with a bow and arrow.

ANSWER: Princess **Merida**

[10] This character is the first and only African-American Disney princess. She appears in *The Princess and the Frog*, which is set in 1920s New Orleans.

ANSWER: **Tiana**

[10] This character, who first appeared in 1937, is the oldest of the official Disney princesses. Her movie was the first full-length cel animated film in history and includes songs such as “Some Day My Prince Will Come” and “Whistle While You Work.”

ANSWER: **Snow White** [or **Snow White** and the Seven Dwarfs]

6. **This author wrote that “each man kills the thing he loves” in his “Ballad of Reading Gaol” [JAIL], written after his affair with Lord Douglas. He also penned *Lady Windermere’s Fan*. In a play by this author, one character describes his process of “Bunburying,” and another tells Lady Bracknell that as a baby he was found in a (\*) handbag at Victoria Station. Algernon and Jack court Cecily and Gwendolyn in a play by, for 10 points, what Irish author of *The Importance of Being Earnest*?**  
ANSWER: Oscar **Wilde** [or Oscar Fingal O’Flahertie Wills **Wilde**]

Answer the following about the Jewish religion for 10 points each.

[10] This is the Jewish Day of Atonement, one of the two High Holidays. On this day, the end of services at sundown is signaled by a blast on the *shofar*.

ANSWER: **Yom Kippur**

[10] This Jewish prayer is recited to mourn the dead. Leonard Bernstein wrote a piece of music titled for this prayer after JFK's assassination.

ANSWER: (Mourner's) **Kaddish**

[10] This is the small skullcap that some Jewish men wear as a religious head covering. Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system is sometimes called the Iron "this."

ANSWER: **Yarmulke** [or **kippah**; or **kipoh**; or **koppel**]

7. **This organ contains a region called the fundus, and intrinsic factor is released from this organ’s parietal cells to help absorb Vitamin B12. This organ is targeted by the bacteria *H. pylori*. This organ contains folds called (\*) rugae, and chyme passes from this organ into the duodenum. For 10 points, name this organ that is the center of the digestive system and breaks down food.**

ANSWER: **stomach**

This artist depicted a *Landscape with the Fall of Icarus* in which only the title figure’s legs are visible as he crashes into the water. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this painter of the Dutch Golden Age who also painted *Hunters in the Snow* as well as a depiction of a Flemish *Peasant Wedding*.

ANSWER: Pieter **Brueghel** the Elder [pronounced “*Broy-gull*,” but be generous]

[10] This Dutch Golden Age painting by Jan [Yan] van Eyck [Ike] depicts a green-clad pregnant woman and a man in a black fur hat, as well as numerous symbols including a chandelier with one candle and a pair of clogs.

ANSWER: The **Arnolfini Wedding** [or **Arnolfini Portrait**; accept clear-knowledge equivalents for “wedding” such as **Arnolfini Marriage**]

[10] Although they are labeled Early Netherlandish painters, Brueghel [Broy-gull] and van Eyck [Ike] did their work in this modern-day country, where the Rene Magritte [Muh-greet] Museum can be found in Brussels.

ANSWER: (Kingdom of) **Belgium** [or Royaume **Belgique**; or Koninkrijk **België**]

8. **One of these events was called by Louis Farrakhan in 1995, and he threatened to sue the National Park Service for underestimating the number of participants. Cameron Kasky helped organize one of these events along with other members of Never Again MSD. Pink (\*) hats were prominently featured in another of these demonstrations in Washington D.C. after Donald Trump's inauguration; that was the "Women's" one of these events. For 10 points, name these events characterized by walking crowds.**  
ANSWER: **Marches** [or **Million Man March**; or **March For Our Lives**; or **Women's March**; or **Marches** in Washington, D.C.; prompt on "protest or "rally" by asking "What kind?"]

Answer the following about Winston Churchill for 10 points each.

[10] Churchill's first term as Prime Minister came after this man resigned in 1940. He is most remembered today for his policy of appeasement towards Nazi Germany at the 1938 Munich Conference.

ANSWER: Neville **Chamberlain**

[10] Churchill lost much political credibility by supporting Edward VIII when he decided to perform this action. Edward VIII performed this action so he could marry Wallis Simpson, and as a result of this action his brother George VI became king.

ANSWER: **abdicated** the throne [or word forms]

[10] After World War II, Churchill coined this two-word phrase for the separation of Western Europe and Soviet-influenced Eastern Europe, saying that one of these metal objects had "descended across the continent."

ANSWER: **Iron Curtain**

9. **In one of this man's works, Gilda is seduced by the Duke of Mantua in the guise of a student. In that work by this man, the Duke sings the arias "Questa o quella" and "La donna e mobile [mo-bee-lay]." In another opera by this composer, the title character sings the aria "O patria mia" while she is enslaved in (\*) Egypt. That woman, who is involved in a love triangle with Amneris and Radames, is an Ethiopian princess. For 10 points, name this Italian composer of *Rigoletto* and *Aida*.**  
ANSWER: Giuseppe **Verdi**

This empire had its capital at Timbuktu. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this African empire founded by Sundiata Keita. This is also the name of a modern-day country with capital at Bamako.

ANSWER: **Mali** Empire [or Republic of **Mali**]

[10] This Mali emperor, a nephew of Sundiata, caused massive devaluation of gold due to his extremely lavish *hajj*, during which he supposedly built a mosque every Friday.

ANSWER: Mansa **Musa** I

[10] The Mali capital of Timbuktu contained one of these institutions at Sankore, which held Africa's largest collection of books since the Library of Alexandria.

ANSWER: **university** [or **madrassa**; prompt on **school**; prompt on **mosque** or **masjid**]

10. **After this event, a group of deities meets up and re-discovers a set of gold game pieces. This event is preceded by the crowing of three roosters, and during this event the sons of Muspell proceed to the field of Vigrith after breaking the bridge of (\*)** Bifrost. This event is triggered when Loki is freed from bondage, and this battle results in the death of most of the chief Norse gods. For 10 points, name this end of the world in Norse mythology.

ANSWER: **Ragnarok**

Answer the following about diseases spread by mosquitoes for 10 points each.

[10] This disease was historically treated with quinine. It is caused by the *Plasmodium* parasite, and Bill Gates has pledged over one billion dollars to fight this mosquito-borne disease.

ANSWER: **malaria**

[10] Interestingly, carriers of this blood disease have a resistance to malaria. In this disease, which is more common in those of African descent, red blood cells become deformed and take on a crescent shape.

ANSWER: **sickle-cell** anemia [prompt on "**anemia**" alone]

[10] This other mosquito-borne disease caused a panic in the Americas in 2015 and threatened to disrupt the 2016 Rio Olympics. This disease causes microcephaly, a condition where a child's head is smaller than normal.

ANSWER: **Zika** virus [or **ZIKV**]

11. **Along with “i,” this number appears in the exponent in Euler’s identity. A Monte Carlo method for calculating this number exploits the Buffon’s needle problem. This number was (\*) approximated by Archimedes by inscribing a 96-sided polygon in a circle. This is the number of radians in 180 degrees. To find the area of a circle, this number is multiplied by the radius squared. For 10 points, what number is approximated 3.14159?**  
ANSWER: pi

This man used intimidation to eliminate all competition in the field of kerosene production in his city during the “Cleveland Massacre.” For 10 points each:  
[10] Name this late 19th and early 20th century tycoon of the petroleum refining business, for a time the wealthiest man in the United States. His main rival for many years was the steel industry's Andrew Carnegie.

ANSWER: John Davison Rockefeller

[10] This is the refining company owned by Rockefeller, which was broken up into 34 companies, including Chevron, Exxon, and Mobil. In a cartoon, this company was portrayed as an octopus devouring the government.

ANSWER: Standard Oil Company

[10] In the Supreme Court case *U.S. vs. Standard Oil*, Rockefeller was accused of consolidating a vast majority of the businesses in the oil industry to make Standard Oil one of these businesses, where a single seller dominates the market.

ANSWER: monopoly

12. **This man defeated King Porus at the Battle of the Hydaspes. After that battle, this man founded a city in India named for his horse Bucephalus. This man’s generals, the Diadochi, divided his empire after his death. This man defeated (\*) Darius III at Issus and Gaugamela, ending the Achaemenid Persian empire. This man was the son of Philip II of Macedon, and he was tutored by Aristotle. For 10 points, name this leader known as “the Great.”**

ANSWER: Alexander the Great [or Alexander III of Macedon]

This economist discussed “comparative advantage” by using the example of English cloth and Portuguese wine. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this economist who also developed the Iron Law of Wages.

ANSWER: David **Ricardo**

[10] Ricardo’s example with cloth and wine illustrates his argument that this practice is always beneficial. In more general terms, this practice refers to one country exchanging goods with another country.

ANSWER: **trade**

[10] This Scottish economist’s book *Wealth of Nations* influenced Ricardo’s writings. Despite this economist’s association with the phrase “invisible hand,” he only used it three times in print.

ANSWER: Adam **Smith**

13. **These particles are the best proposed source for hot dark matter, and every time one of these particles is produced a positron is produced as well. These particles are classified as leptons and come in three (\*) flavors: electron, muon, and tau. The majority of these particles on Earth are produced via nuclear reactions in the Sun. For ten points, name these electrically neutral elementary particles whose name means “little neutron.”**

ANSWER: **neutrinos**

J.R.R. Tolkien drew from many other works when writing *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit*. Answer the following about his sources of inspiration for 10 points each.

[10] The Kalevala, this country’s national epic is a source text for *The Lord of the Rings*, since its characters struggle for control of the Sampo, a talisman of great power.

ANSWER: **Finland**

[10] In *The Lord of the Rings*, the tower Isengard is destroyed by large, tree-like beings called Ents. Tolkien said he was inspired by his disappointment with this Shakespearean tragedy, in which “Great Birnam Wood” comes to Dunsinane Hill with Malcolm and Macduff’s army.

ANSWER: The Tragedy of **Macbeth** [prompt on “The Scottish Play”]

[10] In Tolkien’s works, this race of bearded metalworkers are known for forging *mithril* and building mines. In Norse myth, these figures forged Thor’s hammer.

ANSWER: **dwarfs** [or **dwarves**]

14. **In some myths, the “first” form of this god was Zagreus. This god was known as *omophagos*, or “Raw-Eater,” and his worshippers, the Maenads, tore King Pentheus apart. This god is depicted with a *thyrsus*, or (\*) pinecone-tipped staff, and he is often**

in the company of the satyr Silenus. This god was born from Zeus's thigh after the death of his mother, Semele. For 10 points, name this Greek god of wine.

ANSWER: **Dionysus** [or **Bacchus** before "Zeus"]

This hero was recognized by Pelias due to his missing sandal. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this Greek hero who was married to the sorceress Medea, who helped him defeat her father King Aeëtes.

ANSWER: **Jason**

[10] Pelias told Jason that he could not claim his throne unless he retrieved this mythological object held in Colchis.

ANSWER: **Golden Fleece** [prompt on "fleece" alone]

[10] Medea, Jason's wife, was a granddaughter of this Greek sun god known for his shining chariot.

ANSWER: **Helios**

15. **This artist sculpted a haggard Mary Magdalene dressed in rags in one work made of wood. This artist used marble for a statue of Habakkuk nicknamed *Zuccone*, or "Pumpkin-Head," but he used bronze for an equestrian statue of Erasmo da Narni as well as his most famous work, in which the title figure wears only a (\*) hat and boots and stands on the severed head of his enemy. For 10 points, name this Italian sculptor of *Gattemelata* and a bronze *David*.**

ANSWER: **Donatello** [or Donato di Niccolò di Betto **Bardi**]

An Atwood machine includes an ideal, frictionless example of this simple machine. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this simple machine that is also the main component of a block-and-tackle setup.

ANSWER: **pulley**

[10] A swinging Atwood machine can demonstrate this scientific concept. This concept's namesake "theory" includes the butterfly effect, which says that a small initial change can cause a large outcome in a later state.

ANSWER: **chaos** [or **chaos** theory]

[10] An Atwood machine can be used to derive Newton's second law if this quantity is kept constant. This vector quantity is the rate of change of velocity.

ANSWER: **acceleration** [accept word forms]

16. **The title character of this novel is raised by her abusive aunt and uncle at Gateshead Hall, and she attends school at Lowood Institution. A large portion of this novel deals with the title character's work as a governess at Thornfield Hall, where she falls in love with the master of the house, Mr. (\*) Rochester.** The title character rejects Rochester's marriage proposal and leaves Thornfield after she finds out that Rochester is already married and keeping his violently insane wife locked in the attic. For 10 points, name this novel by Charlotte Bronte.

ANSWER: Jane Eyre

Answer the following about sports in the Commonwealth Games for 10 points each.

[10] The 1998 edition of the Commonwealth Games included this sport, in which bowlers attempt to take wickets from batsmen.

ANSWER: Cricket

[10] All Games since 1998 have featured the seven-man version of this game. This game uses scrums to determine possession after a ball has gone out of play, and players attempt to score "tries" worth four points.

ANSWER: Rugby [or rugby sevens; or rugby union]

[10] Another core Commonwealth Games event is this racquet sport, in which players strike a feathered shuttlecock from one side of the net to the other.

ANSWER: Badminton

17. **This river is the habitat of a parasitic fish called the candiru that supposedly is attracted to urine streams. This river is also the habitat of a namesake pink dolphin. This river meets the ocean near Belem, and one of this river's tributaries is the Rio (\*) Negro.** This river is also home to the carnivorous piranha, and this river was named for a mythological race of warrior women. For 10 points, name this longest river in South America.

ANSWER: Amazon River [or Amazonas]

This man included music by Manuel de Falla and Joaquin Rodrigo on his album *Sketches of Spain*. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this jazz musician who recorded the albums *Kind of Blue* and *Birth of the Cool*.

ANSWER: Miles **Davis**

[10] Davis primarily played this instrument, as did Louis Armstrong.

ANSWER: **trumpet**

[10] This jazz saxophonist played on Davis's *Kind of Blue* before branching out on his own to record the albums *Giant Steps* and *A Love Supreme*. He is also known for his cover of "My Favorite Things."

ANSWER: John **Coltrane**

18. **King Casimir of Poland took in Jews affected by this event, which also led to mass killings of Jews in Strasbourg on Valentine's Day. This event's spread has been traced to a Genoese trading post on the Crimean Peninsula, and this (\*) pandemic may have originated in China and spread with Mongol armies. This disease is carried by infected fleas on rats. For 10 points, name this plague that wiped out at least one-third of Europe's population in the 14th century.**

ANSWER: the **Black Death** [or **Black Plague**; or **Great Plague**; or **bubonic plague**; prompt on "plague" alone]

These people were documented in the Florentine Codex and were a "Triple Alliance" of three city-states. For 10 points each:

[10] Name these Mesoamerican people. Their capital was Tenochtitlan [**Tay-noch-teet-lan**].

ANSWER: **Aztecs** [or **Aztec** Empire]

[10] This Spanish conquistador subjugated the Aztecs, but not before being driven from Tenochtitlan during La Noche Triste.

ANSWER: Hernán **Cortés** [or Hernán **Cortés** de Monroy y Pizarro Altamirano]

[10] According to legend, the Aztecs believed Cortés was the embodiment of this god, the "feathered serpent" of Aztec mythology.

ANSWER: **Quetzalcoatl** [or **Quetzalcohuātzin**]

19. This author wrote of a “spotted hawk” who “complains of” the poet’s “gab and his loitering” in one work that declares “I too am untranslatable.” That poem by this man begins “I celebrate myself and sing myself” and includes the line “I sound my barbaric yawp over the roofs of the world.” This man also wrote a poem about a (\*) ship that “weathered every rack” despite the death of its commanding officer; that poem is an elegy for Abraham Lincoln. For 10 points, name this author of “O Captain! My Captain!” who compiled his work in *Leaves of Grass*.

ANSWER: Walt(er) Whitman

The alliterative name for this theory was coined by Fred Hoyle. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this cosmological theory that describes how the universe rapidly began to expand.

ANSWER: Big Bang theory

[10] This electromagnetic radiation, sometimes known as “relic radiation,” provides evidence for the Big Bang.

ANSWER: CMBR [or Cosmic Microwave Background Radiation]

[10] Rounded to the nearest integer, the Big Bang happened about this many billion years ago.

ANSWER: 14 billion years ago

20. During this war, Admiral Charles Fitzgerald founded the Order of the White Feather, which encouraged women to give white feathers to non-enlisted men as a symbol of cowardice. John Jellicoe won the Battle of Jutland during this war, which was the only full-scale clash of steel battleships in this war. During this war, Sopwith (\*) Camels were used to bomb a zeppelin hangar in Denmark, and the Battle of the Somme took place during this war. David Lloyd George led the U.K. during this war. For 10 points, name this “Great War” that took place from 1914 to 1918.

ANSWER: World War I [or First World War; or WWI; or Great War before mentioned]

Answer these questions relating to stories about trees for 10 points each.

This is the name of the “World-Tree” or “Tree of Life” in Norse mythology. Its branches stretch out over all nine worlds, and a well at its base is tended by the Norns.

ANSWER: **Yggdrasil**

[10] In Greek mythology, Daphne was turned into a laurel tree as she fled from this god’s advances. He also tried to seduce Cassandra by promising her the gift of prophecy, but placed a curse on her when she rejected him.

ANSWER: **Apollo**

[10] Jesus is usually a pretty calm figure, but according to both Matthew and Mark he cursed one of this variety of trees for not bearing fruit. In the Old Testament, Adam and Eve made clothes out of this tree’s leaves.

ANSWER: **Fig** tree