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EDITORS: COBRA COMMANDER & MEGATRON

GRADES 7 AND 8

1st and 3rd periods. In these periods, your team will choose a category and be read ten questions for you to complete in ninety seconds. After each response, the moderator will indicate whether or not it was correct.

Bonus Category: AIRPLANES AND AVIATION

1. Who disappeared over the Pacific Ocean in 1937 when she was near Howland Island?

answer: Amelia Earhart

2. Tom Hanks played a Fed Ex employee who gets stranded on a desert island in this 2000 film.

answer: Cast Away

3. What name is given to the main body section of an airplane that holds the cargo and passengers?

answer: fuselage

4. These brothers tested their airplane at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

answer: The Wright Brothers or Orville and Wilbur Wright

5. Manfred von Richthofen was the given name of what World War I German aviator?

answer: The Red Baron

6. The Black Hawk, Apache, and Cobra are U.S. army versions of what flying vehicle?

answer: helicopter

7. What U.S. airline that originally served three Texas cities tells customers "you are now free to move about the country"?

answer: Southwest

8. Chuck Yeager was the first to fly faster than this, about 770 miles per hour.

answer: the speed of sound or the sound barrier (accept: Mach 1)

9. What 1986 Tom Cruise film about Navy pilots included the songs "Take My Breath Away" and "Danger Zone"?

answer: Top Gun

10. Blimps are usually filled with what light gas, atomic number 2?

answer: helium

1. What medieval sport involved knights on horseback charging each other with lances?

answer: jousting

2. Agincourt, Poitiers, and Crecy were battle in what long war between France and England?

answer: Hundred Years War

3. What object used at the Last Supper was the goal of many knight's quests?

answer: Holy Grail or Holy Chalice or Cup of Christ or Sangreal

4. Geoffrey Chaucer compiled what set of twenty-six tales told while pilgrims journeyed to a shrine?

answer: The Canterbury Tales

5. Windsor, the Tower of London, and Thornbury are what kind of royal residence encircled by moats?

answer: castles

6. Name any of the countries known as the Low Countries, collectively called "Benelux".

answer: Belgium, The Netherlands (or Holland) or Luxembourg

7. Alchemists attempted to create what hard object capable of turning lead into gold?

answer: Philosopher's Stone (do not accept "Sorcerer's Stone")

8. Frederick Barbarossa and Charles V were leaders of what Holy Empire that contained much of modern-day Germany?

answer: Holy Roman Empire

9. Apprentices, journeymen, and craftsmen aspired to join what associations of people in a particular trade?

answer: guilds

10. Pepin the Short and Charles Martel were ancestors of what French King who founded the Carolingian dynasty?

answer: Charlemagne or Charles the Great

Bonus Category: BEES

1. Bees carry these grains which fertilize flowers and cause allergies.

answer: pollen

2. What state is known as the Beehive State for the hard work its Mormom pioneers endured in founding it?

answer: Utah

3. The queen bee mates with what male bees in a hive?

answer: drone(s)

4. What comedian voiced Barry in the 2007 film *Bee Movie*?

answer: Jerry Seinfeld

5. What term describes the long tongue that bees use to sip nectar, which also describes an elephant's nose?

answer: proboscis

6. What version of Cheerios with an almond taste uses a bee as its mascot?

answer: Honey Nut Cheerios

7. Killer bees were originally from what continent?

answer: Africa [they are also called Africanized Honey Bees]

8. Made into a 2008 film, *The Secret Life of Bees* is by what author?

answer: Sue Monk Kidd

9. One predator of bees in this insect, whose species include Yellow Darter, Keeled Skimmer, and Common Hawker.

answer: dragonfly

10. The Bee is a newspaper of what California state capital?

answer: Sacramento

Bonus Category: THE PIANO

1. What composer wrote "Appassionata", "Moonlight", and "Tempest" piano sonatas?

answer: Ludwig van Beethoven

2. What note is the 24th white key from the left, written one ledger line below the treble clef?

answer: middle C (prompt on "C")

3. On *Peanuts*, what character plays the piano while an adoring Lucy leans on it?

answer: Schroeder

4. At one point, piano keys were made of what material found in elephant and walrus tusks?

answer: ivory

5. "No One", "Fallin'", and "My Boo" are #1 hits by what artist who played the piano at the 2008 Grammys?

answer: Alicia Keys or Alicia J. Augello-Cook

6. On sheet music, one "p" means "piano" or play softly. What is the term for the even softer double "p"?

answer: pianissimo [PEE-an-ESE-see-moe]

7. What two other notes combine with F to make the F major root chord?

answer: A and C (do not accept answers mentioning "sharp" or "flat")

8. What Japanese company that makes pianos is also known for its recorders and Scorpio-Z motorcycles?

answer: Yamaha

9. The soft and sustaining pedals are examples of what simple machine with a fulcrum or pivot?

answer: lever

10. A FAO Schwarz piano is shown in what 1988 Tom Hanks film in which a child wishes to be 30 years old?

answer: Big

Bonus Category: THE WIZARD OF OZ IN DEPTH

1. Dorothy travels to a city made of what green variety of beryl with a Mohs hardness of eight?

answer: emerald

2. Glinda was the Good Witch of what direction, 135 degrees clockwise of southwest?

answer: north

3. Dorothy was from what state whose cities include Wichita, Lawrence, and Leavenworth?

answer: Kansas ["Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore."]

4. Dorothy had an uncle of this name, also a king of Britain that married Anne Boleyn and Anne of Cleves.

answer: Henry (accept: Henry VIII)

5. Elphaba is a prominent character in what musical centered on Oz's witches, based on a Gregory Maguire novel?

answer: Wicked

6. *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road* is the best-selling album of what singer whose hits include "Candle in the Wind" and "Can You Feel the Love Tonight"?

answer: (Sir) Elton John or Reginald Kenneth Dwight

7. What actress appeared as Dorothy Gale in the 1939 film and is the mother of Liza Minnelli?

answer: Judy Garland or Frances Ethel Gumm

8. Portrayed by dwarf actors were what residents of Oz that share their name with donut holes sold by Dunkin' Donuts?

answer: Munchkins

9. What December 2007 Sci-Fi Channel miniseries reimagined Dorothy as DG and was named for one of its characters?

answer: Tin Man

10. All of the Oz novels were written by what author?

answer: L(yman) Frank Baum

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2nd period: This period contains twenty tossups worth 10 points each. When you think you know the answer, signal with your buzzer and your team will have five seconds to respond.

TOSSUPS:

1. With a headquarters located in the Patee House in St. Joseph, Missouri, what service traveled to Sacramento, California delivering mail on horseback?

answer: The Pony Express

2. What author of the *Spring and Autumn Annals* and *Books of History, Songs, and Changes*, known as the *I Ching*, founded a philosophy adopted by the Song dynasty in China?

answer: Confucius (accept: Confucianism)

3. Baroque composers often used this symbol to tell singers when to breathe. Written with a dot and a semi-circle, what musical symbol is placed over a note to indicate it is to be played longer than usual?

answer: fermata

4. Demashita! was an anime version of what cartoon, whose villains include The Rowdyruff Boys, The Gangreen Gang, Fuzzy Lumpkins, and Mojo Jojo battled by Bubbles, Buttercup, and Blossom?

answer: The Powerpuff Girls

5. The Roman equivalent of the Greek Ares was what god of war that was also associated with the fourth planet from the sun?

answer: Mars

6. The Extensor digitorum one is assessed with the fingers half-flexed while the Achilles or ankle jerk one is used to test certain nerves. What are these reactions of the body, typically tested with a doctor's mallet?

answer: reflex action

7. What term describes the viewpoint used by Lemony Snicket to tell the stories of *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, a perspective that uses pronouns such as "he", "she", and "they"?

answer: third-person narrative

8. This game's name is the Swahili command for "build". In Israel it is called "Mapolet", or "avalanche". Denmark calls it "Klodsmaior" meaning "klutz". In Brazil, this game is called "Torremoto" a play on the words for "earthquake tower". What is this Hasbro game with 18 stories of blocks?

answer: Jenga

9. Pencil and paper ready. If stamps cost \$0.43, what is the maximum number you can buy with ten dollars? You get 10 seconds.

answer: 23 [$10 / 0.43 = 23.26$]

10. In computer science, what term refers to sequences of symbols that often hold word values, a term that can also refer to a section of an orchestra that includes violins?

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answer: strings

11. What alliterative term describes *Mark Manning's Mission. The Story of a Shoe Factory Boy* or *Tattered Tom*; or, *The Story of a Street Arab*, stories by Horatio Alger in which young boys go from having few good clothes to fame and fortune?

answer: rags to riches

12. Moraines are mounds of dirt deposited by these, drumlins are small hills, and aretes are ridges created by the erosion of what slow-moving blocks of ice?

answer: glacier(s)

13. Name either of the title locations in Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*, the latter of which was the site of many guillotined individuals as part of the French Revolution.

answer: London and Paris

14. Who won the 1917 Women's Singles Championship at Wimbledon, the 1944 Masters Golf Tournament, the 1940 Tour De France, and the 1994 World Series?

answer: no one, the tournaments were not held in these years

15. What country sold the United States land in the Virgin Islands in 1916, a country located on the Jutland Peninsula north of Germany, whose capital is Copenhagen?

answer: Denmark

16. According to Catholicism, Saint Matthew is the patron saint of what profession, the type of person that Jesus threw out of the Temple?

answer: money lenders, bankers, accountants, bookkeepers, tax collectors, or anything equivalent

17. In Argentina and Mexico the film *El desafio* is a spinoff of what American film franchise, where the Latin versions use soccer or rugby instead of basketball and Agus and Fer instead of Troy and Gabriella?

answer: High School Musical

18. One of the first acts of Jimmy Carter's Presidency was his pardon of young men who committed what act in defiance of U.S. policy in an Asian conflict?

answer: evaded the draft for the Vietnam war (accept equivalents)

19. The creator of Lake Meade, what structure was called "Boulder" when it was completed in 1935 on the Colorado River near Las Vegas and is named for a U.S. President?

answer: Hoover Dam

20. In the United Kingdom, David Cameron leads a "shadow" version of one of these that develops alternate policies for the government to consider. What is this term, referring to a group of advisors that in the United States includes the Attorney General and many Secretaries to the President?

answer: Cabinet

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4th period: This period contains twenty tossups worth 15 points each. When you think you know the answer, signal with your buzzer and your team will have five seconds to respond.

TOSSUPS:

1. One named for Abilene, Kansas was important for cattle that connected with another one of these named Chisholm. The forced removal of the Choctaw Nation in 1831 is known as the one "of Tears". U.S. troops invaded Mexico using the Santa Fe one. Settlers in Conestoga wagons started in Missouri and traveled west over the Oregon one. For 15 points--what word is used to describe these historical paths, similar to a hike through a forest?

answer: trail(s) (accept Abilene Trail, Trail of Tears, et cetera)

2. The United States and this country each have territory in the Diomed Islands. This country is home to Mount Elbrus and its Lake Baikal is the deepest freshwater lake of the world. Risk players know that Yakutsk, Ural, Kamchatka, and Siberia are parts of this country's lands. For 15 points--name this country, the largest by area in the world, with capital at Moscow.

answer: Russia [remember, Sarah Palin can see it from her house]

3. Usually its sessions allow each side thirty minutes. People who have led this group include Roger Taney, Earl Warren, and William Rehnquist. Its schedule is governed by the Rule of Four, where four of its members can agree to hear an appeal. When all members make a decision, it takes five for a majority. For 15 points--name this body currently led by Chief Justice John Roberts, the highest court in the U.S.

answer: The Supreme Court

4. A copula is a word that links the parts of one of these. Reed and Kellogg in their book *Higher Lessons in English* showed how to depict these graphically. This term can also mean a decision by an authority, especially a decree of punishment. There are three or more independent and subordinate clauses in a complex-compound one. For 15 points--name these units of language that you can diagram, a complete one of which consists of a subject and a predicate.

answer: sentence

5. The last king to rule this country was Faisal II, who was killed in the July 14th revolution. In the 1980's a man from Tikrit came to power, who punished rebelling Kurds in its north. This country had a long war with Iran, and in the 1990's attempted to invade its neighbor Kuwait, only to be repelled by forces led by the U.S. For 15 points--name this country where U.S. forces are currently stationed as part of the war on terror, whose capital is Baghdad.

answer: Iraq

6. In 1994 he did Kung Fu in a video game, considered by some the worst game ever. This alumnus of LSU was drafted first overall by the Orlando Magic and played on the Phoenix Suns and the 2006 champion Miami Heat. But he is most well known for teaming up with Kobe Bryant to lead the Los Angeles Lakers to three consecutive NBA Championships from 2000 to 2002. For 15 points--name this NBA center, who might be a worse rapper than a free throw shooter.

answer: Shaquille O'Neal or Shaq

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7. Lon Po Po is a story from China based on this fairy tale. In Roald Dahl's *Revolting Rhymes* she uses a gun and gains a new coat. Charles Perrault introduced the distinctive clothing worn by the heroine, and in the brothers Grimm she is saved by a hunter looking for animal skin. For 15 points--name this tale known in Italy as The False Grandmother, about a girl who runs into a wolf.

answer: Little Red Riding Hood

8. His father was a Princeton professor and he was taken to a Howard Carter Egyptian archeology dig during his "Young Chronicles". In his most recent adventure he follows clues about Nazca lines to find the grave of Francisco de Orellana. This character marries Marion Ravenwood and discovers that Mutt, is his son. For 15 points--name this finder of the Holy Grail, the Lost Ark of the Covenant, and a Crystal Skull.

answer: Dr. Henry Walton "Indiana" Jones, Jr. (accept any underlined name)

9. Pencil and paper ready. Sarah leaves her house at 9:45am and she walks past the store to the park. The walk to the store took 62 minutes and the walk to the park took 42 additional minutes. For 15 points--at what time did Sarah arrive at the park if the total of the total walks took 104 minutes? You get 10 seconds.

answer: 11:29am

10. This term describes "gains" made from the sale of property. The "political" type is means by which a politician or party may gain support or popularity. When referring to a crime or punishment, it means involving the death penalty. It also refers to a seat of government, such as in a state or country. For 15 points--give this word, the type of letter used at the beginning of a sentence.

answer: capital

11. The mechanical advantage of this device is calculated using its pitch, the distance between two adjacent threads, and its circumference. This device has a cylindrical shaft, which in many cases tapers to a point at one end, a helical ridge, and a head at the other end which can be rotated. The Phillips kind has a top that looks like a plus sign. For 15 points--name this simple machine that like nails can hold things together, which is usually inserted with a driver.

answer: screw

12. Aaron is told not to serve this in the Tent of Meeting by God, and Lot's daughters got him to consume some. The disciples were accused of consuming it when they began to speak in various languages, and Jesus' first miracle at Cana was to create some for a wedding by using water. For 15 points--name this beverage created from vineyards' grapes.

answer: wine

13. In a 2006 novel, this author tells of the company BioGen performing genetic experiments. Besides *Next*, this author also wrote *Eaters of the Dead* about vikings. Books of his made into films include *Congo*, *Sphere*, *Rising Sun*, and *The Andromeda Strain*. For 15 points--name this author who died in November 2008, the author of *Jurassic Park* that once used the pen name Michael Douglas.

answer: Michael Crichton

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14. Also called a seed, this term refers to the particles used to create rain. This word also describes the solid part of a comet or the central region of a galaxy. It is the part of biological cells that contains DNA. For 15 points--name this word, the part of the atom where a chemist would find protons and neutrons.

answer: nucleus

15. The Greek gods Notus, Eurus, and Zephyr controlled this, and Zephyr used his power to cause a discus to hit Hyacinth. In literature, a play about the Scopes monkey trials is called Inherit this, Kenneth Grahame wrote about it in the Willows and Margaret Mitchell wrote of the southern belle Scarlett O' Hara in Gone with this. For 15 points--name this weather phenomenon common in thunderstorms, hurricanes, and especially tornadoes.

answer: wind (accept: Inherit the Wind, Gone with the Wind, Wind in the Willows)

16. The Dora the Explorer version sees players attempt to reach a Fiesta, and there are also Disney Theme Park and Diego editions. It is based on the Indian game Vaikuntapaali [VYE-kun-tah-PAL-ee] in which players climb to salvation. In England, this board game was sold showing Snakes. In the Milton Bradley version, players can plant vegetables and immediately climb to space thirty-eight where they harvest food. For 15 points--name this board game where players attempt to reach space 100 by doing good deeds.

answer: Chutes and Ladders (accept: Snakes and Ladders before "Snakes")

17. The upper house of this country's government is called the House of Councillors. For many years this country's Liberal Democratic Party has held power in its Diet. The Shōwa period of this country lasts from 1926 to 1989 when its Emperor died. Prime Ministers of this country have included Jun'ichirō Koizumi [COY-zoom-me], Shinzō Abe [ah-BAY], and Taro Aso [AH-sow]. For 15 points--name this Asian island country with capital at Tokyo.

answer: Japan

18. Jan Vermeer painted a girl with a pearl on hers. The person in the foreground of Edvard Munch's "The Scream" has hands raised over his. Vincent van Gogh did a self portrait with a bandaged one after he cut his off. For 15 points--name this body part used in one of the senses.

answer: ear (accept earring until "Munch")

19. Landmarks in this city include Basilica di San Marco, St Mark's Square, the Doge's Palace, and the largest car-free area in a European city. It is believed its first residents chose such a difficult site to live to avoid the invading Germanic tribes. Its nicknames include "Queen of the Adriatic", and the "City of Bridges". For 15 points--name this city built on 118 small islands of a northern Italian lagoon, home to a lot of canals.

answer: Venice or Venezia

20. Article V [five] of the U.S. constitution set a date of 1808 as the first time importation rules with regards to this could be changed. The so-called "gag rule" prevented discussion of this issue in the U.S. Congress from 1835 to 1844. The issue of popular sovereignty said each state should decide for itself whether to allow this practice. For 15 points--name this issue that divided northern and southern states, a forced labor ended during the Civil War.

answer: slavery