



2025-26 Post-Secondary Qualifier (T2) – Pack 5

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PACK 5

5-Part Blitz

1. In aesthetics, what word is used for a quality of greatness that defies normal explanation?
A: **sublime**
2. What is the VSEPR ["vesper"] geometry for AX₂E₂ molecules, such as water?
A: **bent** (accept: **angular**, **V-shaped**)
3. What is the name of the legislature made up of the House of Councillors and the House of Representatives that meets in the Chiyoda ward of Tokyo?
A: National **Diet** of Japan
4. On a night in 1987, a man dressed as what fictional character ranted erratically to millions of households after hijacking the broadcast signal of two Chicago-area channels?
A: **Max Headroom**
5. For most of the third century A.D., how many large kingdoms was the core territory of China divided into?
A: **three** kingdoms

Double Jump

6. Whose Greatest Hits album was called *The Immaculate Collection*, and included the religiously titled songs "Like a Prayer" and "Like a Virgin"?
A: **Madonna** (accept: Madonna **Ciccone**)
7. What other hit by Madonna focuses on a young woman asking her father for genuine advice about her pregnancy?
A: **"Papa Don't Preach"**

Double Jump

8. What large island lies west of the Bismarck Archipelago and Solomon Islands, and north of Australia?
A: **New Guinea**
9. What archipelago lies directly west of New Guinea and east of Sulawesi?
A: the **Moluccas** (accept: the **Malukus**, **Maluku** Islands)

Set of 4: Words Derived from Body Parts

10. What word can be a noun meaning a book of instructions or an adjective meaning "done by hand"?
A: **manual**
11. What noun meaning a state of uncontrollable emotion originally comes from the Greek word for the uterus?
A: **hysteria**
12. What English verb associated with servitude literally means to bend the knee in Latin?
A: **genuflect** (accept word forms)
13. Aerobic exercise such as running or cycling is often referred to by what word that relates to the heart?
A: **cardio** (accept: **cardiovascular**)

Jackpot

14. Part 1: What series's former writer Marc Laidlaw posted an "epistle" on his blog outlining the plot of a cancelled entry in the series?
15. Part 2: In one entry in this series, the player character is told that "the right man in the wrong place can make all the difference in the world" and to "wake up and smell the ashes".
16. Part 3: In the first game in this series, a resonance cascade scenario causes alien monsters like headcrabs to invade a research facility in the desert.
17. Part 4: A V.R. game titled for Alyx Vance renewed interest in this Valve series's long-awaited third installment.
- A: **Half-Life**

Set of 3: The Three-Body Problem

18. The first consideration of the three-body problem in physics was Isaac Newton's attempt to study the relationship between what three bodies in the Solar System?
- A: the **Earth** AND the **Moon** AND the **Sun**
19. Because the outcome of a three-body problem can vary drastically from slight changes in the starting conditions, it is said to have what property?
- A: deterministic **chaos** (accept: deterministically **chaotic**)
20. Along with starting position and mass, what other quantity of the bodies must be known to work on a three-body problem?
- A: starting/initial **velocity/velocities** (accept: starting/initial **momentums**)

5-Part Blitz

21. Known for his rough voice, blunt criticisms, and friendship with Mohammed Ali, what A.B.C. commentator was the first host of *Monday Night Football*?
- A: Howard **Cosell**
22. What term refers to Islamic law based on scripture?
- A: **sharia** law
23. What does the letter grade "B" stand for in drawing pencils?
- A: **black**
24. What 1952 experiment treated water, methane, ammonia, and hydrogen with lightning to create amino acids, trying to elucidate an origin of life on Earth?
- A: **Miller-Urey** experiment (accept: **Urey-Miller** experiment, **Miller** experiment)
25. Once its second-order effects have been taken into account, what term refers to where the effect of a tax ends up falling?
- A: tax **incidence** (accept: tax **burden**)

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Splits: South African Cities & Canadian Food

South African Cities

26. Foreign embassies and the president's offices can be found in which of South Africa's capitals?
- A: **Pretoria**
27. What is the northernmost large city in South Africa and the capital of Limpopo Province?
- A: **Polokwane** (accept: **Pietersburg**)

28. Founded in the late-19th-century gold rush, what city contains the formerly all-Black suburb of Soweto?
A: **Johannesburg** (accept: **Joburg**)
29. The centre of South Africa's Indian population, what is the biggest port in Sub-Saharan Africa, lying on the Indian Ocean coast?
A: **Durban**

Canadian Food

30. What "squeaky" form of cheese is traditionally used to make poutine?
A: cheese **curds** (accept: poutine **curds**)
31. A creamy custard filling sandwiched between layers of coconut crumb and chocolate glaze characterizes what British Columbian dessert?
A: **Nanaimo bars**
32. What Canadian city's trademark food is a spinoff of Turkish doner kebab known as the donair?
A: **Halifax**
33. What animal species' meat was originally used to make the Québécois meat pie known as tourtière, before the turn of the 20th century when these animals died off?
A: **passenger pigeons**

Double Jump

34. With examples such as the *Twin Peaks* episode in which Laura Palmer's death is discovered and the *Breaking Bad* episode in which Walter is diagnosed with cancer, what term refers to a proof-of-concept episode of a T.V. show?
A: **pilot** episode
35. What two-word term refers to an episode of an established, ongoing show that becomes used as the first episode of a new spinoff show?
A: **backdoor pilot**

Double Jump

36. During what war were songs like "When Johnny Comes Marching Home", "Battle Cry of Freedom", and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" written?
A: **American/U.S. Civil** War (prompt on: **Civil** War)
37. What song celebrates Sherman's March to the Sea, singing "Hurrah! Hurrah! We bring the jubilee"?
A: **"Marching Through Georgia"**

Set of 4: 21st-Century L.G.B.T.Q. Film

38. The myth of Orpheus and Eurydice ["yurr-ID-iss-ee"] features prominently in what 2019 film depicting a romance between a painter and her subject in 18th-century France?
A: **Portrait of a Lady on Fire** (accept: **Portrait de la jeune fille en feu**)
39. In what film do Rachel Sennott ["senate"] and Ayo Edebiri ["uh-DEB-er-ee"] play high school students who start a fight club in order to hook up with cheerleaders?
A: **Bottoms**
40. What film follows transgender sex worker Sin-Dee Rella after she discovers her pimp is cheating on her, and was filmed using three iPhones?
A: **Tangerine**
41. Broken into three chapters titled after the main character at different stages of his life, what Barry Jenkins film won the Best Picture Oscar for 2016?
A: **Moonlight**

Set of 4: International Instruments

42. Generally one to three metres long, what wind instrument produces a drone and was created by Aboriginal Australians?
A: **didgeridoos**
43. Popularized in the United States by Cuban musicians, what instrument consists of two small hand drums attached by a wooden bridge?
A: **bongos** (accept: **bongo** drums)
44. Originating from Trinidad and Tobago, what pitched metallic percussion instrument is commonly used in calypso music?
A: **steel pans** (accept: **steel drums**)
45. Said to be named by the way it is played, by striking and plucking, what pear-shaped string instrument has existed since the Han dynasty?
A: **pipas**

Linked Set of 5

46. What industry is dominated by the Big Three firms of B.C.G., Bain, and McKinsey?
A: **consulting** industry
47. What fictional character refers to himself as the world's only consulting detective?
A: **Sherlock Holmes** (accept either bolded part) (reveal: Holmes)
48. What biological substance was the subject of tests that falsely claimed to diagnose various diseases by the company of Elizabeth Holmes, Theranos?
A: **blood**
49. When proceeds from its mining are used to fund wars, what gemstone is said to be sourced from "blood"?
A: **blood diamonds**
50. What scale tops out at a value of 10, represented by diamond?
A: **Mohs** scale (accept: **Mohs** hardness scale)

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Roots in Math & The Inca

Roots in Math

51. With 3rd degree examples such as $e^{2\pi i/3}$, what three-word term refers to any complex number that can be raised to some integer power to get 1?
A: **roots of unity**
52. What mathematician's formulas relate the coefficients of polynomials to the sums and products of their roots?
A: François **Viète** (accept: Franciscus **Vieta**)
53. What is the lowest degree of polynomial whose roots cannot be written as a radical expression, as per the Abel-Ruffini Theorem?
A: degree **5** (accept: **5th** degree, **quintic**)
54. What Italian mathematician names the formula for finding the roots of a cubic equation that does not have a quadratic term?
A: Gerolamo **Cardano**

The Inca

55. After killing his brother Huascar, what Inca emperor was murdered by conquistador Francisco Pizarro?
A: **Atahualpa**
56. The Inca used what record-keeping devices made from cords tied in knots?
A: **quipus** ["KEE-poo"]
57. All four suyu, or Inca provinces, converged in what puma-shaped city and imperial capital?
A: **Cuzco**
58. Millions of Peruvians still speak what language, the Inca Empire's lingua franca?
A: **Quechua** ["KETCH-wah"]

Set of 3: Misspellings

59. Various misspellings of what word are read aloud from Yahoo Answers in a YouTube video that features questions like "will it hurt baby top of his head?"?
A: **pregnant**
60. What company's name comes from a misspelling of an extremely large number, meant to reference the huge amount of data the company gives access to?
A: **Google**
61. Spell the label that Winnie the Pooh writes on many pots he owns and eats out of.
A: **H-U-N-N-Y**

Jailbreak

62. When it leaves the main sequence, what kind of star will the Sun become?
A: **red giant** (prompt on: giant star)
63. In what country was Petr Fiala defeated in a 2025 election by the ANO party and its leader, populist billionaire Andrej Babis?
A: **Czechia** (accept: **Czech Republic**)
64. What two shows earned Noah Wyle ["WY-lee"] all of his Emmy nominations, for his roles as Dr. John Carter and Dr. Robinavitch?
A: **ER** AND *The Pitt*
65. What dictator was overthrown by the 2003 American invasion of Iraq?
A: **Saddam Hussein** (prompt on partial answers)
66. What city lies 50 kilometres north of Brussels and is Belgium's largest port?
A: **Antwerp**
67. What word refers to the substance in which another substance dissolves?
A: **solvent**
68. What kind of bridge has a frame consisting of two tall towers connected by long, curved cables?
A: **suspension** bridges
69. The Vikings referred to what Canadian island as Helluland?
A: **Baffin** Island
70. Saraswati, Lakshmi, and what goddess of love and feminine power make up the Tridevi in Hindu tradition?
A: **Parvati** (accept: **Durga**)
71. Which chess piece is named after a type of bird?
A: **rooks**
72. What ancient civilization wrote the Book of the Dead?
A: Ancient **Egyptians**
73. What class of people wear red dresses and large white bonnets in a Margaret Atwood novel?
A: **Handmaids**

74. What rapper and singer, whose songs include "Dakiti" and "Me Porto Bonito", headlined the Super Bowl 60 halftime show?
A: **Bad Bunny** (accept: Benito Antonio Martinez Ocasio)
75. What is the largest of the Japanese islands?
A: Honshu

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Jackpot

76. Part 1: What author depicted a mother and son described as "two old believers" discussing a skeleton that came out of their cellar and moved up to their attic?
77. Part 2: This author wrote a work in which a mother calling "supper" causes a boy to die by cutting his hand off with a buzzsaw.
78. Part 3: In one work by this author, the narrator questions the lack of cows in the area and thinks of saying that elves are responsible for missing stones in a wall.
79. Part 4: This poet described two roads diverging in a yellow wood and that he "took the one less travelled by" in "The Road Not Taken".
A: Robert **Frost**

Streak

80. Name up to every country in which at least three different cities have hosted the Olympics.
- A: Canada
- A: **France**
- A: Germany
- A: Italy
- A: Japan
- A: **United States** of **America** (accept either bolded part) (accept: U.S.A.)

Streak

83. Name up to any six Labour Party Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom.
- A: Keir **Starmer**
- A: Tony **Blair**
- A: Clement **Attlee**
- A: Gordon **Brown**
- A: Harold **Wilson**
- A: James **Callaghan** ["KAL-uh-han"]
- A: Ramsay **Macdonald**

Set of 3: Antibiotics

86. Beta-lactams such as penicillin inhibit the synthesis of what polymer, a major component of bacterial cell walls?
A: **peptidoglycan**

87. What antibiotic family works by blocking t.R.N.A.s from attaching to the P-site of ribosomes, and are named for having four rings in their chemical structures?
A: **tetracyclines**
88. What vitamin, whose synthesis is inhibited by sulphonamides, is a common supplement for pregnant women?
A: vitamin **B9** (accept: **folate, folic acid**)

12-Part Blitz

89. Who founded his namesake fashion house with the assistance of Giancarlo Giammetti in 1960 and passed away in January?
A: **Valentino** (accept: Valentino **Garavani**)
90. In what kind of loop is the body executed at least once before a condition is checked to determine whether or not to exit?
A: **do-while** loops
91. For the title track of his 1961 album, who recorded a 14-minute jazz cover of the showtune "My Favourite Things"?
A: John **Coltrane**
92. What mead hall is attacked by both Grendel and Grendel's mother in *Beowulf*?
A: **Heorot**
93. Rope, fishtail, and French are all types of what hairstyle?
A: **braids** (accept: **braiding, braided** hair)
94. What country only ever had two emperors, both named Pedro?
A: **Brazil**
95. Four days after resigning in October 2025, Sebastien Lecornu was reappointed to what position in French politics?
A: **prime minister** of France (accept: French **prime minister**)
96. Whistler Blackcomb and 41 other ski resorts are owned and operated by what American company?
A: **Vail** Resorts
97. Who depicted a woman with binoculars gazing at the viewer on a ferry in his painting *To Prince Edward Island*?
A: Alex **Colville**
98. Maronite Christians make up about 20% of what country's population?
A: **Lebanon**
99. A conjugated diene and a dienophile take part in a 4+2 cycloaddition to form a six-membered ring in what doubly-eponymous chemical reaction?
A: **Diels-Alder** reaction
100. After sensing Jack's presence, what four-syllable phrase does the giant say, followed by "I smell the blood of an Englishman", in "Jack and the Beanstalk"?
A: **"fee-fi-fo-fum"**

END OF GAME