



2025-26 Post-Secondary Championship (T3) – Pack 5

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PACK 5

5-Part Blitz

1. What actor portrayed aggressive and foul-mouthed government director of communications Malcolm Tucker on *The Thick of It* and the Twelfth Doctor on *Doctor Who*?
A: Peter **Capaldi**
2. Togo, Burkina Faso, and the Ivory Coast surround what English-speaking country?
A: **Ghana**
3. Niccolo Machiavelli, Hans Morgenthau, and John Mearsheimer are all associated with what theory of international relations?
A: **realism** (accept: **realist** school)
4. Ending in F-sharp major with a series of prestissimo octaves that span nearly the entire piano, what piece divided into the Lassan and Friska sections is one of the best-known works of Franz Liszt?
A: "**Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2**"
5. What unit quantifies the health effects of ionizing radiation and is named after a Swedish scientist?
A: **sieverts**

Double Jump

6. What country's flag consists of descending horizontal bars of white, blue, and red, thought to be inspired by the similar Dutch tricolour?
A: **Russia**
7. What two other European countries have flags that use the Russian flag as a base with their own national crests in the foreground?
A: **Slovakia** AND **Slovenia**

Double Jump

8. What rule was introduced in 1973 in the American League to boost offence, and eventually adopted by the National League in 2020, leaving Shohei Ohtani as the only pitcher who still regularly bats?
A: **designated hitter** rule (accept: **D.H.** rule)
9. When playing without a designated hitter, what term refers to the act of replacing the pitcher with a non-pitcher while bringing in a new pitcher for another non-pitcher, so as to make the pitcher's spot in the batting order come up later?
A: **double switch**

Set of 4

10. What two-word designator does *Magic: the Gathering* give to set releases that are based on other media franchises?
A: **Universes Beyond**
11. In November 2025, a red-blue creature card based on what character was banned for being overpowered? This character is a Black Mage from *Final Fantasy 9*.
A: **Vivi Ornitier** (accept either bolded part)

12. Sets that came out in September 2025 and March 2026 were both set in what real-life city, featuring cards such as "Mysterio, Master of Illusion" and "Splinter, Radical Rat"?
- A: **New York** City (accept: **N.Y.C.**)
13. What franchise was featured in the first Universes Beyond Secret Lair drop, including the first ever Universes Beyond card previewed, "Rick, Steadfast Leader"?
- A: *The **Walking Dead***

Jackpot

14. Part 1: What element does the helix-loop-helix motif known as the EF-hand bind to?
15. Part 2: Intracellular concentrations of this element decrease under the effects of Viagra, as this element is released into the cytosol when inositol trisphosphate binds to its receptor.
16. Part 3: Most kidney stones are primarily composed of the oxalate salt of this element. Reduced levels of this element in the blood trigger the release of parathyroid hormone.
17. Part 4: This metallic element is found in the mineral hydroxyapatite, which can be found in the human body interspersed within the collagen matrix of bones.
- A: **calcium** (prompt on: Ca)

Set of 3: Spelling

18. A general term for putty used by children to shape objects, spell plasticine.
- A: **P-L-A-S-T-I-C-I-N-E**
19. A sheep at the head of a flock wearing a noisemaker around its neck, or anything that is indicative of trends, spell bellwether.
- A: **B-E-L-L-W-E-T-H-E-R**
20. A colourless pesticide often used to kill rodents and birds, spell strychnine ["STRICK-neen"].
- A: **S-T-R-Y-C-H-N-I-N-E**

5-Part Blitz

21. What Marvel character is an alien with metallic skin who travels on a board and is an ally of the Fantastic Four?
- A: **Silver Surfer**
22. What German Romantic artist painted *Wanderer above the Sea of Fog*?
- A: Caspar David **Friedrich**
23. During what conflict did an event called Pride's Purge halve the number of M.P.s in the Long Parliament, resulting in what became known as the Rump Parliament?
- A: **English Civil War** (prompt on: Civil War)
24. From what country does judo originate?
- A: **Japan**
25. A Tchaikovsky Overture-fantasy and a Prokofiev ballet featuring a "Dance of the Knights" are both influenced by what literary work?
- A: **Romeo and Juliet**

END OF FIRST QUARTER

SECOND QUARTER

Splits: Pet Ownership & Roman Emperors

Pet Ownership

26. What small electronic object is inserted under a pet's skin and contains information that allows their owners to be identified?
A: **microchips** (prompt on: chips)
27. What adjective refers to multiple potential pets, most often cats, who have formed a strong emotional attachment and must be adopted together?
A: **bonded**
28. What training method uses its namesake device to help animals more quickly associate a desired action with a reward by making a noise?
A: **clicker** training
29. What alliterative tongue-in-cheek term refers to pets that are unexpectedly permanently adopted by the individual temporarily taking care of them?
A: **foster fails** (accept: **foster failures**)

Roman Emperors

30. To keep up the appearance of preserving the Republic, Augustus took what relatively unassuming official title?
A: **princeps**
31. Vespasian was the founder of which imperial dynasty, which took power after the Year of the Four Emperors and is referenced in an alternate name of the Colosseum?
A: **Flavian** dynasty
32. What teenage emperor and sun priest is mostly remembered through the accounts of his critic Cassius Dio, who claims that the emperor wanted to be a woman?
A: **Elagabalus** (accept: **Heliogabalus**)
33. Who dissolved the Praetorian Guard and later became the first emperor to convert to Christianity?
A: **Constantine** I (accept: **Constantine** the Great)

Double Jump

34. The National Citizen Party controversially joined an eleven-party alliance led by Jamaat-e-Islami ahead of a February election in what country, where a 2024 revolution overthrew the Awami League government of Sheikh Hasina?
A: **Bangladesh**
35. What Nobel-winning economist led the interim Bangladeshi government between Hasina's overthrow and the 2026 elections?
A: Muhammad **Yunus**

Double Jump

36. What kind of animal is the brother of Jormungandr and son of Loki, named Fenrir?
A: **wolf**
37. While his brother Hati chases the moon, what other son of Fenrir will pursue and eat the sun during Ragnarok?
A: **Skoll**

Set of 4

38. With an example named for Daniel Swern wherein an alcohol is converted into a ketone or aldehyde, in what sort of chemical reaction does a species lose electrons?
A: **oxidation** reactions (accept: **oxidations**)

39. Aldehydes can be further oxidized to form what class of compounds, exemplified by the active component of vinegar?
A: **carboxylic acids** (prompt on: acids)
40. What is the common name for the substance produced by the oxidation of iron?
A: **rust**
41. What metal is present in oxidizing agents such as the Corey-Suggs reagent and the Collins reagent, in its hexavalent state?
A: **chromium** (prompt on: Cr)

Set of 4: Chinese Food

42. What dish is traditionally made with 18 ingredients to represent the 18 arhats who have achieved nirvana, and is almost always vegetarian?
A: **Buddha's delight**
43. Thin strips of spring onion and cucumber, a sweet bean sauce, and thin wheat pancakes are the main accompaniments to what meat dish?
A: **Peking duck** (prompt on: duck)
44. What dish, whose origins are disputed between two New York chefs from the 1970s, consists of a deep-fried meat with a sweet and spicy sauce?
A: **General Tao's Chicken** (accept: **General Tso's Chicken**) (prompt on partial answers)
45. The Dragon Boat Festival is alternatively named for what foodstuff, a sticky rice dumpling with a sweet or savory filling and wrapped with bamboo leaves?
A: **zongzi**

5-Part Mystery

46. Whose 1997 posthumous album *Life After Death* included songs such as "Hypnotize" and "Mo Money Mo Problems"?
A: The **Notorious B.I.G.** (accept: Christopher **Wallace, Biggie** Smalls) (reveal: **Notorious B.I.G.**)
47. According to an idiom, what object is one said to be at the end of if they no longer have the patience to deal with a situation?
A: one's/their **rope**
48. In what play do the protagonists build a city in the sky to intercept human sacrifices to the gods of Olympus?
A: *The **Birds***
49. What 1977 song states "don't touch me, I'm a real live wire" and features French lyrics in the chorus, such as "qu'est-ce que c'est"?
A: **"Psycho Killer"**
50. Caused by illnesses such as Meniere's Disease, what condition is characterized by the sufferer perceiving stationary objects, including themselves, to be moving?
A: **vertigo**
[Theme: Alfred Hitchcock movies]

END OF FIRST HALF

THIRD QUARTER

Splits: Oceanography & Musicals Based on Real People

Oceanography

51. What specific term refers to ocean currents that move in a circular manner?
A: ocean **gyres**
52. The difference in the direction of gyre rotation between the Northern and Southern hemispheres is a result of what effect?
A: **Coriolis** effect
53. Driven by Ekman transport away from coastlines, through what process is nutrient-poor surface water replaced by nutrient-rich deep water?
A: **upwelling** (accept verb forms) (prompt on: circulation)
54. Named for an Italian astronomer, what circular objects are used to measure the turbidity or transparency of ocean water?
A: **Secchi disks**

Musicals Based on Real People

55. What musical focuses on socialite Jackie Siegel's plans to build a mansion in Florida and was a recent box office and critical flop starring Kristin Chenoweth?
A: *The **Queen of Versailles***
56. Who is the subject of an Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice musical containing the songs "Another Suitcase in Another Hall", "Oh What a Circus", and "Don't Cry for Me Argentina"?
A: **Eva Peron** (accept: **Evita Peron**) (prompt on: Eva, Evita, Peron)
57. What musical containing the songs "There's No Business Like Show Business" and "Anything You Can Do (I Can Do Better)" depicts the relationship between Frank E. Butler and the title sharpshooter?
A: **Annie Get Your Gun**
58. Framed as a concert with songs about who suffered the most, what musical sees Henry VIII's wives share their stories?
A: **Six**

Set of 3

59. What kind of animal are Buckeye Chuck, Shubenacadie Sam, Wiarton Willie, and Punxsutawney Phil?
A: **groundhogs** (accept: **woodchucks**)
60. What song by Sonny & Cher does Bill Murray's character wake up to in *Groundhog Day*?
A: **"I Got You Babe"**
61. What kind of animal is Lucy, who makes Groundhog Day-style predictions in Barrington, Nova Scotia?
A: **lobsters**

Jailbreak

62. What phenomenon is a reduction in density, the opposite of compression?
A: **rarefaction**
63. According to a line from *Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions* by John Donne, no man is what kind of thing?
A: no man is an **island**
64. What unusual punishment was inflicted upon Jaroslav Borita and Vilem Slavata by a crowd of Protestants during a meeting in Prague, shortly before the 30 Years' War broke out?
A: being **thrown out a window** (accept clear equivalents) (accept: **defenestration**, being **defenestrated**)
65. What country's four provinces are called Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Sindh, and the Punjab?
A: **Pakistan**

66. *Giant*, *East of Eden*, and *Rebel Without a Cause* were the only three films to star what actor, who died in a 1955 car accident?
A: James **Dean**
67. What mountain range runs along almost all of western South America?
A: **Andes** Mountains
68. The computer platform CUDA was developed by what company, a maker of G.P.U.s founded by Jensen Huang?
A: **Nvidia**
69. Who reworked Alphaville's biggest hit for his 2009 song "Young Forever" on the album *The Blueprint 3*?
A: **Jay-Z**
70. Who are the most recent winners of the M.L.S. Cup and include former Barcelona players such as Jordi Alba, Luis Suarez and Lionel Messi?
A: **Inter Miami** C.F. (prompt on: Miami)
71. The children's story *Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang* was written by what creator of James Bond?
A: Ian **Fleming**
72. What Dutch artist used red, blue, and yellow squares in abstract paintings like *Broadway Boogie Woogie*?
A: Piet **Mondrian**
73. The name of which American state also appears in the names of two Mexican states that cover a large peninsula?
A: **California**
74. What country is sometimes said to have undergone a "century of humiliation" beginning when it lost the First Opium War?
A: Qing **China**
75. What sport is practiced by Ivan Drago, Apollo Creed, and Rocky Balboa?
A: **boxing**

END OF THIRD QUARTER

FOURTH QUARTER

Jackpot

76. Part 1: What novel has a chapter that is based on the Fuga per canonem structure and features a performance of the aria "M'appari" from the opera Martha?
77. Part 2: One chapter in this novel sees a man break into his own house through the basement and then make a cup of cocoa for himself and another man. That chapter is arranged in the form of a catechism.
78. Part 3: The history of the English language inspires the structure of the "Oxen in the Sun" episode of this novel. This novel's first section is named for Telemachus.
79. Part 4: Molly Bloom's soliloquy ends this novel, which is set in Dublin on June 16, 1904, and was written by James Joyce.
A: **Ulysses**

Streak

80. Aside from 1 and itself, list up to every factor of 78.

A: **2**

A: **3**

A: **6**

A: **13**

A: **26**

A: **39**

Streak

83. Not counting tributaries and ranking by discharge volume, name up to all of the four largest rivers in the world.

A: **Amazon** River

A: **Congo** River

A: **Orinoco** River

A: **Yangtze** River (accept: **Chang Jiang**)

Set of 4

85. From the 1960s to the mid-1990s, what country experienced an extreme surge of violent crime, resulting in its incarceration rate becoming by far the highest in the developed world?

A: **United States** of **America** (accept either bolded part) (accept: **U.S.A.**)

86. What nickname did Richard Nixon give to his aggressive policy targeting drug production, trafficking, and use, which has in many ways persisted in the United States?

A: **war on drugs**

87. The crime wave was one factor behind what demographic phenomenon, which depopulated inner cities and increased de facto geographical racial segregation?

A: **white flight**

88. One of many theories for the decline in crime since the 1990s is based on the removal of what element from gasoline and paint?

A: **lead** (prompt on: **Pb**)

12-Part Blitz

89. Lossy compression can leave behind what kind of grainy, pixelated features, often seen in JPEGs that have been copied repeatedly?

A: compression/visual/image **artifacts**

90. What is the largest suburb of Montreal?

A: **Laval**

91. Named for the language they are written in, what are the main scriptures used in Theravada Buddhism?

A: **Pali canon**

92. What alliterative term refers to video games that simultaneously show the first-person perspectives of multiple players?

A: **split-screen** games

93. When the sum of drag and buoyancy becomes equal to the force of gravity, an object in freefall will stabilize at what velocity?

A: **terminal** velocity

94. What "W"-term refers to a colourful decorative tape used in arts and crafts, originating in Japan?

A: **washi** tape

95. The Hall of Worthies became a prominent institution during the reign of what monarch, who introduced the Hangul script during Korea's Joseon period?

A: **Sejong** the Great

96. What name was shared by the winners of the 1996 women's team gymnastics Olympic gold medal and a group of gunfighters hired to protect a village from bandits in a 1960 Western?

A: The **Magnificent Seven**

97. Ella Purnell stars as Lucy MacLean, a former resident of Vault 33, on what TV show based on a video game whose second season takes place in New Vegas?
A: **Fallout**
98. The transition between what two musical periods is often discussed in the context of Beethoven's 3rd symphony?
A: **classical** period AND **romantic** period
99. Used throughout the 19th century and in the lead-up to World War I, what pejorative nickname referenced the political instability and economic decline of the Ottoman Empire?
A: **sick man of Europe** (prompt on: sick man)
100. What object is being passed around by people as someone in a gorilla suit walks by in a famous study of inattention blindness?
A: a **basketball** (prompt on: a ball)

END OF GAME