

Bee Round 1

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(1) This composer included a three-voice and six-voice ricercar [ri-TZER-car] in a collection of keyboard pieces based on a theme given to him by Frederick the Great. Despite being a devout Lutheran, he wrote a Catholic *Mass in B Minor*, and Felix Mendelssohn revived this man's work with an 1829 performance of his German-language *St. Matthew Passion*. For the point, name this Baroque composer of the Brandenburg Concertos.

ANSWER: Johann Sebastian Bach

(2) One of these events saw James Root rescue 300 people by backing his train into Skunk Lake. In addition to one of these in Hinckley, the deadliest one of these events in American history occurred around Peshtigo, and might have been caused by fragments of Comet Biela. According to legend, one of these occurred after Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked a lantern. For the point, name these disasters, including a "Great" one in Chicago that destroyed miles of wooden roads.

ANSWER: fires

(3) Georgy de Hevesy dissolved two of these objects in aqua regia to hide them from invading Nazis; after the war, he precipitated the gold out of solution and returned one of these to James Franck. Le Duc Tho [lay duk toh] refused one of these, which was offered jointly to Henry Kissinger, because the Paris Peace Accords had not been successful. Gold medals are granted to winners of, for the point, what awards, established by the inventor of dynamite, given annually to recognize accomplishments in literature, the sciences, and peace?

ANSWER: Nobel Prize (or medal or other generic names for awards; accept Nobel Prize in Physics before Le Duc Tho is mentioned)

(4) One member of this family was the mother of Louis XIII and wife of King Henry IV, and the Pazzi Conspiracy sought to assassinate members of this family. Girolamo Savonarola took control of a city after members of this family were expelled. Popes from this family include Clement VII and Leo X, and this family included Cosimo and Lorenzo the Magnificent. For the point, name this family of Grand Dukes from Florence.

ANSWER: Medici Family

(5) This theory is supported by the results of the COBE satellite, whose launch was delayed by the Challenger disaster; that satellite discovered anisotropies in a temperature otherwise stable at 2.726 Kelvin. Its name was proposed in jest by a defender of the steady state theory, Fred Hoyle. Georges Lemaitre [le-MET] first proposed that this event occurred, comparing it to a "Cosmic Egg" and the "Primeval Atom". For the point, name this cosmological event that occurred about 13.8 billion years ago.

ANSWER: Big Bang theory

(6) On this island, the Mamertines asked Rome for assistance against Hiero, whose ancestor Gelon had earlier defeated Carthage on this island at the Battle of Himera. This island was the target of a campaign led by Nicias [NIK-ee-us] and advocated for by Alcibiades [al-KIH-bee-AH-des]. Athens sent a failed expedition against Syracuse on, for the point, what island separated from Italy by the Strait of Messina?

ANSWER: Sicily or Sicilia

(7) When one holder of this position was shot, he advised his secretary, George Cortelyou, to inform his wife carefully. Rose Mary Woods, another assistant to this position, stretched to reach a footpedal and a desk control to erase audio tapes; that caused an 18.5 minute gap in a recording of one holder of this post speaking with H.R. Haldeman, his Chief of Staff, about the Watergate break-in. For the point, name this post, which is also advised by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and a Cabinet including Secretaries of Defense and State, currently held by Barack Obama.

ANSWER: President of the United States of America (prompt on partial answer)

(8) This country's independence was guaranteed at the Battle of Vertières [vert-YAYR]. This nation's independence was declared at Gonaives [goh-nah-EEV] by its future Emperor-for-life Jean-Jacques Dessalines [dess-ah-LEEN], who led this nation's independence movement against Charles Leclerc after the capture of Toussaint L'Overture [too-SAHN loh-ver-TYOOR] by French forces. For the point, name this island nation that gained its independence from France and shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic.

ANSWER: Republic of Haiti

(9) Connie Mulder tried to use government funds to internationally promote support for this policy. Opponents of this policy were targeted in the Sharpeville massacre, which led to the establishment of Umkhonto We Sizwe. Supporters of this policy allowed for the creation of Bantustans. This policy was ended after the electoral victory of the African National Congress under Nelson Mandela. For the point, name this policy of racial segregation during 20th century South Africa.

ANSWER: Apartheid

(10) Pavises were shields carried by soldiers who used this weapon. Richard the Lionhearted was killed by one of these weapons, and mercenaries wielding this weapon were most famously recruited from Genoa. The Chu Ko Nu is a repeating type of these weapons, which generally are slower to reload than their main alternative, the longbow. For the point, name these projectile weapons, which fire bolts instead of arrows.

ANSWER: crossbows (prompt on bow; do not accept or prompt "bow and arrow" or "longbow")

(11) The legal status of this region's primary language was established by the Equality Law, and the Pilgrimage of the Yser commemorates soldiers from this region who died in World War I. This region contains the exclaves of Baarle-Hertog and Voeren, and this cloth-producing region profited from the wool trade with nearby England. This region is located north of Wallonia. For the point, name this region that occupies the northern half of Belgium where Dutch is spoken.

ANSWER: Flanders (or Flandre or Vlaanderen; prompt on Belgium until "Wallonia" is read)

(12) One player of this sport asked a world leader to “do him a solid” and release prisoner Kenneth Bae, then visited that leader without discussing Bae’s release. Another player of this sport raised millions of dollars for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America with an otherwise-controversial 2010 press conference in which he announced he was “taking his talents to South Beach”. For the point, name this sport played by Dennis Rodman and LeBron James.

ANSWER: basketball

(13) Earthquakes under this body of water in 2007 revealed a 4,000-year-old fault line, on which a much stronger earthquake may have created a temporary land bridge. Despite losing its coastline on this body of water after a 1993 war of independence, Ethiopia still has use of its ports of Asseb and Massawa on this sea. For the point, name this body of water at the southern end of the Suez Canal that empties into the Indian Ocean through the Gulf of Aden and was legendarily parted by Moses.

ANSWER: Red Sea (or Erythrean Sea or Sea of Reeds)

(14) For extraditing the killers of Marcus Calpurnius Bibulus’ sons, the Gabinians opposed this figure, who deposed Achilles and a brother influenced by Pothinus. Caesarion succeeded this half-sibling of Arsinoe IV [arr-SIN-oh-ee] after Marcus Agrippa won a naval battle, which prompted her to commit suicide via asp. For the point, name this pharaoh who lost the Battle of Actium, a co-ruler with Ptolemy XIII who loved both Mark Antony and Julius Caesar.

ANSWER: Cleopatra VII Philopator

(15) In this country’s south, Dravidian languages like Telugu and Tamil are spoken. This country’s fifth most spoken language was primarily written using the Modi script until the 1950’s. Its 1947 constitution creates no official language; government business here is bilingual, including English due to this country’s colonial past. For the point, name this country on an Asian subcontinent where Hindi is spoken by hundreds of millions of people.

ANSWER: Republic of India

(16) Francois Bonivard’s imprisonment in one of these structures inspired Lord Byron’s “The Prisoner of Chillon.” Prince Albert purchased Balmoral, one of these in Scotland, for the Royal Family. Wagner’s operas Tannhauser [TANN-hoy-zer] and Lohengrin inspired Mad King Ludwig of Bavaria to build one of these called Neuschwanstein [NOY-schvon-shtine] . For the point, name these structures whose medieval fortifications included crenelated walls and moats.

ANSWER: castles

(17) The Flynn Effect describes the general increase over time of this concept. It is measured by the Stanford-Binet test and the Wechsler tests, which determine a “quotient” for this concept whose average is usually set at 100. For the point, identify this term for the ability to process information and express knowledge, which can also describe information gathered by spy agencies like the American CIA.

ANSWER: intelligence (accept intelligence quotient or IQ)

(18) In 2006, a planned liquid-explosive terrorist attack of planes flying out of this city failed. In this city, police mistakenly shot Jean Charles de Menezes [me-NEZ-is] thinking he was a terrorist. Two weeks after a terrorist attack in this city, an event of similar scale failed; both attacks involved targeting a bus and three subway trains along this city's "Tubes". For the point, name this city which was attacked in 2005, a day after securing the 2012 Summer Olympics.

ANSWER: London, England

(19) One ruler of this empire, Manuel I, established a protectorate over the Crusader state of Outremer [oo-tre-MEHR]. The deposition of Andronikos I ended this empire's Komnenian Restoration. Earlier, its Alexius I asked for help at the Council of Piacenza against the Seljuks, which led Pope Urban II to call for the First Crusade. For the point, name this European empire that preceded the Ottoman Empire in modern-day Turkey.

ANSWER: Byzantine Empire

(20) During this battle, Edward Johnson sent a small reconnoiter that encountered James Wadsworth's 7th Indiana infantry on Culp's Hill. The high water mark of the Confederacy was reached at this battle, whose end was hastened by Thomas Pickett's ill-fated charge up Cemetery Ridge. For the point, name this decisive three day battle in July 1863 which saw the largest number of casualties of any American Civil War battle.

ANSWER: Battle of Gettysburg

(21) One holder of this position was the target of an assassination attempt by Mehmet Agca [AH-jah]; that man, who was born Karol Wojtyla [VOY-t'wah] in Poland, succeeded Albino Luciani, who held this post for just 33 days after being elected by the College of Cardinals. For the point, name this religious office based in Vatican City, the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

ANSWER: the Pope

(22) A force led by this man besieged his former home city to raid a temple of Hubal. Afterwards, he signed the Treaty of Hudaibiyah, which allowed his followers to perform the Umrah in peace. This leader's temporal and spiritual authority was assumed by the Rashidun, or Rightly Guided Caliphs, after his death. This man authorized the Caravan Raids on the trading partners of the Quraysh shortly after making the Hijra to Medina from Mecca to escape persecution. For the point, name this founder of Islam.

ANSWER: Muhammad

(23) To relieve the Siege of Genoa, this man crossed the Lesser Saint Bernard Pass on a mule. This man forced the Treaty of Luneville after the Battle of Marengo, and he rose to prominence after the Siege of Toulon. This man technically won a victory at the Battle of Borodino, seven years after he destroyed the Third Coalition at Austerlitz. For the point, name this French Emperor, who was finally defeated at Waterloo.

ANSWER: Napoleon Bonaparte I

(24) Thomas Young, of double-slit experiment fame, worked on this object; his work proved helpful for Jean-Francois Champollion [shahm-POLE-ee-OHN]. This object was surrendered to the British after it was discovered by soldiers in Napoleon's army near the port city of Rashid. A decree from Ptolemy V Epiphanes is inscribed on this object in the cursive demotic script and the Greek alphabet. For the point, name this Egyptian document inscribed with three languages that allowed the translation of hieroglyphics.

ANSWER: Rosetta Stone

(25) This person had Locusta poison his rival and step-brother Britannicus. After the Pisonian conspiracy, this ruler executed the poet Lucan and his tutor, Seneca the Younger. He commissioned a thirty meter high Colossus of himself in front of the Domus Aurea, a huge palace he built over the ruins of aristocratic houses destroyed by fire. His death was followed by the Year of the Four Emperors, ending the Julio-Claudian dynasty. For the point, name this emperor who supposedly fiddled while Rome burned.

ANSWER: Nero Claudius Caesar Augustus Germanicus

Extra Question

Only read if moderator botches a question.

(1) This vehicle was used by the 509th composite group in an action that inspired the novel Black Rain. It targeted the Aioi Bridge, but the Shima surgical clinic was hit instead. Paul Tibbets piloted this vehicle from Tinian Island to Japan. For the point, name this B-29 bomber, that deployed the "Little Boy" atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

ANSWER: Enola Gay