THE LONG ISLAND QUIZ BOWL ALLIANCE

Novice Set Sample

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For more information or to contact us with questions of any kind, please email Alan@liqba.com or call (631)-360-3724, Extension 2.

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TOSSUPS

1. **Pencil and paper ready. Basil must find f(g(4)) ("f of g of 4") given that f(x) = x!/(x-2)! ("f of x equals x factorial over quantity x minus two close quantity factorial") and g(x) = x! ("x factorial"). By plugging in 4 into g(x) and using the definition of factorial, Basil can cancel terms from the bottom of f(x) to find (*)** what value for f(g(4))?
ANSWER: **552** <Computational Math>

2. **This leader, who was called a "poor horse trader" by the Iowa farmer Roswell Garst, failed to institute the Virgin Lands Campaign. This leader denounced the actions of his predecessor in the (*)** "Secret Speech" and engaged in the "Kitchen Debate" with Richard Nixon. What leader of the USSR succeeded Joseph Stalin?
ANSWER: Nikita **Khrushchev** <History>

3. **Structures characteristic of this planet may have originated from the moon Chrysalis. This planet was visited by the Cassini–Huygens probe in 2004. This planet contains a polar (*)** hexagon and has the second strongest magnetic field in the solar system. Name this sixth planet from the Sun, known for its rings.
ANSWER: **Saturn** <Science>

4. **A poem set in this state describes Colonel Shaw "riding on his bubble" while the city aquarium stands "in a Sahara of snow." The poem "For the Union Dead" was set in this state, where a character in a (*)** Longfellow poem is told to light "one [lantern] if by land, and two if by sea." In what state was the poem "Paul Revere's Ride" set?
ANSWER: **Massachusetts** <Literature>

5. **In 2025, a unit of this country's armed forces, CAPSAT, led a successful coup. This country's ousted president, Andry Rajoelina ("rah-joh-ee-LEEN-ah"), was a member of the political party Young (*)** Malagasies Determined and previously served as mayor of Antananarivo. What island country is located off the southeast coast of mainland Africa?
ANSWER: Republic of **Madagascar** <Current Events>

6. **Near the Metaurus River, this man's brother Hasdrubal was ambushed. A victor at the Battle of Cannae, this man adopted the Fabian strategy after a skirmish at Lake Trasimene, but was defeated at the Battle of (*)** Zama by Scipio Africanus. Despite crossing the Alps, what Carthaginian leader lost the Second Punic War?
ANSWER: **Hannibal** Barca [prompt on Barca] <History>

7. **A definition of this concept was critiqued with examples such as Smith and Jones applying for a job in a paper by Edmund Gettier. This concept was defined in Plato's *Theaetetus* as "justified true (*)** belief." Epistemology studies what concept, which "is power" according to Francis Bacon?
ANSWER: **knowledge** <Philosophy>

8. **This composer's incidental music to *Abdelazer* was quoted in a theme from Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*. This composer wrote the aria "When I am laid in earth" for an opera about a (*)** Carthaginian queen. Name this English composer of *Dido and Aeneas*.
ANSWER: Henry **Purcell** <Fine Arts>

9. **The contributions to one of these texts by "The Surgeon of Crowthorne," William Chester Minor, was documented by Samuel Winchester in the book *The Professor and the Madman*. Ambrose (*)** Bierce wrote one of these works titled for the devil. Samuel Johnson wrote an early work of what type for the English language that lists words and their definitions?
ANSWER: **dictionary** [or **dictionaries**; accept *Oxford English **Dictionary*** or *The Devil's **Dictionary*** or *A **Dictionary** of the English Language*] <Literature>

10. **A "magic" example of these substances contains antimony pentafluoride. According to Brønsted-Lowry theory these substances are proton donors. Thymol blue turns pink in the presence of these substances. A (*)** strong example of these substances is the sulfuric type. A pH below seven characterizes what substances often contrasted with bases?
ANSWER: **acid**s [accept magic **acid**] <Science>

11. **The first female president of this country, who helped run *La Prensa* newspaper, was Violeta Chamorro. In the 1980s, profits from selling weapons to a certain Middle East country were used to fund rebels in this country in the (*)** Iran-Contra Affair. Daniel Ortega led the Sandinistas in what Latin American country, whose capital is Managua?
ANSWER: **Nicaragua** <History>

12. **This body of water surrounds the Shah Spit on the Absheron Peninsula. The Ural and Volga rivers empty into this body of water, which borders Turkmenistan, Iran, and (*)** Kazakhstan. Name this large inland "sea" in Central Asia, which despite its name, is actually the largest lake in the world.
ANSWER: **Caspian** Sea <Geography>

13. **The sizes of this organelle's subunits are given in svedberg units based on the results of centrifugation. The P site on this organelle is used to hold tRNA in place while adding a codon to a growing (*)** peptide chain. The nucleolus produces what organelle responsible for synthesizing proteins?
ANSWER: **ribosome**s <Science>

14. **One of this composer's works was "recomposed" in 2012 by Max Richter. This composer's Gloria in D major is also known as RV 589. Some of this composer's violin concertos appear in the collection (*)** *The Contest Between Harmony and Invention*. What Italian nicknamed "The Red Priest" composed *The Four Seasons*?
ANSWER: Antonio **Vivaldi** [or Antonio Lucio **Vivaldi**] <Fine Arts>

15. **This figure was advised by Moses to lower the number of daily prayers from fifty during the Night Journey. The hadiths are records of this figure's sayings. During the (*)** Hijrah, this figure led followers to Medina. While in a cave, the archangel Jibril revealed the Quran to what prophet and founder of Islam?
ANSWER: **Muhammad** [or Prophet **Muhammad**; or Abu'l-Qasim **Muhammad** ibn ʿAbdullāh ibn ʿAbdul-Muṭṭalib ibn Hāshim] <Religion>

16. **During this man's presidency, the Star Route scandal took place. The Pendleton Act was signed shortly after a man claiming to be "Stalwart of the Stalwarts" (*)** assassinated this president on a Washington, D.C. train platform. What U.S. President was shot by Charles Guiteau and succeeded by Chester Arthur?
ANSWER: James **Garfield** <History>

17. **An author from this modern-day country wrote about an Italian colonel searching for the remains of fallen soldiers in *The General of the Dead Army*. The League of Lezhe was led by a hero from this country, Skanderbeg. A black double-headed (*)** eagle contrasts with a red background on the flag of what Balkan country, whose capital is Tirana?
ANSWER: **Albania** [or **Shqipëri** or **Shqipëria** or Republic of **Albania** or Republika e **Shqipërisë**] <General Knowledge>

18. **A work by this author has a panther replace a man who starved to death in a cage, titled "A Hunger Artist." This author wrote about Josef K dying "like a dog" after being arrested for an (*)** unknown crime. Which author of *The Trial* wrote about Gregor Samsa turning into a bug in *The Metamorphosis*?
ANSWER: Franz **Kafka** <Literature>

19. **This team drafted their all-time receiving leader out of Notre Dame after he won the 1987 Heisman award; that receiver is Tim Brown. The guard Gene Upshaw and quarterback Ken (*)** Stabler helped this NFL team win Super Bowl XI ("11") under head coach John Madden. Derek Carr was a longtime quarterback for what AFC West team that recently moved from California to Nevada?
ANSWER: **Las Vegas Raiders** [accept either; or **Oakland** Raiders] <Pop Culture>

20. **This effect causes thermal broadening of spectral lines. This effect is used in ultrasound to measure blood flow and causes receding bodies to be (*)** redshifted. What effect is used by weather radars to detect precipitation and is exemplified by the pitch of a siren changing when driving away?
ANSWER: **Doppler** effect [accept transverse **Doppler** effect; prompt on redshift or blueshift] <Science>

Extra/TB. **This word names a style of music pioneered by the minimalist composer La Monte Young. These weapons include the relatively cheap Bayraktar and Shahed varieties. This word can refer to a low pitched sound or a (*)** male bee. What five-letter English word can mean to talk in a boring manner or an unmanned aerial vehicle?
ANSWER: **drone** [accept **drones**] <Vocabulary>

BONUSES

1. Answer the following about the first chancellor of a unified Germany:
1. This "Iron Chancellor" was a Prussian statesman who ruled during the Franco-Prussian War.
ANSWER: Otto von **Bismarck**
2. Bismarck contrasted these two substances in a speech that defended greater spending on military causes.
ANSWER: **blood** AND **iron**
3. Bismarck edited a "Dispatch" named for this spa town, which led to the Franco-Prussian War.
ANSWER: **Ems** [accept **Ems** Dispatch]
<History>

2. Answer the following about Leonard Euler:
1. Euler's number is denoted with this letter. It is the base of the natural logarithm.
ANSWER: **e**
2. Euler created a field of mathematics named for these constructs with vertices and edges.
ANSWER: **graph** [accept **graph theory**]
3. Euler's identity is e to the i times pi plus this number equals 0.
ANSWER: **one** [or **1**]
<Science>

3. Answer the following about Texas in literature:
1. "How to Tame a Wild Tongue" is found in Gloria Anzaldua's *Borderlands*, a title derived from Texas' border with this country.
ANSWER: **Mexico**
2. Woodrow Call works in a fictional Texas town named for one of these peace-symbolizing birds in a novel by Larry McMurtry.
ANSWER: **dove**s [accept Lonesome **Dove**]
3. Stanley Yelnats is sent to a corrections facility in the middle of the Texas desert in *Holes*, a novel by this author.
ANSWER: Louis **Sachar**
<Literature>

4. Answer the following about the Industrial Revolution:
1. Goods manufactured across England were brought to this city on the River Thames for export.
ANSWER: **London**
2. James Watt catalyzed the Industrial Revolution by improving upon the inefficient Newcomen type of these devices.
ANSWER: **steam engine**s [prompt on engine]
3. Members of this movement opposed automation by smashing textile machines during the Industrial Revolution.
ANSWER: **Luddite**s
<History>

5. Answer the following about a certain instrument in jazz:
1. This brass instrument has three valves and often features alongside saxophone in jazz quintets.
ANSWER: **trumpet** [or B-flat **trumpet**]
2. This trumpeter and singer was nicknamed "Satchmo" and sang the first recorded version of "What a Wonderful World."
ANSWER: Louis **Armstrong** [or Louis Daniel **Armstrong**]
3. This modal jazz album by Miles Davis features "Freddie Freeloader" where he uses a Harmon mute.
ANSWER: ***Kind of Blue***
<Fine Arts>

6. Answer the following about famous American streets and roads.
1. A "Walk of Fame" covers the sidewalk of a boulevard named after this LA neighborhood, whose name is used as shorthand for the movie industry.
2. ANSWER: **Hollywood**
Pennsylvania Avenue is a diagonal street in this city, whose urban planning was designed by Pierre Charles L'Enfant. Neighborhoods in this city include Georgetown and Foggy Bottom.
ANSWER: **Washington**, DC [or **Washington**, District of Columbia; accept **District of Columbia** or **DC**]
3. The Overseas Highway is a national scenic byway that allows road access to this chain of islands as part of the larger Route One.
ANSWER: **Florida Keys**
<Geography>

7. Answer the following about acronyms starting with IMS-.
1. People with this job use the mnemonic "IMSAFE" to assess if they are fit to fly their airplanes.
ANSWER: **pilot**s [or aircraft **pilot**s]
2. Illinois Math and Science Academy was founded by Leon Lederman, who discovered the "bottom" type of these particles. These subatomic particles come in six "flavors."
ANSWER: **quark**s
3. Another IMSA, the International Motor Sports Association, is based in this Florida city. *F1: The Movie* was filmed where this city's "500" takes place.
ANSWER: **Daytona**
<General Knowledge>

8. Answer the following about taxes:
1. This kind of tax is levied on someone's earnings. People move up the "brackets" of this tax as their earnings increase.
ANSWER: personal **income** tax
2. Tax systems in which the tax rate increases as income increases are known by this term.
ANSWER: **progressive** tax systems
3. Taxes can be implemented to correct for the "negative type" of this economic phenomenon, which results when social cost diverges from private cost.
ANSWER: **externality** [or negative **externalities**]
<Social Science>

9. Answer the following about recent events in Taiwan.
1. At the end of December 2025, this country led by Xi Jinping conducted military drills around Taiwan as part of its strategy to threaten the independence of Taiwan.
ANSWER: **China** [accept **Zhongguo**, People's Republic of **China**, or **Zhonghua Renmin Gongheguo**; reject 2. "Republic of China" or "Zonghua Minnguo]
In October 2025, this Taiwanese political party elected a controversial pro-China commentator Cheng Li-wen, as its new party chair. This party, originally founded by Sun Yat-sen, is currently Taiwan's largest opposition party.
ANSWER: **KMT** [or Zhongguo **Kuomingtang**]
3. The Bluebird protests and the subsequent Great Recall Movement led by DPP supporters against opposition lawmakers were primarily organized on this social media platform operated by Meta, using Twitter-like features.
ANSWER: **Thread**s [accept **Tsui**]
<Current Events>

10. Answer the following about the four Classic Chinese Novels:
1. *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* prominently features a battle at cliffs named for this color. This color precedes "ology" in the name of a field that studies a novel titled *Dream of the [this color] Chamber*.
ANSWER: **red** [accept the Battle of **Red** Cliffs, or *Dream of the **Red** Chamber*]
2. In this novel by Wu Cheng'en, the monk Tang Sanzang is joined by Sha Wujing, Zhu Bajie, and Sun Wukong on his quest to retrieve Buddhist scriptures from India.
ANSWER: ***Journey to the West*** [or ***Xīyóu Jì***]
3. A character with this surname is the primary antagonist of *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* and rules the state of Wèi. The author of *Dream of the Red Chamber* also has this surname.
ANSWER: **Cao** [accept **Cáo** Cāo or **Cao** Xueqin]
<Literature>

11. Answer the following about perspective in art:
1. This artist illustrated Luca Pacioli's treatise on perspective, *Divine Proportion*. This Italian man also painted the *Mona Lisa*.
ANSWER: **Leonardo** da Vinci [or Leonardo **Da Vinci**]
2. Leon Battista Alberti credited an artist from this city, Filippo Brunelleschi ("BROO-nuh-LESS-key"), with discovering linear perspective. This Italian city, whose cathedral is topped by Brunelleschi's *Duomo* ("DWOH-moh"), is home to the Uffizi ("oo-FEETS-ee") Gallery.
ANSWER: **Florence**, Italy
3. This British engraver depicted impossible situations, like a tree growing out of a bridge, in his work *Satire on False Perspective*. He painted the moralistic series *A Rake's Progress* and *Marriage A-la-Mode*.
ANSWER: William **Hogarth**
<Fine Arts>

12. Answer the following about Jenny Han's TV shows.
1. Lola Tung stars as Belly in a Jenny Han show titled for "The [this season] I turned Pretty."
ANSWER: **summer** [accept *The **Summer** I Turned Pretty*]
2. Belly is a part of a love triangle between the two Fisher brothers, played by Gavin Casalegno and Christopher Briney. Name either.
ANSWER: **Conrad** Fisher or **Jeremiah** Fisher
3. Jenny Han's *XO, Kitty* is a spin-off of this book and movie series where Kitty sends love letters Lara Jean wrote to characters such as Josh Sanderson and Peter Kavinsky.
ANSWER: ***To All the Boys** I've Loved Before*
<Pop Culture>

13. Answer the following about the laws of thermodynamics :
1. The first law of thermodynamics states that this quantity cannot be created or destroyed. It has kinetic and potential types.
ANSWER: **energy**
2. This value, the amount of disorder in a system, will always increase in an isolated system according to the second law of thermodynamics.
ANSWER: **entropy** [prompt on S]
3. This thought experiment named for a Scottish physicist violates the second law of thermodynamics by imagining an entity that sorts gas particles in a box based on their speed.
ANSWER: **Maxwell's demon**
<Science>

14. Answer the following about a set of fifteen pool balls numbered one through fifteen:
1. What fraction of the balls are odd?
ANSWER: **8/15**
2. If you replace the number on the lowest ten balls with the same number squared, what fraction of the balls are prime?
ANSWER: **2/15**
3. How many different ways are there to pick two pool balls from the set, assuming that the order doesn't matter?
ANSWER: **105**
<Computational Math>

15. Answer the following about Canada in the 20th century:
1. Because of this war, the Dutch royal family fled to Canada, where Princess Margriet was born. Canadian forces won the bloody Battle of the Scheldt against Nazi forces during this war.
ANSWER: **World War II** [or **WWII**; or **Second World War**]
2. This province's labor minister was killed by a separatist movement during the October crisis. This province passed a law making French an official language and twice voted against pursuing secession.
ANSWER: **Québec**
3. A rhyming "affair" is partially named after this longest-serving Prime Minister, whose request to dissolve parliament was refused by Governor-General Byng. This Prime Minister's Conservative counterpart was Arthur Meighan.
ANSWER: William Lyon Mackenzie **King**
<History>

16. Answer the following about the Yggdrasil.
1. The Yggdrasil is one of these beings. Its trunk connects the various worlds in Norse mythology.
ANSWER: **tree** [prompt on plants]
2. Three of the roots of the Yggdrasil extend over this realm. Valhalla exists in this realm, and it is connected to Midgard via Bifrost.
ANSWER: **Asgard**
3. Underneath the Yggdrasil lies a well named for this deity of wisdom. Odin carries the head of this deity, which counsels him and reveals secret knowledge.
ANSWER: **Mimir**
<Mythology>

17. Answer the following about a certain neurotransmitter:
1. This catecholamine and neurotransmitter is a precursor to norepinephrine. It is often associated with pleasure and the brain's reward system.
ANSWER: **dopamine** [or 3,4-**di**hydr**o**xy**p**henethyl**amine**; or **DA**]
2. Dopamine is deficient in individuals with this disease. This disease is characterized by hand tremors and shuffling gait.
ANSWER: **Parkinson's** Disease
3. Dopamine inhibits the secretion of this hormone from the pituitary gland, which is released at high levels postpartum.
ANSWER: **prolactin**
<Science>

18. Answer the following about German-language poets:
1. This poet wrote an elegy after he was rejected by a woman 55 years younger than him in Marienbad. He also wrote the play *Faust* and the novel *The Sorrows of Young Werther*.
ANSWER: Johann Wolfgang von **Goethe**
2. This author's poem "Ode to Joy" was used as the finale of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.
ANSWER: Friedrich **Schiller** [or Johann Christoph Friedrich von **Schiller**]
3. This author asked "Who, if I cried out, would hear me among the Angelic Orders?" to open a collection of ten poems.
ANSWER: Rainer Maria **Rilke** [or René Karl Wilhelm Johann Josef Maria **Rilke**]
<Literature>

19. Answer the following about the Gilded Age:
1. The Gilded Age is often dated to have started under this president, who was the victorious Union general at the end of the Civil War and oversaw the enforcement of Reconstruction in the South.
ANSWER: Ulysses S. **Grant** (or Ulysses Simpson **Grant** ; or Hiram Ulysses **Grant**)
2. Cornelius, the patriarch of this family, was a railroad tycoon nicknamed "Commodore" and one of the first people to be described as a "robber baron". This family names a university in Nashville and an estate in Asheville, North Carolina.
ANSWER: **Vanderbilt** family [accept **Vanderbilt** University; prompt on Biltmore]
3. Laissez-faire attitudes towards the power of businesses were exemplified by this Supreme Court "era", named after a case involving a New York bakery owner. Other cases in this period struck down legislation that enforced minimum wages or union membership.
ANSWER: ***Lochner*** era [accept ***Lochner*** *v. New York*; prompt on any specific times between 1897 and 1937]
<History>

20. Answer the following about plate tectonics.
1. The lithosphere, which is composed of the crust and the upper section of this region, is where plates are found. This region is a thick region of molten rock between the crust and core.
ANSWER: **mantle**
2. This horseshoe-shaped zone surrounding the Pacific Ocean is known for its high tectonic activity, including 90% of all earthquakes and around two-thirds of the world's volcanoes.
ANSWER: **Ring of Fire** [accept **Circum-Pacific Belt**]
3. The subduction of this plate southwest of Peru responsible for the Andean orogeny. This plate is bordered by the South American Plate to the east and the Cocos Plate to the north.
ANSWER: **Nazca** plate
<Science>