THE LONG ISLAND QUIZ BOWL ALLIANCE

VHSL Regionals Sample

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Period 1

1. A silver cigarette case in this play is inscribed with an Elizabeth Barrett Browning quote. In the third scene of this play, a radio is thrown out of a window. A character in this play lost her teaching job after having an affair with a student. A poker game is hosted by Stanley Kowalski in this play. Blanche DuBois is taken to a mental hospital at the end of what play by Tennessee Williams?
ANSWER: *A* ***Streetcar Named Desire*** <Literature>

2. Following this battle, the Lion's Mound was constructed to honor the spot William II of Orange was shot off his horse. A carrier pigeon helped Nathan Rothschild become the first man in England to hear of this battle's outcome. The Chateau Hougoumont ("oo-goo-MOHN") was attacked during this battle, which followed an engagement at Quatre Bras ("kaht-rah brah"). Gebhard von Blücher assisted the Duke of Wellington in what last battle of the Hundred Days and final defeat of Napoleon?
ANSWER: Battle of **Waterloo** <History>

3. A "montage" titled for these things describes the "boogie-woogie rumble" of them. A poem that opens by wondering about these things asks "does it … crust and sugar over / like a syrupy sweet?" before stating "maybe it just sags / like a heavy load." The poem "Harlem" asks if these things "explode." The poet Langston Hughes asked "what happens to" what things "deferred"?
ANSWER: **dream**s [or a **dream** deferred] <Literature>

4. The gradual loss of material into these locations is suffosion. These locations can be home to acid-producing bacterial mats called "snottite" and creamy-looking "moonmilk." Honeycombish "boxwork" can be seen in a South Dakotan one of these places named for wind. The prefix "speleo-" refers to these locations, as is almost seen in the name of "spelunking." What chambers include stalagmites and stalactites?
ANSWER: **cave**s [or **cavern**s; accept **cave** systems; accept **Wind Cave** National Park; accept **void**s; prompt on parks or National Parks] <Science>

5. In this event's *Tarmattu* form, participants must twice enter the sacred state of Ihram. During this event's *Sa'y* ritual, participants run seven times between the Safa and Marwa hills. The Umrah is a lesser version of this event. *Jamarat* pebbles are used in this event's Stoning of the Devil. During *tawaf*, participants in this event may attempt to kiss the black stone while circling the Kaaba seven times. What fifth pillar of Islam involves a pilgrimage to Mecca?
ANSWER: **Hajj** [prompt on a pilgrimage to Mecca or other answers indicating a journey to Mecca] <Religion>

6. This composer incorporated the folk song “Dargason” into his *St. Paul’s Suite*. A work by this composer includes the fading out of an offstage women’s choir in its last movement, which is subtitled “The Mystic.” The melody of the hymn “I Vow To Thee, My Country” was taken from a different movement of that 1918 work by this composer. The movements “Venus” and “Jupiter” are from what English composer’s suite *The Planets*?
ANSWER: Gustav **Holst** <Fine Arts>

7. These numbers can be constructed by Dedekind (“DAY-duh-kind”) cuts. An unprovable hypothesis states that all sets either map to the integers or these numbers. An argument that constructed a sequence of zeros and ones was used to prove that this set had a cardinality greater than aleph null and that of the integers. This set can be created from the union of rational and irrational numbers. Name this set that is usually denoted R.
ANSWER: **real** numbers <Science>

8. In a story by this author, a character spells out the word “eternity” with ice. That character created by this author, Kay, is hit by a mirror shard, causing him to be captured by the Snow Queen. This author wrote about a character who saves a prince from drowning but later turns into sea foam after failing to make him fall in love with her. One of this author’s characters turns out to be a swan and not an “Ugly Duckling.” What Danish author wrote “The Little Mermaid”?
ANSWER: Hans Christian **Andersen** <Literature>

9. This type of person stays in the room at all times in Mary Ainsworth’s “Strange Situation” experiment. This type of person’s depth perception was measured in an experiment that used a “visual cliff.” One of these people was classically conditioned to become afraid of a white rat in an experiment conducted by John Watson. What type of person’s development was described in four stages by Jean Piaget (“pee-ah-ZHAY”)?
ANSWER: **children** [accept **infants** or **babies**] <Social Science>

10. These elements and carbon are used in catalytic hydrogenation. To remove these elements from the hair, EDTA is used in shampoos. These elements are used in catalytic converters to aid in redox reactions. These elements are in the center of coordination complexes. These elements have an unfilled d orbital, making them effective in catalysis. What generally ductile elements include effective conductors, such as iron and silver?
ANSWER: **transition metal**s [prompt on metals, reject “alkali metals” or “alkaline earth metals”] <Science>

11. This city’s king Cleombrotus I (“CLEE-ahm-BRO-tus the first”) lost to Epaminondas (“eh-puh-muh-NON-dus”) at the Battle of Leuctra. This city won the naval Battle of Aegospotami (“ay-goh-SPOH-tuh-mee”) under its general Lysander. This city, which was home to the rigorous agoge (“ah-GOH-gay”) system of military training, won the Peloponnesian (“PEL-uh-puh-NEE-zhuhn”) War. Leonidas led three hundred soldiers of what ancient Greek city against the Persians at the Battle of Thermopylae (“ther-MAH-poh-lie”)?
ANSWER: **Sparta** <History>

12. In a song titled for these objects, a singer claims “Kiss me once 'cause you know I had a long night / Kiss me twice 'cause it's gonna be alright.” In the song “Royals,” Lorde claims that “I cut my teeth on [these objects] in the movies.” Another song titled for these objects claims “My wrist, stop watchin’, my neck is flossy.” Seven of what objects title an Ariana Grande song that claims “wearing [one of these objects], but ain’t gon’ be no Mrs.”?
ANSWER: **ring**s [accept “Paper **Ring**s” or “7 **Rings**”; accept wedding **ring**s] <Pop Culture>

13. Experimental evidence for the particle that mediates this force was first seen in a three-jet event at PETRA. This force is described by the symmetry group SU(3) ("S-U three"). Properties of this force, including asymptotic freedom and color confinement, are described by QCD, or quantum chromodynamics. This force is mediated by gluons and keeps the nucleus of an atom together. Name this most powerful fundamental force.
ANSWER: **strong** force [or **strong** interaction or **strong** nuclear force] <Science>

14. In the 1937 Panay Incident, this company's ships were attacked by Japan on the Yangtze River. Henry Flagler was one of the founding partners of this organization, which was depicted as a two-headed snake in a *Puck* magazine cartoon. This company's predatory practices were exposed by the muckraker Ida Tarbell. What petroleum giant was founded by John D. Rockefeller and once controlled over ninety percent of the oil market?
ANSWER: **Standard Oil** <History>

15. Due to low biomass transfer efficiency, while these species have the highest TL values, those values rarely exceed five except in marine ecosystems. A form of cascading "meso-release" that occurs in the absence of these species illustrates their frequent capacity for top-down control. These heterotrophs are the most susceptible to biomagnification, as they occupy the highest trophic levels. Wolves and lions are examples of what species found at the top of a food web?
ANSWER: **apex predator**s [prompt on partial answer] <Science>

Period 2 (Directed Questions)

1A. An author from this country who wrote the works *Miguel Street* and *A House for Mr. Biswas* became the second Caribbean winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2001. V.S. Naipaul was born in what Caribbean country?
ANSWER: **Trinidad and Tobago** <Literature>

1B. This character is shown to have sapphic desires towards Sally Seton, her long-time friend. Name this main character of an eponymous novel by Virginia Woolf.
ANSWER: **Clarissa** Dalloway [accept Mrs. **Dalloway**] <Literature>

2A. In this process, securin is targeted by an E3 ubiquitin ligase complex to be degraded. Name this phase of mitosis in which microtubules pull chromatids toward the poles of the cell and push off each other to move the poles away from the center of the cell.
ANSWER: **anaphase** [accept more specific answers, such as **anaphase A** or **anaphase B**; prompt on mitosis or meiosis] <Science>

2B. A form of this technique often paired with TGA is named for "differentially scanning" over one variable. High pressures are reached in a metal chamber in the "bomb" form of what technique which measures the heat of a reaction?
ANSWER: **calorimetry** [or differential scanning **calorimetry**; or bomb **calorimetry**]<Science>

3A. Pencil and paper ready. This is a 20-second calculation question. What is the sum of the first 5 odd triangular numbers?
ANSWER: **85** (Note to reader: the numbers are 1, 3, 15, 21, 45) <Computational Math>

3B. Pencil and paper ready. This is a 20-second calculation question. What is the 17th triangular number?
ANSWER: **153** <Computational Math>

4A. Students at a school named for this activity include John "No Relation" Wayne. This activity is played at an academy named Enfield in *Infinite Jest*. What sport is the subject of the essays in David Foster Wallace's collection *String Theory*?
ANSWER: **tennis** [accept Enfield **Tennis** Academy] <Literature>

4B. This figure transformed Scylla ("SILL-uh") into a monster. This mother of Telegonus uses spells that are thwarted when Hermes gives a hero the herb moly to be used on Aeaea ("ee-EE-uh"). What sorceress transformed Odysseus's crew into pigs?
ANSWER: **Circe** <Mythology>

5A. This 2025 movie, which is inspired by an event where a gift box disables a "security" device, is about the death of a girl named Charlotte Emily. What sequel features "toy" versions of animatronics such as Chika and Bonnie?
ANSWER: ***Five Nights at Freddy's 2*** [or ***FNaF 2***; reject "Five Nights at Freddy's"] <Pop Culture>

5B. This man, who won the 2025 Mexico City Grand Prix, is teammates with Oscar Piastri ("pee-AST-ree"). Name this British F1 driver for McLaren who won the 2025 Formula One World Drivers' Championship.
ANSWER: Lando **Norris** <Pop Culture>

6A. A member of this tribe married Toussaint Charbonneau ("too-SAN char-bo-NO") and helped guide an expedition from Missouri to the Pacific Ocean. The Lewis and Clark expedition was aided by what tribe's member Sacagawea?
ANSWER: **Shoshone** [accept Northern **Shoshone**] <History>

6B. In this modern-day state in 1869, a different state's governor, Leland Stanford, drove a golden spike into the ground at Promontory Summit to mark the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. In what present-day U.S. state was the State of Deseret ("dez-uh-RET") proposed?
ANSWER: **Utah** <History>

7A. Pencil and paper ready. This is a 30-second calculation question. What is the surface area of a right circular cylinder whose diameter is 2 pi and whose height is pi over 2?
ANSWER: **3 pi^3** ("three pi cubed") <Computational Math>

7B. Pencil and paper ready. This is a 30-second calculation question. What is the volume of a right circular cone with height 2 whose flat face exactly matches the flat face of a hemisphere with volume 250 pi over 3?
ANSWER: **50 pi / 3** ("fifty pi over 3") [or **50/3 pi** ("fifty thirds pi" or "fifty thirds times pi") <Computational Math>

8A. While campaigning with crusaders, a blind leader of this city led the 1204 sack of Constantinople during the Fourth Crusade and was named Enrico Dandolo. The Marriage of the Sea ceremony was overseen by the doges ("DOH-jiz") of what maritime city?
ANSWER: **Venice** <History>

8B. While ascending this mountain, climbers have to encounter the Black Pyramid and Bottleneck while on the deadly Abruzzi Spur. The Godwin Austen Glacier lies adjacent to what mountain in the Karakoram Range, the world's second highest peak?
ANSWER: **K2** [or Mount **Godwin-Austen**] <Geography>

9A. These particles' "saturation" is the upper limit to their mobility-proportional "drift velocity." Sommerfeld adjusted these particles' ion-dependent behavior in his revised Drude model. What particles move easily in conductors?
ANSWER: **electron**s [or **e$^-$**] <Physics>

9B. What places, which include a current remnant of a VEI 8 event called Toba, can stratify into non-mixing layers as their "meromictic" type and also have an "endorheic" type which allows for flow of water in but not out?
ANSWER: **lake**s [accept **Lake** Toba; accept meromictic **lake**s or endorheic **lake**s; prompt on caldera or volcano] <Science>

10A. What three-letter English action can be translated as "kaufen" ("cow-fehn") in German, "acheter" ("ahsh-ah-tay") in French, and "comprar" in Spanish?
ANSWER: **buy** <Foreign Language>

10B. Either this part of speech or a pronominal adjective are used as substitutions for antecedents. The suffix "-self" ends all singular reflexive examples of this part of speech. Redundant nouns are avoided by using what part of speech?
ANSWER: **pronoun**s [accept singular reflexive **pronouns** or personal **pronoun**s or possessive **pronoun**s] <Grammar>

Period 3

1. This man's life was saved by Oliver Sipple, who was then outed as gay. JD Vance and this other politician both lived in Alexandria while serving as Vice President. This man was the focus of an assassination attempt by a woman nicknamed “Squeaky,” who claimed to be part of the Manson family. This president signed the Helsinki Accords to reduce tensions with the USSR. This president urged Americans to “Whip Inflation Now.” What president pardoned his predecessor, Richard Nixon?
ANSWER: Gerald **Ford** [or Gerald Rudolph **Ford** or Leslie Lynch **King**, Jr.] <History>

2. The myth of this figure was reinterpreted in an essay by Hélène Cixous (“eh-LEN sick-SOO”) titled for her “laugh.” This figure’s death was facilitated by the king of Seriphos, Polydectes. This figure’s death prompted both the Chrysaor (“CRY-say-or”) and Pegasus to be born. A body part of this figure was depicted on a shield called the aegis (“EE-jis”). This once-beautiful figure was punished by Athena. What gorgon, whom Perseus beheaded, transformed men into stone with its gaze?
ANSWER: **Medusa** [accept “The Laugh of the **Medusa**” or “Le Rire de la **Méduse**”] <Mythology>

3. On the right side of the Gibbs-Helmholtz equation, this quantity’s negative is divided by temperature squared. This quantity remains constant during a throttling process. A system’s overall value for this quantity is equal to the sum of individual changes in this quantity, according to Hess’s law. What quantity representing the heat content of a system is symbolized H?
ANSWER: **enthalpy** [prompt on H before mention] <Science>

4. A character in one story by this author remembers the Godhigh’s mansion. A purple velvet hat is worn by a character created by this author who is pushed to the ground after offering a Black child a penny. A road trip to Florida provides the background of a story by this author that features The Grandmother. What Southern Gothic author of “Everything That Rises Must Converge” described The Misfit in “A Good Man is Hard to Find”?
ANSWER: Flannery **O’Connor** <Literature>

5. Damage caused by these things at Khartoum International Airport has complicated its plans to reopen amid its civil war. A year after these things were spotted in New Jersey, an unnamed company claimed responsibility for them at a U.S. Army summit in August 2025. An Iranian design of what vehicles are now being mass-produced in Russia and are frequently used in short-range aerial strikes against Ukraine?
ANSWER: **drone**s [or **UAVs** or **UAS**s or **unmanned aerial vehicle**s or **unmanned aircraft system**s] <Current Events>

6. Polymorphism can be achieved when the needs for these things are outlined in interfaces. Programmers can create examples of these things and can build upon existing ones in inheritance. The Java programming language allows these things to be defined with the keywords “public class” and to be created by constructor methods. What objects name a programming paradigm “oriented” around them?
ANSWER: **object**s [accept **object**-oriented programming; accept **class**es before read; prompt on OOP] <Science>

7. This world leader wrote an autobiography titled *Toward Freedom in Jail*. This man signed the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence with Zhou Enlai ("joe un-lye"). This man's daughter was assassinated shortly after carrying out Operation Blue Star. This co-founder of the Non-Aligned Movement gave the "Tryst with Destiny" speech. What father of Indira Gandhi served as India's first prime minister?
ANSWER: Jawaharlal **Nehru** <History>

8. Two married artists from this country are the subject of the documentary *Cutie and the Boxer*. An "old man mad about art" from this country mastered a technique that translates to "pictures of the floating world." An artist from this country painted a series of fifty-three stations along a major road. A series of thirty-six paintings from this country include depictions of a "Great Wave" with a mountain in the background. Name this country where Hokusai ("HO-koo-sigh") painted a series depicting Mt. Fuji.
ANSWER: **Japan** [or **Nihon**-koku or **Nippon**-koku] <Fine Arts>

9. This author declared "know that thy sorrow is my ecstasy" in the poem "Hap." This author described "a Shape of Ice" in a poem about the *Titanic* titled "The Convergence of the Twain." A character nicknamed "Little Father Time" kills himself in an 1895 novel by this author. The title character of a novel by this author names her child Sorrow after being impregnated by Alec. What author wrote *Jude the Obscure* and *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*?
ANSWER: Thomas **Hardy** <Literature>

10. A fictional operator of one of these vehicles who was loosely based on László Almásy ("LAH-sloh ALL-mah-shee") is badly hurt after retrieving Katherine's body from a cave. An accident involving one of these vehicles serves as the backdrop to Michael Ondaatje's ("on-DOT-shee's") novel *The English Patient*. The title boy meets the operator of one of these vehicles after an accident in a book by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry ("AN-twan duh san-ex-oo-PAY-ree"). What kind of vehicle crashes in the Sahara Desert in *The Little Prince*?
ANSWER: air**plane**s <Literature>

11. In a 2013 movie, this actor plays a med school dropout who falls in love with a Zoe Kazan-played animator. In a 2022 movie, this actor plays a character who gets an idea for a song while making a bologna sandwich and dates Madonna. While on *The Tonight Show*, this actor rapped "Alphabet Aerobics." This star of the movie *Weird* played a character who was left on the porch of 4 Privet Drive. What English actor played Harry Potter?
ANSWER: Daniel **Radcliffe** [or Daniel Jacob **Radcliffe**] <Pop Culture>

12. This mountain, which is often pictured with Wonder Lake, can be climbed using the West Buttress Route. A national park featuring this mountain, whose name has roots in the Athabaskan languages, is where Christopher McCandless died. In 2015, this mountain's name was changed, but, in 2024, it was changed back to re-honor the 25th president. What highest mountain in North America is located in Alaska?
ANSWER: **Denali** [or Mount **McKinley**] <Geography>

13. These four letters begin the name of the earliest vellum nautical charts, which are covered in diagonal lines, and the name of the "Ancient, Very Noble, Ever Loyal" city that's the second-largest in Portugal. This word names a sweet fortified beverage from the Douro Valley. These four letters begin a type of word exemplified by "infotainment" and "liger." This word is the nautical term for a ship's left side. What word for cargo facilities can follow "sea," "space," and "air"?
ANSWER: **port** [accept **port**olan charts or **Port**o or **port** wine or **port**manteau or sea**port**s or space**port**s or air**port**s; prompt on wine] <Vocabulary>

14. These things are described in NDAs and BLAs, whose approval results in official “labels” for them. Pre-determined metrics for evaluating these things, called “endpoints,” can be biomarkers. Open-label studies are dispreferred compared to randomized double-blinded studies to test these things, examples of which include Lipitor and Prilosec. Clinical trials test what things made by the pharmaceutical industry?
ANSWER: **drug**s [or **pharmaceutical**s before mentioned; accept **medicine**] <Science>

15. A thinker who wrote in this language developed the “floating man” argument for the existence of the soul. This non-Latin language was used by a Galen-inspired polymath to write *The Canon of Medicine*. Many philosophical texts were translated into this language at the House of Wisdom. Aristotle was referred to as the “First Teacher” by authors in this language, such as Averroes (“uh-VAIR-roh-eez”). What language was used by Ibn Sīnā, an ancient Islamic philosopher?
ANSWER: **Arabic** [or al-'**arabiy**yah] <Philosophy>

Additional Questions

Tossups

1. This word followed by the letters ttian ("T-T-I-A-N") names the post-Aurignacian ("or-ig-NAY-shin") industry that made the Venus of Willendorf ("VILL-en-dorf"). Homonyms of this word include the term for the "backtick" diacritic and a tempo marking that is slower than largo. This word followed by the letter l ("L") means "a mixture of small pebbles," while this word followed by the letter n ("N") is a type of image that "thou shalt not make." What five-letter "G" word is a hole where bodies are buried?
ANSWER: **grave** [accept **Grave**ttian or **grave** ("GRAHV") accent or **grave** ("GRAH-vay") tempo or **grave**l or **grave**n images] <Vocabulary>

2. Under this president, the Star Route scandal exposed the corruption of federal postal officials. This only sitting member of the House of Representatives to be elected president defeated Winfield Scott Hancock. This president's proposed Pendleton Reform Act was signed by his successor. A man who claimed to be a "Stalwart of Stalwarts," Charles Guiteau ("guh-TOH"), assassinated what president who was succeeded in 1881 by Chester A. Arthur?
ANSWER: James **Garfield** <History>

3. This function's Taylor series begins with terms whose denominators are 0, 2, 4, and 6 factorial. This function's hyperbolic form is half of the exponential plus "e to the negative x." The dot product of two vectors equals the product of their magnitudes and this function, which is represented by the x-coordinates of points on the unit circle. What function is often taught as "adjacent over hypotenuse" in right triangles?
ANSWER: **cos**ine [reject "sine"] <Science>

Directed Questions

4. What equation should Grant use to model his linearly decreasing food supply for the winter if he knows it should be perpendicular to the equation y = x / (4 + 620) ("y equals x over four plus six hundred twenty") and pass through the point (62,0) ("sixty-two comma zero")?
ANSWER: **y = -4x + 248** ("y equals negative four x plus two hundred forty-eight") <Computational Math>

5. This artist never finished a sculpture in which a nude woman holds an icon of the sun titled *Truth Unveiled By Time*. An angel with a spear stands over a woman in what sculptor's *The Ecstasy of St. Theresa*?
ANSWER: Gian Lorenzo **Bernini** <Fine Arts>