



MindSweep 2025

ANSWERS

Part I – Arts, Food & Beverages, Movies and TV, Literature

Rules for the proctor

- Do not open till the end of the 60min
- **Make sure all sheets have been collected**, and redistributed for corrections
- **Small spelling variations are okay**, use your judgement
- For all answers which are names of people, unless mentioned otherwise, **just surname is acceptable. However, if surname is correct and first name(s) are given wrongly, it is to be considered incorrect**
- **No half points** for any question, no negative marking
- For any further clarifications, please email expectovenkat@gmail.com or call Venkat on +91 8050588973

1	A Mad Magazine strip from August 1970 has a character named Prissy Percy being tortured by a bunch of sporty American boys. He is revealed to be X in the final panel. Art historian Valerie Hedquist calls this the _____'s first public outing. Which iconic character/ painting are we referring to?	Gainsborough's Blue Boy
2	The sky and the cloak worn by Mary Magdalene in Pieter van der Werff's 1709 work The Entombment of Christ have attracted the curiosity of those interested in art history for a long time. Why?	First known use of Prussian blue
3	Jose Delarra created this memorial to X in the city of Santa Clara, the site of his most significant military victory. When his body was exhumed in 1997, it was buried at this memorial, and then a giant statue of X, with an asthma inhaler in his pocket, while he points to South America was then erected at this site. Name X.	Che Guevara / Che
4	The original ingredients were wet and dry straw but nowadays, to ensure there is no ambiguity in the display, two distinct combinations are used. One contains anthracene, sulphur and potassium perchlorate, while the other contains potassium chlorate, lactose and Greek pitch. What display , seen thrice so far in this century?	Black and White smoke from papal elections
5	Which celebrity's image did Andy Warhol use the most in his artwork?	Elizabeth Taylor
6	English artist Constance Fox Talbot is credited as the first woman to do what?	Take a photograph
7	The designs on the Bayeux Tapestry are _____ rather than in a tapestry weave and as such, do not actually meet the specific definitions of a tapestry. Despite this, the piece has always been referred to as a tapestry until recent years when another name has gained ground among certain art historians. Either fill in the blank or give the alternative name.	Embroidered/ Bayeux Embroidery
8	A painting of ___X___, an artist himself, by William Dargie won the Archibald Prize in 1956, the first painting of an Aboriginal person to win the prize. Sixty-four years later, his great grandson became the first Indigenous artist to win the prize for his work "Stand strong for who you are". What is their shared surname?	Namatjira
9	_____, forever ten-years-old, hedgehog haired, with raggedy cloths and bare feet, began standing with his back to the readers since 1973, after the Yom Kippur war. Created by the cartoonist Naji al-Ali in 1969, the boy takes his name from a bitter plant that grows in the Middle East that has deep roots and grows back even when weeded out. ID this symbol of Palestinian struggle.	Handala
10	This block-printing technique is practiced in _____-pur of India's Kutch district as well as in Sindh, Pakistan. As to its name, one story goes that a king was so fond of his uniquely printed bedspread that he told his maid not to change the sheets - "aaj ke din rak." Some believe the name to be a borrowing of the Arabic word for blue due to the popular use of indigo in the process. What textile print?	Ajrak / Ajrakh
11	Images used in this diptych was taken from the promotional photographs for the film Niagara (1953). A silk-screen process was then used to create the painting which consists of 50 images: 25 on the left in colour and 25 on the right in black and white. ID the painting , which was completed weeks after its subject's death in August 1962.	Marylin Diptych
12	English painter Vanessa Bell's home on Gordon Square, London was often the meeting spot for a radical bunch of intellectuals and writers. While not as famous as her younger sister, you may have spotted her designs on the book jackets of a publishing house begun by said sister and her husband. Name the publishing house.	Hogarth Press
13	The artist Cy Gavin was apparently inspired by this spring perennial blooming outside his New York studio and the myth surrounding its scientific name. "I became interested in that moment of self-recognition and appreciation when _____ sees his reflection for the first time in the pool of water." What was the result of Gavin's inspiration?	Carpet at Met Gala

14	This painting technique comes from the Italian meaning “to evaporate” and “smoke”, named so because of how it blends one tone into another so it leaves no sign of any brush strokes. What technique? OR give me its most famous practitioner.	Sfumato; Leonardo Da Vinci
15	“At an oil painting Phil Resch halted, gazed intently. The painting showed a hairless, oppressed creature with a head like an inverted pear, its hands clapped in horror to its ears, its mouth open” ID the painting OR the sci-fi classic.	Scream; Do Andriods Dream of Electric Sheep
16	During the early 20th century, the French colonisation of Sub-Saharan Africa exposed artworks from those regions to Europe. In 1907, when he was viewing one of them at Palais du Trocadéro he apparently experienced a ‘revelation’ which is argued to have inspired his signature style. Who?	Pablo Picasso
17	Botanical patterns like 'Rose' and 'Willow' and "Strawberry thief' created by this British designer are seen everywhere these days- from mobile phone cases to sports shoes to movies and TV shows from the 20th and 21st centuries. Name this 19th century visionary who championed hand craftsmanship during a time in British history when industrial mass-production was at its peak.	William Morris
18	Starting in the mid-1830s and continuing for more than 20 years, Hiroshige designed 600 to 1000 uchiwa, far more than any other artist. Since summer pleasure-seekers took the refreshing evening air in these locations, Hiroshige particularly featured bodies of gently flowing water in his uchiwa designs. As they were held close to the heart, Hiroshige's uchiwa prints may have instilled a feeling of personal connection with him. What is an uchiwa?	A hand-held fan (It is a rigid fan, not a folding fan)
19	In the 1810s, Hokusai produced 'picture manuals', commercially printed drawing manuals full of pictures to copy. The most famous of these, was Hokusai _____ in 15 volumes. The preface to volume one indicates that Hokusai himself suggested this title, a still unusual use of the word _____, which can be translated as 'brush running away with itself'. Fill in both blanks with the same word.	Manga
20	The writing on the Rosetta Stone is a decree about the king Ptolemy V. The decree is bilingual and is inscribed in three scripts. Ancient Greek and Egyptian hieroglyphs were two of the scripts used. Name the third script- it was the cursive Egyptian script used for daily purposes, meaning 'language of the people'.	Demotic (Also accept shek shat)
21	<i>The town does not exist / except where one black-haired tree slips up like a drowned woman into the hot sky.</i> <i>The town is silent... Even the moon bulges in its orange irons...</i> These lines, from an ekphrastic poem by Anne Sexton, are about which artwork?	The <i>Starry Night</i> by Vincent van Gogh
22	Monet's <i>Charing Cross Bridge</i> , until its cleaning in 2024, captured the smoggy yellow haze over the Thames with the shadowy Houses of Parliament in the backdrop. However, it turned out that some of that cloudiness was not Claude's handiwork—it came, in part, from the lingering smoke of its previous owner's cigars. Who was the owner , an artist in his own right?	Winston Churchill
23	In 2024, the Shanghai Museum hosted a special ten-night series dubbed “Meowseum Nights,” where visitors were allowed to bring their cats to a particular exhibit. The exhibit was cat-proofed, ensuring artifacts were behind glass. What was the theme of the exhibit?	Ancient Egypt (It was called On Top of the Pyramid: The Civilization of Ancient Egypt)
24	After being blacklisted in a nearly decade-long feud, artist Stuart Semple legally changed his name in 2024 to that of his rival, in a cheeky protest to get his hands on a 2014 product developed by Surrey NanoSystems. What name did he adopt? Full name required.	Anish Kapoor
25	In which painting does the word <i>parsin</i> , from the Hebrew " <i>Mene, mene, tekel, parsin</i> ," appear misspelled as <i>u-pharsin</i> , due to a scribal error in the <i>Bible</i> edition the artist got from his friend when he was living in the Jewish Quarter of Amsterdam?	<i>Belshazzar's Feast</i> by Rembrandt

1	This fish variety takes its name from the Latin for spotted, and in combination with the word holy is used as a minced oath in English that may also refer to the fact that it was sold on Sundays to ensure quick consumption before the flesh rotted. ID.	Mackerel
2	The street origins of this Japanese item are visible in the name--it means branch, and was cooked this way to allow people to pick edible matter off while standing or walking. Give us a 7-letter word.	Edamame
3	Originally a Greek dessert, this flatbread served with bay leaves and honey is better known to us today because the name has travelled as a sight metaphor into the language of maternity and medical sciences. What 8-letter word?	Placenta
4	LG scored a win in the 1980s by marketing the GR-063 as a top-loader secondary kitchen appliance to Korean households. The basic Western design was not conducive for a certain purpose and hence the redesign. This has now developed in several ways, with recent models stressing their receptivity to specific kinds of bacteria. What did LG rejig/what did they create thus?	Refrigerator/ Kimchi refrigerator
5	There are about 115 known <i>nopales</i> species native to Mexico, most of them edible. The pads can be eaten raw or cooked, used in marmalades, soups, stews, salad, tacos and more. What is the commonly used name for them in English?	Prickly Pear Cactus
6	A unique egg preparation found in Japan involves slow cooking the egg within its shell in the water of a hot spring for about 30-40 minutes. It shares its name with the Japanese term for 'hot spring'. What is it called?	Onsen Egg
7	In the UK, it is used for a baked bar made with rolled oats, butter, golden syrup, and brown sugar. In the US it is often used to refer to a pancake. What term?	Flapjack
8	Which alcoholic beverage shares the root of its name with a Sanskrit word for 'honey'?	Mead
9	Unlike its American counterpart, this red-capped Japanese condiment brand is made solely of egg-yolks with a blend of vinegar varieties, a pinch of salt, and MSG. The brand borrows its name and logo from the American cartoonist Rose O'Neil's adorable cherub-like creation for <i>Ladies' Home Journal</i> . Name the Japanese brand.	Kewpie Mayo
10	In 2000, Unilever bought this American ice cream company while allowing them the autonomy of championing social causes. This understanding soured in 2021 when the company announced that it would stop selling products in Israel's illegal settlements in occupied Palestinian territories. In March this year, the company CEO Dave Stever was removed from his position over their political activism. ID the company , originally meant to be a bagel-making venture.	Ben & Jerry's
11	While X is a type of Y, not every type of Y is X. To be considered as X, the Y must come specifically from a fish of the Acipenseridae family known as sturgeon and undergo a process of salt-curing. Y on the other hand is simply ripe and unfertilized and can be collected from any marine animal. What are X and Y?	X - Caviar, Y - Fish Roe / Roe
12	_____ are named so because of their calabash-like appearance; traditionally made with fruits of the Chinese hawthorn coated in malt sugar on a Bamboo skewer. Sometimes the pit and seeds of the hawthorn were pulled out and the fruit filled with sweet red bean paste before the skewering and dipping. FITB.	Tanghulu
13	A dish known as Suodiu (Suck and discard) has been making rounds in Chinese Tiktok. This traditional dish dates back hundreds of years when boatmen from Yangtze River were forced to turn to natural minerals when they ran out of vegetables and meat. What's the main ingredient of Suodiu?	Pebbles/Stones/Rocks

14	This group of Baleen whales got their name from the fact that they were big, slow, floated up when killed, and even swam towards boats out of curiosity. What tragically “appropriate” name?	The Right Whales
15	This sweet dish was featured in Ms Beeton’s Book of Household Management as _____ jam pudding. The blanks fit a cute rhyme-y name, but it's also known by other, less appetising names like ‘shirt sleeve pudding’ because it was steamed and served often in old shirt sleeves, which also led to morbid nicknames like ‘dead man’s arm’ and ‘dead man’s leg’. FITB.	Roly Poly
16	What derogatory term did American sailors coin to refer to British sailors because they carried citrus juice on board to avoid scurvy?	Limey
17	The FAO’s One Country One Priority Product initiative helps countries identify the products that have the most market potential and provides support in maximising it. For Bangladesh, the choice is their national fruit; even though it is the world’s second-largest producer of the fruit after India, much of its potential remained untapped. Which ‘multiple’ fruit that gets its english name from an Indian language?	Jackfruit (Jack is from the malayalam word ‘chakka’)
18	As an embroidery stitch it means a series of single, or detached, chain stitches formed around a center point. It also describes an easy-to-make cake that is essentially a hot milk sponge cake that is topped with a broiled frosting. What two-word rhyming term?	Lazy Daisy
19	Garlic _____ are generally sold by the bunch and make a stellar addition to pesto, soups, stir-fries, and more. They are stalks that extend from the base of hardneck garlic plants; they are related to but are different from green garlic. Fill in the blank with the plural of a noun, which when prefixed with other nouns describes specified types of scenery.	Scape(s)
20	In 2019, the Russian government claimed this vivid soup was one of their most famous and beloved dishes. One Ukrainian response read: “You stole the Crimea and now you try to steal this!” In 2020, Ukraine’s government lobbied the Michelin restaurant guide to remove a reference to this soup from its first-ever writeup of Moscow’s restaurant scene. Name this dish that stars a root vegetable- a consonant soup with just one vowel in it?	Borscht (or Borsch)
21	The MTR restaurant near Lalbagh botanical garden in Bangalore started serving its signature dessert "Chandrahara" in the 1950s. Made from a pastry dough, the deep-fried pillowy sweet that is served with a khoa-based sauce, got its current name from a 1954 movie. Before that it was called '_____ sweet'. Fill in the blank with the demonym of a European country , that had a connection with the patron of the nearby garden in the 18th century.	FRENCH
22	Which invention that helped liberate many women from spending two-three hours on a daily chore, came about when Yoshitada Minami tried to recreate the traditional process described in the proverb " <i>hajime choro choro, naka pappa, akago ga naitemo futa toruna</i> ", meaning "start with a low flame, raise the heat in the middle, and never lift the lid even if the baby cries"?	Automatic electric rice cooker
23	Which Arab dessert is referenced as a pun in the name of the viral FIX chocolate bar Can't Get _____ of It? The chocolate made with filo pastry, pistachio, and tahini, is now widely known as "Dubai chocolate".	Knafeh
24	King Pomare V of Tahiti died a week after Gauguin’s arrival there. Pomare had drunk himself to death just like his great grandfather, grandfather and father before him had done. His favourite drink had a mix of rum, whiskey, brandy, and importantly liqueur. He was buried in a tomb topped with a large replica of a distinctively shaped bottle of which French brand?	Bénédictine
25	The 2001 book <i>The Botany of Desire</i> by Michael Pollan explores how human desires shape the cultivation of plants. Each of its four parts pairs a plant with a desire: the _____ with sweetness, the _____ with beauty, _____ with intoxication, and the _____ with control. Name any of the four.	Apple; Tulip; Cannabis; Potato

1	This mixed-race actor's first big screen moment was as a dog enthusiast in Guy Ritchie's <i>Snatch</i> , which eventually led to roles in <i>Gangs of New York</i> and a chance to play Al Capone in <i>Boardwalk Empire</i> . Identify the actor , most recently seen as a gutted father in a 2025 TV show.	Stephen Graham
2	South Brooklyn is three neighbourhoods: Sheepshead Bay, Coney Island and X, which recently got namechecked in an acceptance speech. Name this location or the film which looked at an immigrant community that has made its home here.	Brighton Beach Or Anora
3	The hero of Dashiell Hammett's <i>Red Harvest</i> speaks the words 'This damned burg's getting me. If I don't get away soon I'll be going blood-simple like the natives. Whose cinematic debut takes its title from these lines?	Coen Brothers
4	Whose cinematic swansong takes its at-home title from the question in Genzaburo Yoshino's 1937 novel about a young boy discovering the world? Name either director or this title.	Hayao Miyazaki/How Do You Live
5	Taylor Sheridan originally wrote which series as a film, pitching it as "The Godfather in Montana"?	Yellowstone
6	Set to be released in November, 2025, Yorgos Lanthimos' English-language remake of the 2003 Korean science fiction comedy <i>Save the Green Planet!</i> is named after an ancient Mediterranean ritual based on the belief that bees were spontaneously generated from a cow's carcass. What is the name?	Bugonia
7	One of the writers noted that the 2016 episode of "Who Do You Think You Are?", where <i>EastEnders</i> actor Danny Dyer discovered he was related to Edward III of England, inspired the idea for the protagonist of their show. Which show?	Ghosts
8	Which fictional Saturday Night Live character lends her name to slang phrase used to describe a pessimistic person who frequently adds bad news and negative feelings to a gathering, ultimately dampening the mood?	Debbie Downer
9	<i>The Dot and the Line: A Romance in Lower Mathematics</i> is a 1965 animated short-film about a line that tries to woo a dot that he is hopelessly in love with. The moral presented on screen at the end of the film is a pun on phrase that has its origins in politics - To the _____ belongs the _____. What punning moral?	To the vector belongs the spoils
10	The actor is regularly described in media as an "honorary Irishwoman." It began with a bit she did in an interview with Letterboxd, where she joked about having lived in Ireland for four months to prepare for her role as "Jenny the Donkey" in <i>The Banshees of Inisherin</i> . Which actor , who in her acceptance speech at the Critics Choice Awards (2024) thanked family in "Boston, Barbados, Nigeria, and Ireland."	Ayo Edebiri
11	While the yellow sneakers with black stripes sported by Uma Thurman in <i>Kill Bill</i> are _____ Taichi, the most popular model is the Mexico 66, released two years before 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. Bruce Lee too is credited with popularising this shoe brand. The second half of the brand name is because the stripes on these sneakers resemble those on a large cat. ID the Japanese brand.	Onitsuka Tiger
12	Howard Dietz chose the company's mascot as homage to his alma mater Columbia University. Slats, Jackie, Bill, Telly, Coffee, Tanner, George, and Leo are some who have graced the role of the mascot. Unlike the rest, Slats was the sole inaudible one, only looking around in the logo. What is being described here?	MGM Mascot / Leo the Lion (MGM)
13	Lars Von Trier wrote a script while hospitalised for clinical depression, the result was 'Anti Christ', which shocked and awed people at its premier at Cannes, 2009. Two versions then became available at the Cannes film market, one with cuts and one without, appropriately nicknamed _____ and _____ versions. FITB.	Catholic; Protestant

14	In April 2025, this actor's new YouTube channel posted a BTS video of him auditioning for a role in a film he produced. The video was met with relief and gratitude for the actor not taking up the role as he didn't really come off as a village cop. Which film are we talking about?	Laapata Ladies
15	Despite poor reviews by critics, this movie emerged as the highest Tamil grosser of 2025. It is the second movie in this actor's career to have an English title — this one supposedly pays homage to a 1966 Italian classic. ID.	Good Bad Ugly - GBU
16	When reading a column in Spy magazine, the title "_____ " caught this director's eye. When his screenwriting partner was asked what his next film was about, he said, "I guess it's about a bunch of criminals who meet in a police line up". Origin story of which film?	The Usual Suspects
17	In April 2025 The Economist published a list of six of the best films about financial turmoil. Of the six, only one was from the 20th century- a 1940 film about a family who head to California to make a better life when they are kicked off their land in Oklahoma during the Great Depression. "If the novel is a masterpiece, the film is better". Name the film starring Henry Ford.	The Grapes of Wrath
18	Homer Simpson first chomped down this blush pink frosted confectionary snack in 1989. It became a cultural icon reproduced on T-shirts and other merchandise; at last in 2018 Krispy Kreme introduced the edible version. What is the punny name of the snack- it has six letters, with a punctuation mark after the first.	D'OHNUT (Accept only this answer)
19	In August 2024 Timeout published their list of the 100 best Bollywood films. In the top ten, only two films are from post-liberalisation India. One of these two is ranked 4th best; name this film that was quoted from/ mentioned by two consecutive US presidents when they visited India?	Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge or DDLJ (Obama quoted from it , Trump mentioned its name)
20	Starting in 1993, this TV show that ran for 11 seasons broke the mold in that the female lead was rooted in science, while the male lead was not. As per a 2018 survey by the Geena Davis Institute of Gender in Media, the show's impact has been so big that the rise in women in science is often called 'The _____ Effect'. Fill in the blank with the surname of the female lead.	SCULLY (From Dana Scully of the X Files)
21	In his book about the making of a movie, author Mark Seal writes, " <i>It was the essence of everything... the families, and the food, always the food, and the extremes to which men had to go to put that food on the table. It was about the X, yes, but it was more about the Y. It was about the statue in the distance...</i> " Which line from the movie is he referring to, which is also the title of the book?	Leave the gun, take the cannoli. (<i>Leave the Gun, Take the Cannoli: The Epic Story of the Making of The Godfather</i>)
22	Which structure , home to "South Asian merchants, African entrepreneurs, Indian workers, asylum seekers, and penurious travelers from across the globe", is the subject of Gordon Mathews' book <i>Ghetto at the Center of the World?</i> It was featured prominently and was referred to in the title of a 1994 movie.	Chungking Mansions
23	<i>Anora</i> became the fourth film to win both the Oscar for Best Picture and the Palme d'Or at Cannes. The one before this was when <i>Parasite</i> won. Name any of the other two.	The Lost Weekend (1945), Marty (1955)
24	<i>Inside No. 9</i> is a British black comedy anthology TV show written and created by Steve Pemberton and Reece Shearsmith. All the 55 episodes are linked only by a setting related to the number 9 in some way. Which movie does the title refer to, in which the main actions take place at Number 9 Thornton Square?	Gaslight (1944)
25	Who was one half of the comic duo Two Beats? The other went on to be known as Beat Kiyoshi.	Takeshi Kitano / Beat Takeshi

1	In 1975, he wrote an appreciation of Gustave Flaubert's technique titled <i>The Perpetual Orgy</i> . He had also borrowed Flaubert's idea of the novelist as a god-killer in a study of Gabriel Garcia Marquez titled <i>The History of a Deicide</i> . Name this Nobel laureate.	Mario Vargas Llosa
2	This heavy-set pipesmoking crime-solver who appears in more than 70 books has been played on screen by Pierre Renoir, Charles Laughton, Albert Prejean and Gerard Depardieu. Name either the character or the creator.	Inspector Maigret / Georges Simenon
3	Sweden gives out a 5 million krona award for children's literature annually that is named after a celebrated writer from that country. Just name this writer.	Astrid Lindgren
4	He wrote a good part of the epic that made his reputation while serving as a Superintendent for the Dead and Missing at Macau in the 1560s. Name him or the work.	Camões /The Lusiads
5	This poetic form that relies on strategic repetition has a name that comes from its original rural themes. It is also the nickname given to the fictional character Oxana Vorontsova. What is this 10-letter word?	Villanelle
6	Basketball legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar has written three novels with Anna Waterhouse about a secondary character that was created by another author. Talking about it, he said, "I wanted him to be the opposite of what's implied about him in the stories, that he's a brilliant but bloated, officious bureaucrat. Remember, it's X who describes him and X is not always a reliable source." Which secondary character?	Mycroft Holmes
7	Suzi Ronson, a 21-year-old hairdresser at a salon in Beckenham, London, was introduced by her customer – Mrs Jones – to her "artistic" son's wife, and through her to the "artistic" son in 1971. The iconic haircut she gave him propelled her into his world, and her 2024 memoir, <i>Me and Mr Jones</i> , talks about all that happened after. Who was Mr Jones?	David Bowie
8	<i>Travels with Charley: In Search of America</i> is a 1962 travelogue written by American author John Steinbeck. It depicts a 1960 road trip around the United States made by Steinbeck, in the company of his standard poodle Charley, in a specially made camper he named after Don Quixote's horse. What was the horse's name?	Rocinante
9	<i>The Five Books of the Lives and Deeds of X and Pantagruel</i> is a pentalogy of novels written by François Rabelais about the adventures of two giants, X and his son. What word in English comes from X's name?	Gargantuan (from Gargantua)
10	A WWI coinage, this word became popular through a children's book titled _____: <i>A Royal Air Force Story</i> by X. A small creature blamed for mechanical issues in an aircraft, its name is a blend of the word "goblin" and the name of a popular beer manufacturer that catered to the Royal Air Force. Name the creature and ID X.	Gremlin , Roald Dahl
11	<i>The Kite-Eating Tree</i> is a tree from a fictional universe. According to the creator, it was one of the 12 devices that gave the narratives a "steadiness, simplicity, universal appeal." Some other devices include Schoreder's piano, _____'s psychiatry booth, _____'s doghouse, and the unkicked football among others. ID the creation (no need to fill in the blanks).	Peanuts Comic Strip
12	The critic Andrea Long Chu recently described this poet-writer as the "caricature of a diasporic poet" in her review of his latest novel, <i>The Emperor of Gladness</i> . Name the poet , whose mixed-Vietnamese mother renamed him _____ after an incident with a customer who corrected her when she pronounced "beach" as "bitch" and suggested she use another word in its place.	Ocean Vuong
13	Speaking of _____, Fran Lebowitz said, "She was immensely rich. The main thing that makes her a great writer is talent. But the privileges of her wealth is why we have this book, which is riveting." Which writer , nicknamed Pussy Jones by her family and praised for her critique of New York aristocrats from within, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1921.	Edith Wharton

14	In June, 1953 this Caribbean born literary giant graduated second in class from Oxford to which he said, "A bloody, damned, second", his only consolation was that the then professor of English language and literatures had called his Anglo-Saxon paper 'the best in the University'. Who? He went on to win, "that Swedish prize", as he put it, about fifty years later.	V S Naipaul
15	This Kannada playwright and all-round funny guy started off the literary journey of K V Iyer when he said, "Oh my! You are only into body-building, what about your brain?", after finding out K V had not read Oscar Wilde. Who?	T P Kailasam
16	In a 2025 article by Homegrown, Pari Pradhan, looks at the curious phenomenon of _____ as a cultural motif in diasporic writers from South Asia. Pointing out that "Sweet juice and sticky fingers in South Asian writing have become as cliched as roses are red, violets are blue". FITB.	Mangoes
17	At age eight, she was enrolled in school on the condition that she learn to read and write in six months. She exceeded expectations by starting to write only after a few days of schooling. Which writer who created history by achieving a first in 2025?	Banu Mushtaq
18	Written during the 19th century BCE, with a huge legacy through the ages, The Tale of Sinuhe is about Egyptian royal official Sinuhe, who while on an expedition to Libya, hears of the pharaoh's death and flees to Syria. He prospers there, raising a family, but ultimately wishes to return to Egypt. Name the author of the most notable version in our time- a 1942 short story, that suggests Sinuhe yearned to return home because of romantic love.	Naguib Mahfouz
19	In Shakespeare's The Tempest, Prospero says this of Caliban: "A devil, a born devil on whose <WORD1>/ <WORD2> can never stick...". In the right order fill in WORD1 and WORD2 that are the two sides of a long-standing debate in biology and society, popularised by Francis Galton.	Nature Nurture (Order is important)/ NO PART POINTS
20	"It is an unintentionally ludicrous book, full of preposterous melodramatic incidents; it is also deeply moving and essentially true; it is hard to say which quality outweighs the other." According to George Orwell, which book published in two volumes in 1852 , "is the supreme example of the 'good bad' book"?	Uncle Tom's Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly
21	1848- The Haunted Man and the Ghost's Bargain. 1846-The Battle of Life. A Love Story. 1845- The Cricket on the Hearth. A Fairy Tale of Home. 1844- The Chimes: A Goblin Story of Some Bells that Rang an Old Year Out and a New Year In. What is the title for 1843?	A Christmas Carol. (Dickens wrote 5 Christmans books)
22	Whose upcoming memoir , with its title taken from a line in the Beatles' song <i>Let It Be</i> , reflects the writer's complex and emotionally fraught relationship with her mom, whom she "ran from at 18," and whose death in 2022 left her "heart-smashed"?	Arundhati Roy (Mother Mary Comes to Me)
23	Which theory with a 19-letter (4-15) hyphenated name links these prominent people: Henry James, Ralph Waldo Emerson, John Galsworthy, Benjamin Disraeli, Mark Twain, Walt Whitman, Charles Dickens, Charlie Chaplin, Orson Welles, Sigmund Freud, Daphne du Maurier, and Derek Jacobi among others?	Anti-Stratfordianism (accept Shakespeare authorship question)
24	Who gave a lecture in Association Hall Philadelphia on the 15th death anniversary of X, whom he regarded as "the commonest average of life" and "the greatest, best, most characteristic, artistic, moral personality" in American life?	Walt Whitman (X is Lincoln)
25	The 2018 movie <i>Iruvudellava Bittu</i> , the 2023 two-parter <i>Sapta Saagaradaache Ello</i> , and the yet-to-be-released <i>Yaava Mohana Murali Kareyitu</i> all take their titles from the lines of a poem by which poet of the Navya movement?	Gopalakrishna Adiga