

LITERATURE TRIVIA QUESTIONS V



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- 1> In the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam, which of these things doesn't go with a book of verses when you're sitting under a bough?
- 2> Who is the only playwright (as of 2006) to win the Tony (for The Last Night of Ballyhoo), as well as the Oscar and the Pulitzer Prize (both for Driving Miss Daisy)?
- 3> In the William Styron title, what must Sophie Zawistowska do?
- 4> What author of "Death of a Salesman" directed productions of that play in Sweden and China?
- 5> For adapting "Pygmalion", who is the only Nobel literature laureate also to win an Academy Award?
- 6> Wide Sargasso Sea tells the story of Creole heiress Antoinette "Bertha" Cosway, the madwoman in the attic in what Charlotte Bronte book?
- 7> What do you win if you're picked in the Shirley Jackson story "The Lottery"?
- 8> Who wrote such novels as "Zabibah and the King" and "The Impregnable Fortress"?
- 9> Talk about plans going gang aft alee! In what John Steinbeck novel does a "mentally challenged" farm worker kill the boss's daughter-in-law before being killed himself by his best friend?
- 10> What SF author is incorrectly said to be the only author to have published books in all ten categories of the Dewey Decimal System?
- 11> Hedwig the Angry Inch was a cult movie. Hedwig the Owl was whose pet?
- 12> In Wonderland, what soup ingredient tells Alice that it studies "the different branches of Arithmetic--Ambition, Distraction, Uglification, and Derision"?

13> His first book was a smash hit, but whose unpublished second book argued for tossing over the South Tyrol Germans to cement an alliance with Italy?

14> Plagued by hallucinogenic visions, what SF writer wrote "A Scanner Darkly" (which became a semi-animated film), "Minority Report" (which became a Tom Cruise movie), "We Can Remember It For You Wholesale" (on which Total Recall was based) and "Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?" (aka Blade Runner)?

15> What friend of F Scott Fitzgerald's, whose last book was also about Hollywood, happened to die the day after Fitzgerald did, just before Christmas 1940, possibly because he was so grief-stricken he ran a stop sign?

Answers:

1> A football game on the tube - A rubaiyat is a four-line poem and a khayyam is a tentmaker, although Omar Khayyam was a mathematician and astronomer.

2> Alfred Uhry - He based Driving Miss Daisy on his own Jewish grandmother and her black chauffeur.

3> Choose - The novel is Sophie's Choice, later a movie with Meryl Streep.

4> Arthur Miller - He was also a research scholar at the University of Goteborg in Sweden

5> George Bernard Shaw - I was sure that it was Megan Fox. Oh well.

6> Jane Eyre - Published in 1966, the book was written by Jean Rhys, from Dominica, and is a leading example of post-colonial literature.

7> You are stoned to death - Tessie Hutchinson "wins" in the story. When it was published in a 1948 New Yorker, people cancelled their subscriptions.

8> Saddam Hussein - Zababa and the King is a thinly veiled allegorical romance about the Gulf War. The Iraqi press loved it, even though it was published under a different name.

9> Of Mice and Men - Lennie kills George before a mob can, out of concern for him.

10> Isaac Asimov - He's not in the 100s, which is philosophy, although he does have a video here - DDS 144 is Humanism. Making Bigger Circles.

11> Harry Potter - It was a snowy owl, in fact.

12> The Mock Turtle - The curriculum also includes 'Reeling and Writhing, of course, to begin with'.

13> Adolf Hitler - Italy wanted the German-speaking area from Austria.

14> Philip K Dick - There is also 'The Golden Man' (aka Next) and 'Adjustment Team' (aka The Adjustment Bureau).

15> Nathanael West - Fitzgerald left unfinished The Last Tycoon, based on his experiences as a Hollywood screenwriter. West's Hollywood book was The Day of the Locust.