**2018 HIPHOP (Here I’ve a Pretty Hip-Hop Oriented Packet)**

Questions written by Tomás Aguilar-Fraga

Thanks to my parents and Nicholas (who needs to come to more tournaments) for editing this

This was originally written for an APUSH project, so while all the questions are about topics at least adjacent to hip-hop, some of them are fairly academic, so expect that, I guess

Also, I’ve labelled it with a year, but don’t expect another anytime soon unless I’m REALLY bored this summer

**Tossups**

1. **A song with this title that features Raekwon comments on the apparent paradox of a truck with Confederate flags on it playing a song by Beanie Siegel; that song is by Yelawolf. Another song with this title by R. Kelly was supposed to feature a verse by 2Pac before his untimely death and starts with a shout out to “ghetto America.” A different song with this title has a music video featuring the artist as (\*)** Forrest Gump interspersed with shots of him being bad at basketball; that song speaks of “a rabbit in a hat with a bat and a six four Impala.” A track with this title was sampled for a soundtrack song where the artist starts with a really bad impersonation of a record scratch; that song is “Wild Wild West” by Will Smith. For ten points, name this common song title of tracks by people such as Skee-Lo and Stevie Wonder that often speak of desire.

ANSWER: “**I Wish**”

2. **Excepting the escape tone of C, the first moments of this track follow the tonic chord of E minor. Picture Perfect, who directed the music video for this track, has pointed out that, in an unused shot, a cheetah borrowed from an Emirati sultan almost attacked the artist, but calmed down after eating six pounds of deer meat. This track’s artist uses a flow that, according to a New York Times critic, “adds muscle and sass” to the one used on** **(\*)** “No Flockin’” and mentions her past as a stripper, which enabled her to achieve financial independence and escape an abusive relationship. In this second ever track by a solo female rap artist to reach number one on Billboard’s Hot 100, the artist raps about her signature style, mentioning that “might just chill in some BAPE,” and pointing out her Louboutins, which she refers to as her “bloody shoes.” For ten points, name this 2017 banger by Cardi B.

ANSWER: “**Bodak Yellow**”

3. **One of the first instances of this occurs in the song “Small Time Hustlers” when the Dismasters accuse their subject’s so-called posse of “plotting and scheming to get them some Scotty.” Tommy Wright III describes his son coming “inside my place” in his song “Gangsta Forever” in this style while Lord Infamous describes, “sippin’ on six murdered ministers” on the track “Sleep” in this manner. With roots in African** **(\*)** rhythms, this style of rapping has often been used to emphasize emotion, such as in “All We Got” when Chance the Rapper asserts, “It was a dream, you could not mess with the Beam.” A track that reinvigorated this style of rapping was remixed by Drake, to which he added lyrics such as “Born in Toronto but sometimes I feel like Atlanta adopted us” to that brand-oriented song. For ten points, name this flow associated in recent times with the song “Versace” and often used by Migos, in which one beat is divided into three notes instead of the usual two or four.

ANSWER: **triplet flow** (accept just “triplet” after “flow” is mentioned, accept **Migos flow** or **Versace flow** before mention)

4. **Sir Jinx, a producer, was able to access a certain part of L.A. the second day of this event because of a conveniently timed truce between the Bloods and the Crips a day before this event. Songs that came out of this event included the star-studded “Get the Fist,” which featured rappers such as B-Real and MC Eiht, and “The Day the Niggaz Took Over.” That track starts out with audio of a man from the Matthew McDaniel documentary *Birth of a Nation* (\*)** *4x29x92* about this event, and in that audio an enraged Angelino states that if the person he is addressing is not down with Africans in the United States or South Africa, he needs to step aside. Korean businesses were targeted during this event, as protestors claimed they mistreated both Latino and African-American customers in their stores. For ten points, name this event instigated by a not guilty verdict in a trial concerning the beating of a man by the Daryl-Gates-led LAPD.

ANSWER: **Rodney King Riots** (Accept equivalents that mention **Rodney King** and indicate violent protesting in some form)

5. **Chingy proclaimed his affiliation with this movement on the album *Chapter 2 of Chingy,* on which he chastises a nonspecific acquaintance for being “in the kitchen, cookin' up, trynna bake a pie.” In a video entitled “Purple Reign,” practicing members of this apolitical group, which believes that slavery selectively targeted them, speak of wearing the same colour that mocked their leader. In the music video for Doug E. Fresh’s 1988 single “Keep Risin’ To The Top, a member of this movement is shouted out, and (\*)** Kodak Black declared his affiliation with this group after a release from prison in identical posts on Instagram and Twitter in which he declared “Feeling Like I'm Kunta Kentae [*sic*] Cause We Going Through Slavery Still.” Although not a member of this group, Kendrick Lamar spoke about them on his song “YAH.” and incorporated into it a recording of his brother, a member of this movement, discussing Deuteronomy 28, a major text of this movement. For ten points, name this movement that believes African-Americans and other minorities are the true descendants of a Biblically enslaved group.

ANSWER: **Black Hebrew Israelites** (Accept **Black Jews**, **Black Hebrews**, or **Black Israelites**, prompt on “BHI”, do not accept or prompt on “Jews” or answers that don’t specifically mention the movement as black)

6. **While Blondie technically had the first song that involved rapping to run on the channel, this group was the first act dedicated solely to hip-hop to appear on MTV. This group originally penned the song “Slow and Low,” but then let the Beastie Boys have it for *Licensed to Ill*, and one of their members was ordained Reverend Priest of Zoe Ministries in 1994. This only rap act to perform at Live Aid spoke about the rising poverty in Queens on their song “Hard Times,” while one member espoused the importance of education by rapping about his attendance of (\*)** St. John's University and how after high school, he went straight to college. One of this group’s members was shot dead near his studio in Jamaica, Queens, and in one of their videos, Penn and Teller first scam a woman out of her chain and then pretend to be this group in Japan. For ten points, name this group, inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2009 and who collaborated with Aerosmith on a reworking of their song “Walk This Way.”

ANSWER: **Run D.M.C**

7. **Q-Tip described wanting to emulate this person’s voice, posting on Twitter upon her death “I tried to copy [this person’s] fluid voice early on but failed miserably. But because of [this person] I found my own.” Kanye commented on this person’s beauty in “Get By,” describing “Nina Simone’s piano flow,” which he sampled in that song, as “like Michelangelo painted a portrait of [this person].” This woman, who spent her childhood in Stamps, Arkansas, inspired the song (\*)** “Still I Rise” by Nicki Minaj, although this person’s work with that title was about the struggles of black women in general. This woman, who once made Tupac cry by reminding him of how his ancestors had to “stand on auction blocks” for him to be around, read one of her poems on the beginning of Common’s album *The Dreamer, The Believer* and acted as a mentor character on Kendrick Lamar’s *Good Kid, M.A.A.D. City*. For ten points, name this author, whose own works include the collection *Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'fore I Die*, the poem “On the Pulse of Morning,” and the autobiographical book *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.

ANSWER: Maya **Angelou** (Accept Marguerite Annie **Johnson**)

8. **This figure had a surprisingly poignant response when addressing relationship rumours surrounding an appearance in the music video “Everything 1K”, commenting on the fact that female artists are always accused of having sex with males in order to obtain their level of success. This figure raps, “your record deal worth 11 bucks” in a remix of a Tea Grizzley song and about having cribs in “Tallahassee and Calabasas” and owning a “Bentley truck [and a] Panamera” on the track “Both of ‘Em.” This (\*)** Florida figure claimed that she was “too good for Harvard,” and although her record deal with Atlantic sparked outrage, some pointed out that other rappers had set the bar too low, allowing someone like her to become successful. This figure paid off her mother Barbara’s $65,000 mortgage on Christmas in 2017, perhaps to make up for the fact that this figure had stolen her mother’s car and purse. For ten points, name this controversial figure that first reached fame with a quote threatening an audience member on *Dr. Phil*.

ANSWER: **Bhad Bhabie** (Accet Danielle **Bregoli** or descriptive answers that mention the phrase “**cash me ousside**, how bout dah?”)

9. **This group, whose albums average an 87.6% on Metacritic, has a name inspired by the LL Cool J song “Cheesy Rat Blues,” and, according to one of its members, “is basically the most hardcore shit you can say that sounds slick.” Half of this group owns the barbershop Graffiti Swag with his wife and is obsessed with Sade [shah-DE], while the other half has opened for Green Party candidate Ralph Nader and has a self-destructive puppet named Mr. Killums who features in many of his videos. This group has been named the official 2018 Record Store Day Ambassadors and they are going on tour in the summer of 2018 with (\*)** Lorde. This anarchist-leaning group’s distinctive hand gesture has inspired many covers of Marvel Comics issues, such as ones featuring Deadpool and Black Panther, and they have released beers named after songs on their third album, such as their Stay Gold IPA and their Panther Like A Panther Stout. For ten points, name my favourite hip-hop group, a mixed-race duo consisting of Killer Mike and El-P.

ANSWER: **Run the Jewels** (accept **RTJ**)

10. **A person with this profession released a children’s rap album in 2010, which included a cover of “Whoomp! (There It Is),” while another person with this profession rapped over the instrumental for TLC’s “No Scrubs” on his SoundCloud. A person with this profession released a French hip-hop album called *TP* that featured Jaime Foxx, and while another’s album *VISIONS* was scheduled for release in 2000, he was dropped by the record label, but he still landed tracks with Brian McKnight and Tyra Banks. A different person with this profession who went by the name Jewels was dropped by his record label after spitting homophobic slurs on “40 Bars” but was mentioned in a song with lyrics such as (\*)** “red and black, 'bout my bread, man.” One person with this profession has songs like “Grind Mode” and refers to himself by the last two letters of his first name, while another released an album that features A Tribe Called Quest and displayed abysmal wordplay on the song “(I Know I Got) Skillz” when he rapped, “I'll treat you like Spielberg--you'll get your ass kicked in in a park.” For ten points, name this profession of people whose rap names include Dre Drummond, Zo, and Shaq.

ANSWER: **Professional Basketball Players** (Accept **NBA Players**, accept any answer that mentions that they play basketball professionally) (The artists mentioned are, in order, Dwight Howard, Andre Drummond, Tony Parker, Kobe Bryant, Allen Iverson, Lonzo Ball, and Shaquille O’Neal)

11. **This artist, who once tried to rent out the entire country of Liechtenstein for a music video shoot, at first endorsed GOP candidate Ron Paul in the 2012 election, but later in the cycle, released twenty reasons he would vote for Obama and not Romney, including that Romney “reminds [him] of every boss [he] ever hated” and Obama being “mad cool yo.” This rapper’s cousin, Joe Cool, was addicted to cocaine and high on sherm when he was asked by this artist to get clean and draw an album cover for him. After a (\*)** not guilty verdict for him and his bodyguard McKinley Lee in a murder trial that was mentioned in one of his songs, this man clasped both his hands together in prayer. This man, who gave a surprisingly emotional speech when inducting his friend Tupac into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, hosts a reboot of the classic game show *Jokers Wild* with Jeannie Mai. For ten points, name this portrayer of Smoove Move in *Turbo*, a lanky Compton rapper known for his albums such as *Neva Left* and *Doggystyle*.

ANSWER: **Snoop** Doggy **Dogg** (Accept equivalents such as **Snoop Lion**, **Snoopzilla**, **DJ Snoopadelic**, The **Doggfather**, or Calvin Cordozar **Broadus** Jr.)

12. **One rapper with this trait is the founder of a New Orleans-based genre known as “bounce music” and is known for tracks such as “Dangerous”; that artist’s name is Big Freedia. One artist with this trait, Deadlee, has released songs such as “Good Soldier” and has moved away from Goth rap to focus more on lyrics about race, class, and police brutality. One artist, who was claimed by the Chicago Reader to be “The Next Up in Chicago,” revealed that he has this trait (\*)** on his twenty-first birthday, while another discussed having this trait on the album *American Boyfriend*. A person with this trait revealed that he had it onstage after mentioning his status as a fashion icon, while another revealed he had it on an album which starts with a song entitled “Forward.” For ten points, name this trait of rappers such as Kevin Abstract, iLoveMakonnen [“eye” “love” muh-KOH-ninn], and Tyler the Creator, who revealed he had it on *Flower Boy* by rapping “I’ve been kissing white boys since 2004.”

ANSWER: **they are LGBT**Q (Accept **gay**, **queer**, **out of the closet**, or any other similar phrasing in place of LGBT, accept **drag queen** or similar for buzzes off of the first sentence but not afterwards)

13. **This lyric opens Childish Gambino’s second verse on the track “Make it Go Right” and follows it with a discussion of how, while he usually likes to be fashionably late, he loves this girl so much that he wants to be right on time. These twelve words appear in a Common song in which he says he sometimes catches “Alz-rhymers” from his particularly bad lyrics. This lyric begins Rick Ross’ verse on a song in which he shows his knowledge of the business principle of buying low and selling high, saying “that money triple up when ya get it out of state,” (\*)** “Aston Martin Music.” This lyric originated as the start of a track in which the artist seems not to understand that most girls don’t tend to hide under rugs and makes the comment that he’ll “love you more than a man who’s ten feet tall.” For ten points, name this lyric, which is followed by “and in the back of my mind I hear my conscience call” in the LL Cool J song “I Need Love.”

ANSWER: “**When I’m alone in my room sometimes I stare at the wall”**

14. **This group’s name is mentioned in the title of an Ice Cube album; in its title track, Ice Cube compares himself to Superman and mentions that people need to watch their back when patrolling areas known for gang violence. A member of this group gained 32% of the vote in the Louisiana gubernatorial election in the same year the Rodney King beating happened. Boosted by the sampling of the track by Salt-N-Pepa, Linda Lyndell performed “What A Man,” which she had recorded in 1968, for the first time live in 2003, something that had been** **(\*)** prevented by threats from members of this group. XXXTentacion received threats from members of this group after his music video for “Look at Me”, and Kodak Black danced in front of imagery often used by this group in his video for “Tunnel Vision.” For ten points, name this group that often threatens black people and sometimes white people trying to perform their music, known for their white hoods.

ANSWER: The **K**u **K**lux **K**lan

15. **This song, rapped by Seymour in *Happy Feet*, does not feature the namesake of its group, partly leading to their breakup, as he was their most ego-driven member. This song was the first rap track added to the Library of Congress’ National Recording Registry and Rolling Stone named it the best rap track of all time. The members of the group who recorded this track basically auditioned to be on it, and an anatomical impossibility is spoken about, as the (\*)** sacroiliac is a joint and therefore cannot be broken. The group speaks of the pressures of living in New York as a “Neon King Kong standing on my back” and while the lyric “I swear I might hijack a plane!” seems unfortunately dated, it expresses the extreme stresses most African-Americans had been feeling at the time. For ten points, name this first mainstream, politically-charged hip-hop track that in which the Furious Five rap “its like a jungle sometimes—it makes me wonder how I keep from going under.”

ANSWER: “**The Message**”

16. **A rapper on the second verse of this song mentions how certain rappers without any skill are struggling to get 5 microphones in the magazine *The Source*, while this rapper gets them easily, as evidenced by his group receiving scores of 5 and 4.5 on two of their previous records. This song mentions how the music industry has lied to the rappers using the allegory of a weatherman being wrong. This song’s first verse mixes up gorillas with another ape, creating the entertaining but incorrect phrase (\*)** “silverback orangutans,” and this song’s title was a phrase heard on the news by the rapper of that verse that he thought he could incorporate into a song well. This song’s chorus may refer to Operation Desert Storm, something this group opposed, as it states that one should not use their weapon unless they are completely sure they are going to use it. For ten points, name this OutKast song in which Andre 3000 espouses the idea of not pulling out your gun unless you plan to use it, followed by the title phrase.

ANSWER: “**B.O.B.** **(Bombs Over Baghdad)**” (Accept either underlined portion)

17. **A viral clip of this artist appearing on a radio program shows his utter inability to use Google, along with him claiming there to be ”too much stuff” on the screen and the person helping him explain that to be a toolbar. This artist moved from Baltimore to Yonkers when he was a young boy, and after enduring an abusive mother, turned to a life of crime. This artist, who had his first four albums debut at number one on the Billboard 200 charts, has released an autobiography entitled (\*)** E.A.R.L. and has starred in movies such as *Cradle 2 the Grave*. This artist, who proclaims that the members of his gang “move in silence” on one track, has an obsession with cat and dog imagery, as seen in lyrics in which he proclaims “And all them other cats you run with get done with, dumb quick, how the fuck you gonna cross the dog with some bum shit?” and “Bitch please, if the only thing you cats did was came out to play, stay out my way, motherfucker!” For ten points, name this aggressive rapper formerly managed under Ruff Ryders Entertainment, known for songs such as “Party Up (Up in Here)” and “X Gon’ Give it to Ya.”

ANSWER: **DMX** (Accept Earl **Simmons**)

18. **A song about this subject features both a female duo called Menajahtwa [“Ménage à Trois” or men-AJ-a-TWAH] and the Atban Klann, a precursor to the Black Eyed Peas, and starts with a child’s Uncle Dolamite asking her to give him a kiss. The OutKast song “Player’s Ball” was originally about this subject, and while most references were against acknowledging it, the song was later edited so that it didn’t mention this subject at all. The Ying-Yang Twins have released an album (\*)** entirely dedicated to this subject, but Afroman has released two, while the track listing for both is almost exactly the same. One song about this occurrence by Insane Clown Posse has a character associated with it avoid the ghetto, while one by a different artist describes finding that same character’s wallet and subsequently returning it to them, while also mentioning how their moms are all making excellent food. For ten points, name this annual occurrence, which, when mentioned in rap, often accompanies complaints about poor kids never receiving toys from Santa.

ANSWER: **Christmas** (Accept equivalents such as **December 25th**)

19. **This song samples and derives its title from an Mtume [em-too-may] song with a very similar name, and its chorus is a flip of that song’s but sung by the uncredited girl group Total. This song mentions how hip-hop’s rise was incredibly slowed by tracks such as one in which an artist tried to compare Ronald Reagan’s presidential election to the Beverly Hillbillies in the voice of John Wayne. This song’s artist mentions how he has become metaphorically close to Robin Leach, the host of the television show “Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous.” The artist of this song also mentions his tendency to stay drunk on champagne and a blend of cognac and passion fruit juice, while later espousing that he never dreamed of owning (\*)** two video game systems at once. For ten points, name this track, the first on *Ready to Die*, which starts out by mentioning that Biggie’s teachers never predicted his meteoric rise to stardom.

ANSWER: “**Juicy**”

20. **A sample of a speech by a man with this last name made at the 1972 Wattstax music festival starts off the 2005 Public Enemy track that features Kam, Paris, and Dead Prez, “Can’t Hold Us Back.” A sample of a song by a woman with this last name features on the second track on A Tribe Called Quest’s album *Love Movement*, “Find a Way”; that sampled song is “Got ‘Til It’s Gone.” A track that samples a musical artist with this last name starts with Posnudos rapping, “I was born in the Boogie Down catscan”; that De La Soul track, “Breakadawn,” features that artist’s “I Can’t Help It.” A sample of a (\*)** band whose members all have this last name is included in a song that explains its title concept in three ways, while the third is done in a tongue-in-cheek manner; that track is by Naughty by Nature and, like the song it samples, its title consists of three letters, although in the sampled song the three letters aren’t used as an initialism. For ten points, identify this common last name shared by people such as activist Jesse and musicians Janet and Michael, who performed in an eponymous band with his four brothers.

ANSWER: **Jackson** (begrudgingly accept the full names of **Jesse Jackson**, **Janet Jackson**, **Michael Jackson**, **Tito Jackson**, **Jermaine Jackson**, **Jackie Jackson**, **Marlon Jackson**, the **Jackson 5**, or the **Jacksons**)

TB. **This artist claims his favourite band to be Nirvana, although Destiny’s Child is not far behind, and his grills double as his braces. He met his manager, Cortez Bryant, while they were both in band at his high school, and he apologised to the family of Emmet Till after in one song comparing his murder to the sex this artist was going to have. This artist, who almost accidentally (\*)** killed himself at age twelve by shooting a bullet dangerously close to his heart, has gone by Shrimp Daddy and Baby D before deciding upon his current name. Obama once told a group of schoolchildren “Maybe you are the next [this artist], but you probably aren’t, so stay in school,” which makes sense considering this person had extremely popular singles such as “A Milli” but had dropped out at age 14. For ten points, name this silent-like-lasagne rapper of songs like “Lollipop” and behind albums such as *Tha Carter III*.

ANSWER: **Lil Wayne** (Accept Dwayne Michael **Carter**, Jr., **Shrimp Daddy**, or **Baby D** before mention)

**Bonuses**

1. Unlike the character his name invokes, this man has never slain a fire-breathing dragon. For 10 points each, answer some questions about Sir Mix-a-Lot and his music:

[10] Sir Mix-a-Lot hails from this city, where he went to Roosevelt High School and was inspired by this city’s Emerald Street Boys. He played weekends at the Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club and was featured on the radio station now known as KKDZ in this city. This man has performed at this city’s namesake centre at its Bumbershoot Music Festival alongside George Clinton and this city’s namesake symphony.

ANSWER: **Seattle**, Washington

[10] This Sir Mix-a-Lot track off of his album *Seminar* can be described as a love-hate anthem to his ’69 Buick and all the trouble he gets into with it. On the track, he raps about how, when he introduces himself to potential sexual partners, they dismiss him, saying “Mixalot got a Benz boy, quit smokin' that rock” and how he is “Tryin' to roll smooth through the Hilltop area”, a historically black but now gentrified part of Tacoma.

ANSWER: “**My Hooptie**”

[10] This other track off of *Seminar*, which is not “Baby Got Back,” is named after this material. This material is useful in rainy areas such as Seattle because it is waterproof, and Sir Mix-a-Lot describes his whole gang wearing boots insulated with this material. A Long Island rapper whose stage name is this material, a former member of the group Non Phixion, has released the solo albums *The Art of Dying* and *Electric Lucifer.*

ANSWER: **Goretex**

2. Sometimes, the illegal activities rappers mention in their lyrics aren’t just artistic licence. For 10 points each, answer some questions about famous rappers’ trials:

[10] This former member of the Terror Squad was convicted of accidentally shooting Makeda Barnes Joseph, part of her entourage, in the abdomen. She referenced her release, along with her sexuality, when she rapped, “Just left the big house to a bigger house, ain't have a girlfriend, but the bitch is out” on a song with Fat Joe, “All the Way Up.”

ANSWER: **Remy Ma** (accept Reminisce **Smith**)

[10] This producer behind hits such as Young Jeezy’s “Trap or Die” and Snoop Dogg’s “Sexual Eruption” was acquitted of first-degree murder in 2011. This producer shot Damon A. Martin on New Year’s Day after they got in an altercation, but it turned out that he did so in self-defence.

ANSWER: **Shawty Redd** (accept Demetrius **Stewart**)

[10] Ol’ Dirty Bastard has been in and out of courtrooms a lot, as shown by the fact that he’s had to spend time at Rikers Island and enter a rehab facility. Name two crimes for which he has been tried.

ANSWER: **making terrorist threats**, **possessing a narcotic with intent to sell**, **criminal possession of a controlled substance** in the third degree, **criminal possession of a controlled substance** in the fifth degree, **aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle** in the second degree, unlawful **possession of marijuana**, **driving by unlicensed operator**, **disobeying traffic** signal **light** (Accept two of these or equivalent descriptions in any order, accept criminal possession of a controlled substance only once unless they specify the two different degrees)

3. This group has been rejected by such people as James Baldwin and Malcolm X. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this organisation, known for its belief that the Muslim faith is the true religion for blacks and Christianity is only the faith of the “white devils.” Rappers who are associated with this organisation include Professor Griff, Rakim, and Big Daddy Kane. This organisation has convened the Million Man March on Washington DC and operates its own farm to support its members.

ANSWER: **Nation of Islam** (Accept **NOI**)

[10] This paramilitary group within the Nation of Islam is known for protecting and acting as bodyguards for celebrities such as Michael Jackson, Mike Tyson, and Kanye West. When Ice Cube was considering becoming a part of the Nation, people in this branch with names such as Big Tom, Zulu Ed, and Big Cal protected him from potential threats. Members of this group often wore suits and steel-toed boots.

ANSWER: **Fruit of Islam** (Accept **FOI**)

[10] This letter, purportedly written from a slave owner to other slave owners, is often distributed at Nation of Islam events. This letter contains sections regarding many different aspects of slavery, including how to control language and communication. However, the most famous passage from it discusses setting the slaves against each other, something Nation of Islam members use as an allegory for gangs today.

ANSWER: **Willie Lynch** Letter

4. Huzzah! Another bonus! For 10 points each, name these artists with something in common:

[10] This rapper first surfaced as a member of the Staten Island rap group All In Together Now before cofounding the Wu-Tang Clan. His other projects include the soundtrack for *Ghost Dog: The Way Of The Samurai* and a compilation featuring his favourite artists from Europe, *The World According To [this artist]*. He is not to be confused with a similarly named Wu-Tang member with albums such as *Legend Of The Liquid Sword.*

ANSWER: **RZA** [RIZ-ah] (Accept equivalents such as **Prince Rakeem**, **Ruler Zig-Zag-Zig Allah**, and Robert Fitzgerald **Diggs**) (the aforementioned artist is of course GZA [JIZ-ah])

[10] This artist, originally from Harlem, is a prominent stoner, but you could probably have gotten that from his album titles, such as *Rolling Stoned* and *George Kush Da Button*. On the song “Etc. Etc.” from the latter, which features Big K.R.I.T and Curren$y, this rapper mentions that he “cook up skills like a culinary art student” and that his crew “got more cheddar and the weed taste better.”

ANSWER: Smoke **DZA** [DIZ-ah] (Accept Sean **Pompey**)

[10] Although not a rapper, this R&B artist and reigning queen of Top Dawg Entertainment has worked with many of them, including Kendrick Lamar on her song “Doves in the Wind” and Travis Scott on the track “Love Galore,” both from her 2017 album *Ctrl* [“control’]. This New Jersey native collaborated again with Kendrick Lamar on the song “All the Stars” for the soundtrack of the movie *Black Panther*.

ANSWER: **SZA** [SIZ-ah] (Accept equivalents such as **Sovereign Zig-Zag Allah**, **Savior Zig-Zag Allah**, and Solána Imani **Rowe**)

5. Holy moly! It’s another bonus! For 10 points each, name some things about some artists that have something in common:

[10] Born Odis Flores, this man describes himself as growing up a “follower” of the streets and how many followers got killed. Inspired by rappers such as Jay-Z, this man sold drugs in order to provide for his family but then started to attack the streets with his music. He then earned a single deal for the song “Jackie Chan” and penned “Touchdown” before writing his most famous track.

ANSWER: **OT Genasis**

[10] This mononymous rapper, whose real name is Luther Campbell, has been featured on the song “Me So Horny,” for which a sting was set up to catch retailers selling a record with that song on it to minors in what is now Miami-Dade County, Florida. This man has also released tracks such as “Cowards in Compton,” a response to a track that dissed him along with Tim Dog.

ANSWER: **Luke**

[10] This group was led by a man who went on to both play a porn star in a movie and emcee for Pope Francis when he came to America. Their most remembered song sampled a Loleatta Holloway track called “Love Sensation” and it and its follow-up, "Wildside," landed in the top ten on the Billboard Hot 100. However, You Gotta Believe, the group’s second album, did not yield a substantial hit and therefore the group disbanded.

ANSWER: **Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch** (the connection, if you haven’t seen it yet, is books of the Bible)

6. President Obama has shared some of his favourite songs with the public from time to time. For 10 points each, answer some things about tracks that made it on his 2017 favourites list:

[10] He started off his list with the Beyoncé-featuring remix of this J Balvin and Willy William track. Perhaps Obama chose this track because of its message of inclusivity, as one of its starting lyrics is “my music does not discriminate against anyone” and J Balvin has stated that through it, he wants to communicate that if we eliminate barriers across cultures, we can all move our heads to the same beat.

ANSWER: “**Mi Gente**”

[10] This Travis Scott cut off of *Astroworld* made it onto the list, and, while starting off describing how life is often something seemingly unchangeable, then proceeds to discuss the rich neighbourhood in which he lives and his affinity for M&Ms, most likely not a reference to the candy but to MDMA. This song’s title is a reference to either a common term in chaos theory or the doors of his Lamborghini.

ANSWER: “**Butterfly Effect**”

[10] I’m not exactly sure why Obama chose this boring track from French Montana and Swae Lee as one of his favourites of the year. Perhaps he enjoyed the music video, which features the two artists dancing with Ugandan children, or the Instagram post that accompanied the reveal of the cover art for the track, in which French Montana speaks of his struggles as a Moroccan immigrant living on welfare in the Bronx.

ANSWER: “**Unforgettable**”

7. Rappers often respond to national tragedies in interesting ways. For 10 points each, name some things about how the rap community responded to 9/11:

[10] This rapper used the tragedy as an extended metaphor in the third verse of his song “Thank You.” He explains how he was going to destroy some rappers lyrically, by 9/11-ing them, but they instead ran a plane into the building they put up and inhaled the debris, killing themselves. This was not one of his best-remembered lyrics, but it was at least sounder, lyrically, than “cake, cake-cake, cake-cake, cake.”

ANSWER: **Jay-Z** (Accept Shawn Corey **Carter**)

[10] On this J. Cole track off of his mixtape “Friday Night Lights,” he compares his rise in fame to him dying and going to heaven, just like the victims of 9/11. He also makes a reference to Othello when he claims that even white women now desire black men and claims that, since he is light skinned, those who would have worked in the house of the master as slaves understand him.

ANSWER: “**Premeditated Murder**”

[10] Many rappers, such as Jadakiss on his song “Why,” Mos Def on the song “Bin Laden,” and Lupe Fiasco on “Words I Never Said,” have accepted or at least mentioned this conspiracy theory. One man who espouses this conspiracy claims that his wife was shot in the head because he found out the government cleared part of a bunker in one of the buildings. He’s probably not correct.

ANSWER: **Bush orchestrated 9/11** (Accept equivalents)

8. Time to pay homage to the originators. For 10 points each, name some hip-hop tracks released in 1979:

[10] The group behind this first commercially-successful rap track consisted of Wonder Mike, Big Bank Hank, and Master Gee, assembled by music industry tycoons Sylvia and Joe Robinson. Controversy arose because some of Big Bank Hank’s lyrics actually belonged to Grandmaster Caz, as evidenced by Hank’s spelling of “Casanova Fly” in the lyrics of this ten-verse long track.

ANSWER: “**Rapper’s Delight**”

[10] This track, the first commercially released rap, was a B-Side to the song “You're My Candy Sweet" and charted a full week before “Rapper’s Delight.” The group behind this track, The Fatback Band, combined the track “Catch the Beat” with the rhymes of radio DJ Tim Washington. On it, Tim proclaims, “We throw the highs in your eyes the bass in your face we're the funk machines that rock the human race.”

ANSWER: “**King Tim III** (**Personality Jock**)” (Accept either or both)

[10] This often overlooked gem was released by the sisters Tanya “Sweet Tea” and Paulette Winley in 1979. Backed by the Harlem Underground Band, the duo show off the break-beat driven origins of hip-hop. Paulette claims that she’ll take on all who challenge her, “ah what the hell?” and Tanya mentions that her “voice sound better than Howard Cosell.”

ANSWER: “**Rhymin’ and Rappin’**”

9. Another bonus? That’s the breaks! That’s the breaks! For 10 points each, name some things mentioned in Kurtis Blow’s innovative rap single “The Breaks”:

[10] Kurtis mentions that if your woman leaves you for another guy and they both move to this country, that’s the breaks! That’s the breaks! Rappers from this country include S.l.a.c.k, an MC and producer affiliated with the crews SICK TEAM and PSG; the Blue Herb, a trip-hop group critical of this country’s music industry; and Zone the Darkness, whose Wagnerian production on earlier works evolved into a more mellow sound.

ANSWER: **Japan**

[10] Kurtis mentions that, if this agency contacts you with the intention of discussing your cat’s inappropriate appearance on a document, that’s the breaks! That’s the breaks! This agency’s origins stem from Lincoln’s want to pay for war expenses through a type of tax later mentioned in the 16th Amendment. In the ‘50s, this agency was reorganized and revamped to have more professional employees.

ANSWER: The **I**nternal **R**evenue **S**ervice

[10] Kurtis Blow describes how, should you receive a telephone bill from this company because of eighteen calls to Brazil, say it with me, that’s the breaks! That’s the breaks! This is a historic term used to describe AT&T, Western Electric, and Bell Lab’s encompassment of the entire communications system. This conglomerate provided a decent number of jobs to people in the US.

ANSWER: **Ma Bell**

10. No doubt it’s time for another bonus. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this song. Its music video features Teddy Riley, one of the main singers on this track, as a marionette playing the piano and four women dancing in front of a couple of cars. JC Brooks and the Uptown Sound performed a cover of this song for the A.V. Club and have now incorporated it into their repertoire. This song’s chorus follows its title with “I got to bag it up, bag it up.”

ANSWER: “**No Diggity**”

[10] This group performs “No Diggity,” their most popular song and therefore the title of their greatest hits album. They’ve collaborated with Jay-Z on his song “The City is Mine,” Mase on “Get Ready,” and Foxy Brown on “Get Me Home.” Chauncy Black is the other founding member of this group, beside Teddy Riley.

ANSWER: **Blackstreet**

[10] Two rappers open and close “No Diggity.” All or nothing, name *both*. One is a renowned producer whose album *Detox* has yet to come out, even after two singles were released in the early 2010’s. The other made her debut on the track and has gone on to release the album *My Melody*. Somewhat unsurprisingly, she was signed by Teddy Riley, as he was evidently impressed with her closing verse on his song.

ANSWER: **Dr. Dre** and **Queen Pen** (accept in either order, accept Andre Romelle **Young** and Lynise **Walters**)

11. Hey, is it time for another bonus? You don’t say. For 10 points each, name some things about a certain flow, okay:

[10] This flow has been used by people such as Chance the Rapper on his song “Mixtape” and XXXTentacion on “Look at Me.” This flow is characterised by ending each line of a verse with a certain three letter phrase so that all of them technically rhyme. OJ Da Juiceman is known for a track in which he declares that “Juiceman and Gucci Mane” “Make the Trap Say [that characteristic phrase].”

ANSWER: **Ayy Flow** (Accept descriptive equivalents that mention the word “**ayy**”)

[10] This “King of the Ayy Flow” says it so often, according to a 2014 tweet, because his uncle used to say it before and after everything. This Chicago native, with mixtapes such as Back From the Dead, is otherwise known for his love of weed and the colour purple, as he says it’s “like red.” He uses the ayy flow on songs such as “Cops,” “Save Me,” and “Close That Door.”

ANSWER: **Chief Keef** (Accept Keith **Cozart**)

[10] This song by Kendrick Lamar prominently features the ayy flow. Mike WiLL Made-It produced the beat for this track, which was originally going to be on his album *Ransom 2*, and it’s Kendrick’s highest charting solo joint. This song’s music video features religious imagery such as Kendrick dressed as the Pope and him seated around a table with some others in the style of Da Vinci’s *Last Supper*.

ANSWER: **“HUMBLE.”**

12. Sometimes, the younger rappers of a generation can teach us a lot. And sometimes they can’t. For 10 points each name some things about rappers from the XXL Freshmen Class of 2017:

[10] Aminé, the Portland rapper, shows his love for all things banana on this track, in which he says his partner says she’s on a diet because she only eats the yellow fruits. He also claims his lover of this type is working because she’s hoping to obtain her Master’s degree. At the end of the video for this song, which features imagery such as he being covered in post it notes, one of the title type of person yells at Aminé for a bit.

ANSWER: “**Spice Girl**”

[10] Both an artist who dances with an umbrella on a track in which he samples a scene from The Jamie Foxx Show in which the title character asks Pierre if he “wants to come out here” and an artist whose debut album is entitled SupaJefe [SOUP-ah-HEFF-ayy] hail from this city. This city is mentioned in a Young Thug verse on a pop song in which he mentions that he’s fresh out the eastern part of this city with no manners.

ANSWER: **Atlanta**

[10] Another rapper from the freshman class of 2017 is named after this item of clothing. His work includes an album called *The Bigger Artist* and a song in which he mentions his wrist being so icy he wonders why he’s drowning. This piece of clothing was being worn by 17-year-old Trayvon Martin from Miami Gardens when he was shot, and this item of clothing often has one pocket at the very front of it in which to rest one’s hands.

ANSWER: a **hoodie**

13. This group was founded upon the Ten-Point program. For 10 points each:

[10] This Oakland group was known for setting up free breakfast programs, medical clinics, and after-school programs. Many early rap songs included variations of the lyric “you gotta dip-dip-dip dive so-so-socialize clean out your ears and then open up your eyes,” only a slight variation of a chant created by these people. COINTELPRO was created in opposition to this group.

ANSWER: **Black Panther Party** (Accept **Black Panthers**)

[10] This rapper paid homage to the Black Panther Party by wearing an all black outfit with a black beret while performing his song “We Will Not” from his album *Us or Else: Letter to the System* at the 2016 BET Hip-Hop awards. Other imagery from that performance included protestors holding signs with phrases such as “Fight the Power” and two white men playing police officers falling at this artist’s feet.

ANSWER: **T.I.** (Accept **Tip** or Clifford Joseph **Harris**, Jr.)

[10] This woman greatly influenced her son to think about the Black Panthers in a positive light. He showed respect for the organisation on his songs “Panther Power,” on which he rapped “Go toe to toe with a panther and you just can't win” and on a song in which he describes the death of one of the group’s founders, rapping, “’It's time to fight back,’ that's what Huey said--two shots in the dark, now Huey's dead.”

ANSWER: **Afeni Shakur** (Prompt on answers like “Tupac’s mother”)

14. Man, what if like, all knowledge is like, formatted in bonuses? For 10 points each:

[10] The legalisation of this action has been campaigned for by many a rapper. Killer Mike has said his policy on the legalisation of this is “Who got it? Let’s [do] it.” The artist of “Gin and Juice” has called this action a peaceful gesture that hurts no one and one that people must respect and appreciate. A group who firmly campaigned for the legalisation of this action has songs such as “(Rock) Superstar” and “Dr. Greenthumb.”

ANSWER: **smoking weed** (accept equivalents that indicate partaking in the devil’s lettuce)

[10] That aforementioned group is this one, one of the first successful Latino rap acts. This group formed in 1986 when brothers Sen Dog and Mellow Man Ace met up with Muggs and B Real, all Angelinos, to pioneer a more laid back type of rap music. Their singles from their eponymous debut “How I Could Just Kill a Man” and “The Phuncky Feel One” became hits in the underground scene.

ANSWER: **Cypress Hill**

[10] This track by Cypress Hill titles their greatest hits album. The narrative of this track is one in which the rappers try to convince their listener to switch from blunts to the title conveyance. Recent excavations in Russia show that the tribal chiefs of the Iranian-Eurasian Scyth tribe once smoked out of golden ones of the title conveyances about 2400 years ago, and bamboo ones were common in central Asia.

ANSWER: “**Hits from the Bong**”

15. Not all musicals have to have just singing. For 10 points each, name some things about rap operas, otherwise known as hip-hoperas:

[10] Two of this man’s three musicals are often classified as rap operas. This man, who wrote *In the Heights* about three days in the Hispanic-American neighborhood of Washington Heights, cast a member of rap group clipping. in his most recent show. That show, *Hamilton*, includes a myriad of references to hip-hop, from Biggie to the Fugees. This man is a member of the hip-hop collective Freestyle Love Supreme.

ANSWER: Lin-Manuel **Miranda**

[10] Beyoncé, Mos Def, Da Brat, Lil’ Bow Wow, and Wyclef Jean all star in a hip-hop retelling of this classic opera, moving its setting from Spain to Philadelphia. They also traded out the working at a cigarette factory for an aspiration to be a movie star, though I’m not sure how they dealt with the “Toreador Song” and the “Habanera” from this Bizet work.

ANSWER: ***Carmen***

[10] This man co-wrote a hip-hop adaptation of Shakespeare's obscure play *Coriolanus* with screenwriter Julia Jones. The musical, retitled *The Thing I Am*, is set during the Rodney King Riots, and a table reading with people such as Rob Corddry and Gary Anthony Williams is available. It’s a surreal mix of iambic pentameter and a unique approximation of street slang, neither of which this man is particularly associated with.

ANSWER: Steve **Bannon**

16. Although hip-hop is generally considered to be a pretty liberal genre, there are exceptions to every rule. Answer some questions about rappers who have publicly supported Republican politicians. For 10 points each:

[10] Not really being a rapper, it’s fitting that this “Devil Without a Cause” sells merchandise supporting a figure some would call not really a president, Donald Trump. One particularly classy example shows a 2016 electoral map with blue states labelled “dumbfuckistan.” This figure bragged about it being “mandatory” for his girls to be underage in a song for the *Osmosis Jones* movie, “Cool Daddy Cool”.

ANSWER: **Kid Rock** (Accept Robert James **Ritchie**)

[10] 50 Cent has called this 18th Republican to be President of the United States “incredible” and “a gangsta,” defending his handling of Hurricane Katrina by saying “The New Orleans disaster was meant to happen. It was an act of God.” Were it not for his felony conviction preventing him from doing so, the rapper says he would have gladly voted for this politician.

ANSWER: George **W Bush** (Prompt on just “Bush”, accept equivalents such as **Dubya** or **Bush the Younger**, but do not accept answers indicating his father, George H W Bush)

[10] Seemingly out of nowhere, this rapper decided to publicly endorse John McCain in his 2008 bid for the presidency. Saying that he met the politician when they were both on Time magazine’s list of 100 most influential people in 2006, this artist with songs such as “Hula Hoop” and "Like You" responded “energy independence” when later asked what his most famous solo track was about.

ANSWER: **Daddy Yankee** (Accept Ramón Luis Ayala **Rodríguez**) (Note: that aforementioned track is “Gasolina”)

17. Many rappers try to emulate certain historical figures. For 10 points each, name some historical figures with whom rappers have associated themselves:

[10] Afrika Bambaataa, the pioneer behind such tracks as “Planet Rock” and "Looking For The Perfect Beat," took his name from a movie about a tribe of warriors lead by this man. This ruler was born as a sin because his father, Senzangakhona, and his mother, Nandi, were from different tribes. His transformation of his clan’s military from largely ceremonial to a force to be reckoned with is his most important achievement.

ANSWER: **Shaka** Zulu

[10] Rick Ross’ comparison of himself to this historical figure on the song “The Devil is a Lie” is somewhat incoherent, as this man must have believed in the devil to go on a hajj on which he personally devalued the price of gold by giving so much of it away. Due to his hajj, he boosted Islamic education in his empire of Mali, as mosques, libraries, and universities were built, and Timbuktu became recognised as an important city.

ANSWER: Mansa **Musa**

[10] In a freestyle with Peter Rosenberg, Tyler the Creator compares how he looks wearing his signature style to this man. This man borrowed his last name from the novel *Lady of the Lake* by Sir Walter Scott. His slave narrative is considered a masterpiece and, after returning to the United States a free man, he created the *North Star*, a highly important abolitionist newspaper.

ANSWER: Frederick **Douglass**

18. Hailey Baldwin once compared herself to one of these people, as her host on the TV show *Drop the Mic* was the other half of this duo. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this duo. Together, they have released such tracks as “Da Rockwilder,” where one compares himself to a boiling pot while the other says that suckas break like the two main characters from the film *Breakin’* and the song “Y.O.U,” which starts out with the phrase “All day everyday with this rap soufflé say WHAAAAT?” Half of this group was in the Wu-Tang Clan while the other was a member of the Def Squad.

ANSWER: **Method Man** and **Redman** (Accept Clifford **Smith** and Reginald **Noble**)

[10] Method Man starred as Melvin Wagstaff in this seminal TV show that explores different aspects of life in Baltimore. Stringer Bell is an important character on this series whose seasons, in order, follow the illegal drug trade, the seaport system, the city government and bureaucracy, the school system, and the print news media. Rolling Stone describes “a sense of heartbreak all through[out]” this show.

ANSWER: ***The Wire***

[10] Redman recently quizzed this artist on her knowledge of the ‘90’s rap game. This openly lesbian rapper is known for a myriad of songs, including “OOOUUU” [ooh], where she mentions that she “ain't in these streets more than Sesame,” a television show she finds “lit.” Her debut E.P, *Herstory*, was released in April 2017 and features her characteristic flexing over fiery beats.

ANSWER: **Young M.A**. (Accept Katorah Kasanova **Marrero**)

19. Sometimes, we want to know what other people think about certain albums. That’s why we turn to music critics. For 10 points each:

[10] One of the most popular music reviewers on YouTube, who refers to himself as “the Internet’s busiest music nerd,” has this name. His channel, theneedledrop, is known for biting criticisms of other music journalists, a weekly track roundup, and a character known as Cal Chuchesta. Some of his least popular reviews have been his of *DAMN*, which he gave a 7, and his of the Weeknd’s *House of Balloons*, which he gave a 3.

ANSWER: Anthony **Fantano** (prompt on nicknames such as “Melon”)

[10] Anthony Fantano has given a 10 to only three albums, the first of which was this. This album, by experimental hip-hop trio Death Grips, is filled to the brim with bangers and somehow danceable grooves. MC Ride’s tortured screams, Andy ‘Flatlander’ Morin’s compressed and distorted sounds, and Zach Hill’s incredible creative vision and explosive drumming created the musical masterpiece that is this album.

ANSWER: ***The Money Store***

[10] This is the third album that Fantano has given a 10 (the second was rock group Swans’ *To Be Kind* and therefore not hip-hop). This album’s cover depicts the White House lawn after a black revolution with a dead judge in front of a celebratory crowd. This album includes tracks such as “How Much a Dollar Cost,” about meeting a homeless person on the street who turns out to be the Messiah, and the contrasting songs “u” and “i,” about self-hate and self-respect.

ANSWER: ***To Pimp a Butterfly***

20. Rappers’ lyrics can be considered poetry on their own, but, for 10 points each, name some things about rappers who have associated themselves with forms of literature:

[10] Sean “Diddy” Combs starred as Walter Lee Younger in both a 2004 Broadway revival and a 2008 television adaptation of this Lorraine Hansberry play. His role was originated by Sidney Poitier in this first Broadway play written by, directed by and starring African-Americans. In this play, the Younger family debate what to do with a $10,000 life insurance check, and one character exclaims "DAMN MY EGGS!"

ANSWER: *A* ***Raisin in the Sun*** (Do not accept “Raisin,” the musical version)

[10] Both Wyclef Jean and Sage the Gemeni have written songs that share a title with a poem by this man later set to music of its own, “Guantanamera.” This Cuban poet, who wrote the collection *Versos Sencillios*, wrote both revolutionary essays and literary criticism while residing in New York. This poet lends his name to Cuba’s international airport and is honoured by a memorial statue in the Plaza de la Revolución in Havana.

ANSWER: José **Martí**

[10] On their track “Rebirth of Slick (Cool Like Dat),” Digable Planets say the words “blink” and “think” multiple times in order to evoke this group. This poetry collective, which at one time included people such as Gil-Scott Heron, were founded on Malcolm X’s birthday at what is now Marcus Garvey Park in East Harlem and took their name from the idea that, after them, black empowerment through writing would be replaced with empowerment through more violent tactics.

ANSWER: The **Last Poets**

TB. A certain instrument has been sampled a lot in rap music. For 10 points each:

[10] Name this instrument, featured prominently on tracks such as N2 Deep’s “Back to the Hotel” and Public Enemy’s “Show ‘Em What You Got.” The song both of those tracks sample, “Darkest Light,” is by Lafayette Afro Rock Band, who employed Leroy Gómez, who went on to work with Elton John on the song “Social Disease”, to play this instrument for them.

ANSWER: **saxophone** (Accept more specific answers like “alto saxophone”)

[10] A saxophone was sampled and prominently features in the music video for this song. The artist of this song most likely borrowed the hook from an obscure 1968 Desmond Dekker song of the same name. She empowers women by saying “You got to let him know…you ain't a bitch or a ho” while pointing out that it may be okay to use these derogatory terms when joking around with friends.

ANSWER: “**U.N.I.T.Y.**” (Accept it either spelled or pronounced as one word)

[10] Instead of sampling, Run the Jewels employed this saxophonist to play on their track “Thursday in the Danger Room.” This Coltrane-like figure perfectly complements the emotion of El-P and Killer Mike as they discuss the deaths of people they loved. His own work includes “The Epic,” a three-hour suite for ten piece jazz band backed by a 32-piece orchestra and a 20-person choir.

ANSWER: Kamasi **Washington**