

“Quintessential”
Paintings
of the High School Quizbowl
Canon

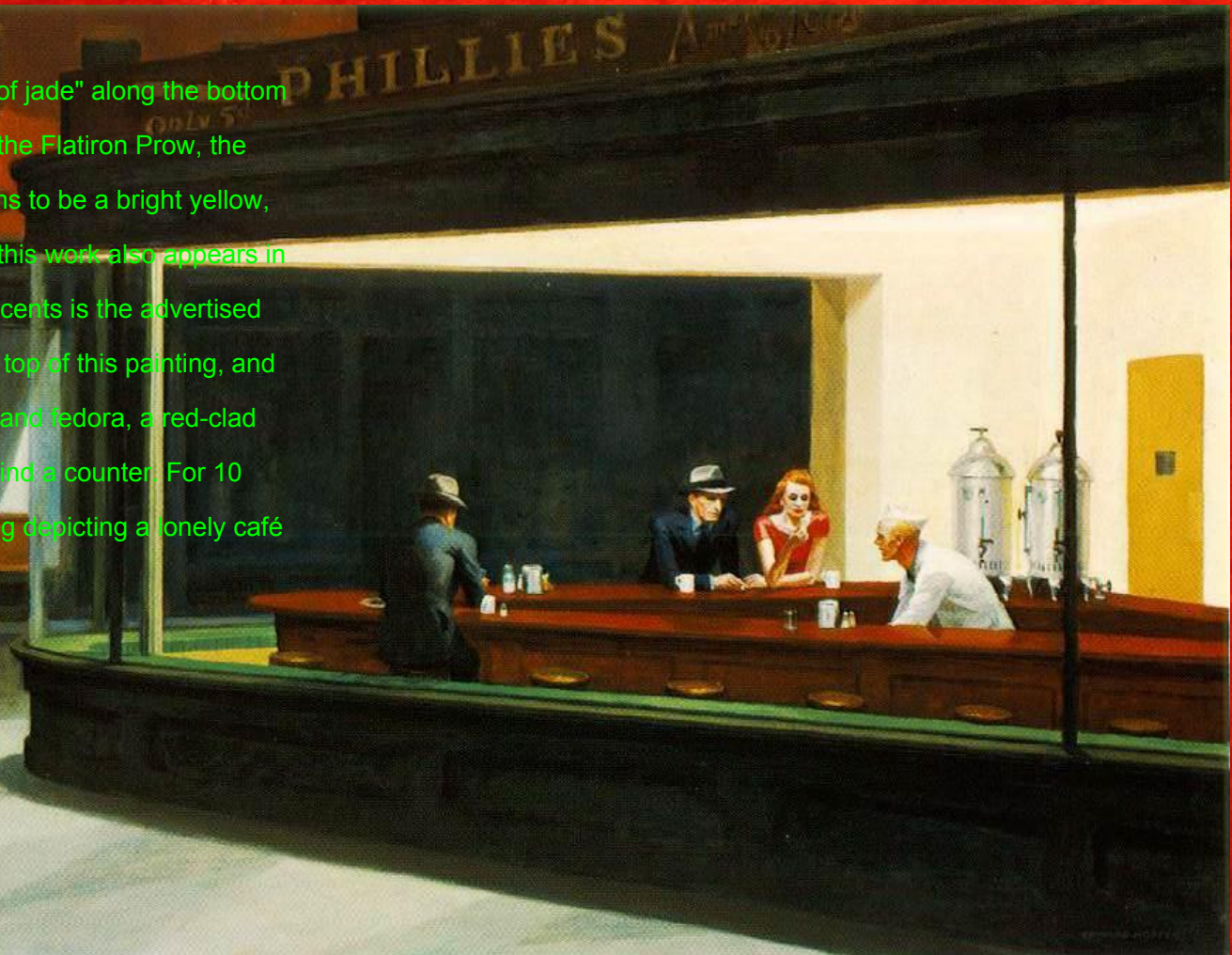
Quick Quiz

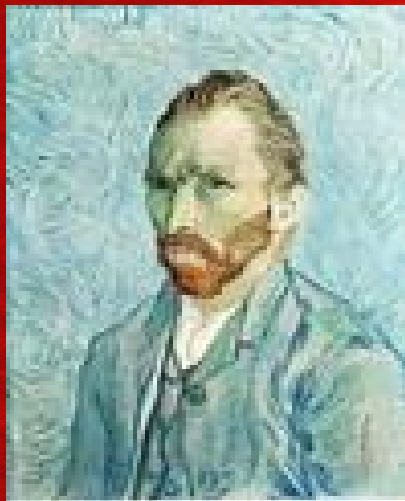
How many classic works featured in the video can you identify? (extra points for correct artist's name)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZgnClGC8-WQ>

Question: In this work, a "brilliant streak of jade" along the bottom highlights the central scene. Inspired by the Flatiron Prow, the only exit out of the central structure seems to be a bright yellow, knobless door, and a row of buildings in this work also appears in its artist's *Early Sunday Morning*. Only 5 cents is the advertised price of Phillies Cigars in a sign near the top of this painting, and figures in it include a man in a black suit and fedora, a red-clad woman, and a worker who crouches behind a counter. For 10 points, name this Edward Hopper painting depicting a lonely café and the empty street surrounding it.

ANSWER: Nighthawks





Question: In a painting by this artist, five peasants gather around the title food under the light of a single lantern. The Potato Eaters is by this man, who created a still life with Sunflowers while living in Arles. This man painted the village of Saint-Re'my under a (*) swirling sky while institutionalized for cutting off his own ear. For ten points, name this Dutch painter of

Starry Night

ANSWER: Vincent Willem van Gogh





Question: This artist's depiction of a young shepherdess was painted over his controversial Captivity of the Jews in Babylon. A waning gibbous moon shines on a dark landscape where many of the title creatures are herded in this artist's The Sheepfold. X-rays revealed that a small coffin was painted over by a basket in one of this artist's paintings. That painting by this artist depicts two farmers bowing their heads and was originally titled Prayer for the Potato Crop. Along with Camille Corot, this man was a prominent member of the Barbizon School. For 10 points, identify this French Realist artist of The Angelus who depicted three women picking wheat in The Gleaners.

ANSWER: Jean-François Millet

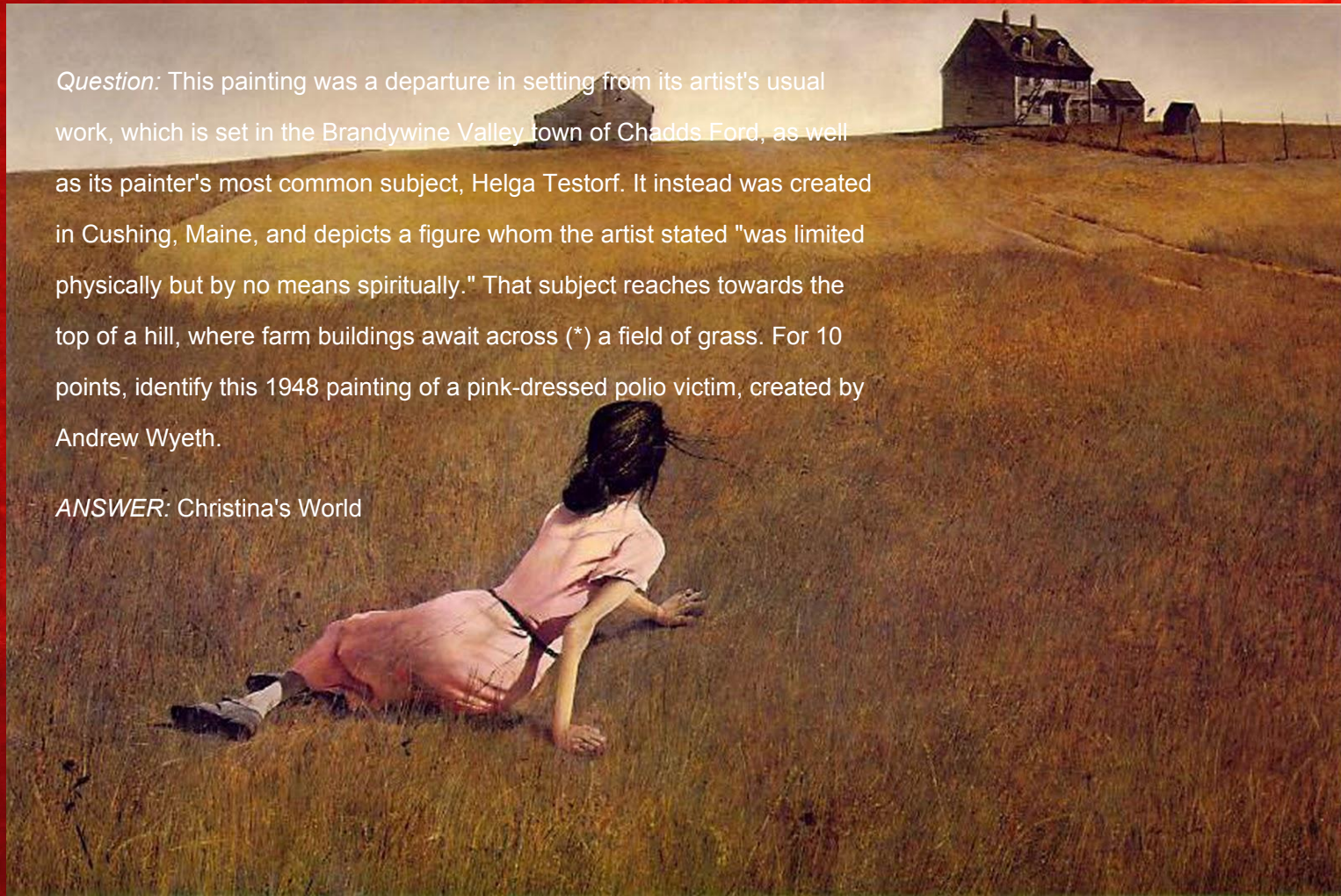


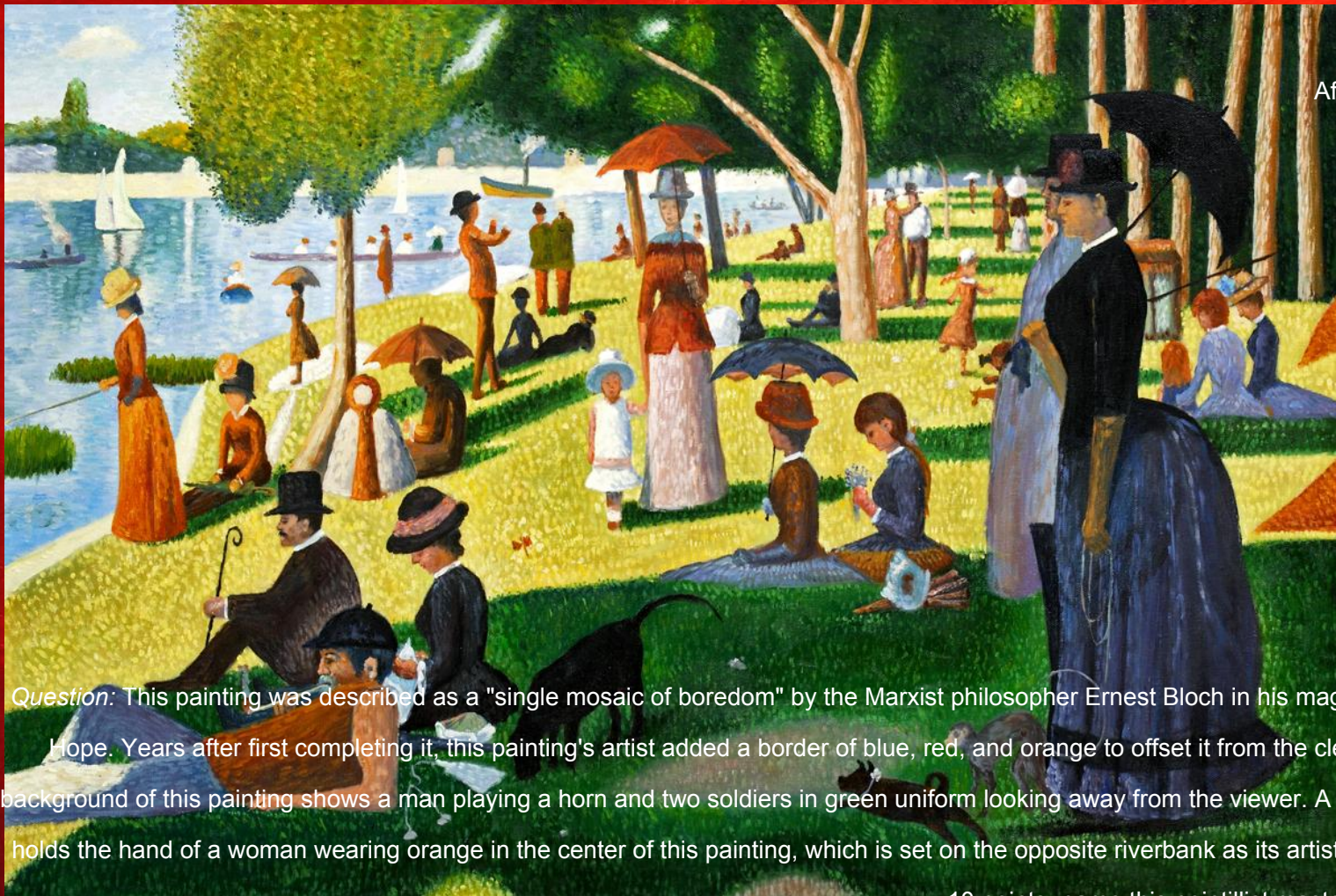
Question: This painting is headlining exhibitions in the United States this year while the Mauritshuis [MAWR-its-hoyss] Gallery is renovated. This work is often contrasted with Portrait of a Young Woman, which was created by the same artist a year or two later in 1667. The person shown in this painting wears a yellow ochre garment with a white collar. Powdered lapis lazuli was used for the bright color in the Turkish-style turban worn by the subject of this work. The object mentioned in the title of this painting is surrounded by dark shadow and located above the left shoulder the girl looks over. Name this portrait by Dutch artist Johannes [yoh-HAH-nuss] Vermeer.

ANSWER: The Girl With The Pearl Earring [or Het Meisje met de Parel]

Question: This painting was a departure in setting from its artist's usual work, which is set in the Brandywine Valley town of Chadds Ford, as well as its painter's most common subject, Helga Testorf. It instead was created in Cushing, Maine, and depicts a figure whom the artist stated "was limited physically but by no means spiritually." That subject reaches towards the top of a hill, where farm buildings await across (*) a field of grass. For 10 points, identify this 1948 painting of a pink-dressed polio victim, created by Andrew Wyeth.

ANSWER: Christina's World





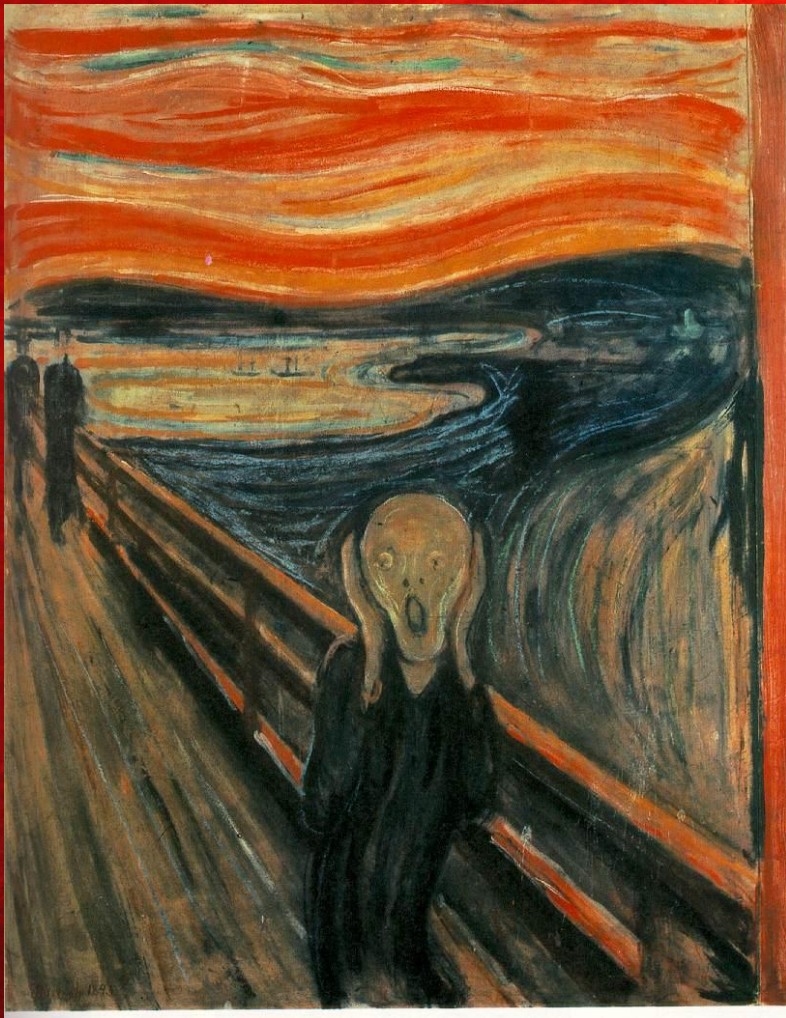
ANSWER: A Sunday

Afternoon on the Island of La

Grande Jatte□

Question: This painting was described as a "single mosaic of boredom" by the Marxist philosopher Ernest Bloch in his magnum opus The Principle of Hope. Years after first completing it, this painting's artist added a border of blue, red, and orange to offset it from the clean white background. The background of this painting shows a man playing a horn and two soldiers in green uniform looking away from the viewer. A young girl dressed in white holds the hand of a woman wearing orange in the center of this painting, which is set on the opposite riverbank as its artist's Bathers at Asnieres. For

10 points, name this pointillist masterpiece by Georges Seurat.



Question: A version of this painting was stolen on the opening day of the Olympics by thieves who left a note saying "Thanks for the poor security." In 2012, Leon Black bought a version of this painting for \$119.9 million. It's not by Gauguin, but Robert Rosenblum hypothesized that a figure in this painting was inspired by a Peruvian mummy. The artist of this painting made four versions of it, all of which he gave a German title mentioning (*) "nature." Along with a Madonna, this painting was stolen in 2004 from a museum dedicated to its artist. It has been proposed that the color of this painting's background was a result of the eruption of Krakatoa. This painting's central figure stands on a boardwalk in front of a red-orange sky. For 10 points, name this painting of a man with an agonized expression by Edvard Munch.

ANSWER: The Scream [or The Scream of Nature; or Skrik; or Der Schrei der Natur]



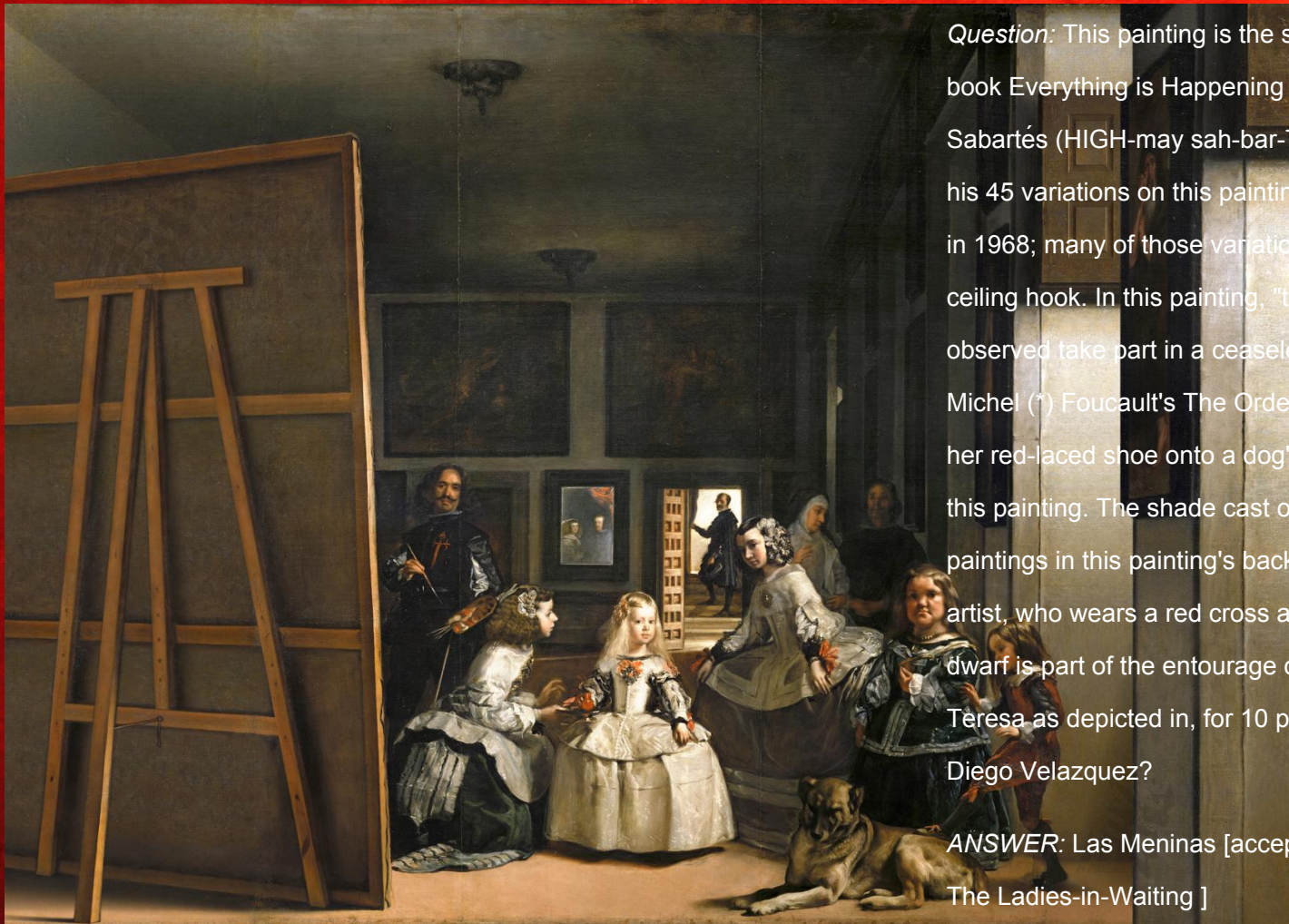
Question: In 1970, Norman Rockwell painted a parody of this piece to be used as label art for United Vintners. A similar situation to that depicted in this painting, involving instead a parasol-carrying woman in a white dress, is the subject of its artist's *The Great War on Facades*. The lower right section of its subject's body is in shadow, partly because its subject's left arm seems to be bending backward at the elbow. A cloudy sky, placid blue water, and a (*) concrete-block wall make up the background of this painting. An easily-missed detail is its subject's left eye and brow, which are barely visible behind green leaves and below a bowler hat. For 10 points, identify this pseudo-self-portrait by René Magritte, in which the subject's face is almost entirely obscured by a green apple.

ANSWER: The Son of Man [or Le fils de l'homme]



Question: This painting depicts a shield on an arch bearing the name of the eighteen men who commissioned it, and it features a man waving a gold and blue flag. A banister in this painting was hidden when its edges were trimmed in 1715, and dog barks at a [*] drummer at the lower right. One of the two central figures of this painting is dressed in bright yellow, matching the girl with the chicken in her belt; the other is in black with a white collar and a red sash across his chest. After restoration, it was revealed that this painting did not actually depict an evening scene. For 10 points, name this painting showing some Dutch militia men by Rembrandt.

ANSWER: The Nightwatch [or De Nachtwacht; or The Shooting Company of Captain Franz Banning Cocq and Willem van Ruytenburch]



Question: This painting is the subject of Michael Jacobs's book *Everything is Happening* . After the death of Jaime Sabartés (HIGH-may sah-bar-TAYCE) , an artist donated his 45 variations on this painting to his namesake museum in 1968; many of those variations feature a menacing ceiling hook. In this painting, "the observer and the observed take part in a ceaseless exchange", according to Michel (*) Foucault's *The Order of Things* . A youth places her red-laced shoe onto a dog's back on the right side of this painting. The shade cast on the two large Rubens paintings in this painting's background contrasts with the artist, who wears a red cross and stands at an easel. A dwarf is part of the entourage of the Infanta Margarita Teresa as depicted in, for 10 points, which painting by Diego Velázquez?

ANSWER: Las Meninas [accept The Maids of Honor or The Ladies-in-Waiting]

Question: This painting, whose style was reused in its artist's later painting *The Charnel House*, was exhibited alongside a fountain that pumps mercury. A tapestry copy of this painting was covered by a curtain during a Colin Powell press conference at the United Nations. The creation of this painting was documented in a series of photographs by its artist's long-time partner Dora Maar. This painting was vandalized with the words (*) "kill lies all" written in red spray paint in a response to the My Lai (mee lye) Massacre. This painting uses only black, white, and gray to portray a flower growing from the hand of a dead soldier and a horse screaming in pain. For 10 points, name this massive painting inspired by the 1937 bombing of a Basque city, a work of Pablo Picasso.

ANSWER: Guernica

