Midterm Exam Quotes

ENG 245: Science Fiction (Fall 2016—Halbert)

QUOTE: I move slowly in the world, accustomed now to seek no longer for upheaval. I progress by crawling. And already I am being dissected under white eyes, the only real eyes. I am fixed.

SOURCE: Franz Fanon, “The Fact of Blackness”, p. 191

QUOTE: My body was given back to me sprawled out, distorted, recolored, clad in mourning on that white winter day. The Negro is an animal, the Negro is bad, the Negro is mean. The Negro is ugly; looks, a nigger, it’s cold, the little boy is trembling because he is afraid of the nigger, the nigger is shivering with cold, that cold that goes through your bones, the handsome little boy is trembling because he thinks that the nigger is quivering with rage, the little white boy throws himself into his mother’s arms: Mama, the nigger’s going to eat me up.

SOURCE: Fanon, Frantz. “The Fact of Blackness”

QUOTE: “As I begin to recognize that the Negro is the symbol of sin, I catch myself hating the Negro. But then I recognize that I am a Negro.”

SOURCE: Frantz Fanon. “The Fact of Blackness”

QUOTE: If her function as a female is not enough to define woman, if we decline also to explain her through “the eternal feminine,” and if nevertheless we admit, provisionally, that women do exist, then we must face the question: what is a woman?

SOURCE: Simone de Beauvoir. *The Second Sex.* Page 181.

QUOTE: “To decline to accept such notion as the enteral feminine, the black soul, the Jewish character, is not to deny that Jews, Negroes, women exist today – this denial does not represent liberation for those concerned, but rather a flight from reality.”

SOURCE: Simone de Beauvoir. *The Second Sex*. Marsi p. 181

QUOTE: A man is right in being a man; it is the woman who is in the wrong.

SOURCE: *The Second Sex.* Simone de Beauvoir. Page 182.

QUOTE: There is no possibility of measuring the happiness of others and it is always easy to describe as happy the situation in which one wishes to place them.

SOURCE: *The Second Sex.* Simone de Beauvoir. Page 184-185.

QUOTE: The proletariat can propose to massacre the ruling class, and a sufficiently fanatical Jew or Negro might dream of getting sole possession of the atomic bomb and making humanity wholly Jewish or black; but woman cannot even dream of exterminating the males. The bond that unites her to her oppressors is not comparable to any other.

SOURCE: Simone de Beauvoir, The Second Sex, p. 185

QUOTE: The cyborg is a creature in a post-gender world

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway. “A Cyborg Manifesto”. Pg. 457

QUOTE: “It is oppositional, utopian, and completely without innocence”

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway “A Cyborg Manifesto.” pg. 458

QUOTE : “Movements for animal rights are not irrational denials of human uniqueness; they are a clear-sighted recognition of connection across the discredited breach of nature and culture. Biology and evolutionary theory over the last two centuries have simultaneously produced modern organisms as objects of knowledge and reduced the line between humans and animals to a faint trace re-etched in ideological struggle or professional disputes between life and social science.”

SOURCE: Haraway “A Cyborg Manifesto” -Marsi pg. 459

QUOTE: The political struggle is to see from both perspectives at once because each reveals both dominations and possibilities unimaginable from the other vantage point. Single vision produces worse illusions than double vision or many-headed monsters.

SOURCE: “A Cyborg Manifesto.” Donna J. Haraway. Page 462

QUOTE: Simultaneously material and ideological, the dichotomies may be expressed in the following chart transitions from the comfortable old hierarchical dominations to the scary new networks I have called the informatics of domination….

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway. “A Cyborg Manifesto.”*.* Pg. 463

QUOTE: Earlier I suggested that “women of color” might be understood as a cyborg identity.

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway. “A Cyborg Manifesto.”*.* Pg. 468

QUOTE: “Longing for fulfillment in apocalypse”

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway “A Cyborg Manifesto.” pg. 469

QUOTE: It is not clear who makes and who is made in the relation between human and machine. It is not clear what is mind and what body in machines that resolve into coding practices.

SOURCE: “A Cyborg Manifesto.” Donna J. Haraway. Page 471.

QUOTE: The last years of the nineteenth century that this world was being watched keenly and closely by intelligences greater than man’s and yet as mortal as his own.

SOURCE: H.G. Wells, *The War of the Worlds* page 19

QUOTE: "The chances against anything manlike on Mars are a million to one," he said.

SOURCE: H.G. Wells, *The War of the Worlds*

QUOTE: The point is I’m making is that Tweel and his race are worthy of our friendship. Somewhere on Mars—and you’ll find I’m right—is a civilization and culture equal to ours, and maybe more than equal. And communication is possible between them and us; Tweel proves that.

SOURCE: Stanley G. Weinbaum. *A Martian Odyssey*. Pg. 46

QUOTE: ‘That’s what started the fight!’ He drew a glistening object from his pocket.

SOURCE: Stanley G. Weinbaum *The Martian Odyssey* page 52

QUOTE: “It's not an easy thing to meet your maker.”

SOURCE: Roy Batty Blade Runner

QUOTE: Painful to live in fear, isn't it? That’s what it is like to be a slave.

SOURCE: Ridley Scott *Blade Runner-* Leon Kowalski, 01:02:25

QUOTE: “Not very sporting to fire on an unarmed opponent. I thought you were supposed to be good. Aren't you the "good" man? C'mon, Deckard. Show me what you're made of.”

SOURCE: Ridley Scott. *Blade Runner.* Blade Runner 1:35:00

QUOTE: It's too bad she won't live. But then again, who does?

SOURCE: Ridley Scott. *Blade Runner* -Gaff, 01:48:46

QUOTE: “Violence, naked force, has settled more issues in history than has any other factor.”

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein *Starship Troopers* pg. 32

QUOTE: ““Happiness consists in getting enough sleep. Just that, nothing more.”

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein *Starship Troopers* pg. 65

QUOTE: There are no dangerous weapons; there are only dangerous men. We’re trying to teach you to be dangerous…

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein *Starship Troopers*, - Charles Zim pg. 71

QUOTE: the most noble fate a man can endure is to place his own mortal body between his loved home and the war's desolation.

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein *Starship Troopers. -* Lt. Col. Jean V. Dubois pg. 91

QUOTE: DuBois had mused aloud, “I do not understand objections to ‘cruel and unusual’ punishment. While a judge should be benevolent in purpose, his awards should cause the criminal to suffer, else there is no punishment. – and pain is the basic mechanism built into us by millions of years of evolution which safeguards us by warning when something threatens our survival. Why should society refuse to use such a highly perfected survival mechanism?”

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein, Starship Troopers, p. 146

QUOTE: Operation Bughouse should have been called "Operation Madhouse." Everything went wrong. It had been planned as an all-out move to bring the enemy to their knees, occupy their capital and the key points of their home planet, and end the war. Instead it darn near lost the war.

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein *Starship Troopers* P170

QUOTE: “Oh, but you don’t know, I want to tell him. You don’t know I’ll hold it forever. If I’m damaged or dead, you’ll put me into the cell banks, and you’ll be amazed, astonished, terrified, to discover that I come out complete, all Martha. I can’t be changed.”

SOURCE: Sonya Dorman. “When I Was Miss Dow”. Marsi p. 93

QUOTE: “I can’t understand why you like being a two-lobed pack of giggles. I couldn’t wait to get out of it. And you were so dead against it to begin with.”

SOURCE: Sonya Dorman. *When I Was Miss Dow.* Pg. 93

QUOTE: “The story is that local life forms aren’t as we really see them. They’ve put on faces like ours, to deal with us. And some of them have filtered into personnel.”

SOURCE: Sonya Dorman, “When I was Miss Dow” pg. 94.

QUOTE: Yes, yes, I want to say to him; as I was, dedicated, free turn me back into myself, I never wanted to be anyone else, and now I don’t know if I am anyone at all. The light’s gone from his eyes and he doesn’t see me.

SOURCE: Sonya Dorman. When I was Miss Dow”. Pg. 96

QUOTE: “We’ve got a mind reading robot on our hands and it strikes me as rather important that we find out just why it reads minds. We’re not going to do that by saying, “Your fault! My Fault!”

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov, “Liar!” pg. 283.

QUOTE: “You’ve caught on, have you? This robot reads minds. Do you suppose it doesn’t know everything about mental injury? Do you suppose that if it asked a question, it wouldn’t give exactly the answer one want to hear? Wouldn’t any other answer hurt us and wouldn’t Herbie know that?”

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov, “Liar”, p. 293

QUOTE: “This a dream,” he was saying, “and you mustn’t believe in it. You’ll wake into the real world soon and laugh at yourself. He loves you, I tell you. He does, he does!

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov “Liar” pg. 293 in textbook

QUOTE: She faced them and spoke sarcastically, “Surely you know the fundamental First Law of Robotics.” The other two nodded together. “Certainly,” said Bogert, irritably, “a robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow him to come to harm.”

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov. *Liar!* Pg. 293

QUOTE: Close your mind! It is full of pain and frustration and hate!

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov. “Liar!”. Pg. 295

QUOTE: “You can’t tell them,” droned the psychologist slowly, “because that would hurt and you mustn’t hurt. But if you don't tell them, you hurt, so you must tell them. And if you do, you will hurt and you mustn’t, so you can’t tell them; but if you don’t, you hurt, so you must; but if you do, you hurt, so you mustn’t; but if you don’t, you hurt, so you must; but if you do, you —“

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov “Liar” -Marsi pg. 295

QUOTE: He did it with the tight grace of a kid slamming change into an arcade game, sure of winning and ready to pull down string of free games.

SOURCE: William Gibson, “Burning Chrome,” pg. 385.

QUOTE: We’ve done it. The matrix folds itself around me like an origami trick. And the loft smells of sweat and burning circuitry.

SOURCE: William Gibson “Burning Chrome” pg. 385 in textbook

QUOTE: “Yeah, it’s so popular, it’s almost legal. The customers are torn between needing someone and wanting to be alone at the same time, which has probably always been the name of that particular game, even before we had the neuroelectronics to enable them to have it both ways.”

SOURCE: William Gibson. “Burning Chrome”. Marsi p. 386

QUOTE: “And sometimes late at night, I’ll pass a window with posters of simstim stars, all those beautiful, identical eyes staring back at me out of faces that are nearly identical, and sometimes the eyes are hers, but none of the faces are, none of them ever are, and I see her far out on the edge of all this sprawl of night and cities, and then she waves goodbye.”

SOURCE: William Gibson “Burning Chrome” -Marsi pg. 386

QUOTE: And then --- THE MAGIC. Sudden silent trot of litter-bearers tucking P. Burke into something quite different from Bellevue stretcher, the oiler slide into the daddy of luxury ambulances --- real flowers in that holder! --- and the long jarless rush to nowhere.

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. “The Girl Who Was Plugged I*n”*. Pg. 346

QUOTE: “Whatever turns you on, there’s a god in the future, for your custom- made”.

SOURCE: Tiptree, Jr. James. The Girl Who was Plugged In

QUOTE: But P. Burke doesn’t know she’s alive – it’s Delphi who lives, every warm inch of her.

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. “The Girl Who Was Plugged In”. Pg. 349

QUOTE: “Ever see a god empty-handed? You can’t be a god without at least a magic girdle or an eight-legged horse. But in the old days some stone tablets or winged sandals or a chariot drawn by virgins would do a god for life. No more! Gods make it on novelty now.”

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. “The Girl Who Was Plugged In” -Marsi pg. 353

QUOTE: Little Delphi is going to live a wonderful, exciting life. She’s going to be a girl people watch. And she’s going to be using fine products people will be glad to know about and helping the good people who make them. Yours will be a genuine social contribution. He keys up the pitch; the creature in there must be older.

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. “The Girl Who Was Plugged I*n”*.

QUOTE: She has phases. The trying, first. And the shame. The SHAME. *I am not what thou lovest*. And the fiercer trying. And the realization that there is no, no way, none. Never. *Never*… A bit delayed, isn’t it, her understanding that the bargain she made was forever? P. Burke should have noticed those stories about mortals who end up as grasshoppers.

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. *The Girl Who Was Plugged In*. Pg. 361

QUOTE: “You see, Remotes don’t love. They don’t have real sex, the circuits designed that out from the start. So it’s been assumed that it’s *Paul* who is diverting himself or something with the pretty little body in Chile.”

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. “The Girl Who Was Plugged In”. Marsi p. 363

QUOTE: “But it means you never see anybody you know again. Never, ever. You will be legally dead. Even the police won’t know. Do you want to try?”

SOURCE: James Tiptree Junior, “The Girl Who Was Plugged In” pg. 346.

QUOTE: Sitting up in the bed is the darlingest girl child you’ve EVER seen. She quivers — porno for angels. She sticks both her little arms straight up, flips her hair, looks around full of sleepy pizazz. Then she can’t resist rubbing her hands down over her mini breasts and belly. Because, you see, it’s the godawful P. Burke who is sitting there hugging her perfect girl-body, looking at you out of delighted eyes.

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. “The Girl Who Was Plugged In” P347

QUOTE: ‘Mr. Isham,’ Tesla says desperately, ‘you have just killed the person who animated the body you call Delphi. Delphi herself is dead. If you release your arm you’ll see what I say is true.’

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. *The Girl Who Was Plugged In* page 369

QUOTE: “I know I’m safe as long as I have this on me. But there’s something about them. I hate them damn things. I wish we’d never invent them. There’s something wrong with them. Relentless little -”

SOURCE: Phillip K. Dick, “Second Variety,” pg. 300.

QUOTE: And then the first claws appeared. And overnight the complexion of the war changed

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick. “Second Variety”. Pg. 301

QUOTE: “Some of the little claws were learning to hide themselves, burrowing down into the ash, lying in wait”

SOURCE: Phillip K. Dick. “Second Variety”. Marsi p. 301

QUOTE: And behind the Wounded Soldier came two Tassos, walking side by side. Heavy belt, Russian army pants, shirt, long hair. The familiar figure, as he had seen her only a little while before. Sitting in the pressure seat of the ship.

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick, “Second Variety”, p. 331

QUOTE: “They were already beginning to design weapons to use against each other.”

SOURCE: Phillip K. Dick “Second Veriety” pg. 331

QUOTE: It’s hard to think with the Oxetine. There’s a wall in my head, a gauzy wall that tries to cushion every thought with contentment.

SOURCE: Ken Liu. “The Algorithm for Love”. Pg. 419

QUOTE: I got to clear the dishes. His hand reached across the table and grabbed mine. Those can wait, he said. He walked around the table, pulling me to him. I looked into his eyes. I loved the fact that I knew him so well I could tell what he was going to say before he said it. Let’s make a baby, I imagined him saying. Those would have been the only words right for that moment.

SOURCE: Ken Liu, “The Algorithm for Love” pg. 420.

QUOTE: The human body is a marvel to re-create. The human mind, on the other hand, is a joke. Believe me, I know.

SOURCE: “The Algorithms for Love.” Ken Liu. Page 423

QUOTE: I should have been elated. My doll was passing a real-life Truing Test. But I was frightened. The algorithms made a mockery of intelligence, and no one seemed to know. No one seemed to even care.

SOURCE: Ken Liu. *The Algorithms for Love*. Pg 424

QUOTE: “What if,” I said, struggling to find the words, “we are just following some algorithm from day to day? What if our brain cells are just looking up signals from other signals? What if we are not thinking at all? What if what I’m saying to you now is just a predetermined response, the result of mindless physics?”

SOURCE: Ken Liu, “The Algorithms for Love”, p. 425

QUOTE: A minute later I realized that that was exactly what I’d expected him to say.

SOURCE: Ken Liu. “The Algorithms for Love”. Pg. 425

QUOTE: The algorithms ran their determined courses, and our thoughts followed one another, as mechanical and as predictable as the planets in their orbits.

SOURCE: Ken Liu “Algorithms for Love” pg. 425 in textbook

QUOTE: ‘It’s because we’ve been married for so long!’ he shouted. ‘That’s why you think you know me so well!’ I knew he was going to say that too.

SOURCE: Ken Liu *The Algorithms for Love* page 426

QUOTE: “There’s a recipe for everything, this time I’ll get it right.”

SOURCE: Ken Liu “The Algorithmns for Love” -Marsi pg. 426

QUOTE: “I love you’ Laura says”

SOURCE: Ken Liu “Algorithms for Love” pg. 427

QUOTE: But my algorithms are still running. I scan for the right thing to say.

SOURCE: Ken Liu “The Algorithms for Love” P427

QUOTE: It takes a while, but finally I feel sleepy. I’m happy. The pain is real.

SOURCE: “The Algorithms for Love.” Ken Liu. Page 427.

QUOTE: “It will be easier for Hoa. She has always expected to carry other lives inside her.” Human lives. Human young who should someday drink at her breasts not at her veins.

SOURCE: Octavia E. Butler. *Bloodchild.* Pg 132