

MIDTERM EXAM QUOTATIONS  
ENG 245: SCIENCE FICTION (Halbert Fall 2015)

*Ten of the following quotes will be on the midterm exam. You will need to identify the author, the title of the piece, and give an explanation of why the quotation is significant. Be sure to mark the titles correctly on the exam: essays and short stories go in quotation marks, while novels, books, and films (even excerpts from them) go in italics. When writing by hand, italics is denoted by underlining.*

QUOTE: The black man among his own in the twentieth century does not know at what moment his inferiority comes into being through the other.

SOURCE: Frantz Fanon. "The Fact of Blackness" (P189)

QUOTE: Frightened! Frightened! Now they were beginning to be afraid of me. I made up my mind to laugh myself to tears, but laughter had become impossible...

SOURCE: Frantz Fanon- "The Fact of Blackness" (P190)

QUOTE: And already I am being dissected under white eyes, the only real eyes. I am *fixed*. Having adjusted their microtomes, the objectively cut away slices of my reality. I am laid bare. I feel, I see in those white faces that it is not a new man who has come in, but a new kind of man, a new genus. Why, it's a Negro!

SOURCE: Frantz Fanon – "The Fact of Blackness" (P 191)

QUOTE: What an idea, to eat one's father! Simple enough, one has only not to be a nigger. Granted, the Hews are harassed – what am I thinking of? They are hunted down, exterminated, cremated.

SOURCE: Frantz Fanon *The Fact of Blackness* (Masri 191)

QUOTE: None the less I am a man, and in this sense the Peloponnesian War is as much mine as the invention of the compass.

SOURCE: Frantz Fanon *The Fact of Blackness* Pg. 193

QUOTE: They are everywhere and they are invisible.

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway, "A Cyborg Manifesto", P461

QUOTE: This is a dream not of a common language, but of a powerful infidel heteroglossia. It is an imagination of a feminist speaking in tongues to strike fear into the circuits of the supersavers of the new right.

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway. "A Cyborg Manifesto". Masri, Page 475.

QUOTE: In communication sciences, the translation of the world into a problem in coding can be illustrated by looking at systems theories applied to telephone technology, computer design, weapons deployment, or database construction and maintenance. In each case, solution to the key questions rests on a theory of language and control; the key operation is determining the rates, directions, and probabilities of flow of a quantity called information. (P465-466)

SOURCE: "A Cyborg Manifesto" Donna J. Haraway

QUOTE: No one gave a thought to the other worlds of space as sources of human danger, or thought of them only to dismiss the idea of life upon them as impossible or improbable. It is curious to recall some of the mental habits of those departed days. At most, terrestrial men fancied there might be other men upon Mars, perhaps inferior to themselves and ready to welcome a missionary enterprise.

SOURCE: H.G. Wells. *War of the Worlds*. Pg. 19

QUOTE: With infinite complacency men went to and fro over this globe about their little affairs, serene in their assurance of their empire over matter.

SOURCE: H.G. Wells, *The War of the Worlds*, P19

QUOTE: No one would have believed in 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: that as men busied themselves about their various concerns they were scrutinized and studied, perhaps almost as narrowly as a man with a microscope might scrutinize the transient creatures that swarm and multiply in a drop of water.

SOURCE: H. G. Wells. From *The War of the Worlds* (P19)

QUOTE: Yet so vain is man...

SOURCE: H.G. Wells, *The War of the Worlds*, P20

QUOTE: Our minds just look at the world from different viewpoints, and perhaps his viewpoint is as true as ours.

SOURCE: Stanley G. Weinbaum, "A Martian Odyssey", (P38)

QUOTE: We talked – not that we understood each other, you know, but just for company.

SOURCE: Stanley G. Weinbaum (Masri 39)

QUOTE: 'Thanks, Tweel. You're a man!' and I felt I wasn't paying him any compliment at all. A man! There are mighty few men who'd do that.

SOURCE: Stanley G. Weinbaum - "A Martian Odyssey" (P 51)

QUOTE: (1) a robot may not injure a human being or, through inaction, allow a human being to come to harm; (2) a robot must obey the orders given it by human beings except where such orders would conflict with the First Law; and (3) a robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second laws

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov, "Liar", (P282)

QUOTE: "If we're going to fix the blame on one another, I'm leaving"

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov "Liar!" Pg.283

QUOTE: "This is 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! But not here! Not now! This is an illusion!"

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov. *Liar!* Pg.292

QUOTE: But what about hurt feelings? What about deflation of one's ego? What about the blasting of one's hopes? Is that injury?

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov *Liar!* Pg. 293

QUOTE: It would puncture your ego to have a machine do what you couldn't.

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov. "Liar!". Masri, Page 294.

QUOTE: Don't you suppose that I can see past the superficial skin of your mind? Down below, you don't want me to. I'm a machine, given the limitation of life only by virtue of the positronic interplay in my brain – which is man's

device. You can't lose face to me without being hurt. That is deep in your mind and won't be erased, I can't give the solution.

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov – "Liar!" (P 294)

QUOTE: The psychologist paid no attention. You must tell them, but if you do, you hurt, so you mustn't; but if you don't, you hurt, so you must; but -

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov *Liar!* (Masri 295)

QUOTE: Close your mind! It is full of pain and frustration and hate! I didn't mean it, I tell you! I tried to help! I told you what you wanted to hear. I had to.

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov, "Liar!", P295

QUOTE: Well, I think I'd re-arrange the civilization on Mars so it resembled Earth more and more each day.

SOURCE: Ray Bradbury *Mars is Heaven!* Pg. 80

QUOTE: Nonsense, no. It's a world and we get a second chance. Nobody told us why. But then nobody told us why we were on Earth, either. That *other* Earth, I mean. The one you came from. How do we know there wasn't *another* before *that* one?

SOURCE: Ray Bradbury, "Mars is Heaven", (P82)

QUOTE: "No, no, don't think that," she cried, softly, pleadingly. "We're here. Don't question. God is good to us. Let's be happy."

SOURCE: Ray Bradbury. *Mars is Heaven!* Pg. 84

QUOTE: But, he thought, just suppose. Just *suppose* now, that there were Martians living on Mars and they saw our ship coming and saw us inside our ship and hated us. Suppose, now, just for the hell of it, that they wanted to destroy us, as invaders, as unwanted ones, and they wanted to do it in a very clever way, so that we would be taken off guard.

SOURCE: Ray Bradbury. "Mars Is Heaven!" pg. 85-86

QUOTE: Well, what would be the best weapon a Martian could use against Earth-men with atom weapons? The answer was interesting. Telepathy, hypnosis, memory, and imagination.

SOURCE: Ray Bradbury. "Mars Is Heaven!". Masri, Page 86.

QUOTE: "Go for it," I said, when it was time, but Bobby was already there, leaning forward to drive the Russian program into its slot with the heel of his hand. He did it with the tight grace of a kid slamming change into an arcade game, sure of winning and ready to pull down a string of free games.

SOURCE: William Gibson, "Burning Chrome", Marsi pg. 371

QUOTE: You know, said the Finn, I got a pair of shoes older than you are.

SOURCE: William Gibson *Burning Chrome* (Masri 374)

QUOTE: I felt like a punk who'd gone out to buy a switchblade, and had come home with a small neutron bomb.

SOURCE: William Gibson. "Burning Chrome". Masri, Page 378.

QUOTE: *what good's a neutron bomb in a streetfight?*

SOURCE: William Gibson. "Burning Chrome." Pg. 378

QUOTE: He had the kind of uniform good looks you get after your seventh trip to the surgical boutique; he'd probably spend the rest of his life looking vaguely like each new season's media front runner; not too obvious a copy, but nothing too original, either.

SOURCE: William Gibson, "Burning Chrome", Pg. 381

QUOTE: "How'd I look with a pair of these?" she'd ask, holding a full-page headshot, Tally Isham's blue Zeiss Ikons lined up with her own amber-brown. She'd had her corneas done twice, but she still wasn't 20-20; so she wanted Ikons. Brand of the stars. Very expensive.

SOURCE: William Gibson, "Burning Chrome," P381

QUOTE: Some things are worse than being alone.

SOURCE: William Gibson, "Burning Chrome", P383

QUOTE: 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*. Pg.386

QUOTE: There's a wall in my head, a gauzy wall that tries to cushion every thought with contentment.

SOURCE: Ken Liu. "The Algorithms of Love". Masri, Page 419.

QUOTE: The watchmaker was the watch.

SOURCE: Ken Liu *The Algorithms for Love* Pg. 425

QUOTE: There's a recipe for everything.

SOURCE: Ken Liu, "The Algorithms for Love", P426

QUOTE: The pain is real, I think. There's no algorithm for the pain. I look down at my wrists, and the scars startle me. This is all very familiar, like I've done this before. The horizontal scars, ugly and pink like worms, rebuke me for failure. Bugs in the algorithm.

SOURCE: Ken Liu – "The Algorithms for Love" (P 426)

QUOTE: Now you think the brain is just a computer. Snap out of it. *That* is the illusion.

SOURCE: Ken Liu *The Algorithms for Love* (Masri 426)

QUOTE: The claws got faster, and they got bigger. New types appeared, some with feelers, some that flew. There were a few jumping kind. The best technicians on the Moon were working on designs, making them more and more intricate, more flexible. They became uncanny; the Ivans were having a lot of trouble with them. Some of the little claws were learning to hide themselves, burrowing down into the ash, lying in wait. (P301)

SOURCE: *Second Variety* Philip K. Dick

QUOTE: They became uncanny;

SOURCE: Philip K Dick *Second Variety* Pg. 301

QUOTE: We found out about a week ago. Found out that your claws were beginning to make up new designs on their own. New types of their own. Better types. Down in your underground factories behind our lines. You let them stamp themselves, repair themselves. Made them more and more intricate. It's your fault this happened.

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick. "Second Variety", pg. 308

QUOTE: They're not a race. They're mechanical killers. You made them to destroy. That's all they can do. They're machines with a job.

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick. "Second Variety". Masri, Page 311.

QUOTE: As the Tassos reached for him, a last ironic thought drifted through Hendrick's mind. He felt a little better, thinking about it. The bomb. Made by the Second Variety to destroy the other varieties. Made for that end alone.

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick. *Second Variety*. Pg.331

QUOTE: As the Tassos reached for him, a last ironic thought drifted through Hendricks's mind. He felt a little better, thinking about it. The bomb. Made by the Second Variety to destroy the other varieties. Made for that end alone.

They were already beginning to design weapons to use against each other.

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick – "Second Variety" (P 331)

QUOTE: My mother was at her most formal and severe when she was lying.

SOURCE: Octavia Butler, "Bloodchild". Masri, Page 120.

QUOTE: Why are you in such a hurry to be old?

SOURCE: Octavia Butler *Bloodchild* Pg. 121

QUOTE: She parceled us out to the desperate and sold us to the rich and powerful for their political support. Thus, we were necessities, status symbols, and an independent people. She oversaw the joining of families, putting an end to the final remnants of the earlier system of breaking up Terran families to suit impatient Tlic. (P121)

SOURCE: "Bloodchild" Octavia E. Butler

QUOTE: I had been told all my life that this was a good and necessary thing Tlic and Terran did together – a kind of birth. I had believed it until now. I knew birth was painful and bloody, no matter what. But this was something else, something worse. And I wasn't ready to see it. Maybe I never would be. Yet I couldn't not see it. Closing my eyes didn't help.

SOURCE: Octavia E. Butler – "Bloodchild" (P 127)

QUOTE: No one ever asks us.

SOURCE: Octavia E. Butler, "Bloodchild", P131

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: The fact is she's just a girl, a real live girl with her brain in an unusual place.

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. *The Girl Who Was Plugged In* (Masri 351)

QUOTE: "I am sorry, sir, our directive is to do the *social sequence* exactly as scripted."

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

QUOTE: They've got the whole world programmed! Total control of communication. They've got everybody's minds wired in to think what they show them and want what they give them and they give them what they're programmed to want – you can't break in or out of it, you can't get *hold* of it anywhere. I don't think they even have a plan except to keep things going round and round – and God knows what's happening to the people or the earth or the other planets, maybe. One great big vortex of lies and garbage pouring round and round getting bigger and bigger and nothing can ever change. If people don't wake up soon we're through!

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. – "The Girl Who Was Plugged In" (P 362)

QUOTE: Believe it, zombie. When I say growth I mean *growth*. Capital appreciation. You can stop sweating. There's a great future there.

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr., "The Girl Who Was Plugged In", (P 370)

QUOTE "Sure, Delphi again"

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. "The Girl Who Was Plugged In" Pg.370

QUOTE: The battered old DC3 lay at the end of the runway like a tiny silver cross. In two hours she would be bearing them away to freedom and sanity.

SOURCE: Arthur C. Clarke. *The Nine Billion Names of God*. Pg. 920

QUOTE: Overhead, without any fuss, the stars were going out.

SOURCE: Arthur C. Clarke. "The Nine Billion Names of God." p921

QUOTE: The Worm Ouroboros... the World Snake that eats it's own tail, forever without end. A symbol of the Great Paradox.

SOURCE: Robert Heinlein. "'All You Zombies---'", p553.

QUOTE: He didn't answer, he was badly shaken. It's a shock to have it proved to you that you can't resist seducing yourself. I took him to the Apex Building and we jumped again.

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein- "All You Zombies-" (P559)

QUOTE: "I don't like to be cold sober. I think too much

SOURCE: "'All You Zombies...'" - Robert A. Heinlein pg 560

QUOTE: I'm My Own Grandpaw!

SOURCE: Robert Heinlein, "'All You Zombies' -"

QUOTE: "I've drove a million miles and I'm ready to pass over to the other shore. I won't have long to linger here"

SOURCE: "Bears Discover Fire"- Terry Bisson pg 1196

QUOTE: It looked like only a few of the bears knew how to use fire, and were carrying the others along. But isn't that how it is with everything?

SOURCE: Terry Bisson, "Bears Discover Fire", Pg. 1201

QUOTE: He was shivering even though it wasn't that cold. Sometimes death will do that, especially at dawn, with the police around and the grass wet, even when it comes as a friend.

SOURCE: Terry Bisson, "Bears Discover Fire", p1202

QUOTE: We make war as personal as a punch in the nose. We can be selective, applying precisely the required amount of pressure at the specified point at a designated time- we've never been told to go down and kill or capture all left-handed redheads in a particular area, but if they tell us to, we can. We will

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein- *Starship Troopers*. (P104)

QUOTE: The noblest fate that a man can endure is to place his mortal body between his loved home and the wars desolation.

SOURCE: Robert Heinlein, *Starship Troopers*, (P114).

QUOTE: The best things in life are beyond money; their price is agony and sweat and devotion... and the price demanded for the most precious of all things in life is life itself- ultimate cost for perfect value.

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein. *Starship Troopers*. Pg.119

QUOTE: Man has *no moral instinct*. He is not born with moral sense. You were not born with it, I was not-and a puppy has none. We *acquire* moral sense, when we do, through training, experience, and hard sweat of the mind.

SOURCE: Robert A. Heinlein. *Starship Troopers*. Pg. 149

QUOTE: But, to tell the truth, a soldier doesn't notice a war much more than a civilian does, except his own tiny piece of it, and that just on the days it is happening.

SOURCE: Robert Heinlein, *Starship Troopers*, (P166).

QUOTE: I've seen things, you people wouldn't believe, hmmm.... attack ships on fire off the shoulder of Orion. I've watched C Beams glitter in the dark near the Tannhauser Gate. All those moments, will be lost in time like tears in rain... time to die...

SOURCE: *Blade Runner: The final cut*.