

Midterm Exam Quotes
ENG 245: Science Fiction (Fall 2017—Halbert)

QUOTE: “Look how handsome that Negro is!...” “Kiss the handsome Negro’s ass, madame!” Shame flooded her face. At last I was free from my rumination. At the same time I accomplished two things: I identified my enemies and I made a scene. A grand slam. Now one would be able to laugh.

SOURCE: Frantz Fanon. *The Fact of Blackness*. Pg.190

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* (P191)

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: Otherness is a fundamental category of human thought.

SOURCE: Simone de Beauvoir. *The Second Sex*. Pg. 183

QUOTE: Things become clear, on the contrary, if, following Hegel, we find in consciousness itself a fundamental hostility toward every other consciousness; the subject can be posed only in being opposed – he sets himself up as the essential, as opposed to the other, the inessential, the object.

SOURCE: *The Second Sex* by Simone de Beauvoir (P183)

QUOTE: Wars, festivals, trading, treaties, and contests among tribes, nations, and classes tend to deprive the concept *Other* of its absolute sense and to make manifest its relativity; willy-nilly, individuals and groups are forced to realize the reciprocity of their relations.

SOURCE: Simone de Beauvoir. *The Second Sex*. P183.

QUOTE: The native traveling abroad is shocked to find himself in turn regarded as a “stranger” by the natives of neighboring countries.

SOURCE: *The Second Sex*, by Simone de Beauvoir, pg 183

QUOTE: The relation between organism and machine has been a border war.

SOURCE: Donna Haraway, “A Cyborg Manifesto” (292)

QUOTE: The cyborg would not recognize the Garden of Eden; it is not made of mud and cannot dream of returning to dust.

SOURCE: "A Cyborg Manifesto" by Donna Haraway, pg 293

QUOTE: There is not even such a state as 'being' female, itself a highly complex category constructed in contested sexual scientific discourses and other social practices. Gender, race, or class-consciousness is an achievement forced on us by the terrible historical experience of the contradictory social realities of patriarchy, colonialism, and capitalism.

SOURCE: Donna J. Haraway. "A Cyborg Manifesto". Pg. 295-296

QUOTE: To be One is to be autonomous, to be powerful, to be God; but to be One is to be an illusion, and so involved in a dialectic of apocalypse with the other. Yet to be other is to be multiple, without clear boundary, frayed, insubstantial. One is too few, but two are too many.

SOURCE: "A Cyborg Manifesto" by Donna Haraway (P313)

QUOTE: One is too few, and two is only one possibility. Intense pleasure in skill, machine skill, ceases sin, but an aspect of embodiment. The machine is not an *it* to be animated, worshipped and dominated. The machine is us, our process, an aspect of our embodiment. We can be responsible for machines; *they* do not dominate or threaten us. We are responsible for boundaries; we are they.

SOURCE: Donna Haraway. *A Cyborg Manifesto*. Pg.315

QUOTE: The world is subdivided by boundaries differentially permeable to information. ... The boundary-maintaining images of base and superstructure, public and private, or material and ideal never seemed more feeble.

SOURCE: Haraway, Donna J, *A Cyborg Manifesto* (Masri anthology, p 466 & 467; photocopied handout pages 303 & 304)

QUOTE: Taking responsibility for the social relations of science and technology means refusing anti-science metaphysics, a demonology of technology, and so means embracing the skillful task of reconstructing the boundaries of daily life, in partial connection with others, in communication with all of our parts.

SOURCE: Donna Haraway. "A Cyborg Manifesto." P316

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: All those moments will be lost in time, like tears in rain. Time to die.

SOURCE: *Blade Runner*

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: Going to the edge of the pit, I found it occupied by a group of about half a dozen men – Henderson, Ogilvy, and a tall, fair-haired man that I afterwards learned was Stent, the Astronomer Royal, with several workmen wielding spades and pickaxes. Stent was giving directions in a clear, high-pitched voice.

SOURCE: H.G. Wells. *War of the Worlds*. P27.

QUOTE: Even at this first encounter, this first glimpse, I was overcome with disgust and dread.

SOURCE: Wells, H. G., *The War of the Worlds* (page 29)

QUOTE: "I tried questioning him. I pointed at a pyramid and asked 'People?' and indicated the two of us. He set up a negative sort of clucking and said, 'No, no, no. No one-one-two. No two-two-four,' meanwhile rubbing his stomach. I just stared at him and he went through the business again. two. No two-two-four.' I just gaped at him."

"That proves it!" exclaimed Harrison. "Nuts!"

SOURCE: Stanley G. Weinbaum. "A Martian Odyssey". Pg. 42

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

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

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* (P146)

QUOTE: The practical reason for continuing our system is the same as the practical reason for continuing anything: It works satisfactorily.

SOURCE: Heinlein, Robert A, *Starship Troopers* (page 231)

QUOTE: "You understand no, don't you? This robot reads minds. Do you suppose it doesn't know everything about hurt feelings? If we asked it a question, wouldn't it give exactly the answer that we wanted to hear? Wouldn't any other answer hurt us, and wouldn't it know that?"

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov. "Liar!" P16.

QUOTE: "You know, I suppose," she continued, "just exactly at what point in your manufacture went wrong."

SOURCE: Issac Asimov "Liar" (17)

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

Herbie was up against the wall, and here he dropped to his knees. 'Stop!' he shouted. 'Close your mind! It is full of pain and frustration and hate! I didn't mean to, I tell you! I tried to help! I told you what you wanted to hear. I had to!'

SOURCE: Isaac Asimov. *Liar!* Pg. 18

QUOTE: What's the use saying that? Deep down, you don't want me to. I'm a machine, given an imitation of life by my positronic brain, which is Man's invention. You can't let me show any superiority without being hurt yourself.

SOURCE: "Liar!" by Isaac Asimov (P18)

QUOTE: The claws weren't like other weapons. They were *alive*, from any practical standpoint, whether the Governments wanted to admit it or not. They were not machines. They were living things, spinning, creeping, shaking themselves up suddenly from the gray ash and darting toward a man, climbing up him, rushing for his throat. And that is what they have been designed to do. Their job.

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick. *Second Variety*. Pg.109

QUOTE: "What are the other types?"

SOURCE: Philip K. Dick "Second Variety" (117)

QUOTE: Without lowering his pistol Klaus answered: "Major, remember our discussion? The Three Varieties? We knew about One and Three. But we didn't know about Two. At least, we didn't know before." Klaus' fingers tightened around the gun butt. "We didn't know before, but we know now."

SOURCE: Phillip K. Dick. "Second Variety" Pg. 125

QUOTE: It's strange, machines so much like people that you can be fooled. Almost alive.

SOURCE: "Second Variety" by Philip K. Dick (P129)

QUOTE: "How did you happen to have a bomb like that?"

Tasso shrugged. "We designed it. You shouldn't underestimate our technology, Major. Without such a bomb you and I would no longer exist."

SOURCE: Phillip K Dick. "Second Variety." P136.

QUOTE: I admire your workmanship. You people have always done good work. You build fine things. Your work, your creations, are your greatest achievement.

SOURCE: Dick, Philip K, "Second Variety" handout page 142

QUOTE: 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" (P144)

QUOTE: When we breached the first gate, the bulk of her data vanished behind core-command ice, these walls we see as leagues of corridor, mazes of shadow.

SOURCE: Gibson, William, "Burning Chrome," handout page 200

QUOTE: Trying to remind myself that this place and the gulfs beyond are only representations, that we aren't.

SOURCE: William Gibson "Burning Chrome" (205)

QUOTE: Black ice. Don't think about it. Black ice. Too many stories in the Gentlemen Loser; black ice is a part of the mythology. Ice that kills. Illegal, then aren't we all? Some kind of neural-feedback weapon, and you connect with it only once. Like some hideous Word that eats the mind from the inside out. Like an epileptic spasm that goes on and on until there's nothing left at all...

SOURCE: William Gibson. *Burning Chrome*. Pg.210

QUOTE: That we'd killed her, murdered her, as surely as if we'd slit her throat. The night that carried me along through the malls and plazas would be hunting her now, and she had nowhere to go. How many enemies would she have in their crowd alone? How many would move, now

they weren't held back by fear of her money? We'd taken her for everything she had. She was back on the street again. I doubted she'd live till dawn.

SOURCE: William Gibson. "Burning Chrome." P218.

QUOTE: I expect everyone else to be as comfortable there as I am

SOURCE: Sonya Dorman "When I Was Miss Dow" (91)

QUOTE: I begin to suffer a peculiar pain, located in the nerve cluster between my lungs. He's not talking to me. He's not caressing me. He's forgotten I'm here, and like a false projection, I'm beginning to fade. In another hour perhaps the film will become blank. If he doesn't see me, then am I here?

SOURCE: "When I Was Miss Dow" by Sonya Dorman (P92)

QUOTE: 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: "When I Was Miss Dow" by Sonya Dorman pg 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: Dogs, to the Terrans, who are fascinated by them. We breed them primarily for speed and stamina, but some of them carry a gene for an inherited structural defect which cripples them, and they have to be destroyed before they are full grown.

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: Where do you get the idea you aren't real? You're the realest. Aren't you having joy?

SOURCE: James Tiptree Jr. "The Girl Who Was Plugged In" (14)

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.

SOURCE: "The Girl Who Was Plugged In" by James Tiptree, Jr. (P22)

QUOTE: It hasn't occurred to anyone that they're dealing with the real hairy thing whose shadow is blasting out of every holoshow on earth.

SOURCE: James Tiptree, Jr. "The Girl Who Was Plugged In." P23

QUOTE: Joe is also crying a little; he alone had truly loved P. Burke. P. Burke, now a dead pile on a table, was the greatest cybersystem he has ever known, and he never forgets her.

SOURCE: "The Girl Who Was Plugged In" by James Tiptree Jr, pg 31

QUOTE: The real belly-bomb is Paul. He was young, see. Fighting abstract wrong. Now life has clawed into him and he goes through gut rage and grief and grows in human wisdom and resolve. So much so that won't be surprised, some time later, to find him- where? In the GTX boardroom, dummy. Using the advantage at his birth to radicalize the system. You'd call it "boring from within."

SOURCE: James Tiptree, Jr. *The Girl Who Was Plugged In*. Pg. 31

QUOTE: Those would have been the only words right for that moment. And so he did.

SOURCE: Ken Liu "The Algorithms for Love" (5)

QUOTE: 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: "The Algorithms for Love" by Ken Liu (P9)

QUOTE: The pain is real, I think. There's no algorithm for the pain.

SOURCE: "The Algorithms for Love" by Ken Liu, pg 11

QUOTE: I scan for the right thing to say. "I love you" He doesn't say anything his shoulders heave, once. I turn around. My voice echoes through the empty house, bouncing off the walls. Laura's sound receptors, old as they are, pick it up. The signals run through the cascading IF statements. The DO twirl and dance while she does a database lookup. The motors whirr. The synthesizer kicks in.

SOURCE: Ken Liu. *The Algorithms for Love*. Pg.11

QUOTE: The innkeeper's voice loops around in my head. "Oh, I could tell right away something was wrong. It's happened here before. She didn't seem right at breakfast, and then when you

came back she looked like she was in another world. When I heard the water running in the pipes for that long I rushed upstairs right away.”

So I was that predictable.

I look at Brad, and I believe that he is in a lot of pain. I believe it with all my heart. But I still don't feel anything. There's a gulf between us, a gulf so wide that I can't feel his pain. Nor he mine.

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

“I love you.”

SOURCE: Ken Liu. “The Algorithms For Love”. Pg. 12

QUOTE: I swallowed. I had not imagined a single moving of the feet to be so difficult. I realized I was trembling and that shamed me. Shame impelled me through the door.

SOURCE: Octavia E. Butler, “Bloodchild” (P5)

QUOTE: “You know these things, Gan. Because your people arrived, we are relearning what is means to be a healthy, thriving people. And your ancestor, fleeing from their homeworld, from their own kind who have killed or enslaved them – they survived because of us. We them as people and gave them the Preserve when they still tried to kill us as worms.”

SOURCE: “Bloodchild” by Octavia Butler, pg 11

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