

## MAD-LIBS

**We played them as kids, and they're still fun now. Ours don't make sense even if you fill them in correctly. But they're funnier if you don't.**

**The extra points for not using the internet can be applied separately for each of the three mad-libs.**

1. The speech below represents all the finest in American political rhetoric.

- 1) Fill in the blanks.
- 2) Name the speakers who spoke these fine words.
- 3) Orate. Send us a video.

I want to talk for a few minutes with the people of the United States about \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>1</sup> With \_\_\_\_\_ toward none, with \_\_\_\_\_ for all, with firmness in the \_\_\_\_\_ as God gives us to see the \_\_\_\_\_, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and \_\_\_\_\_ among ourselves and with all nations.<sup>2</sup> Black and white and spotted, and our little girl Tricia, the six year old named it \_\_\_\_\_. And you know, the kids like all kids, love the dog and I just want to say this right now that regardless of what they say about it, we're going to keep him.<sup>3</sup> But in a larger sense, we cannot \_\_\_\_\_, we cannot \_\_\_\_\_, we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>4</sup> And so, my fellow \_\_\_\_\_: ask not \_\_\_\_\_, ask \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>5</sup> I know not what \_\_\_\_\_ others may take; but as for me, \_\_\_\_\_!<sup>6</sup> The \_\_\_\_\_ has turned! The free men of the world are \_\_\_\_\_ together to victory!<sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of \_\_\_\_\_ and evidence.<sup>8</sup> For we must consider that we shall be as a \_\_\_\_\_ upon a \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ of all \_\_\_\_\_ are upon us.<sup>9</sup> You shall not press down upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of labor this \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. You shall not \_\_\_\_\_ mankind upon a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>10</sup>

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2. The verse below represents all the finest in poetry.

- 1) Fill in the blanks.
- 2) Name the poets who wrote these lovely words and from what poem they are taken.

This is the forest \_\_\_\_\_ . The murmuring pines and the \_\_\_\_\_ , Bearded with moss, and in garments green, indistinct in the twilight, Stand like \_\_\_\_\_ of old, with voices sad and prophetic, Stand like harpers hoar, with beards that rest on their bosoms.<sup>11</sup> And though We are not now that strength which in old days Moved earth and heaven; that which we are, we are; One equal temper of \_\_\_\_\_ hearts, Made weak by time and fate, but strong in \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_ to seek, to find, and not to \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>12</sup> As thus with thee in prayer in my sore need. Oh! lift me as a wave, a leaf, a cloud! I \_\_\_\_\_ upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of life! I \_\_\_\_\_!<sup>13</sup> Good nature and good sense must ever join, to \_\_\_\_\_ is human, to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ walks in \_\_\_\_\_, like the night Of cloudless climes and starry skies; And all that 's best of dark and bright Meet in her aspect and her eyes:<sup>15</sup> And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side Of my \_\_\_\_\_—my \_\_\_\_\_—my life and my \_\_\_\_\_, In her \_\_\_\_\_ there by the sea— In her tomb by the sounding \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>16</sup> the edge of the sea concerned with itself sweating in the sun that melted the \_\_\_\_\_ ' wax<sup>17</sup> O no! It is an \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ mark That looks on \_\_\_\_\_ and is never shaken.<sup>18</sup> Whan that \_\_\_\_\_, with his ~~shoures~~ soote The droghte of March hath perced to the roote And ~~bathed~~ every veyne in swich licour, Of which vertu engendred is the flour<sup>19</sup>; If thou must ~~love~~ me, let it be for ~~naught~~ except for love's sake only.<sup>20</sup> I \_\_\_\_\_ lonely as \_\_\_\_\_ . That floats on high o'er \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host, of golden \_\_\_\_\_;<sup>21</sup> Far from the \_\_\_\_\_ 's ignoble strife, Their sober wishes never learned to stray; Along the cool sequestered vale of life They kept the \_\_\_\_\_ of their way.<sup>22</sup> In the room the \_\_\_\_\_ come and go Talking of \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>23</sup> And all should cry, \_\_\_\_\_! \_\_\_\_\_! His flashing eyes, his floating hair! Weave a circle round him thrice, And close your eyes with \_\_\_\_\_ dread For he on \_\_\_\_\_ hath fed, And drunk the \_\_\_\_\_ of Paradise.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Longfellow, Evangeline

<sup>12</sup> Tennyson, Ulysses

<sup>13</sup> Shelley, Ode to the West Wind

<sup>14</sup> Pope, Essay on Criticism

<sup>15</sup> Byron, She walks in beauty

<sup>16</sup> Poe, Annabel Lee

<sup>17</sup> Williams, Landscape with the fall of Icarus

<sup>18</sup> Shakespeare, Sonnet 116

<sup>19</sup> Chaucer, Prologue to the Canterbury Tales

<sup>20</sup> Barrett Browning, Sonnets from the Portugese

<sup>21</sup> Wordsworth, I wandered lonely as a cloud

<sup>22</sup> Gray, Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard

<sup>23</sup> Eliot, Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock

<sup>24</sup> Coleridge, Kublai Khan

3. There are great orators, great poets, and then there's Shakespeare.

- 1) Fill in the blanks.
- 2) Name which of the Bard's works we took the text from.

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, lend me your ears; I come to bury \_\_\_\_\_, not to praise him.<sup>25</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ creeps in this petty pace from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ to the last syllable of recorded time; And all our yesterdays have lighted fools the way to dusty death. Out, out, brief \_\_\_\_\_!<sup>26</sup> O, then, I see \_\_\_\_\_ hath been with you. She is the fairies' \_\_\_\_\_, and she comes In shape no bigger than an agate-stone.<sup>27</sup> Shake my fell purpose, nor keep peace between The effect and it! Come to my \_\_\_\_\_, And take my \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_, you murdering ministers, Wherever in your sightless substances You wait on nature's mischief! Come, thick \_\_\_\_\_, And pall thee in the \_\_\_\_\_ smoke of hell.<sup>28</sup> Neither a \_\_\_\_\_ nor a \_\_\_\_\_ be; For loan oft loses both itself and friend, And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry. This above all: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, And it must follow, as the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, Thou canst not then be false to any man. Farewell: my blessing season this in thee!<sup>29</sup> Ay me! for aught that I could ever read, Could ever hear by tale or history, The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ never did run \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>30</sup> But we in it shall be remembered- We \_\_\_\_\_, we \_\_\_\_\_, we \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_; For he to-day that sheds his blood with me shall be my \_\_\_\_\_; be he ne'er so vile, This day shall gentle his condition.<sup>31</sup> The quality of \_\_\_\_\_ is not strained. It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed: It blesseth him that \_\_\_\_\_ and him that \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>32</sup> And what's he then that says I play the \_\_\_\_\_? When this advice is free I give and \_\_\_\_\_?<sup>33</sup> If we \_\_\_\_\_ have offended, think but this, and all is \_\_\_\_\_, that you have but \_\_\_\_\_ here, while these \_\_\_\_\_ did appear.<sup>34</sup>

*Exit, pursued by a \_\_\_\_\_*<sup>35</sup>

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