

## Novel Progressions - Solution

Each line is the clue to a novel (or another work of literature) and each clue references the answer to the previous clue.

1. **When 3 is really 5** *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* since the series is described as a "trilogy in 5 parts.

**The answer - 20** *Catch-22* since the answer (to life, the universe, and everything, from the Hitchhiker's Guide) is 42 and  $42 - 20 = 22$ .

**Squadron + 195** *Fahrenheit 451* since the characters of *Catch-22* are in squadron 256, and  $256 + 195 = 451$ .

2. **Removed in the gust** *Gone With the Wind*, self-explanatory

**First word** *Gone*, self-explanatory

**++** *Hunger*, since it is the sequel to *Gone*. (++ means increment by 1 in many programming languages.)

**Autocomplete** *The Hunger Games* Try to autocomplete "Hunger" in Google and you'll almost certainly get *The Hunger Games*

**+= 2** *Mockingjay* More programming lingo, this means increment by 2, so we take the sequel of the sequel of *The Hunger Games*.

3. **Incomprehensible, Irish** *Finnegans Wake* is famous for being incomprehensible (<http://ebooks.adelaide.edu.au/j/joyce/james/j8f/episode1.html>) and is written by Irish author James Joyce.

**Most famous work** *Ulysses* is Joyce's most famous work

**Greek counterpart** *Odyssey* Odysseus is the Greek form of Ulysses.

**--** *Iliad* is the work that *Odyssey* is the sequel of. -- means decrement by 1.

4. **Born Kreutznaer** *Robinson Crusoe* was born Robinson Kreutznaer

**Boys, same nation, same plight** *Lord of the Flies* is about boys that are British and marooned on an island, like Crusoe.

**Main character as a rodent** *Ralph S. Mouse* The main character of *The Lord of the Flies* is Ralph.

**He is the last guy's favorite food** *I Am the Cheese* since mice like cheese!

**Another snack, same author** *The Chocolate War* is by Robert Cormier, who also wrote *I Am the Cheese*.

5. **A** *The Scarlet Letter* is about someone who has to wear a red A on her clothing.

**First word is the last word** *A Study in Scarlet* self-explanatory

**Holy book of the second half** *Book of Mormon* Mormons play a big role in the second half of *A Study in Scarlet*.

**Et 2?** *Julius Caesar* "Et tu, Brute?" is a famous line from *Julius Caesar*.

The last clue is important. The answer suggests performing a Caesar shift. The "2" in place of "tu" suggests shifting up by 2. Taking first letter of the last book in each progression (ignoring the "The" in *The Chocolate War*) gives

F M I C B

Shifting each letter up by two gives

H O K E D

and "hoked" is the keyword.