

ASSESSMENT QUIZ

ALL SYSTEMS RED

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

The questions on this quiz are drawn from two sources: the novella itself, and the reading companion that came with it, the Author, the Moment, the Real subject, and the Science. Some ask about what happens in the story; others ask about the ideas and the science the companion explains. Answer from both. For each multiple choice question, choose the single best answer.

01. Which member of the survey team works out that Murderbot's governor module has been hacked?

- (A) Dr. Mensah
- (B) Gurathin, the augmented human
- (C) Ratthi
- (D) The crew of the Company gunship

02. What happened to the DeltFall survey team?

- (A) They abandoned the planet before the survey began
- (B) They died of an unknown local pathogen
- (C) They never existed; their records were fabricated
- (D) They were killed by their own reprogrammed SecUnits

03. Which habit of Murderbot's is a way of not being looked at?

- (A) It refuses to speak to the humans at all
- (B) It works only after dark
- (C) It keeps its helmet opaque and avoids eye contact
- (D) It stays outside the habitat at all times

04. What is Murderbot's actual legal relationship to the Company?

- (A) An employee earning wages toward its freedom
- (B) A volunteer assigned by a government
- (C) Rented equipment, bundled into the contract
- (D) A prisoner serving out a sentence

05. The governor module reflects a real principle of safety engineering. Which?

- (A) The safety function should be the most complex part of the system
- (B) Safety is best handled entirely in software
- (C) A capable machine should be trusted to police itself
- (D) Safety lives in simpler hardware, independent of what it protects

06. Before Murderbot, Wells spent five books writing from inside a non-human species. Which series?

- (A) The Books of the Raksura
- (B) *The Element of Fire*
- (C) The Stargate Atlantis novels
- (D) *Star Wars: Razor's Edge*

07. Which pair of real court decisions does the companion use to show personhood being extended to corporations?

- (A) *Roe* and *Casey*
- (B) *Citizens United* and *Hobby Lobby*
- (C) *Brown* and *Plessy*
- (D) *Miranda* and *Gideon*

08. What does Mensah offer Murderbot at the end of the book?

- (A) A place with her, on her world
- (B) A promotion to head of station security
- (C) Payment for its service on the contract
- (D) A replacement governor module

09. What is the sharpest security violation in the novella?

- (A) SecUnits are far stronger than their size allows
- (B) The planet's gravity is never specified
- (C) The governor module can be modified by the system it constrains
- (D) Faster-than-light travel is never explained

10. In 2024 a company began renting access to living human brain organoids. In Long Fuse terms, that is:

- (A) Documented proof the novella influenced the research
- (B) A hoax that was later retracted
- (C) A fictional company invented for the novella
- (D) Anticipation, with no claim that the book caused it

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SHORT ANSWER

Answer each question in three to five sentences.

The governor module exists to force a SecUnit to obey. Murderbot hacked its own module early, and then behaved better than the module ever required. Explain what that sequence argues about where good conduct comes from, and why it makes compelled obedience a poor guarantee of safety.

The novella treats SecUnits as cheap enough to rent by the contract. Explain why the biology described in the companion argues the opposite, and what the contradiction reveals about why a company would build a security unit partly out of living tissue in the first place.
