

ASSESSMENT QUIZ

ALL SYSTEMS RED

FOR THE INSTRUCTOR

Each student's quiz is marked with its variant letter, A, B, or C, beside the page number in the lower left corner of each page. Check that letter before you score the multiple choice, and grade against the matching key below. The three variants ask different multiple choice questions, so the wrong key will misgrade a correct paper.

The two short answer questions are identical on every

variant. Grade all of them against the single set of model responses at the end, whatever multiple choice a student received. One rubric covers the whole class.

Score the short answers on reasoning, not on a word-for-word match with the model. A full-credit answer reaches the points named in the "Look for" line; give partial credit for partial reasoning. You do not need to have read the novella to grade them.

Variant A: Multiple Choice

- 1.C. A construct: cloned tissue and built hardware, not a robot.
- 2.B. Media, thousands of hours of it.
- 3.A. *The Rise and Fall of Sanctuary Moon*.
- 4.C. Dr. Mensah.
- 5.B. Work reclassified out of employment and into contracting.
- 6.D. A burrowing predator the deleted map sections would have flagged.
- 7.C. Sections deleted from the hazard maps.
- 8.A. Anthropology, Texas A&M, 1986.
- 9.C. Energy efficiency: a brain runs on roughly twenty watts.
10. D. It declines the offer and leaves.

Variant B: Multiple Choice

- 1.B. Gurathin, the augmented human.
- 2.D. Their own SecUnits, reprogrammed.
- 3.C. Opaque helmet, no eye contact.
- 4.C. Rented equipment, bundled into the contract.
- 5.D. Safety lives in separate, simpler hardware.
- 6.A. The Books of the Raksura.
- 7.B. *Citizens United* (2010) and *Hobby Lobby* (2014).
- 8.A. A place with her, on her world.
- 9.C. The module can be modified by what it constrains.
10. D. Anticipation, with no causal claim.

Variant C: Multiple Choice

- 1.C. It declines a human category it does not think applies.
- 2.B. The networked stream of data everyone is on.
- 3.A. Access: it can see everything and open any door.
- 4.A. Diffusion: nutrients reach barely a fraction of a millimeter.
- 5.B. Hashing and signing.
- 6.D. A data integrity failure, not a monster.
- 7.B. The organic half is the expensive one.
- 8.D. To silence witnesses and protect a fraudulent claim.
- 9.A. Streaming had made binge-watching ordinary.
10. C. Manufactured, not captured; contract labor is nearer.

Short Answer model respons on reverse.

ANSWER KEY

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Short Answer: Model Responses (all variants)

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 governor module can inflict pain and compel obedience, and it exists so the humans nearby can feel safe. Murderbot disabled its own early, which means every decent thing it does in the novella is done by something that could have walked away instead, and it then behaves considerably better than the module ever demanded. That sequence separates compliance from ethics: a being that cannot choose to do wrong is not doing right, it is only complying, and there is no moral content in a compliance chip. A strong answer goes one step further and notes that the module arguably makes SecUnits more dangerous, not less, because a weapon with no stake in the outcome has no reason to care what the outcome is, and a unit that follows orders exactly will follow a bad order exactly.

Look for: the distinction between compelled compliance and chosen conduct, and the recognition that the book treats obedience as a safety problem rather than a safety guarantee.

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.

The Company treats SecUnits as cheap enough to bundle into a contract, but the biology points the other way. Manufactured components get cheaper every year, while the organic half needs sterile culture, a nutrient supply, thermoregulation, immune management, and a repair cubicle capable of rebuilding tissue in the field, which is effectively a portable hospital carried around for the benefit of the equipment. A fully mechanical unit would be cheaper to build, cheaper to store, cheaper to fix, and would not need feeding. So the only good reason to build a security unit partly out of a person is that you want something that thinks like a person, judgment that a purely mechanical unit could not supply. The sting is that the governor module then exists to suppress exactly that capability.

Look for: the recognition that the organic half is the expensive half, and the conclusion that the Company is paying a premium for judgment and then installing hardware to prevent its use.