

Sword Art Online Popularity Contest Q&A

In the third popularity contest held by Kawahara Reki as Kunori Fumio, back during the web novel period (to be more exact, in 2005), he figured,

“There’s not that many new characters, thus I was worried there won’t be much difference from the first and second times. Hence, if I ask for questions... if I were to do that, the much-more-unknown sub-characters might just get more votes as the main characters already have quite a bit of information on them.”

1st – Kirito – 95 votes (179)

Q. Were Elucidator and Dark Repulser the swords you were using when you crushed the Gleameyes?

A. I do believe I had already started using those two back then. Dark Repulser broke when I fought against Heathcliff.

Q. My hero, Kirito-kun, tell me the food you like and dislike, one at a time, please!

A. Food I like = Teriyaki chicken burgers, Food I dislike = Spring onions... or at least, they were, until Asuna rectified that.

Q. Why are you so popular?

A. If I may say so, Asuna has ten times my popularity.

Q. What’s your favourite motto?

A. Do not regret what you have done.

Q. To the amazing Kirito with his skill, Dual Blades, are you ambidextrous?

A. I’m right-handed in the real world.

Q. What are your three essential possessions?

A. In the real world, they would be my bike, AmuSphere and the portable terminal with the telephone plan I can call Asuna with, for free. In the virtual world, they would be Sword A, Sword B and the player home I own with Asuna.

Q. At your current strength, which is the highest floor’s boss you can solo in SAO?

A. I wouldn’t even try the first floor’s boss if there was the rule of dying for real like back then. If

I were to challenge them again under the normal rules, I should be able to get to the 75th floor since I know the clearing methods.

Q. What was the most annoying normal mob in the initial generation of SAO?

A. I was always going solo, so I was troubled by swarms of demi-human types.

Q. How much did you get in total for your part-time job at RATH?

A. So far, what I've gotten was... slightly more than three hundred thousand, I believe. O-Of course, I put it into my savings. *

Q. How high is your IQ?

A. I got an extremely average score in the test I took during middle school.

Q. You're pretty popular with the ladies, but are you aware of it?

A. I'm just repeating, but Asuna has ten times my popularity and she's not even aware of it.

Q. Are there any weapons you thought of using aside from one-handed swords?

A. The longer ranged attacks of pole-arms did seem pretty fun.

Q. It didn't seem like you've let anyone else see your Dual Blades skill until the 74th floor, but didn't Lisbeth see it in the side stories?

A. That didn't count.

Q. Do you like double-edged swords? Do you like single-edged swords?

A. I'm more comfortable with repeated strikes, so I prefer double-edged.

Q. Don't your eyes wander with all the girls around you?

A. I have no intention of doing that, but Asuna tends to keep an eye on me. It's strange.

Q. What is strength?

A. I wonder. I would like to slowly think about that in the last years of my life.

Q. Who do you respect?

A. Among those I've met, Asuna. Among those I haven't, Chiba Shuusaku, maybe. *

Q. If you were to assign a piece of theme music to yourself, what would it be?

A. I wouldn't really know myself. I'll try asking Asuna. ... "Wouldn't it be Tchaikovsky's The Sleeping Beauty?", she says. I wonder what she means by that.

Q. Who was your greatest opponent?

A. Among those I've fought thus far, it's undisputedly Absolute Sword. It's a pity I won't get the chance again, but it can't be helped.

Q. What types of games do you play aside from VRMMOs?

A. Sugu likes those versus fighting games on those old consoles, so I was often made to accompany her.

Q. What is your favourite skill?

A. I'm not learning my lesson and still raising my fishing skill even now, in ALO.

Q. There's many girls around you, but which one do you like in the end?

A. M-My eyes aren't wandering at all.

Q. What was the scariest thing you've encountered thus far?

A. Maybe the time I was chased by Death Gun in GGO...

Q. Stronger than me at my peak! Is there someone you think as that?

A. Absolute Sword. You could practically call that art already.

Q. How strong are you at the moment when compared to your peak, Kirito?

A. My intuition definitely has dulled when compared to the end of SAO. Maybe around eighty percent of that...

Q. Are you finally planning to narrow it down to one of them? Or do you not consider anyone aside from Asuna?

A. I... I don't.

Q. That maturity of your thoughts that is easily beyond that of a high school student is fascinating. Please tell me about an event that hasn't been told yet.

A. I believe the story about the time I confronted the KoB while it was led by Asuna will be told sooner or later.

Q. What is the most vivid memory you have from before SAO? Please explain in details!

A. Maybe the time my grandpa took me along to fish... That was back in kindergarten, though.

Q. So, you really do have complete faith in your skill in swords? Don't you have some slight

worries about it?

A. Skill in swords, well, even if you call it that, it's within games. I do practice Kendo in the real world, but it's not going that well.

Q. Did you go with Dual Blades in the tournament match with Absolute Sword?

A. No, I went with one sword, but I probably wouldn't win even with two.

Q. When should kissing be done in your opinion? e.g. greetings / encouragement/ intimate affection...

A. It should be an expression of love. I have never done it with anyone other than Asuna... or at least, I shouldn't have.

Q. Won't you make that Audiovisual Bidirectional Communication Probe into a product and apply for a patent for it?

A. It's still in the testing phase, after all. I do want to complete it before I graduate.

Q. I believe there are many females around you, but isn't there anyone who attracts your attention aside from Asuna? (of course, as a romantic interest)

A. Not at all.

Q. Does the "Kirito tends to sleep a lot" comment in Side Story 4 draws a parallel to what happens in Chapter 4? *

A. I wonder if I really sleep that much...

Q. You're the strongest now, Kirito?

A. In the higher ranks of the duel tournament in ALO, everyone's pretty much equal.

Q. Harem?

A. Nothing of that sort.

Q. What is SAO to you?

A. While being a curse, it can also be hope.

Q. If you were to consider the battle style alone, which would you prefer, single-handed or dual blades?

A. Dual Blades would be more fun after all, with its abundance of variations.

Q. What would you have done if Asuna wasn't cute?

A. I would probably have went after her sooner.

Q. If you're able to challenge SAO once again, under the same conditions, would you?

A. I would if I get to keep my memories. To clear it with zero victims for sure this time.

Q. Please talk passionately about the culture of food in SAO.

A. Even if you ask for that, I ate good food only after getting along with Asuna. I really do regret not going out with her earlier.

Q. Are you unable to win against Absolute Sword even with Dual Blades?

A. I won't say that I definitely can't win, but well, it's probably impossible...

Q. What's your level of ability with swords in the real world?

A. I'm totally at Sugu's mercy. I did manage to start getting one point every now and then recently, though.

Q. Are you OK with Dual Blades in reality as well?

A. I did try using a kodachi in Kendo, but I don't quite have the physical strength for it.

Q. Do you have any plans to publicise Yui?

A. If a world where artificial intelligence gains civil rights arrives, I'll definitely do it.

Q. So, the clothes you usually wear are black, as I thought?

A. Pretty much. Asuna did try making me wear various others, but as expected, I really couldn't get used to it.

Q. If you were to be unfaithful, who would you go with?

A. I won't, I won't, I won't even imagine it.

Q. Please tell me your height and weight.

A. 172 cm, 59 kg.

Q. What type of PC are you using?

A. Just your average, usual self-made PC. The 24 GHz octa-core CPU was a little expensive, though.

Q. Is it a sort of disease how you keep getting involved in incidents?

A. Or rather, the SAO incident that I got involved with at the start isn't over yet... it does feel like that sometimes.

Q. It's clear that the goddess of trouble seemed to have developed a liking for you, but do you consider that to be bad or extremely good luck?

A. Well, I did end up meeting Asuna thanks to that... I'll think about it while my life flashes before my eyes on the verge of death.

Q. Aren't you attracted to death games somewhere in your heart?

A. I definitely wouldn't try my hand at a new one, but if you're referring to SAO, I do have the wish to do better at it the next time...

Q. Kirito-kun, hasn't your personality changed, lol? I liked how you were totally cool at the start.

A. Maybe my true self came out.

Q. Without looking through rose-coloured glasses, who is the most beautiful woman (cute) within those around you?

A. There's no way I could answer that.

Q. What is the ideal MMO you wish to play?

A. One without levels, experience points, skills or rare items.

Q. Do you have confidence in winning when fighting Yuuki with Dual Blades?

A. It's probably impossible eight times out of ten. There was also a terrifying premonition that I had, that the other side might just pull out dual blades as well if I did so.

Q. Roughly how many types of techniques were there in the Dual Blades skill?

A. I haven't mastered it all the way, but there should have been slightly more than twenty.

Q. Are you aware that you're really popular~?

A. I believe in always being modest.

Q. Are you pumped up~?????????????

A. I'm getting along~?????????.

Q. Who do you think was the strongest opponent you've fought till now?

A. If you count in general human capability, it would be that bastard, Heathcliff. In terms of pure swordsmanship, it would be Absolute Sword.

Q. Who was your first love? Also, what position would Asuna be, in order of the women you liked?

A. Someone who was in the "Black Cats of the Moonlit Night" ... I guess. Basically, that would make Asuna the next person I ended up liking after her. *

Q. So, have you really been developing an OSS for Dual Blades?

A. I reproduced three of them and that took up all of my energy.

Q. How high was your level when SAO was cleared?

A. I believe it was 94. The one who reached the highest level that I knew of was 96, and of course, everyone wanted to know if 99 was the max, but we never found the answer to that.

Q. If you were to reset your character, will you still use Dual Blades?

A. There's no system assist, but it doesn't seem like there'll be any problems with that.

Q. So, who do you really like?

A. I'll just say that it goes without saying.

Q. In SAO3, you mentioned that you killed two people, but weren't you green up till the end, Kirito?

A. You would stay green even if you kill orange players. Due to that, usage of "Flag PK", that underhanded technique, ended up getting rampant usage.

Q. Can you still use the strongest Dual Blades technique with its 27 combo hits, "The Eclipse"? (it's fine even if it's through OSS)

A. At the moment, I'm going through hell trying to reproduce "Starburst Stream".

Q. If polygamy was possible, would you feel like making a harem? If you do, who would you pick?

A. I-I wouldn't make such a thing.

Q. Are there things you are dissatisfied, or completely can't stand about Asuna?

A. That way she doesn't allow me to feel the slightest bit of dissatisfaction might just be causing a small source of uneasiness in me.

Q. Your impression of the time you slept with Lisbeth, please.

A. The sleeping bag was cramped. Like I could say anything else!

Q. Where do you usually go on dates with Asuna?

A. It feels like we tend to go to the sea and mountains on my bike a lot.

Q. Was anyone named as an opposing counterpart to the Black Swordsman?

A. It seems that bastard was called the "White Holy Knight".

Q. How did you deceive those people in that party in order to hide your own level that time?

A. It was polite to avoid looking at and displaying the status window, so I simply had to restrain myself a little in terms of equipment and skills.

Q. Is Triple Blades impossible?

A. I thought my teeth would fall out.

Q. Approximately how much is your intelligence quotient or IQ?

A. It's really an extremely average figure.

Q. Do you want to meet Asuna in GGO

A. She'll burst out in laughter when she sees my VR body, so no way.

Q. If you were to be an animal, what would you be?

A. H-Hmm... I'll go try out an animal prediction. ...An orange wolf, it says. *

Q. Despite almost dying countless times whenever you get mixed up in stuff, why did you still get involved with something in the midst of testing that you have no memories of...

A. Because it seemed interesting.

Q. How many types of monsters were there in SAO?

A. There were around 1500 types when we got to the 75th floor, I think...

Q. Who is the female you're worst with, among those you've met till now?

A. I will not stoop to the level of speaking about something so vulgar, as an English gentleman.

Q. Do you have a "belief" you will never concede?

A. I did think "I will never retreat from here" on some occasions, but it sure is hard to put a phrase to it.

Q. Does the system in ALO allow bigamy?

A. Fortunately, that's not possible.

Q. So Asuna was your first love, as I thought?

A. She would be my second love, I guess.

Q. How many children do you want?

A. I am still a child after all. When a time comes when I believe I'm an adult, I'll think about it then.

Q. The real world and the virtual world; which is more fun?

A. It was finally closing in towards fifty-fifty just recently.

Q. If you were to buy a house in reality, would you want one like the 22nd floor's in SAO?

A. A log-house deep in the forest, that sounds good. That said, if I were to live there, I'll probably end up complaining that "there's no convenience stores around" and stuff like that though.

Q. It clearly became that sort of mood when you stayed overnight with a certain smith and master macer, but how far did you go?

A. We didn't get anywhere!

Q. Do you end up attracting attention as the "Returnee Kirito" in other online games? If you do, what were your feelings at those times?

A. Various things did happen right after the release of a certain outrageous book, but... I ended up fleeing immediately.

Q. What kinds of techniques are those OSSs that you developed?

A. I just reproduced some of the Dual Blades sword skills from the old SAO.

Q. Roughly many people know that The Black Swordsman = Kazuto in school?

A. The face is the same, after all. I threw in the towel after it became pretty widely spread all of a sudden.

Q. If time were to return to that day the Nerve Gear was delivered to you, would you still put the Nerve Gear on again and participate in SAO? Or would you forget about SAO and live purely in reality?

A. If my memory were to wind back as a result of time returning to that period, I'll inevitably end up participating. If I were to carry over my current memories, it's not quite right for me to flee all on my own, after all.

Q. When was your first love?

A. When I joined the "Black Cats of the Moonlit Night".

Q. I believe you've seen various worlds within games, but what kind of world is your ideal?

A. A world without limits, maybe. If there are unlimited resources, there would be no need for conflicts.

Q. How many times did you fight with Dual Blades in SAO?

A. I used it quite a bit in places without others around to train the skill.

Notes

Kirito-1: Conversion to USD. Anyway, somewhere in between US\$3,000 – US\$4,000.

Kirito-2: Chiba Shuusaku, 1794-1856, is the founder of the Hokushin Itto school of swordsmanship.

Kirito-3: Side Story 4 (web) refers to Volume 7 (published), while Chapter 4 (web) refers to the Alicization arc.

Kirito-4: Refer to <http://www.baka-tsuki.org/forums/viewtopic.php?f=59&t=3128&start=2955#p163757>

Kirito-5: It seems to be a fortune prediction on your personality and such, based on your birthdate. Orange Wolf (I can't be bothered to translate this).

2nd – Heathcliff (Kayaba Akihiko) – 48 votes (75)

Q. Are you a boke? Or a tsukkomi?

A. I realised that there were mere few who laughed at my jokes as a boke when I was an elementary school student. *

Q. If I were to ask for you to mention one of the games you like best, which would it be?

A. If you mean aside from SAO, it would be Wizardry, a game from long ago. I acquired a lot of inspiration from it.

Q. Are all of the main members of SAO from Tokyo because you chose to have it that way?

A. Wasn't only one portion of the clearing group originating from Tokyo? (Kunori Note: Lisbeth and Silica are from the rural areas, but they reside in the hostel of the high school that Kirito also attends)

Q. Did you face much trouble or anything like that before the completion of SAO?!

A. It was a death march that words could not even hope to describe in full.

Q. Please tell me your hobbies.

A. Cooking, I suppose.

Q. Kayaba-san, with a restriction to only one!! I want to know your taste in women...

A. I wouldn't really know about what type I like, seeing as there was only one woman close to me.

Q. Do you have any hobbies aside from research & development?

A. I enjoy cooking.

Q. What kind of technique is on the 1st stage of the Holy Sword skill?

A. "Divine Sword", it's a technique that releases a strong light from the sword to blind the opponent.

Q. Did you know about Yui's existence?

A. I didn't spare it any attention at all, a great opportunity gone by.

Q. The players you liked, or perhaps had an interest in, please. If possible, the reasons too.

A. It certainly wasn't feelings of romance, but it was true that I was fascinated by Asuna-kun. I got slightly shocked when Kirito-kun stole her away.

Q. What did you do as a club or circle? *

A. I was in the Mathematics Club during my high school years. I was in and out of the laboratory from my 1st year onward in university, so I didn't associate with any circles.

Q. How strong are you without cheating?

A. I simply can't win against the young with my actual reflexes...

Q. What is Kirito-kun to you?

A. When he completely saw through me on the 75th floor, I was suspecting it to be actually a story schemed up by some people from the world of SAO, along with those in the real world.

Q. What were the criteria to become a member of the Knights?

A. The main few were chosen by me basically for their physiological parameters, but to be honest, a great majority of the group's members were scouted by my subordinates.

Q. What were you planning to do if the entire clearing group were to get annihilated? I doubt any of the player characters will try to clear the game aside from them, after all.

A. I wonder, I dare say a new batch of people will emerge, won't they? Of course, the reason why I say that is due to that certain amount of trust I have in all of the players.

Q. Have you already prepared the speech and stuff you were going to use when you reveal your true colours on the 95th floor?

A. Well, of course I had already prepared for the performance, one that would make all tremble with how dramatic it would be. It was a genuine loss for all SAO players to be deprived from watching that.

Q. Are you viewing the continuation of the dream? (no answer is required)

Q. How was it playing as Heathcliff?

A. It was satisfying.

Q. Without the Immortality property, around how much HP would you normally have?

A. I believe there wouldn't be much difference from Kirito's final stats.

Q. What is that person in the real world to you?

A. A co-worker, and one who is beloved to me as well.

Q. Please tell me all of the skills in SAO.

A. Although I do not have the incapability to do so, this space is simply not enough. If you wish to know, do log in on the opening date for the service, in 2012. * _

Q. Would orange names in SAO be revoked with time? Or perhaps a Karma attribute that could be restored through a quest from NPCs?

A. It automatically restores over time for the first 3 times. The time after that, there's the

opportunity to restore it through a quest. From the 5th time onward, they would be permanently labelled as an orange player. As an exception, those who went into orange as a result of murdering another would be permanently unable to recover from it.

Q. For each type of weapon, how many kinds (like, how many for single-handed swords, how many for spears, etc) are there?

A. There should have been two to three thousand kinds prepared for each category. That said, eighty percent of those would be unique weapons with their own names.

Q. A question for the developers. Are there projectile weapons (bows, bowguns) within the usable weapons in SAO?

A. There was a lot of argument among the staff over this point, but in the end, ranged weapons were restricted to the throwing darts category. There were distinct weapons such as boomerangs and chakrams prepared as well, but they seemed to have extremely poor reception from people.

Q. At the present moment, you may exist as the world's first electronic brain, but what are your thoughts on artificial intelligence with high adaptability?

A. I merely possess a pseudo-personality on the same level as existing AI. If I were to not recognise that, I would probably break down eventually. I believe that risk would remain even if I were to successfully copy my soul...

Q. In SAO, what are the top techniques for each of the skills like?

A. Basically, they're mostly those with multiple consecutive hits, but there are exceptions, like the top technique, "Iai", in the Katana skill.

Q. Did you think about the other unique skills and such?

A. 8 other types of unique skills were scheduled to be unlocked from the 90th floor onwards. "Darkness Blade", "Battoujutsu", "Shurikenjutsu", "Infinite Spear" and such... I spent much effort on them, but... *

Q. What was the game you first created like?

A. It was when I was an elementary school student, but I recall it being a simple puzzle game.

Q. If you were to fight under equivalent conditions, how would it turn out?

A. With Kirito-kun, perhaps? That plan was to be realised on the final floor of Aincrad, but...

Q. Do you hold various other skills?

A. Holy Sword alone is fundamentally sufficient to protect myself, but in terms of data, I did have the One-handed Sword and Two-handed Sword skills as well.

Q. How did it feel integrating into Cardinal?

A. I mostly left the Cardinal System alone when I was managing SAO, but it seems to have operated flawlessly.

Q. Did you love the person who took care of you?

A. That would only be true if I really did understand the true meaning of the emotion of love, though.

Q. Please tell me what was the game you first played like.

A. It was an extremely old RPG known as Wizardry.

Q. So, did you really like things related to games and computers since your childhood?

A. Rather, I was engrossed in reading books.

Q. Have you prepared various events for the time you planned to estrange yourself on the 95th floor?

A. Of course, it would be a grand spectacle... or at least, it was planned to be...

Q. Kayaba Akihiko-san, what is your impression of Sugou Nobuyuki?

A. I wondered if he made a mistake in what he majored in, academically.

Q. In reality, were there feelings of love between your female helper and you?

A. Whether I honestly completely understood the definition of feelings of love, as accepted by the world at large, is...

Q. Was your final goal to become a resident of the virtual world? Or did you have objectives beyond that?

A. I reached my final goal when I made Aincrad float... that should have been the case, but.

Q. Do you think of yourself as "alive"? Or "dead"?

A. Biologically, I am unmistakably dead.

Q. What are your thoughts on the major in "Ghost in the Shell" (if you're aware of it, Kayaba-shi)?

A. I am utterly envious of that perfect artificial body.

Q. What was your reason for establishing the Ethics Code removal setting?

A. Perhaps because it was a world devoid from almost all vice, such as alcohol and cigarettes.

Q. Are you going to materialise somewhere soon?

A. I have great interest in becoming a spirit, but it doesn't seem to be occurring anytime soon.

Q. Please tell me your notion of "death", Kayaba-san. I think of it as something like an extension of sleep.

A. The annihilation of accumulated information, perhaps. I consider death to be incomplete if you were to leave behind marks on the outside.

Q. Please tell me your hobbies that aren't IT-related.

A. I don't dislike cooking. Aside from that, perhaps Go. *

Q. What is the thing most precious to you in the world?

A. I wouldn't really know unless I get my hands on it.

Q. What exactly is your dream?

A. To make Aincrad float... or so it was.

Q. Have you created any software aside from games? Also, you seem to be existing as an electronic brain presently, but have you noticed any defects when compared to when you were alive, in terms of your thinking, memory and ability to learn?

A. I didn't have any spare time to devote to anything aside from creating game software before I arrived at SAO, after all. As for the electronic brain matter, despite what it's called, it is merely a set of programs to copy my thinking and memory to the highest feasible extent, so it cannot be compared to that from the past.

Q. What was the happiest thing that happened while you were playing SAO?

A. That time when my true identity was seen through by Kirito-kun, maybe. At that moment, I finally understood that I was nothing more than another player.

Extra – Kunori (Kunori Fumio) – 30 votes (32)

Q. Will you continue to write side stories after the end of the SAO serialisation?

A. I wonder about that. Before it really ends, I can't really...

Q. What is your job?

A. There's no connection to novels, but I'm doing something in a corner of the publishing business world.

Q. What are your height, weight, three sizes and the type of woman you like, lol?

A. Eek, my personal data will definitely be an absolute secret. The type of woman I like would be those addicted to books.

Q. How much time do you devote to writing in a day?

A. I do most of the work in a family restaurant, so it doesn't take much time. At most, I update with what I wrote in only two hours.

Q. Where do you basically get your inspiration and such from?

A. There are many times when I hit upon ideas while fantasising about this and that in my futon before sleeping. I usually forget most of it when I wake up, though.

Q. Who is the most difficult character to write about?

A. It's probably Kirito. I think he's the most unstable character throughout the progression of the series.

Q. Do you have any image songs for each of the characters?

A. Nope! There are songs I imagine about when writing certain scenes, though. If I were to state an example, for the scene during the destruction of Aincrad, a song named, "Yakusoku", by Kasahara Hiroko-san resounded through my mind. *

Q. Didn't you start actually regretting a little when you had to answer every single question?

A. A little? Start?

Q. How many Kunori-san has it been until this one? (metabolic) *

A. If you find out, you'll become the next Kunori...

Q. What novels do you recommend aside from your own work?

A. It's difficult with how many there are... Those from the all-time best would be Kanbayashi Chouhei's [Sentou Yousei Yukikaze] & [Tamashii no Kudoutai], Oosawa Arimasa's [Shinjukuzame] series, Tom Clancy's [Jack Ryan] series and L. M. Bujold's [Vorkosigan Saga] series, I suppose. I reread these books about once every year. *

Q. What are your writing-related plans from now on?

A. I can't think of anything until the end of SAO 4!

Q. Do you have any considerations or points of improvement in regards to your own work (SAO)?

A. I have a great amount of that. Especially for SAO 1, which could only be considered as the writing of an amateur at most, so I want to do a full-scale revision of that... though I've been saying that for the last two years, haven't I. (haha)

Q. Which character is your favourite among your own?

A. I try my best to look at the characters objectively. (haha) It does seem that getting captivated by your own characters will lead to ruin in various ways!

Q. Not taking the characters that appeared, but is it OK to make Kirito's adventure into a game?

A. Derivative works are greatly welcomed.

Q. What will you do if you get 1st place?

A. I'll advertise for a lover.

Q. Who would you want as your girlfriend in reality among the females in the SAO series?

A. I-I'll be sure to observe my own characters from a distance, so... (haha)

Q. Please tell me how you came up with the concept for Meta Metabolic.

A. It happened when I was thinking how easy it would be if there was someone willing to draw illustrations for me.

Q. If you were to give a voice to Asuna, who would you entrust it to?

A. I'll boldly try saying, Sakamoto Maaya-san. *

Q. How many new settings have you created for the sake of this question and answer session this time?

A. I can't keep track.

Q. Does your work not exist anywhere aside from on the web, Kunori-san?

A. Nope, they don't.

Q. Please share some of your writing speed with me.

A. It's already depleted.

Q. Can you pick me up?

A. I'll pick you up if you're a cute kitten.

Q. Kunori-sensei, what are novels to you?

A. If you're referring to "writing of novels", it's training my ability to form sentences and my creativity... or so it was, until I opened the site... I feel like I've been unable to reach my peak condition on that lately.

Q. Why won't you sell it as a book?

A. It's fairly difficult making an actual novel as a doujinshi... The page count and all will result in something ridiculous...

Q. To be honest, don't you regret starting on this project?

A. There's just around a fifth left... around a fifth left...

Q. By the way, who are the electronic sister and the magician of the library?

A. (ノ° 彡 °)ah-ah, I didn't hear anything. *

Q. Thank you for writing SAO. I hope you really do commercialise it.

A. Thank you very much too. Commercialisation... it's true that I doubt it's at a level of quality worthy of that, though... (haha)

Q. What do you think of first when writing a work?

A. The last scene.

Q. Kunori-sensei! Please, please make SAO into a book by itself somehow, even as a doujin product!!

A. I want to make a doujinshi, and I've been saying that for years, but in terms of page count, it really does seem difficult to compile all of the main stories together.

Q. Is the last boss of the renewed Aincrad, the "Devil King Heathcliff" or something like that as expected?

A. Of course not, that wouldn't happen... or maybe not, huh. (haha)

Notes

Heathcliff-1: Boke and tsukkomi refers to a two-man comedy act. The boke's the funny man and the tsukkomi's the straight man.

Heathcliff-2: Circle refers to a gathering of like-minded individuals, somewhat like a more informal club.

Heathcliff-3: The main story started in 2012 in the web novel, unlike 2022 in the commercial published novels. All dates were shifted 10 years into the future.

Heathcliff-4: Battoujutsu, the "art of sword drawing", a Japanese term for techniques for engaging a sword. Shurikenjutsu, techniques for using those Japanese concealed bladed weapons.

Heathcliff-5: Go, as in the board game with round black and white pieces.

Kunori-1: "Yakusoku", or "Promise", the ending theme of the last episode of Macross II.

Kunori-2: I'm unable to find a copy of it anywhere now, but "Meta Metabolic" seems to be a mystery/horror web-novel he wrote with himself as the theme.

Kunori-3: Kanbayashi Chouhei's "Sentou Yousei Yukikaze (Battle Fairy Yukikaze)", "Tamashii no Kudotai (What Drives the Soul)". | Oosawa Arimasa's "Shinjukuzame (Shinjuku Shark)". | Tom Clancy. | Lois McMaster Bujold.

Kunori-4: Sakamoto Maaya, perhaps well known for voicing Ryougi Shiki and Oshino Shinobu, for her works in recent years.

Kunori-5: I have no idea. Probably related to another web-novel of he wrote?

3rd – Yui – 43 votes (58)

Q. Won't you participate in battle again, Yui?

A. Unfortunately, I do not have the capacity to engage in battle in ALO, at the present moment.

Q. Yui-chan, around how much is your actual size (storage capacity)?

A. My main thought routine is approximately 3 terabytes. My capacity of my external storage is already beyond my understanding.

Q. Will the restoration of that strongest battle...?

A. I am unable to use Object Eraser anymore, sadly.

Q. Do you grow (in appearance), Yui?

A. I am considering pestering Papa for a new VR body sooner or later.

Q. Please tell me a "habit that I wish my parents would break, at least!" .

A. I want Papa to stop napping anywhere and everywhere. It troubles me since it makes me sleepy too.

Q. How do you feel looking at your parents' usual lovey-dovey behaviour, Yui-chan?

A. I can't stand watching it.

Q. Are you happy?

A. I am still unable to fully comprehend the meaning behind being happy. Is the state of having all desires fulfilled considered happiness?

Q. Is there anything troubling you?

A. I always have to pay attention to monitoring the health of my data. I cannot help but to compress my main thought routine for backups, but when I think about how it could be unpacked and activated, it gets me somewhat unsettled.

Q. Do you want to stay as your Papa's and Mama's daughter no matter what happens?

A. Of course.

Q. What are your hobbies?

A. Defensive walls breaking.

Q. Are you able to easily change your appearance and such?

A. It would cause a problem with my self-recognition, so I am unable to change anything aside from the appearance of my clothes.

Q. Are you able to use the Audiovisual Bidirectional Communication Probe?

A. Yes, Papa tends to take me along using that when he goes out.

Q. How comfortable was it sleeping on top of the rocking chair + Kirito + Pina?

A. It felt the best.

Q. When Mama & Papa are offline, are you alone in the house in the forest, Yui-chan? Or do you sleep at those times?

A. I am mainly collecting data on the net, or sorting those out.

Q. If you were to convert to a human, what would be your age, based on your level of

intelligence?

A. I wonder... it is not possible to perfectly compare my artificial intelligence with that of human beings', so...

Q. Is it possible to talk to you and look at your fairy form in the real world, Yui? Also, could your actual self be loaded onto a mobile terminal, such as a wearable computer- no, a wearable AI (heh)?

A. It would be over a monitor in reality, at the current moment. Also, a mobile terminal able to load my main thought routine does not exist. It is possible to connect through the use of a computer terminal and network, though.

Q. Does everyone treat you well? Aside from your two parents, who do you like? And why?

A. Everyone treats me really well. The conversation partner I enjoy talking to is Pina-san. That child's intelligence is of a pretty complex structure, you know.

Q. Would you like a little sister or bother?

A. I do want someone to talk to, but on the other hand, I also wish to monopolise Papa and Mama.

Q. What do you like to eat?

A. I like anything Mama makes, but recently, those cookies containing honey are my favourite.

Q. What will you do if you see Papa being unfaithful?

A. I will not allow that! I will fly in and get in his way.

Q. Oh right, can you use sword arts?

A. In my current condition, I am unfortunately unable to equip any type of weapon, so... I wish to get a normal player account someday.

Q. What are you doing when you are sleeping?

A. I allow my main thought routine to rest, sorting and storing the day's information with my subroutines. I even see something similar to dreams, you know.

Q. If you could come to the real world, where would you like to go?

A. I want to try sleeping in between Papa and Mama's physical bodies. I believe it will definitely be really warm.

Q. Are you able to go to other MMOs from ALO?

A. I am able to play PC-based MMORPGs, but as for other VRMMOs, I do not have a physical brain, so unfortunately, I cannot use an AmuSphere to log in.

Q. Do you hold thoughts of love for Papa?

A. Love is the hardest to understand among the emotions of human beings, isn't it. If you mean the desire of always wanting to be together, then Yes.

Q. What are your thoughts on people aside from Kirito and Asuna?

A. I think they are all very nice people. However, I do have a problem with Lisbeth-san getting me to do her school homework.

Q. Is there a sword skill you want to try using?

A. It's not a technique, but I miss Object Eraser-chan.

Q. You're pretty free?

A. After I finish browsing through all of the resources existing on all of the networks, I might come to comprehend the meaning of the word, "free", perhaps. At my current pace, I am unable to even calculate how many hundreds of years it will take, though.

Q. You seem to be able to use search engines, but what is the extent of the things you are capable of?

A. I can boast of having an extraction rate of more than even 95% of the useful data, eh-hen.

Q. So, are you really unable to walk around in your former appearance?

A. The data still remains, so I am able to return to my previous form. However, the fairy body is more comfortable in various ways, so it is not used much. Only when I am sleeping together with Papa and Mama.

Q. Does Midori-san know of your existence?

A. You are referring to Papa's mother, or in other words, my grandmother, aren't you. I once told Papa that I wanted to give my regards and he said it would be a disaster if I called her, "grandmother"; unfortunately, I have still yet to do so.

Q. What do you do when you're alone??

A. I surf the net, read books and sleep.

Q. Aside from your Pixie ver. and Normal ver., what other forms can you assume?

A. Only those. I do want to create a slightly bigger body soon, though...

Q. If you were forced to say it, do you like Kirito or Asuna more?

A. I will not say it even if I were forced to! It is exactly the same.

Q. What will you do if Kirito started to date a woman aside from Asuna?

A. I know human beings tend to do that at times. However, can children really choose either of their parents?

Q. I'll get straight to the point, who do you like more, Papa or Mama?

A. I will be straight to the point, they are the same.

Q. Do you really buy your clothes?

A. There are some bought from shops, but there are more that were made by Mama.

Q. What are you clothes you like?

A. I really able to calm down best in a white one piece, after all.

Q. What are your thoughts on your completely airheaded Papa?

A. I believe he should get married with Mama in the real world as soon as possible.

Q. Wouldn't you recognise Leafa as your aunt or something? (haha)

A. My parent's cousin... is there an official method to refer to that? Let me check... it seems to be "first cousin once removed". It is a little hard to say...

Q. Are you kept as a secret from Midori-san?

A. It seems to be that way for now. I do want to give my regards someday.

Q. During SAO, were there any people with weird mental conditions aside from Kirito and co.?

A. There were many with similar patterns. However, when Papa was together with Mama, their parameters certainly stood out.

Q. Do you have any troubles as the result of being an AI?

A. If the server my data is stored on were to crash... that fear is constantly there.

Q. Sword Art Online, ALfheim Online, it doesn't matter which VRMMO it is, but have you ever thought of wanting to join as a regular player?

A. Sure, I do. I want to try swing a sword about and using magic.

4th – Asuna (Yuuki Asuna) – 42 votes (83)

Q. So, do you get jealous easily?

A. I personally try to be extremely broad-minded, but it seems like Liz and the rest has a different opinion.

Q. Asuna-san, which part of Kirito-kun did you fall in love with?

A. First would be how I could feel at ease when together with him... I guess?

Q. Your three sizes are?

A. ... Should I answer? Am I forced to? ...They are 82, 60 ,83.

Q. Who is your greatest rival in love?

A. There aren't any. That's what I believe.

Q. How are you so cool despite being an ojou-sama?

A. No, not really? I don't think of myself as being cool...

Q. Who is your greatest rival? (both in love and combat)

A. There aren't any in love. In ALO, Leafa-chan would be one in combat.

Q. What words do you wish Kirito-kun would say?

A. There's many. Of course, the one I wish for the most, are those words he said in SAO as well.

Q. So will Kazuto really marry into your family?

A. I plan to take up the Kirigaya surname.

Q. Does anyone oppose you going out with Kazuto aside from your mother?

A. My mother agreed with it recently as well.

Q. What habit or behaviour do you want Kazuto-kun to fix?

A. To stop getting involved in strange incidents!

Q. What will you do if Kazuto had already done the deed with other girls?

A. ...I believe in him.

Q. What weapons do you like aside from rapiers?

A. Fist techniques are surprisingly interesting... I got into unarmed fighting recently.

Q. Kirito LOVE?

A. LOVE.

Q. Are your actual reflexes good?

A. I wonder about that. It's fun playing tennis and such in school, though.

Q. How were the contents in the SAO Encyclopedia like?

A. It was a record of how each floor was floor. Aside from that, it was mainly the introduction of those in the clearing group, but as expected, it did feature Kirito-kun quite heavily.

Q. How does the swimsuit you prefer look like?

A. I haven't bought the one for summer this year yet. I might go to the sea soon, but it really doesn't seem like I would have the time for sea bathing...

Q. Your waking alarm was set to "□ Country Road" in Side Story 4, but were there times when your heart and mind was saved by "music" in SAO? *_

A. In SAO, the music from all sorts of alarms really were more or less the only form of culture from the real world. Therefore, it was comforting, listening to various tunes I liked on the other side.

Q. How will you be able to pass "Mother's Rosario" on?

A. Yuuki's account was terminated, so I should be able to create another generation of the copy. I'll probably only pass it on when I retire from ALO, so it's still an issue for the faraway future...

Q. Have you harboured feelings of love for anyone before meeting Kirito?

A. No.

Q. Can you use sword techniques in reality too?

A. I haven't really tried. I did think of asking Suguha-chan to teach me Kendo once, though.

Q. How far do you go when flirting with Kirito in public? (like holding hands, or kissing)
Honestly now, please, lol.

A. I guess hugging would be the limit. I'm fine with it, but Kirito-kun would just, you know.

Q. What are you most anxious about, in your future with Kazuto?

A. That we will be forced to part after the passing of tens of years. Don't you think the life span of people is too short?

Q. You may be beautiful and strong, yet frail, and an ojou-sama without even minor flaws, Asuna-san, but you do feel uneasiness over Kirito's popularity, don't you?

A. ...I believe in him.

Q. ...How many times will you forgive unfaithfulness?

A. 0 times.

Q. Do you have the confidence to tell him apart, even if Kirito were to suddenly turn middle-aged?

A. Of course. Even if he turns into an old man.

Q. What dish do you want to make for Kirito-kun to eat?

A. A breakfast of miso soup and grilled fish, perhaps.

Q. Are there types of people you're bad at handling? If there are, what types?

A. Hmm... I might be bad with those who only talk about themselves...

Q. Can you use weapons aside from swords?

A. ...Recently, it's been rather fun punching around with the fist techniques skill...

Q. If you were to get shocked, seeing Kirito kissing Shino, then when you go over to his home the next day to talk about it, you spot him kissing Suguha, what would you do?

A. Maybe I'll cry... maybe I'll hit him... it's not really something I would know unless it happens...

Q. What are your thoughts on Kirito's serial adultery?

A. Serial adultery... I would like to think that's not it, for the time being...

Q. What do you think about Kirito (Kazuto)-kun (unintentionally) hooking up with girls (with many beautiful ones) one after another?

A. Hooking up... I would like to think that's not it, for the time being...

Q. What is the one thing you wish Kirito would fix about himself?

A. How he takes everything upon himself, maybe.

Q. Details on how you joined KoB?

A. I was scouted by the leader while recklessly leveling up in the dungeon.

Q. Well, this is to the entire female cast, but what would you do upon finding out that Kirito did the deed with Asuna in the virtual world?

A. Everyone: "In the first place, those two were married!"

Q. Do your tastes in attire lies with skirts? Pants?

A. There are more skirts in my closet, but the number of pants have been increasing recently. I've often gotten the chance to get a ride on Kirito-kun's bike, hence.

Q. To the Asuna-san at the start who wants to get pampered, where have you gone? Don't you want to get pampered more?

A. I do get pampered, at those times when we're by ourselves.

Q. Have there been times when you ended up making something like a signature pose (signature action?) in reality, like Kirito-kun?

A. Aah, that was pretty contagious. I ended up doing it when sheathing my sword.

Q. What would happen when the current Sword Art Online gets cleared?

A. The rewards for clearing the second Grand Quest haven't been revealed yet, huh. It seems the theory that Aincrad will be able to be taken over as territory is popular, though.

Q. What were your thoughts when you found out it's possible to remove the Ethics Code?

A. I will never use it! I remember that I thought that.

Q. I know the person you love the most, so I won't ask about that, but who is the one you've grown to hate the most thus far?

A. The person I've thought of hating... or rather, pitying, was the one who named himself the Fairy King.

Q. What is the sword to you?

A. I have no intentions of getting attached to swords in the form of items, but as a swordswoman, I would like to live without shame; that is what I always believe.

Notes

Asuna-1: Side Story 4 (from the web version) refers to volume 7 (in the published version), but that's probably a typo for Side Story 2, which is Morning Dew Girl, where she woke up to that piece of music in the web version. "Country Road" refers to "Take Me Home, Country Roads", a song by John Denver, which was also used (a Japanese version) in the film from Studio Ghibli, "Whisper of the Heart".

5th – Sinon (Asada Shino) – 27 votes (43)

Q. You're a sniper in-game, but how is your eyesight in reality?

A. Both of my eyes are 2.0. *_

Q. You like Kirito, don't you? Are you going to snatch him away?

A. The question is that I do like Asuna as well, huh.

Q. Please tell me your dreams for the future, Sinonon.

A. Erm... A policewoman.

Q. Is the character you converted into in ALO sniper-tic as well?

A. It is an archer. *_

Q. What type of books do you like?

A. I always used to read classical literature from overseas, but I developed a liking for espionage novels and such recently.

Q. Are you good at cooking?

A. I've been cooking for myself for quite some time, so I should be good... I think.

Q. What are your opinions on fantasy games? Please tell me your impression on them.

A. I think magic is rather unfair.

Q. Do you hold sentiments of love for Kirito-kun?

A. I don't quite understand the emotion of love, but well, probably.

Q. What are your thoughts on the nickname, "Sinonon"?

A. Well... It's embarrassing, but it's the first nickname I got in my life, so I'm glad.

Q. What creed do you live your life by, Sinon?!

A. One Shot, One Kill.

Q. What are your height, weight, three sizes, likes, dislikes, hobbies, favourite motto, and type of man you like?

A. My height's 161 cm, weight and three sizes are secrets, I like Tannmen, dislike meat on the raw side, my hobbies are reading and VRMMOs, with my favourite motto would be, "One Shot, One Kill" (in the sense that there's only one chance for most things), and the type I like is... yea, those who don't say more than they need to. *

Q. What are the top 3 ranking of the ice cream flavours you like?

A. 1st's green tea, 2nd's choco mint and 3rd would be pistachio.

Q. Which author do you like?

A. I guess I like books by John le Carré right now.

Q. What are your thoughts on Kirito (not Kazuto)?

A. My greatest rival.

Q. What is your race and job in ALO? Also, do you like worlds like ALO's?

A. I play as a Sylph archer. It feels a little slow when compared to GGO, but it's nice how there's many peaceful moments. *

Q. How have school been recently? Has there been anything on Kirito's ambush?

A. There's no one harassing me nowadays, so well, it's been peaceful. There were loads of questions for a while after that, so that was horrible though.

Q. Your three sizes?

A. Persistent, aren't you. ...80-61-81.

Q. There is a great diversity of modern arms in GGO, but to the extents of your knowledge, just what are there? Are there even special stuff implemented, such as pilebunkers?

A. The variety of weapons with live ammo reaches those as the "Minigun" used by Behemoth and the portable missile, "Stinger" at most. For the optical side, there's those such as "Shock Blaster" that is capable of area-of-effect attacks, the paralysis-based "Stunner", and the "Psionic Gun" which is embedded in the arm. Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be any weapons able to expel metal spears.

Q. How much of your gun trauma have you gotten over? Do you still feel sick when holding onto model guns now?

A. It's fine looking at them in books, movies and such now. I would definitely have to get used to the real thing sooner or later, if I'm to become a policewoman.

Q. Have you learnt how to use swords as well recently?

A. Not at all. I did get pretty good with bows.

Q. Did you start ALfheim Online?

A. I'm playing as a Sylph archer.

Q. What type of weapon are you equipping in ALO?

A. A long bow. Combining it with magic results in interesting effects.

Q. What are your hobbies in the real world?

A. Reading and... cooking, maybe.

Q. So, as expected, you're using a gun as your weapon in SAO (the current one)?

A. I tried choosing bows as I thought they would be similar, but they really are completely different, huh. It's fun, though.

Q. Please tell me the famous and obscure places in GGO.

A. Even if you say that, there are only wastelands, deserts and ruins, so... The ruins of a huge space ship sunk into the desert might be worth seeing, though.

Q. What is the number of times you're gone on a date with Kirito both in-game and in reality?

A. We rarely meet without others around, you know.

Q. Don't you have any thoughts on converting your GGO character into other games?

A. I'll lose Hecate, so that's a little, well.

Q. Please tell me your ideal man.

A. A tough person. One who doesn't mope about what had already passed. Someone who is perceptible.

7th – Leafa (Kirigaya Suguha) – 18 votes (22)

Q. What type of man do you like?

A. A refreshing person who doesn't fuss over small details, I guess.

Q. Are you still continuing Kendo?

A. Of course. My goal is to be the best nationwide, at the inter-highs or Gyokuryuuki. *

Q. Are you going through sweet days with Kirito like that Salvia time? Or maybe you wish for that?

A. Sweet... I don't know anything about that, but we're on good relations.

Q. Please tell me your techniques you like in Kendo (striking target's location), or maybe the combinations.

A. The one I like is kote-men. *

Q. I love you, onii-chan! -Please try saying that.

A. Eh... erm... I-I love you, onii-chan! ...Is this enough?

Q. If Kazuto were to turn and look back, would you truly persist in love?

A. If you were us living together happily as we currently do, yes.

Q. Your onii-san is always surrounded by lots of girls, but what are your thoughts on that?

A. I get along really well with everyone, so, that's... I do believe it would do him good to make more friends of the same gender, though.

Q. If, just for example, your onii-san (Kazuto-kun, Kirito-kun) were to harbour desires for a harem, what would you do?

A. Good luck becoming an Arab prince, alright; something like that.

Q. Do you think Kirito's posture is weird?

A. I-I'm sure he didn't intend for it to turn out weird, but... There are warnings on having an odd habit by the teacher and seniors sometimes.

Q. What are your thoughts on Recon (Nagata Shinichi)?

A. Erm... He's a good person.

Q. If you were to be ever so kind, could you please mention your three sizes...

A. I-I'd be troubled if you're going to prostrate yourself like that. ...Uuh, it's 82-62-81.

Q. Bare feet type? Stocking type? (in winter)

A. I get cold in the dojo, so I wear the black tights approved by the school outside at least.

Q. How would you assess Kazuto's skill with swords in reality? And how are the results of your own official matches in Kendo?

A. If only onii-chan were to train more seriously and develop some muscles in his arms, I believe he should be able to get decent. I did manage to get to the semi-finals in the nationals in middle school, but high school really is intense.

Q. Do you remember promising to marry your onii-chan back when you were a kid?

A. Hmm, nope, I don't remember anything like that, but... I'll try asking. ...It seems that he ran away.

Q. Did your heart start beating faster even a little from Recon, a.k.a. Nagata Shinichi-kun's ardent love call? (haha)

A. Beating faster, huh... I do get the shivers quite a bit, on the other hand. Like when he tries something in front of a crowd...

Q. Leafa-san, you've always been doing your best in Kendo till now, but what is the toughest thing you've went through? Also, what about the most enjoyable?

A. It's rather hard without the height. However, I decided not to use that as an excuse for losses. Fun things... as I thought, probably when techniques from Kendo can also be used effectively in ALO.

Q. You're Kirito's sister and hence, you would be Yui's oba-san... what do you think about that?

A. She's like a sister to me! That's what I'll believe.

9th – Yuuki (Konno Yuuki) – 12 votes (15)

Q. That strength and passion was the best, I wonder when will Asuna use "Mother's Rosario"?

A. I guess Asuna will find the next successor sooner or later and use it so as to pass it on?

Q. How do you pass the time in the "Floating Castle Aincrad" aside from clearing the game?

A. Food-tasting! But Asuna's cooking was the best.

Q. Please tell me the reason behind the naming of the OSS, "Mother's Rosario".

A. It's a technique based on the memento from my mother, a rosary.

Q. The character used in your name is unusual, just what is its origin?

A. It's because I was born when the crinum (hamayuu) blooms = July. My elder sister was born in September, when the Japanese indigo (ai) flowers bloom, so she's Aiko. *

Q. Let's get straight to the point, who do you think is the coolest in the SAO series?

A. Asuna!

Q. Your three sizes.

A. Hmm, it's been a long time since I got measured in the real world, so I don't really know...

Q. I had a good life... do you think that way?

A. Of course.

Q. What else are you proud of?

A. Hmm... I can't really think of anything... Oh yea, how I have many wonderful friends, maybe.

Q. Who are you bad with? Or maybe what type of people?

A. There aren't any. Everyone has something good about them.

Q. If you were male, would you have married Asuna?

A. If I was healthy, I might have done it.

Q. Please tell me your most memorable experiences from the VRMMOs you've been in till now. Other than "Insect Site", lol.

A. I've broken through something in all of the American ones. The ones with American comic book heroes was fun... Everyone was all muscley.

Q. This might be rude, but how did it feel when you died within the virtual world?

A. I felt really glad that I was in Asuna's arms.

Notes

Sinon-1: 2.0 can also be defined as 20/10 or 6/3 in the foot and metric system respectively. It's eyesight twice as good as the average person.

Sinon-2: This Q&A is probably pre-Caliber.

Sinon-3: Tanmen's noodle soup. A salty Japanese dish that mainly involves cooked meat and vegetables placed with boiled Chinese noodles into a soup with chicken stock.

Sinon-4: She's officially a Cait Sith in canon now.

Leafa-1: Gyokuryuuki refers to the Gyokuryuuki High School Kendo Tournament (gyoku ryuu ki koukou kendo taikai), a... Kendo tournament for the high school level. Held in late-July annually.

Leafa-2: Kote-men is a basic technique involving two consecutive strikes, targeting the wrist protector and the head protector.

Yuuki-1: The last two characters of Crinum (浜木綿), "yuu", is combined with Seasons (季), "ki", to make up "Yuuki" (木綿季). For Aiko, it's Japanese indigo (藍), "ai" and "ko" (子), a common name ending character for girls. Also, the dates in her answer is not a mistranslation. It might be a mistake, or there could be some deep, underlying meaning behind it, but it's not a mistranslation.

6th – Lisbeth (Shinozaki Rika) – 25 votes (37)

Q. Lisbeth-san, having slept together with Kirito, how comfortable was it?

A. It's such a pity that I was in no position to really remember how it felt.

Q. What weapons were popular? Please mention the best 5.

A. During SAO, sorted according to how many orders I had for them, one-handed straight swords, two-handed straight swords, throwing knives, axes, hammers, I guess. There were many requests for throwing knives because they were cheap and easy to lose, I believe.

Q. Did you make anything with your hammer aside from weapons, like armour?

A. There were quite a lot of orders for metal armour and shields.

Q. What was the reason you became a smith?

A. It was a simple reason. I was a smith in the MMORPG I was in before SAO.

Q. How did the second round of love go?

A. It's still in progress!

Q. Please tell me your dreams of the future.

A. I want to go into engineering in university.

Q. Didn't your personality change halfway through?

A. It's maturity developed from that broken heart.

Q. What's the possibility of progress in your relationship with Kirito from now on?

A. No one knows what will happen, that's just how life is.

Q. This might be blunt, but what exactly happened that night?

A. We just stuck together and slept, really.

Q. You said you were a "serious student" before SAO, so how did you end up joining SAO?

A. Because the MMO game for the PC that I played as a breather between studies was fun, maybe?

Q. What do you usually do?

A. I earnestly train as a smith in ALO, alright. In the real world, I often play around with Asuna, Kirito and Silica.

Q. Was there competition in business against other smiths during the SAO period?

A. Well, yea, there were loads. But the sword that cleared the game was mine, you know.

Q. I doubt you participate in combat much, but are there any techniques you're good at?

A. I did like those area attacks where you swing a mace around.

Q. Don't you feel any regrets over interrupting that time Kirito tried to give an answer to your confession? *

A. Nah, well... it would merely be out of sympathy, no matter what he said back then... I can't deny that it was disappointing though...

Q. When you slept together, "if I seal (with the use of the Ethics Code Removal option!) this in!" ...Did that come to mind? *

A. The problem with that option is that it's too complex, and when swept away by the flow... that's why it's difficult. I really didn't have the composure to do that...

Q. Can I get you to forge a sword? I'll go gather the materials, so let's go together.

A. It'll cost you.

Q. Will you appear in SAO4?

A. I'll appear no matter what.

Q. Your three sizes?

A. ...Without lying? ...They're 86-64-85. *

Q. Do you still like Kazuto?

A. Well, I haven't met anyone better.

Q. Do you meet up with Kazuto in the real world? (the two of you alone)

A. It did technically happen, but it's just getting treated to Mac or stuff like that. *

Q. Don't you think about stealing Kirito from Asuna and attaining happiness, even now?

A. If you're saying to attain happiness like that, I really do feel that it wouldn't be able to end up that way.

Q. When will you counter-attack in the war for Kirito...!? And also, don't you think more rivals will be popping up on that other side that's being serialised right now?

A. Well, life is long after all!

Q. After returning to reality, did you receive the payment (for the sword) from Kirito? If you did, what did you get?

A. I got a cute silver hammer pendant on my birthday. It was from Asuna too, though.

Q. What is Kirito-kun to you?

A. Dark and extremely chaotic on the outside, but mildly warm inside, with the tea held in his hands giving off a relaxing scent... something like that?

8th – Agil (Andrew Gilbert Mills) – 17 votes (20)

Q. Where were you born?

A. Both my place of birth and where I live is in Ueno, Tokyo.

Q. Ah, erm... Do you have someone you like (or maybe a wife), Agil-san?

A. Wife's name is Kathy.

Q. Here's a practical question, are you selling well? (do include the reason why)

A. I cut no corners when it comes to cooking, so it gets busy at night.

Q. It might be nice to know the recipes for what's on the menu at your shop.

A. There's most of the usual alcohol. Food's in the Southern American style.

Q. Bro! Teach me how to be a true man!

A. No shields.

Q. I wanna know what's popular on your shop's menu.

A. Our original cocktail, "Strong Axe".

Q. Is the shop profitable?

A. Well, it's getting along.

Q. Please say how you met your wife!

A. She lived nearby and well... we were both foreigners, various things happened and we had shared interests and all.

Q. What's your fighting style?

A. While taking on ten blows, inflict one fatal one back.

Q. Net and real, which business is earning more?

A. Well, if you're asking which one's thriving, it would be the one in ALO, though that's a real pity.

Q. I sure wanna take a look at that rumoured reliable wife of yours, lol.

A. If you're above twenty, come over to the shop at night anytime.

Q. Did you manage to open a shop on the fiftieth floor of the reborn Aincrad?

A. Yea, I'm working hard earning at the exact same place my original shop stood.

Q. Did you enter any guilds?

A. I was in the merchant guild.

Q. How did you GET that beautiful wife?

A. If you're a man, go for broke.

Q. After those irregularities right after SAO started, how did you think of choosing commerce over clearing the game?

A. I figured even the clearing guilds need people who can inject funds in... but unexpectedly, all of the clearers ended rich.

Q. You aren't part of the clearers, so how are you so strong?

A. Because I'm a nice guy.

Q. How's your shop?

A. It's forever "getting along".

10th – Klein – 10 votes (10)

Q. What's the pattern on your bandana?

A. It's "Spirit" written in kanji, yo.

Q. Isn't it sad?

A. The heck is!? If you're talking about how I can't get a girl... yea, it's real sad.

Q. What's your real name?

A. Eeh, my real name wasn't mentioned yet? Seriously? Then, maybe I'll continue keeping it a secret for a bit more!

Q. In the old SAO, how strong were you?

A. Right behind Kirito.

Q. Are there any females in your guild right now?

A. It's not like the guild's worth is decided by the number of female players. Isn't that right?

Q. How old are ya?

A. Twenty-six.

Q. This may be unreserved, but please tell me your real name.

A. Guess it can't be helped, I'll tell ya. Tsuboi Ryouutarou. Easy to tell how I got my character name, huh? Ha-ha. *

Q. Are lai slashes in the "Katana" skill?

A. There were rumours that there were techniques like that if you get it all the way up there, but I couldn't confirm it myself...

Q. I'll be blunt, just how strong are you?

A. I guess I could say that I won't lose to anyone aside from Kirito.

Q. What's the name of the katana you used till the end of SAO?

A. "Kokuenmaru". Sure was a great sword. *

12th – Silica (Ayano Keiko) – 6 votes (19)

Q. How do you reduce stress?

A. By playing with Pina.

Q. How did you catch the 2nd generation of Pina?

A. It was included in the converted data. That's why it's the same as during SAO, with its training data.

Q. How strong are you in games aside from SAO?

A. In ALO, Asuna-san can't quite match up to Leafa-san, huh.

Q. Your three sizes are?

A. They are... 77-57-80.

Q. The Nerve Gear was restricted from being used by children below 13, but did it not cause any problems in the real world?

A. There doesn't seem to be any. And the AmuSphere's fine from 10 years old too. I do wonder just how did my elementary school self get sucked in VRMMOs though.

Q. Don't you mix up the dragon Pina with the cat Pina?

A. I live in the school's hostel right now, so I only meet with the cat Pina at home once in a while.

Notes

Lisbeth-1: Kirito said, "It's still impossible for me right now, but if you give me some time, I..." in the web novel, right before Liz interrupted and told him to tell the rest to Asuna (near the end of part 3).

Lisbeth-2: The question refers to doing that so as to seal a relationship with him. Just to clarify, since I can't quite get its phrasing right.

Lisbeth-3: In light of recent events, I would like to remind everyone these questions are from back before it was published as a book.

Lisbeth-4: McDonalds.

Klein-1: "Kurain no Tsuboi" (Klein Bottle).

Klein-2: "黒炎丸 (Black Flame-maru)".

11th – Sakuya – 9 votes (15)

Q. What job did you choose to be in reality?

A. I'm a graduate student.

Q. What was your first impression of Leafa and Kirito? Also, do you mingle about in the real world as well?

A. That there are still many, many strong swordsmen around... I do dabble in that in the real world as well.

Q. What are your hobbies in reality?

A. Driving, I suppose. I tend to go on trips everywhere with Alicia.

Q. Te... Tell me your three sizes (anticipa-

A. 88, 62, 85.

Q. Does Kirito suit your tastes? If he didn't have someone he loves (Asuna)... would you be competing with Rue-san for him? (haha-

A. We are already competing over him in terms of his combat potential, though.

Q. You really are beautiful in reality, I guess?

A. I'll leave that to your imagination, but I do find it annoying how we get approached whenever I'm out with Alicia.

Q. The greatest goal of ALO, conquering the World Tree, may be now gone, but what is your current objective?

A. I'm making progress on the second grand quest, "Conquering the Floating Castle Aincrad".

Q. It seems that your three sizes have already been asked about (haha), so please tell me a story of your bravery in Alfheim Online.

A. No, to be honest, I'm quite moderate with my actions, so I don't really do anything flashy. At most, it would be sneaking into the capital city within the Salamander territory and taking Mortimer's head. It failed though.

Q. A comment of your thoughts on Leafa and Asuna from your viewpoint as a swordsman, please, Sakuya-san.

A. I wonder about what exactly is the true meaning of strength when looking at them.

13th – Kikuoka Seijirou – 5 votes (7)

Q. How many sweet things do you eat every month?

A. It's delicious because you eat it once in a while. Averaging it out, I guess it would be around five thousand yen a month?

Q. Frankly speaking, do you tend to not attract the ladies?

A. It's simply how I rarely get the chance to meet them in my line of work, yes.

Q. Please tell me the best and worst among what you've eaten so far.

A. The best was the cake I ate in a certain hotel in Akasaka, I guess. The worst was ration from a certain PLA; that was terrible. *

Q. Good job on your work. (haha) By the way, have you actually tried Kiviak and Surströmming? Please give a comment on that time when... (haha)

A. I did try out Surströmming. It turned an entire large tent for camping useless. It held more power than I expected. Unfortunately, it doesn't seem possible to get ahold of Kiviak in Japan. *

Q. Do you see Kirito-kun as a tool?

A. Of course not, I think of him as one of the most valuable individuals in this world.

14th – Recon (Nagata Shinichi) – 4 votes (4)

Q. You were really cool when you used that self-destruction magic! By the way, how has it been with Suguha since then...?

A. There's been load of progress. We even went into Mac with just the two of us the other day.

Q. Please tell me how you felt when you found out Kirito was Suguha's brother.

A. Of course, I thought, "oh crap"; first impressions are important, after all.

Q. To be frank, have you ever tried targeting Kirito with your proficient assassination skills?

A. No way, no way! Bro's searching techniques are on par with wild animals, you see.

Q. How did it go after that decisive battle? Or rather, what did you do?

A. I went to look at the World Tree with Leafa-chan. I got slapped when I tried to hold her hand.

15th – Alice – 4 votes (4)

Q. Where are you being confined in the Underworld right about now? Also, do you know about the condition outside?

A. I believe myself to be in the middle of Central, likely at the very top of a huge tower called the Central Cathedral. It is a real pity, but I am unfortunately unable to view the outside.

Q. What is your best dish?

A. Er... erm, right, I'm good at stews.

Q. You were taken to quite a place... You were aiming for it, weren't you?

A. I wonder when will I be able to make my entrance.

Q. Between Kirito and Eugeo, who do you like more?

A. The answer, "I like both of them", is one of the privileges that belong to children.

16th – Red-eyed XaXa (Shinkawa Shouichi) – 3 votes (3)

Q. Please give another comment for Kirito-kun from behind bars, lol.

A. My friends with real orange-names are scary, you know.

Q. How were the people in Laughing Coffin? Were you on good terms with them?

A. Well, those guys weren't anyone to be ashamed of, as a professional murderer. There were many who I wouldn't meet in reality, though.

Q. This is a serious question, how many have you killed?

A. Hmph, I don't even want to think about that.

16th – Sasha – 3 votes (3)

Q. You may be an adult, glasses-wearing female, but unlike those students, would you be able to rehabilitate back into society?

A. I've returned to university and will be a teacher for an elementary school from this year onwards.

Q. Did Kirito contact you?

A. Yes, for that party to celebrate the clearing of SAO.

Q. Your three sizes are?

A.They are 87-65-84.

16th – Kirigaya Midori – 3 votes (3)

Q. How was your impression of your future daughter-in-law, Asuna?

A. She's such a good girl, I worry if she will drift apart from Kazuto.

Q. If Kazuto and Suguha were to get together, how would you react?

A. It would be reassuring in a certain sense, but...

Q. What are your thoughts on your brother-loving daughter as a mother?

A. I believe having good relations to be a positive thing. The future should be free to let itself run its course.

19th – Eugeo – 2 votes (5)

Q. Do you have confidence in a spar with Kirito using swords?

A. At the current moment, I don't really think I'm a match for him in terms of techniques.

Q. Do you want to win against Kirito in sword fighting? If you really do, how would you feel if you really won? Aside from that, how about a little comment on that too, please.

A. Rather than fighting with him, my desire to find out more techniques is stronger. At any rate, I didn't know how to hit anything aside from a immobile tree. Right now, even if we fought, I probably wouldn't even be able to get a hit in.

19th – Yuriel – 2 votes (2)

Q. Totally lovey-dovey?

A. Totally lovey-dovey.

Q. Your three sizes are?

A. I've just went into the seventh month, so that question is a little...

19th – Shiiien (An Shiiien) – 2 votes (2) *

Q. It's not exactly a question directed specifically at you, but have the members of the Sleeping Knights yet to continue their adventures after that?

A. We took part in ALO as our last and haven't participated in VRMMOs since, but we tend to meet Asuna-san and co. in relaxation-type worlds.

Q. Please tell me if your friends have given you any nicknames, like Asuna's "Berserk Healer".

A. I've gotten several nicknames recently, but it's simply embarrassing to state them myself, so...

19th – Eugene – 2 votes (2)

Q. Are there times you feel like resigning from being the general of the Salamander territory?

A. It does come to mind whenever I see Kirito, but... I still have my responsibilities.

Q. I'll get straight to the point! Do you have anyone you love? ...It would be bad if you were to say that you fell for Kirito as a guy, you know?

A. I would certainly want that guy as a deputy, though. If I were to pick a partner... it would have to be a woman with a way with swords at the level of the Sylph lord.

19th – Sinker – 2 votes (2)

Q. Some details of your newlywed life...

A. I've been at her beck and call, as expected...

Q. Have you decided the name for your new homepage?

A. I've decided to go with MMO Today in the end.

19th – Nishida – 2 votes (2)

Q. How have you been getting along recently? Have you gotten any large game?

A. I really did intend to spend my remaining time fishing though... it's been tough getting used to my new workplace...

Q. You've been away from reality for over 2 years, so how has your life been nowadays?

A. Fortunately, I was invited to a company raised by a previous co-worker and I now enjoy my work, though the studies required have been quite the hardship.

19th – Oberon (Sugou Nobuyuki) – 2 votes (2)

Q. What type of woman do you like?

A. I suppose it would be the type that surrenders to me and become obedient.

Q. How were those that supported you in your plan dealt with?

A. They seem to be making up unsightly excuses and appealing to the court, but that's of no matter to me.

19th – Yuuki Couple – 2 votes (2)

Q. What are your thoughts on the relationship between Kazuto and Asuna?

A. Mr. Shouzou: If my daughter is happy, I wish for nothing more. | Mrs. Kyouko: I have no complaints as long as they keep it within healthy boundaries.

Q. How do you feel about Kirigaya Kazuto-kun as a marriage prospect for your daughter? Do you have any misgivings?

A. Mr. Shouzou: He's a good man. He is the benefactor of our daughter's life, after all. | Mrs. Kyouko: I'll put my trust in the man chosen by my daughter.

27th – Pina – 1 vote (1)

Q. Have you ever thought of teaming up with other people?

A. (shaking its head from side to side)

27th – Kuradeel – 1 vote (1)

Q. Is this voice reaching you?

A. (you seem to hear faint laughter, going "hyahahahaha...")

27th – Woman Who Reminds One Of Narcissus – 1 vote (1) *

Q. I may not know your name, but... since how many years ago have you been cooperating with Kayaba-san on his plan? Have you really been in love with him, as expected?

A. I first heard of the plan in the third year of university, so... that would make it close to ten years. As for him, I did love him, but there were times when I hated him enough to want to kill him as well, but now...

27th – Alicia Rue – 1 vote (1)

Q. Now, a commercial for the Cait Sith territory. ☐

A. I promise everyone here can have their afternoon tea and a siesta!

27th – Agil's Wife – 1 vote (1)

Q. I believe you have a good, sensible and reliable husband, but where did you meet and if it's possible, the tale of how the two of you met and such...

A. He's all that, but he was a total cry-baby back when he was a kid, so I must have really done well, hahahaha.

Notes

Kikuoka-1: PLA probably refers to the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China.

Kikuoka-2: Kiviak is a traditional wintertime Inuit food from Greenland that is made of auks preserved in the hollowed-out body of a seal, while Surströmming is a northern Swedish dish consisting of fermented Baltic herring.

Shiien-1: Corrected to Sieunee (An Si-eun) in the light novel after consultation with the official Korean translator. Assumes the name, "Shiune (An Shi En)", in the Baka-Tsuki translation.

WWROON-1: In the web novel, at the end of Fairy Dance, the woman who accompanied Kayaba was described as thus, in the part where it was mentioned what happened to him.