

2013 Final Exam Review Packet – Grade 9

Exam Format

Part I: Short reading passage; 5-8 short answer questions, assessing your ability to summarize, detect the tone/mood of a piece, describe a symbol, point out a theme, and connect that theme to one from the works we've read this year;

Part II: Essay exam; on the final exam, there will be three essay questions to choose from. They will be taken from these five.

Essay Questions:

- 1) All of the protagonists in these novels are idealistic in some way. Choose two or three protagonists from different works from this year, and compare and contrast their idealism, including how it leads to success or pain. For *To Kill A Mockingbird*, you can choose Jem, Scout or Atticus (but only one of them).
- 2) All of the works this year have dealt with maturing, and the challenges faced when “growing up.” Compare and contrast the “growing pains” two or three characters from different works this year have to face, how they have dealt with them, and how successful they were.
- 3) Much of our reading this year has revolved around the themes of isolation and abandonment: whether from society, from parents, or from justice. Write an essay in which you compare and contrast the isolation of two or three characters from different works, and how that isolation leads to pain or success. Consider how each author views that theme.
- 4) “Love,” real or not, has been a major player in all of the works this year. Compare the way two or three of the protagonists from different works see love, and how they face its challenges.
- 5) All of the protagonists in the works we've read this year have struggled to maintain their individualism (including individual values and self-determination) against social and/or familial pressure. Write an essay in which you compare and contrast two or three protagonists' struggles to maintain their individualism, and how successful they are at doing it.

Literary Terms

Symbolism

Mood/Atmosphere

Tone

Dramatic Irony

Theme

Protagonist/Antagonist (keep in mind an antagonist doesn't have to be human)

Figurative Language (simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole)

Characters: Consider how the characters' relationships to the main character(s), how they connect to each other, what they might represent/symbolize, and how they further the author's theme(s).

Flowers for Algernon

Charlie Gordon
Alice Kinnian
Professor Nemur
Doctor Strauss
Burt
Algernon
Rose (mother)
Norma

Matt (father)
Uncle Herman
Mr. Donner
Gimpy
Frank Reilly & Joe Carp
Fay
Dr. Guarino
Hilda

Romeo & Juliet

Romeo
Juliet
Lord Capulet
Lord Montague
Mercutio
Benvolio
The Nurse
Paris
Prince Escalus
Friar Lawrence
Balthasar
The Apothecary

To Kill A Mockingbird

Scout
Jem
Atticus
Dill
Calpurnia
Tom Robinson
Bob Ewell
Mayella Ewell
Cunninghams
Frances
Boo Radley

Mr. Radley/Nathan Radley
Aunt Alexandra
Frances
Miss Stephanie
Miss Maudie
Judge Taylor
Dolphus Raymond
Heck Tate
Miss Gates
Reverend Sykes
Mrs. Dubose

Symbols: Consider why you think it's a symbol, what you think it symbolizes, and how it furthers the author's theme(s).

Flowers for Algernon

Algernon

Young Charlie

The Knife

Flowers

“The Window”

Rose/Charlie's Mom (consider her name)

Maze

Adam & Eve/Tree of Knowledge

The Scientific Method

The Cave

Romeo & Juliet

Romeo

Queen Mab

Poison

Thumb-biting

Light & Dark

To Kill A Mockingbird

Mockingbird

Maycomb

Rabid Dog

Boo Radley

Atticus Finch

The snowman

The fire

General Themes

Flowers for Algernon

Coming of Age/Growing Up

Individualism vs. Society

Treatment of mentally disabled

The permanence of the past in our lives (and the pain of dealing with it)

Emotion vs. Intellect (Love vs. Science)

The meaning of "human"

True friendship

Romeo & Juliet

Coming of Age/Growing Up

Individualism vs. Society/Family

The true meaning of love

The strength (good or bad) of love

Emotion/Passion vs. Logic/Sensibility

Love vs. Hate

Inevitability of Fate

To Kill A Mockingbird

Coming of Age/Maturing

Individualism vs. Society

Childhood/Innocence vs. Adult World

Society's hypocrisy

Religious hypocrisy

Influence of family/role models ("blood" and environment)

Loss of innocence

Prejudice/racism/first judgments

Loneliness

Social/Class/Racial Inequality

True state of human nature/Good & evil in every person

Empathy/walking in someone's shoes

The meaning of justice

The meaning of courage