

American Literature Fall Mid-Term/Semester Exam Study Guide

50 multiple choice questions

Vocabulary 15 questions

2 passages and 12 questions on definitions based on context clues.

3 complete the sentence

Use vocabulary website for the words and to practice.

Conventions 10 questions

Sentence Errors type of questions based off of the SAT Question of the Day website.

Literature 25 questions

1. Of what does “The Earth on the Turtle’s Back” explain the origin?
2. “The Earth on the Turtle’s Back” shows the importance the Onondaga placed on what?
3. What is the rhetorical purpose of Native American Literature?
4. How did the Native Americans share their literature (3 ways)?
5. Which of the animals was often used in Native American literature to portray a trickster character type?
6. What are some statements of truth regarding archetypes?
7. Bradford’s reference to the rescue of John Howland in “Of Plymouth Plantation” supports what Puritan belief?
8. What are the characteristics of the Puritans that are revealed in “Of Plymouth Plantation” that will be beneficial to their success when they reach North America?
9. When Bradford uses the terms *skulking* and *aloof* to describe the American Indians whom the Puritans encounter, what is he suggesting about them?
10. What are some metaphors that Patrick Henry uses in “Speech to the Virginia Convention”?
11. What is the purpose of the use of rhetorical questions in paragraph 2 of Patrick Henry’s speech?
12. Which sentence describes a piece of evidence that Henry offers in support of his position?
13. Which word could best replace supplicated in this sentence and maintain the passage’s tone?
We have petitioned; we have remonstrated; we have supplicated; we have prostrated ourselves before the throne, and have implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament
14. In paragraph 3, Henry mentions the opposing argument that the colonists are weak. What refutation does he give against this argument?
15. What are some of the prominent features of Patrick Henry’s speech?
16. What are some examples of allusions in Henry’s speech?
17. What is the purpose of Henry’s speech?

18. “I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!” is an example of what?
19. What is Thomas Paine’s **purpose** in “The Crisis”?
20. To what type of patriot does Paine’s **image** of the “summer patriot” and the “sunshine patriot” refer?

You will read a poem and answer these types of questions for the poem.

21. What does the speaker's characterization of the rich man's son suggest to the reader?
22. Which lines from the poem **best** demonstrate the author’s choice to characterize the rich man’s son and the poor man’s son as equals?
23. What effect do the repeated references to heritages at the end of each stanza create in the poem?
24. What does the speaker suggest by saying that the poor man’s son is a king of two hands? (line 25)
25. Which statement **best** describes how the speaker uses the word **inherits** to suggest more than just physical gifts?

Constructive Response (10 points)

You will have a choice of prompts. Either writing on the informational text (speech) on what the purpose is (infinitive statement) and HOW that purpose is created OR on the literary piece (poem) and how the author uses connotative diction, figurative language or syntax to develop the theme of his poem.

- I. Restate and Answer the question directly.
 - A. Cite Text Evidence #1 (internal citation).
 - B. Explain HOW the evidence supports your text evidence.
 - C. Cite Text Evidence #2 (internal citation).
 - D. Explain HOW the evidence supports your text evidence.

2 (10 pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clearly answers prompt; answer/claim is well-focused • Includes at least two specific examples/details with citations • Evidence and explanations thoroughly support answer with clearly relevant information
1.5 (8 pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers the prompt • Includes at least two related examples with citations • Explanations support answer with somewhat limited development
1 (6 pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answers prompt • Includes limited or uncited examples/details, or examples are not clearly relevant • Evidence and explanations are related to answer but are limited in scope
.5 (4 pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer is only loosely on topic • Includes limited or uncited examples/details, or examples are not clearly relevant • No explanations, or summarizes textual evidence/no analysis present
0 (2 pts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No response or incorrectly answers the prompt • Gives no evidence or does not explain evidence

