

## ***Inherit the Wind* Study Guide 2015**

### **Act 1, Scene 1**

1. How do the authors introduce the conflict between science and Bible at the beginning of the play?
2. What does the reader know about Cates and Rachel?
3. How does Rachel feel about Darwin's theory?
4. To what extent does Cates promote Darwin's theory?
5. How do the townspeople prepare for the Brady arrival?
6. How does this welcome reflect their position in the Cates trial?
7. What effect is created when the hawker and Elijah converge on Hornbeck as the hawker cries "Hotdog!" in the same instant Elijah cries "Bible!"?
8. What effect is gained when Hornbeck decides to buy a hotdog?
9. Is Hornbeck an evolutionist?

10. Why are Hornbeck's sarcastic comments humorous?

11. How does Brady's physical description mirror his character?

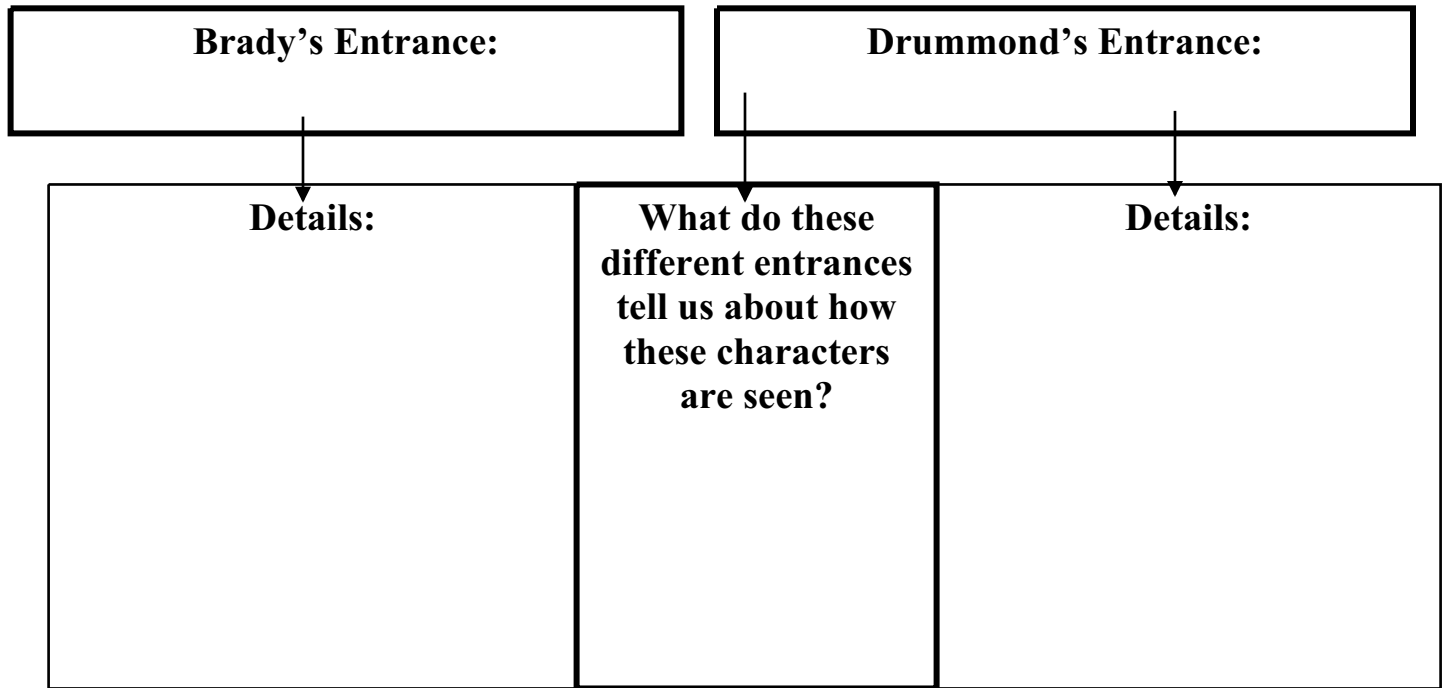
12. What does Brady mean when he says, "What a challenge it is to fit on the old armor again! To test the steel of our Truth against the blasphemies of Science!" ?

blasphemy = irreverent behavior toward anything held sacred, priceless

13. When the townspeople learn that Henry Drummond will be the defense attorney, how do they reveal their ignorance and prejudice?

14. What does Hornbeck tell the reader about Brady when he says, "Matthew Harrison Brady came here to find himself a stump to shout from. That's all."?

**COMPARE AND CONTRAST MAP**



**Act 1 Sc. 2**

1. What is happening at the start of the scene?
2. What happens between Drummond and Bannister?
3. Why is Brady annoyed?
4. Who is Jesse Dunlap and why does Meeker question him?
5. Why does Drummond reject Dunlap? Who does Drummond accept on the jury?
7. Of what does Brady accuse Drummond and why?

8. What does the judge decide to do and why does Drummond object?

9. Why does Drummond support Bert?

10. What is going on between Bert and Rachel?

11. What does Brady want Rachel to do? Why is she afraid?

12. What does Drummond say about Bert?

**Act 2, Sc. 1**

1. What does Brady say at the press conference? How much time has passed?

2. What does Brady say about Drummond and Hornbeck?

3. Why is Sarah worried?

4. What kinds of things does Brown say and do at the prayer service?

5. What happens when Brady confronts Drummond?

**Act 2, Sc. 2**

1. How many days have passed?
2. Who does Brady cross-examine?
3. Who is Howard and what does he say?
4. What does Brady say about Bert?
5. What does Drummond declare is on trial?
6. Why and about what does Davenport question Rachel? What does she testify?
7. What does Bert insist and why?
8. Who are Drummond's first three witnesses?
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
9. What does the judge rule about this?
10. What surprise move does Drummond pull?
11. What does this witness say?

12. Who is Bishop Usher and what does he say?

13. What does Brady insist?

14. How does the audience react?

### **Act 3**

1. How does Hornbeck characterize the members of the jury when he says, “Is the jury still out? Swatting flies and wrestling with justice—in that order?”

2. Why does Drummond tell the story of the Golden Dancer?

3. Do you think Cates will continue to oppose the law he has been accused of violating?

4. What influences does the mayor’s message to the judge have on the severity of the sentence that Cates receives?

5. Who loses more, Brady or Cates? Why?

6. How does Hornbeck reveal his callousness after Brady’s death?

7. Is Hornbeck a real champion of causes, or is he “a hound that bays about the heels of truly great men”? Explain your answer.

8. Is Hornbeck's denouncing of Brady as the "national tear duct" fair? Explain your answer.

9. Contrast Drummond's characterization of Brady with Hornbeck's.

10. What effects does the trial have on Cates and Rachel?

11. Before Drummond leaves the courtroom, what does he do?

**What one lesson can we take away from *Inherit the Wind*?**