

# Hanover Central High School

## Summer Reading 2019

### Comprehensive Study Guide

**Directions:** As you read through your summer reading books, the following questions will help you understand your selections more thoroughly. A glossary of literary terms is available for your convenience, but you may find it helpful to research literary devices beyond this glossary.

#### Skill Covered

#### Question

#### Allusion

1. What are the allusions the author employs?
2. From where do the allusions come (Bible, mythology, history, pop culture, etc.)?
3. How do allusions deepen the meaning, beauty, or effect of the work as a whole?

#### Atmosphere/Mood

4. What are the major atmospheres or moods of the story?
5. How does the author create the atmosphere or mood?
6. With which parts of the story do these moods attach? What does this tell you?

#### Author's Purpose

7. How does the author achieve his/her purpose (to sadden, to celebrate, to criticize, etc.) in key scenes?

#### Characterization: *Motivation*

8. What motivates the main characters' feelings, attitude, mood, comments, or actions?
9. How does character motivation develop that character over the course of the story?
10. How does character motivation affect the story's outcome?
11. Who is the story's protagonist? Who is the antagonist?

#### Characterization: *Direct & Indirect Characterization*

12. Describe the characters exactly as the writer describes them (direct characterization).
13. What do characters' attitudes, comments, actions, fears, etc., say about them (indirect characterization)?

#### Characterization: *Flat v. Round Static v. Dynamic*

14. Which characters remain the same in the story? Which ones change?
15. Which characters have internal conflicts and receive more attention? Which ones are stock characters?

- Diction and Tone** 16. How does the writer's word choice (diction) add to your understanding of the writer's attitude, character development, and plot?
- Figurative Language** 17. List as many examples of metaphors, similes, and personification that you can find.
18. List examples of apostrophes, oxymorons, paradoxes, and hyperboles.
- Historical Context** 19. What is the historical context of the novel? How does the context affect the story's outcome?
- Imagery** 20. How does the imagery capture the mood, accentuate the setting, or develop the plot?
21. How does imagery develop characterization?
- Narrative Structure** 22. How does the author organize the events of the story? Is it chronological? Are there flashbacks? Is there a frame story?
- Point of View** 23. In which of the following points of view is the story told?
- 1<sup>st</sup> person point of view
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> person objective point of view
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> person limited point of view
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> person omniscient point of view
24. How do you know from which point of view this story is told?
25. How does the author's use of this point of view affect the meaning of the story?
- Plot:**
- Conflict*** 26. What are the major external conflicts in this story?
27. What are the major internal conflicts in this story?
28. What do I learn about each character from his/her responses(s) to conflict?

**Plot:**  
*Suspense*

29. How does the writer make you care about the characters and what their future holds?
30. Identify the main events in the rising action.
31. How does the writer create suspense/tension?
32. What is the climax of the story? What hints does the writer provide that this climax will occur?
33. What are the main events following the climax? How does the writer resolve the story?

**Setting**

34. Describe the setting of major scenes.
35. Are there several scenes or just one? What does this tell you?
36. How does the setting affect your understanding of plot, mood, or character development?

**Symbolism & Motifs**

37. Are there any objects, ideas, colors that recur throughout the story? If so, when and where do they appear?
38. How do these symbols accentuate your understanding of the story?

**Staging & Stage Directions**

39. If you are reading a play, how does the staging affect the story?
40. How does the playwright use stage directions? What do the stage directions tell you?

**Theme**

41. How does the title suggest one or more of the themes of the story?
42. What are the major themes of this book? (i.e., What is the writer trying to say about life or the human condition?)