

Midterm Review Guide – Answer Key

- What are the different types of conflict? Give an example of each.
 - Person vs. Person** - Mrs. Hensley wanted Ms. Hubbard to go to the Fire and Ice Festival with her this weekend. When Ms. Hubbard politely declined because she had too much schoolwork to do, Mrs. Hensley stopped responding to her texts and didn't talk to her for 3 days.
 - Person vs. Self** - Luke Skywalker was trained to be a Jedi. After finding out his father's true identity, he has to make a decision and decide which side of the force he wants to align with.
 - Person vs. Society** - Leslie Knope lobbied to ensure that breakfast rights were available to all citizens of Pawnee. To help this effort pass, she encouraged citizens to protest with waffles and signs.
 - Person vs. Nature** - Ms. Hubbard was dying to go the Justin Timberlake concert in Detroit. As she was driving to LCA, her car slid on ice, and she missed the concert (don't worry, she lived!).

- What is theme? Describe and give an example from one of the stories we read/watched together this semester.

Theme is the main idea or message conveyed in a piece of writing. One example of theme from the story, "The Tale of the Monkey's Paw" is recognize the wealth that you have and don't take it for granted.

- How can you figure out the theme of a story?

By examining the following aspects:

- How characters act or develop throughout the story
- The major messages that seem to be reoccurring (repeating) throughout the story
- The development of the plot – especially that of the resolution

- What 4 purposes do authors usually write for? (Hint: Look at your notes from the textbook stories)

- To entertain
- To inform or explain
- To persuade
- To share thoughts or feelings

- What is setting and what are a few ways setting can impact characters and create conflicts? Give examples of this.

Setting is the time and place in which a story occurs. The setting can affect characters by determining job and living conditions. It can also influence characters' beliefs, values, and emotions depending on when and where the characters live.

- What are the stages of plot? Draw the plot diagram below and describe what happens during each of these stages.

- **Exposition** – The beginning of the story; the characters, setting, and main conflicts are first developed
- **Rising Action** – Develops the conflict or struggle; the tension rises as the story nears the climax
- **Climax** – The turning point of the story, usually when the main conflict of the story comes to a head
- **Falling Action** – The story begins to draw to a close and tension eases; however, the final outcome of the story is not yet worked out
- **Resolution** – The end of the story in which conflicts are usually resolved and loose ends are tied

- What is characterization? Characterize **3** different characters we've read this semester. Assign each at least **2** different character traits. Explain.

Characterization is the description of a character; appearance, personality, traits, etc.

- Direct characterization: Character is clearly described in the novel; either by the author or by other characters
- Indirect characterization: Readers are able to assume character traits from information provided in the book; i.e. "His nose was always buried in a book, and he was willing to solve any problem"

8. What is symbolism? Describe and give an example of a symbol from one of the stories we read/watched together this semester.

The use of specific objects, images, numbers, characters, and/or settings to represent abstract ideas present in the book. In "The Tale of the Monkey's Paw," the monkey's paw can represent greed, fate, or even death.

9. How can you figure out if something is a symbol? Explain.
- Watch for something that stands out or is repeated numerous times throughout the book
 - Find something it resembles
 - Examine the author's attitude towards it

Complete each sentence by providing a pronoun that agrees with its antecedent. Then, **identify the antecedent**.

10. **Somebody** left his or her phone in the classroom.
11. Will you ask **Eva or Hannah** if she can cover for me tomorrow?
12. My **brother and sister** left for vacation and forgot to pack their sunscreen.
13. **Everyone** tried his or her best.
14. **Squirrels** sometimes make their homes in your yard.

Read the following passage and answer the following questions.

(1) People regarded the cat in ancient Egypt as a sacred animal. (2) Of grain cats were the protectors, killing any animals that might eat this staple of Egyptian diet. (3) Anyone who purposely or accidentally killed a cat was put to death. (4) Egyptians so revered the animal that many Egyptian goddesses took the form of a cat. (5) Mafdet, Sekhmet, and Bastet is examples of ancient Egyptian cat goddesses. (6) Neither Mafdet nor Sekhmet were quite as celebrated as Bastet, though. (7) Beauty, fertility, and motherhood was three of the qualities for which Egyptians worshipped Bastet. (8) In the city of Bubastis, Egyptians would hold a yearly festival to celebrate her. (9) In Bubastis and Memphis, large cemeteries were devoted to the burial of mummified cats.

15. What is the BEST way to improve the placement of modifiers in sentence 1?
- a. The cat people regarded in ancient Egypt as a sacred animal.
 - b. People regarded in ancient Egypt the cat as a sacred animal.
 - c. **In ancient Egypt, people regarded the cat as a sacred animal.**
 - d. The cat as a sacred animal the people regarded in ancient Egypt.
16. What is the BEST way to improve the placement of modifiers in sentence 2?
- a. Cats were of grain the protectors, killing any animal that might eat of Egyptian diet this staple.
 - b. Of grain cats were the protectors, killing any animal of Egyptian diet that might eat this staple.
 - c. Cats were the protectors of grain, killing any animal that might eat of Egyptian diet this staple.
 - d. **Cats were the protectors of grain, killing any animal that might eat this staple of Egyptian diet.**
17. What change, if any, should be made in sentence 5?
- a. Change is to was
 - b. Change is to has been
 - c. **Change is to are**
 - d. Make no change
18. What change, if any, should be made in sentence 6?
- a. **Change were to was**
 - b. Change were to am
 - c. Change were to have been
 - d. Make no change

19. What change, if any, should be made in sentence 7?
- Change was to were**
 - Change was to has been
 - Change was to am
 - Make no change

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

A Blind Man Catches a Bird

by Alexander McCall Smith

20. The overall theme of the story is –
- People cheat others because it makes them feel smart
 - People should rely more on their hearing than on their sight
 - True friendship depends on respect and fairness**
 - Hunting is a good way to learn about animal behavior
21. Which quotation conveys one of the story's themes?
- At first they followed a path that he knew and it was easy for the blind man to tag on behind the other. (paragraph 3)
 - The blind man followed the other's advice, and put his trap in a place where birds might come for water. (paragraph 7)
 - When he reached his trap, the young man saw that he had caught a small bird. (paragraph 10)
 - The young man was impressed with the wisdom of the blind man, who knew a great deal, although he could see nothing at all. (paragraph 16)**
22. The hunting trip could be a symbol of the —
- Wisdom of a person who is blind
 - Search for what is important in life**
 - Human struggle to control nature
 - Difficulty of living without sight
23. The sounds in the bush are meaningless to the young man because —
- His ability to see limits his ability to hear**
 - He cannot speak the language of the animals
 - A thick growth of trees muffles every sound
 - The blind man is talking in a loud voice
24. The disguised trap might symbolize the young man's —
- Carelessness
 - Deceitfulness**
 - Foolishness
 - Laziness
25. From the two questions he asks the blind man in paragraphs 17 and 23, you can conclude that the young man is —
- Trying to understand human nature**
 - Having problems with his new wife
 - Testing the blind man's intelligence
 - Looking for something to argue about
26. Which theme is suggested by the blind man's thoughts about why people fight?
- Dishonesty ruins people's relationships.**
 - Friends must be willing to forgive.
 - People should think before they speak.
 - Compromise will solve most problems.

27. Which quality might the blind man symbolize?

- a. Courage
- b. Jealousy
- c. Strength
- d. **Wisdom**

28. What are the three most common types of point of view? Explain each one and give an example of each.

- a. **First-person** – When a character is telling the story from his/her point of view. Example: “I saw...”
“We did...”
- b. **Second-person** – Directions and commands. Example: Uses “you” – “To make lemonade, you add the juice of lemons to water and sugar.”
- c. **Third-person** – Narrator is removed from the story and is telling the events as they happen.
Example: “He, she, they...”

29. How can point of view affect the way in which a story is told/how readers experience the story?

Point of view can affect the story in multiple ways. For instance stories told in first-person tend to be more relatable and personal, whereas stories or articles written in third-person are usually considered more formal.

30. What is foreshadowing?

Foreshadowing occurs when future events are hinted at before they actually happen.

31. What is flashback?

Flashback occurs when the author shares events that took place at an earlier time; provides information that can help readers better understand a character’s current situation

32. Bonus question: Can the theme of a story ever be a single word?

NO!!!!