

The Hobbit

Test Review – English 10 Honors

FORMAT: Short Essays

LENGTH & STRUCTURE: Minimum of 2 paragraphs per topic. Intro & conclusion paragraphs NOT needed.

TASK: Choose 4 of the following topics to write about. Explain thoroughly using strong examples from the book. Employ proper writing conventions and tone (formal academic tone, third person only, no contractions, no rhetorical questions, no slang or informal phrases). Focus on analysis, NOT summary.

TOPICS

- Themes
 - Habitation & Belonging (Bilbo, Dwarves)
 - Explore the concept of loneliness, dwarves' homeland, longing for home, belonging to a people and a place
 - Wealth & Greed (Dragon-sickness, Thorin, Smaug, Bilbo)
 - Wealth and greed corrupts and are evil influences
 - Thorin's dragon-sickness
 - Gandalf the Story-Maker
 - How does Gandalf orchestrate key events in *The Hobbit*?
- Motifs
 - Lineage (Took vs. Baggins, Thorin, Bard)
 - How does the war inside Bilbo between the Took and Baggins sides of his family shape and affect who he is and who he becomes by the end of the book? What is Bilbo's transformation?
 - What is the personal significance of Thorin and Bard's lineage?
- Key Concepts
 - "On Fairy-Stories"
 - What is eucatastrophe? What is an example from the book?
 - What does it mean for Christians?
 - "In the Hilt is Fame"
 - What is the significance of naming swords in *The Hobbit*?
 - What is the significance of naming things in general?