

English 11: American Literature

Unit Test/Semester Exam Question Types

name:

(2 pts)

Label your work carefully and write legibly.

I. People/Places/Things/Ideas (30 pts.; 3 pts. ea.)

For any ten (10) of the following items, provide a brief definition or description, providing examples where they might strengthen your definition.

II. Identifications (48 pts; 8 pts. ea.)

For six (6) of the following quotations, please identify thoroughly, and in complete sentences

- A) the text, the author, the speaker, and his or her purpose, (1 pt.)
- B) the audience within the narrative or drama, (1 pt.)
- C) the dramatic or narrative context within which the lines are spoken, (1 pt.)
- D) what the character is saying, (1 pt.)
- E) the significance of the lines within the text, including any important literary terms that are illustrated (2 pts.)
- F) the significance of the lines within the context of American literature. (2 pts.)

You may not need a separate sentence for each answer.

If these requirements do not seem applicable to the selection, wing it.

III. Analytical Paragraphs (20 pts; 10 pts. ea.)

These short written responses provide opportunities for you to demonstrate both your mastery of sentence and paragraph and your ability to perform literary analysis.

Remember: there are no “right” or “wrong” answers here. Responses will be assessed for their ability to support a specific arguable analytical claim with relevant evidence and reasoning.

Please note that a long string of unsupported opinions is not an analytical paragraph.

Provide specific examples and supporting evidence to support your general statements wherever possible. In instances in which you do not have readings available, paraphrase textual evidence.

Keep in mind that a long, padded, rambling prose excursion will be less effective than a shorter, more coherent, more concise paragraph. Please pay careful attention to length limits.