**English 1**

**Midterm Exam**

**Study Guide Packet**

**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

This study guide will help you with the midterm for English 1. It contains 4 large sections:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FAQ | UNITS | NC STANDARDS | PRACTICE |
| will answer the questions most asked about the midterm. | is set up chronologically, and lists vocab, literary terms, information, essential questions, and the stories read. | Will provide the standards covered so far in the year. It also provides sample questions that fall under that standard | will contain a few practice questions to give you an idea. More practice will be available during class. |

**FAQ**

**Why do we take midterms?**

Simple answer: benchmark to see what you’ve learned

Detailed answer: The goal is for you to UNDERSTAND the SKILLS and be able to APPLY them to different scenarios when asked in different ways. The midterm allows teachers (and you!!!) to see how much of the SKILLS we’ve covered in class you’ve mastered and which ones you are still developing. That way, as we move to second part of the year, we can make sure you are on track to be successful for 10th grade and beyond

**What is the midterm going to be on?**

Simple answer: EVERYTHING.

Detailed answer: This study guide will go through the things you will need to know. Not all that appears on this study guide will be present on the midterm.

**How is the midterm set up?**

Simple answer: Like all your other tests.

Detailed answer: The test will measure your ability to apply information you’ve learned to selected text passages. You will not be tested outright on your ability to memorize (who said this quote?) but rather the application (what is the significance of this quote to the story’s theme?). There will be some passages from the stories that you’ve read, and some cold readings (never read before). There will also be a grammar section on the test.

**How much is the midterm worth?**

Simple answer: A good amount.

Detailed answer: It is worth 1 test grade- 2nd quarter. This could potentially help or hurt you, depending on where you currently stand with grades.

**Will the midterm be curved?**

Simple answer: Yes.

Detailed answer: It will be curved with the square root curve, which is the same curve that has been applied to all of your tests so far.

**What is the best way to study for the midterm?**

Simple answer: This study guide.

Detailed answer: Review the TERMS that are needed- flashcards are very handy- but remember you must be able to apply this information. Understanding the INFORMATION for each unit as this will provide context for your answers. Examine the STORIES we’ve read so far in class. It would be good to understand the basic plot, characters, and theme for each as it will lessen the stress when reading passages on the test. Taking practice tests are also helpful and attending tutoring if you need extra support are also good ways to study. Follow the test-taking strategies that are provided to you during class.

**What if I am absent for the midterm?**

Simple answer: Make it up.

Detailed answer: every student for English 1 at Grimsley High School who is currently enrolled will be responsible for taking the midterm. Students who are absent must come to tutoring to complete the test.

**Do I have to take the midterm if I have an A in the class?**

Simple answer: yes.

Detailed answer: Regardless of your academic standings in my class, you are required to take the midterm. The midterm serves, like your other tests, a benchmark, so that both you and your teacher are able to gage what you understand and what you need help on. It provides valuable feedback for areas of strengths and weaknesses, and will provide you a “progress report” of your skills in preparation for the NC Final Exam.

**What happens if I don’t do well?**

Simple answer: There is credit recovery after the midterm.

Detailed answer: The day after midterms (January 18th), will be a midterm review day. Students will review their scores from the midterm and will have an opportunity to get credit back on their grade by “retaking” the test, and providing detailed explanation of their thought processes.

**UNITS**

**Unit 1**: **Narrative Text: The Art of Storytelling- From Here to There**

**Unit 2: Novel Study: A Dystopian Future- The Individual vs. The Society**

Vocab:

objective summary dystopia utopia propaganda analogy

anthem communism socialism capitalism individualism objectivism collectivism egoism conformity rebellion free will selflessness faction totalitarian censorship persuasive big brother neologism identity setting direct characterization indirect characterization

LITERARY TERMS

Characterization- Direct characterization, Indirect characterization- STEAL method

Suspense

Foreshadowing

Textual Evidence

theme

INFORMATION

Propaganda techniques

Collectivism (Honors only)

The purpose of dystopian genre

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

How can a fictional story reveal truth about society?

How does changing, or conforming, ourselves to the rules or wishes of others help us? Harm us?

How important is it for people to have choices?

STORIES

Marionette Inc.

Fahrenheit 451 (ENG 1 only)

Divergent (Honors only)

Anthem (Honors only)

Vocab:

Plot diagram protagonist antagonist tone genre theme symbol characterization folklore legend tall tale myth fairy tale folk tale flash fiction short story memoir fiction nonfiction point of view setting

LITERARY TERMS:

Plot- Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action Resolution

Character-Round Character, Flat Character, Dynamic Character, Static Character, Protagonist, Antagonist, Primary Characters, Secondary Characters

Theme

Point of View- 1st person, 2nd person, 3rd person- 3rd person limited vs. 3rd person omniscient

Symbol

Setting

Conflict-Man vs. Man, Man vs. Society, Man vs. Nature, Man vs. Self, External Conflict, Internal Conflict

Flash Fiction

INFORMATION:

Background information on the immigrant experience.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

Why is storytelling an important aspect of a culture or society?

How can we use narratives to understand ourselves, others, and the world?

STORIES:

Liberty by Julia Alvarez

Exile by Julia Alvarez

Ex-Justice…

The Lost Boys of Sudan

**NC Standards Example Questions that use the Standard**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| RL.9-10.1  Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. | * + Which of the following best supports the idea that submarines are dangerous?   + Which quote best demonstrates that Montag is a dynamic character?   + Which line of the poem indicates a shift in tone?   + Which line best support the argument that cheese is the best food? |
| RL.9-10.2  Determine a theme of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text. | * + Which detail supports the development of the theme of the selection?   + Which statement represents the theme of the selection?   + Which line from the poem refines the theme of the poem?   + How does the poet use examples of opposites to reveal the theme in the poem?   + Which of the following is an objective summary of the text? |
| RL.9-10.3  Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme. | * In paragraph 23, what does Geri’s personification of animals indicate about her character? * How does Joe’s dialogue characterize him? * What statement(s) or action(s) lead to a shift in advancement in the events of the story? * ü Analyze what is revealed about the character by the events or dialogue of the text? * How are the character motivations developed over the course of the text? * Which interactions between characters contribute to the development of the theme? |
| RL.9-10.4  Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. | * How does the author’s use of formal or informal diction affect the tone of the text? * Without changing the meaning of the sentence, what word/phrase can best be used to replace the underlined word/phrase? * How does the author’s use of repetition of bells impact the tone of the text? |
| RL.9-10.5  Analyze how an author’s choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it, and manipulate time create effects such as mystery, tension, or surprise. | * How does the sequence of events in the story create mystery? * How does the author create tension in the passage? * How does the story create the surprise ending? |
| RL.9-10.7  Analyze the representation of a subject or a key scene in two different artistic mediums, including what is emphasized or absent in each treatment. | * What does the poem add to the story? * What are the benefits of writing a short story? * What elements are left out of the movie version? |

**PRACTICE**

**“Wild” Reading Comprehension – Short Stories**

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below

ANSWERS WITH EXPLANATION WILL APPEAR AFTER QUESTIONS. Try to answer questions on your own and use the answer key to self check.

I was 16 when my father **unequivocally** decided he would send me to wilderness camp for several months. He had threatened to do it many times before, but my mother had always managed to prevent him from actually packing me up and shipping me off. This time he was dead set on it.

My latest transgression was viewed as the last straw. In a fit of unbridled rage, I had shoved my math teacher down a flight of steps at school. He broke his arm in two places and severely dislocated his shoulder. The man hadn’t done a thing to me. I am hard-pressed to remember why I was so irritated at him.

Anyway, Mr. Ford, my math teacher, had agreed not to press charges as favor to my dad. He was a friend of my dad’s from way back. Mr. Ford knew what was at stake. We all did.

Dad was in the middle of a tight race for sheriff in our town. This latest “Danny Thing,” as my reckless behavior was now called, had all my dad’s closest advisors talking.

“John, he’s your son and he’s a kid, but he is dragging you down,” I heard Jake Hutch tell my dad through his closed office door the night after I pushed Mr. Ford. “If it appears you can’t set the course for enforcement in your own home, how can you set the course for this town?”

So, off to Pisgah National Forest I went. I knew in my heart that “Wilderness Camp” was surely just a **euphemism** for “Torture Center.” I imagined hours of untold abuse at the hands of some lumberjack-sized drill sergeant. I resolved not to be broken and to emerge from the program unchanged. I was who I was.

Nearly every day for six months, a small group of other troubled teens and I lugged our 30-pound backpacks on a trek that covered about 10 miles. We hiked in a rugged wilderness that seemed untouched by civilization. The **grandeur** of the sky, rock, and wilderness made me **reverent**.

Our counselors were firm but kind, not the **ogres** I had imagined. We learned how to make a fire without matches and create a shelter with twigs, branches, and grass. We learned which plants were safe to eat out in the wild. Late into the night, we talked about our fears and hopes.

We were devoid of radios, televisions, and cell phones. I felt myself change. I was calm and often reflective. My old, impulsive self was gone.

One morning, six months later, my dad came to pick me up. I ran to hug him and saw relief and love in his eyes.

“So what’s it like being sheriff?” I asked on the ride home.

“I lost the race, Danny,” he said.

“I’m sorry, Dad.” I knew my behavior probably had a lot to do with his defeat.

Dad squeezed my shoulder and brought me close. “As long as I don’t ever lose you, I’m okay.”

**Questions**

1. Which best describes the double meaning of the title?

A. Danny goes to wilderness camp; it is in a national forest.

B. Danny is out of control; he is sent into the wilderness.

C. Danny changes at wilderness camp; his father loses a tight race for sheriff.

D. Danny hikes in the rugged wilderness; he becomes respectful of nature and others.

1. 2) "I was 16 when my father unequivocally decided he would send me to wilderness camp for several months."

Which of the following is the best way to rewrite the above sentence (from paragraph 1) while keeping its original meaning as used in the story?

A. I was 16 when my father angrily decided he would send me to wilderness camp for several months.

B. I was 16 when, over the course of several months, my father decided he would send me to wilderness camp.

C. I was 16 when my father tentatively decided he would send me to wilderness camp for several months.

D. I was 16 when my father decided without question he would send me to wilderness camp for several months.

1. What does the idiomatic expression, "the last straw," (in paragraph 2) suggest?

A. the biggest problem of all

B. the worst thing someone could have done

C. the last in a line of unacceptable occurrences

D. the deed someone wishes he or she could take back

1. As used in paragraph 2, which is the best antonym for unbridled?

A. amusing

B. peaceful

C. restrained

D. understandable

E. scarce

1. What lesson did Danny seem to learn in this passage?

A. Fight fire with fire.

B. Faith will move mountains.

C. Nature exceeds nurture.

D. A reed before the wind lives on, while mighty oaks do fall.

1. What is a euphemism (paragraph 6)?

A. a code word

B. a nickname

C. a different name

D. a less offensive term

E. a meaningless title

1. What kind of character is Jake Hutch in this passage?

A. round, meaning he/she is fully developed

B. protagonist, meaning he/she is the main character

C. antihero, meaning he/she lacks heroic traits

D. flat, characterized by having only enough traits to fulfill his/her function in the passage

E. antagonist, meaning he/she is the person who is opposed to or struggles against another character

1. "The grandeur of the sky, rock, and wilderness made me reverent." Which of the following is the best way to rewrite the above sentence (from paragraph 7) while keeping its original meaning as used in the story?

A. I was awed by the majesty of the sky, rock, and wilderness.

B. I felt small in comparison to the sheer size of the sky, rock, and wilderness.

C. The power of the sky, rock, and wilderness made me regret my past behavior.

D. The inherent danger of the sky, rock, and wilderness made me nervous.

1. What is evident by the end of the passage?

I. how much Danny has changed

II. how much John loves his son

III. that John has given up running for office

A. I only

B. I and II

C. II and III

D. I, II, and III

1. If the counselors at the wilderness camp had been ogres (paragraph 8), how might have they behaved?

A. by giving teenagers water only when they were thirsty

B. by making the teenagers figure out how to build a fort in the rain

C. by refusing to treat the teenagers’ wounds when they got injured

D. by encouraging the teens to socialize with one another even if they didn't want to

**Answers and Explanations**

1. B

The word wild can describe a piece of land that has been left in its natural state. Wild can also refer to a person whose behavior is out of control. Since the passage describes a person who is out of control and then sent to a place in its natural state (the wilderness), the title of the passage holds both meanings. Therefore (B) is correct.

The other answers all describe what happens to Danny over the course of the passage; however, they do not capture the double meaning of the title. Therefore (A), (C), and (D) are incorrect.

1. D

unequivocally (adverb): without exception; without question; unambiguous; admitting no disagreement.

In paragraph 1 we learn that Danny’s “father unequivocally decided he would send” him “to wilderness camp for several months. He had threatened to do it many times before…This time he was dead set on it.” From this the reader can infer that Danny’s father is finally doing something, without question, that he had threatened to do before. Thus unequivocally means without question. Therefore (D) is the correct answer.

Though Danny’s father may have been angry, there is no evidence in the story that he was. Therefore (A) is incorrect. The decision was not made over several months; rather, Danny was sent to wilderness camp for several months. Therefore (B) is incorrect. Tentatively means hesitantly, which is the opposite of unequivocally. Therefore (C) is incorrect.

3) C

In paragraph 2, Danny states, “My latest transgression was viewed as the last straw.” Danny’s use of the word latest suggests that this most recent transgression, or offense, was merely one in a series that he had committed. The phrase “last straw” indicates that with this latest transgression, a limit has been reached for Danny’s father. His father is pushed over the edge and decides to send Danny away. Therefore (C) is correct.

The story does not contain information to suggest that this latest transgression was the biggest problem Danny had. Therefore (A) is incorrect. Though it is bad to push a teacher down the stairs, the story does not imply that it is the worst thing someone could have done. Therefore (B) is incorrect. Danny may wish he could take back the deed, but there is no information in the story to suggest this is true. Therefore (D) is incorrect.

4) C

unbridled (adjective): unrestrained; out-of-control; runaway.

In paragraph 2, Danny, in a “fit of unbridled rage,” pushes his math teacher down the steps. The word unbridled literally means without a bridle, as in a horse that is not controlled by a bridle. Unbridled also describes a person who lacks discipline or restraint. We can understand that Danny lacked restraint because he described the episode as a fit of rage, and said later he did not know why he had done it. Restrained is the opposite of lacking discipline or restraint. Therefore (C) is correct.

Amusing means providing laughter or entertainment. Providing laughter is not the opposite of lacking discipline. Therefore (A) is incorrect. Peaceful means devoid of violence or force. Although a person who lacks discipline may use violence or force, this is not always the case. Peaceful is not the opposite of unbridled. Therefore (B) is incorrect. Understandable means to be comprehended or expected. This is not the opposite of lacking discipline. Therefore (D) is incorrect. Scarce means insufficient or uncommon. This is not the opposite of lacking discipline. Therefore (E) is incorrect.

5) C

Danny’s parents, although they love him, cannot succeed in getting him to behave properly; their *nurturing* ultimately fails to reach him. Yet his time in the wilderness, or nature, teaches him how to calm down and respect himself and others. This demonstrates the power of nature over nurture. The proverb “Nature exceeds nurture” best embraces this idea. Therefore (C) is correct.

*Fight fire with fire* means to respond to an attack with a similar method. In this story, Danny does not respond to an attack. Therefore (A) is incorrect*. Faith* will move mountains means faith is immensely powerful. This story is not concerned with anyone’s faith. Therefore (B) is incorrect. *A reed before the wind lives on, while might oaks do fall* means it is better to be flexible than rigid in turbulent times. Danny does not learn a lesson about being flexible in this story. Therefore (D) is incorrect.

6) D

Euphemism is derived from the Greek word euphēmos, which describes something that sounds good. Euphemisms are used to make negative ideas sound better. For example, rather than announcing that they are going to fire a significant number of people, a company might use the euphemism downsize personnel, which means the same thing but sounds less offensive. In paragraph 6, Danny states, “I knew in my heart that ‘Wilderness Camp’ was surely just a euphemism for ‘Torture Center.’” He describes the “untold abuse” he imagines goes on there. His remark indicates that he believes “Wilderness Camp” is merely a more appealing, less offensive term for what is really a “Torture Center.” Therefore (D) is correct.

A code word is a word predesigned to carry a secret meaning. “Wilderness Camp” is not a code word for something else. Therefore (A) is incorrect. A nickname is a more familiar form of a proper name. “Wilderness Camp” is not a nickname for “Torture Center.” Therefore (B) is incorrect. A different name is too general to convey the meaning of euphemism. “Wilderness Camp” is different, but it is also less offensive than “Torture Center.” Therefore (C) is incorrect. “Wilderness Camp” is not a meaningless title, because it does convey the meaning of the place. Therefore (E) is incorrect.

7) D

In paragraph 5, Jake Hutch tells Danny’s father that his son is “dragging him down.” Jake’s only function in the passage is to warn Danny’s father. The reader does not get any sense of his motivations or personality. He simply exists to fulfill one particular narrative role: telling Danny’s father that his son is a problem. Therefore (D) is correct.

The story does not contain information to support answer choices (A), (B), (C), and (E). Therefore they are incorrect.

8) A

grandeur (noun): the state of being impressive, awesome, or grand; majesty. reverent (adjective): characterized by awe; deeply respectful.

In paragraph 7 Danny speaks about the land with respect, describing it as “rugged wilderness that seemed untouched by civilization.” When he says, “The grandeur of the sky, rock and wilderness made me reverent,” he is expressing his sense of wonder and respect, or awe, at the magnificence, or majesty, of the natural world. Therefore (A) is correct.

Danny may have felt small compared to the sky, rock, and wilderness, but reverent does not mean small. There is no information in the story that Danny felt small or that he was struck by the proportions of nature. Therefore (B) is incorrect. Though Danny may have felt regret for his past actions, the story does not contain any information to suggest that is the case. Therefore (C) is incorrect. While nature may be dangerous at times, the story does not contain information to support the idea that Danny felt nervous or in danger. Therefore (D) is incorrect.

9) B

In paragraph 10 Danny runs to give his father a hug. When Danny then hears his father has lost the race for sheriff, he realizes that his own behavior was a factor in his father’s defeat, and apologizes to him. Danny now realizes and accepts the impact his actions can have on his father’s career. These changes in Danny’s behavior support option (I). The last part of the story also illustrates how much Danny’s father cares about him. When Danny first sees his dad, he sees “love and relief” in his father’s eyes. After Danny says he is sorry his dad lost the race, his father replies, “As long as I don’t ever lose you, I’m okay.” This supports option (II). In this last part of the story, John, Danny’s father, says that he lost the election, but not that he gave up running for office. This eliminates option (III). Therefore (B) is correct.

10)C

In mythology and fairy tales an ogre is a horrible giant that eats humans. The word has evolved to mean an especially cruel person. If the counselors at the wilderness camp were really the ogres Danny imagined them to be, they would behave in cruel and harmful ways, such as refusing the teenagers necessary medical treatment. Therefore (C) is correct.

The other answers describe things which may be unpleasant, but are not harmful or cruel. Therefore (A), (B), and (D) are incorrect.

**Helpful Website/links to review:**

Stories: <http://www.sparknotes.com/>

My website

Grammar: <https://www.ixl.com/ela/grade-9>

My website

Terms: Elements of Literature 3rd Course (purple book) class book

Class Notes

My Website

More PRACTICE: <http://www.varsitytutors.com/common_core_9th_grade_english_language_arts-flashcards>

Elements of Literature 3rd Course (purple book) class book