

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Rising 10th Grade HONORS Summer 2018 Reading Assessment

1. Read the novella *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse.
2. Using the template, please take Think Notes (annotations) of the entire book. You may use notebook paper for the Think Notes. The recommendation is a set of Think Notes for every 3 chapters.
3. Fill out the characterization chart and answer the questions in detail.
4. Watch the *Buddha* documentary and fill out the critical analysis sheet. (Links to the documentary are at the bottom of the handout)

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When you begin to touch your heart or let your heart be touched, you begin to discover that it's bottomless, that it doesn't have any resolution, that this heart is huge, vast, and limitless. You begin to discover how much warmth and gentleness is there, as well as how much space. — Pema Chodron, American teacher of Tibetan Buddhism

Connecting *Siddhartha* to *The Buddha* a documentary

ELACC9-10SL5: Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

Critical Thinking Questions

ELACC9-10RI7: Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums (e.g., a person's life story in print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account.

1. How does the Buddha differ from the Hindu and Jewish gods? Is he different from the Jewish prophets?
2. What does the term "the Middle Way" mean? What do you think the Buddha saw as the benefits of the Middle Way?
3. What Four Noble Truths did the Buddha realize: _____

4. Does this mean we should never desire anything? Is it wrong to desire air? To desire justice? What about desiring enlightenment?
5. The story "The Life of Buddha" mentions two learnings that are foundational to an understanding of Buddhism—two tools to help you reach enlightenment. One is the Four Noble Truths. **Do you remember the name of the other one?**

Trying to achieve consistency throughout a person's life is very important to Buddhism. But how are you supposed to remember all eight things? One way is by creating a visual reminder. **Recall the eight elements of the Eightfold Path then make an image with a drawing or chart using the first letter of each element.**

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6. In the film, many people give their interpretations of what the Buddha meant. Are these creedal statements—do all Buddhists believe exactly the same thing? Or is Buddhism similar to Unitarian Universalism, in that responsibility rests with individuals to follow their own spiritual path?

Vocabulary

- enlightenment:** a moment of great wisdom or understanding; the highest level of consciousness, believed to be attained through meditation and adhering to the principles of the Eightfold Path; the ultimate goal of Buddhism
- lotus flower:** a beautiful flower that rises from muddy water to blossom above the waters surface. According to the Buddha, like the lotus, people can rise above their desire for things to overcome suffering and live an enlightened life
- meditation:** thinking deeply and quietly for a long time to and answers within oneself
- mudra:** a symbolic hand gesture with special meaning often found on artistic depictions of the Buddha and other Buddhist figures
- symbol:** a sign, drawing, or word that represents an idea or an act
- urna:** a dot on the Buddha's forehead that symbolizes his special wisdom
- ushnisha:** a bump on the crown of the Buddha's head that represents his superior knowledge

Analyzing Media Presentations

ELACC9-10SL2: Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.

7. What was the main purpose of the media presentation? (Be specific)
8. How well did the presentation use facts to support its purpose? Please support your answer with many details...
9. How, if at all, did the presentation use charged language, images, or stereotypes? Give Examples
10. Assess the reliability and objectivity of the presentation.

THE DOCUMENTARY CAN BE VIEWED AT <http://video.pbs.org/video/1461557530/>
OR AT https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vc7_VyVXDLs



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Think Notes Template: Fill out for every 3 chapters of the novella

In order to analyze a text at the honors level, you must master effective close reading skills. Close reading is the most important skill you need for any form of literary studies. It means paying especially close attention to what is printed on the page. It is a much more subtle and complex process than the term might suggest.

CONNECT: Mark or highlight where a character, plot event or setting reminds you of something.

For example- This reminds me of...

An experience I have had like that...

I have a connection:

This reminds me of a book...because...

This book has inspired me to...

EVALUATE: Mark or highlight where you have formed an opinion about the story or character.

I agree with...because...

I don't think...because...

This is the author's best argument because...

This is the most important part of the story because...

QUESTION: Mark or highlight where you had a question about something. ????

I wonder...

How come...

Why...

I'm confused...with or because...

What if...

I don't understand but I think it means...

VISUALIZE & SENSE: Mark or highlight where you get a sense or image in your mind.

In my mind...

I can see...

I can taste/hear/smell/feel...

LITERARY DEVICES: Mark or highlight any and all figurative language. Try to interpret the meaning or significance.

This object symbolizes...

This figurative language (identify the Lit term) means...

The author's purpose is to...

The author is using...in order to...

INFER & PREDICT: Mark or highlight where you have used the author's clues to figure out something.

I think...

Maybe (this) _____ means...

I am guessing...

This allows me to assume...

I predict...because...

Characterization Chart:

Using your brain and no book (no outside resources), write a description for each character in the box provided.

INDICATE:

1. The manner in which the person is characterized in the novel.
2. His/her relationships with other characters, and
3. What this person helps Siddhartha to learn during his journey.

GOVINDA

GOTAMA BUDDHA

KAMALA

SIDDHARTHA

KAMASWAMI

YOUNG SIDDHARTHA

VASEDUVA

Answer these questions in detail on a sheet of notebook paper.

ANALYZE:

1. Which of the characters, do you think, influences Siddhartha the most on his journey?
2. Which of the characters is most like Siddhartha? Least? Explain your reasoning.
3. Compare one of the characters from Siddhartha to one of the characters from another book that you have read. Explain their similarities and differences.