

A.P. Literature and Composition 2019

Invisible Man – Book Test – Essay Questions

Directions: All answers are to be well thought out and completely answered. Please type your answers and attach them to this test.

Name _____

1. “I was never more hated than when I tried to be honest . . . No one was satisfied – not even I. On the other hand, I’ve never been more loved and appreciated than when . . . I’ve tried to give my friends the incorrect, absurd answers they wished to hear. They received a feeling of security. . . In order to justify them, I had to choke myself . . . oh, yes, it made them happy and it made me sick.”

How does this quote support the concept of our narrator’s life being an invisible one? What aspects of personalized humanity must be forfeited in order to be accepted and recognized by collective humanity? Is the narrator’s malaise unique or common to the way we all must be if we are to be accepted in society?

2. “Life is to be lived, not controlled; and humanity is won by continuing to play in face of certain defeat.” Does our narrator’s life and his personal choices support or negate this assertion? Is the epilogue one of negative resignation or of positive affirmation? Is Ellison a Naturalist or an Existentialist? Defend your position with textual quotes and references.
3. The most discernible, salient theme of 20th century literature is alienation. Discuss how alienation is prevalent in the life of the main character in *Invisible Man*.

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Invisible Man – Book Test – Objective Questions

Directions: All answers are to be typed and attached to this test.

Name _____

1. Copyright date: _____
2. The newspaper recorded that the man the narrator “bumped into,” then attacked, had been “_____.”
3. The narrator wants to invent a gadget to warm his what?
4. The narrator collected what electrical devices (1369 of them)?
5. Who was responsible for the “near murder” in the epilogue?
6. What was the grandfather’s deathbed advice?
7. The narrator, in youth, “visualized” himself as “a potential” . . . what Black historical leader?
8. What was tattooed on the belly of the dancer at the Battle Royal?
9. What gift did the narrator receive after delivering his speech?
10. Who did the narrator chauffeur around the campus?
11. Did our narrator know the works of Emerson?
12. What was Trueblood’s societal offense?
13. With what household tool did Trueblood get hit?
14. State the jaybird analogy regarding Trueblood’s being attacked.
15. What is the Golden Day?
16. What happened at the Golden Day?
17. What has the Golden Day story to do with the narrator’s letters of introduction from Dr. Bledsoe to New York businessmen?

18. What city did Southern Blacks migrate to when Dr. Bledsoe was young?
19. What is “any man’s most easily accessible symbol of freedom?”
20. What sophisticated New York magazine was the model for young, executive clothing style?
21. To what novel does Mr. Emerson’s son frequently allude?
22. To what two characters from the novel?
23. What did Dr. Bledsoe state about the narrator in his letters of recommendation, such as to Mr. Emerson?
24. What decision does the narrator make about what he will do to Dr. Bledsoe after reading the letter to Mr. Emerson?
25. The name of the factory employing the narrator?
26. Color of paint produced?
27. What “accident” happened to the narrator in the boiler room?
28. Section of New York where narrator lived?
29. What vegetable is bought by the narrator from a New York street vendor?
30. State the incident of dumping the coins and broken iron in a trash can.
31. Narrator’s new Brotherhood name was what?
32. What’s a “Hooverville”?
33. What three Irish revolutionaries does our narrator quote in his “more human” speech?
34. Is Ras for human liberation or Black liberation?
35. “You start Saul, and end up _____.”
36. What item of imprisonment did Tarp give our narrator?
37. The narrator is told to lecture down-town on what tangential social-freedom topic?
38. Why is he called away from this topic?

39. How did Clifton die?
40. Where did Clifton's funeral take place?
41. Who stopped the fight between Maceo and the narrator?
42. Title of street pamphlet from the ghetto chapel?
43. Why did the narrator feel "invisible" when being intimate with Sybil?
44. Who was in the cab the narrator hailed to get to Harlem?
45. What "encrusted barrage" fell upon the narrator as he ran under the Riverside Bridge?
46. Who started the night of rioting and looting in Harlem?
47. What did the mob of Blacks want to do to our narrator at the riot? Why is this ironic?
48. Where did the narrator fall when running from the police and the black rioters?
49. What did the narrator tell the policeman was in his briefcase?
50. What was the connection between the "jaybird" analogy earlier in the novel and the state the narrator was in during the last pages of the novel?

AP Literature and Composition 2019
Invisible Man – Book Test – Objective Questions
Directions: Briefly identify these characters in two or three sentences.

Name: _____

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| 1. Dr. Bledsoe | 16. Kimbro |
| 2. Trueblood | 17. Lucius Brockway |
| 3. Hambro | 18. Brother Jack |
| 4. Marcus Garvey | 19. Brother Tarp |
| 5. Mary Rambo | 20. Paul Robeson |
| 6. Ras | 21. Rinehart |
| 7. Aunt Cloe | 22. Barrelhouse |
| 8. Will Nicholas | 23. Sybil |
| 9. Matty Lon | 24. Tom Clifton |
| 10. Kate | 25. Amos and Andy |
| 11. Mr. Norton | |
| 12. Tatlock | |
| 13. Mr. Crenshaw | |
| 14. Mr. Emerson | |
| 15. Frederick Douglas | |