

Honors English III

The Once and Future King by T. H. White

The following questions are divided into Books I – IV from the novel. On loose leaf notebook paper, answer the questions thoroughly. You do not have to copy each question. Simply number the answers. Do this in pen. When you have completed the work, staple everything together with the questions on top. Be sure to put your name on your work. These are to be completed and turned in on the first day of school. If you have questions, you may email me. Otherwise have a fun summer!

Book I:

1. Who was Wart, and how did he get that name?
2. Who was Arthur's father?
3. Where did Arthur meet King Pellinore, and how long did Pellinore say he had been lost? What creature was Pellinore searching for?
4. Who was to be Wart's tutor?
5. Wart claimed that if he ever got the chance to be a real knight, he would call himself by what name?
6. Did Wart ever plan to marry? (Explain.)
7. Arthur learned that in the ant world, 2 words were used for everything. What were they?
8. What was written on the sword that Arthur pulled out of the anvil that was in the stone on Pie Street?
9. What favor did Sir Ector ask of Arthur when Arthur became king?
10. What did most people feel life had been like under Pendragon?
11. What wonderful gift did Sir Ector give to Arthur when he became king? What was special about it?
12. Describe Merlyn. What does he mean when he says he has second sight?
13. At this point in the novel, what does "Might as Right" mean?
14. Who was Morgan le Fay?
15. Discuss Arthur's mysterious birth.

Book II:

1. Name the four children of Queen Morgause.
2. Who were the three daughters of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall? What was their relation to Arthur?
3. Who was King Leodegrance, and why might he be important to King Arthur?
4. Arthur said instead of punishing enemy knights when he captured them, what did he intend to do with them?
5. According to Merlin, what is man's destiny?
6. What is a spancel, and who used one, on whom, and what was the result?
7. Some people planned to cheer up Pellinore. Who did something, what did they do, and how did that work out for them?
8. What are Merlin's ideas on war and fighting according to what he told Arthur?

9. What is the new “might for right” idea all about?

Book III:

1. What did Arthur say he meant by civilization?
2. What was Guenevere's tragedy?
3. What were Guenevere's three virtues?
4. What was the difference between Guenevere's love for Lancelot and her love for Arthur?
5. What was the one thing Lancelot worked his whole life to accomplish?
6. Why did Lancelot call himself “Chevalier Malfet,” and what does that mean?

Book IV:

1. What was Guenevere convicted of; what was her sentence; why didn't King Arthur acquit her?
2. What did Arthur mean when he said he had to be willing as the king to execute his friends as well as his enemies?
3. Morgause had a lasting effect on her son, Mordred. What influence did she have on him as his parent? Arthur and Gawaine have a lengthy conversation about Morgause's effect on Mordred. What did they determine?
4. King Arthur developed quite a philosophy about mankind and war. What did he say?
5. What was the connection between Tom of Warwick and King Arthur? How does this relate to the title of the book?
6. What was the “Pageant of Reconciliation”?
7. What was Arthur's idea of Original Sin?
8. What is the difference between chivalry of old and chivalry of King Arthur's time?