

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Nail Global Narrative Theory for 9th Grade

Deconstruct 10 complex perspectives on postcolonial shifts and existential motifs found in major works from the Global South and Eastern Europe.

1. In the context of Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's critiques of the 'colonial alien,' what primary purpose does his choice to write in Gikuyu rather than English serve?

Answer: C) To reclaim cultural identity and decolonize the mind through native linguistic structures.

Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o argued that language is a carrier of culture; by rejecting the colonizer's language, the author actively engages in a process of cultural reclamation.

2. The concept of 'The Double' or the 'Doppelgänger' in Fyodor Dostoevsky's works often serves as an evaluation of _____, where the protagonist's psyche is fractured by societal pressures.

Answer: B) Existential fragmentation

Dostoevsky used the double to represent the internal conflict and breakdown of the self in an increasingly alienating modern world.

3. In the works of Czech writer Franz Kafka, the 'Kafkaesque' setting is typically characterized by a sense of logical clarity and efficient bureaucratic justice.

Answer: B) False

Kafkaesque refers to nightmarish, illogical, and oppressive bureaucratic environments where the individual is powerless and the rules are incomprehensible.

4. How does Isabel Allende's use of spiritualism in Chilean settings differ from the 'hard' realism found in 19th-century European novels?

Answer: B) She treats supernatural occurrences as mundane, integrated parts of the social reality.

Allende utilizes magical realism, where the line between the physical and spiritual worlds is blurred, presenting a reality that includes the extraordinary as ordinary.

5. Wole Soyinka's plays, such as 'Death and the King's Horseman,' utilize the _____ worldview to critique the misunderstanding of sacrifice by British colonial authorities.

Answer: A) Yoruba

Name: _____ Date: _____

Soyinka draws heavily on Yoruba mythology and philosophy, specifically the transitional space between the living, the dead, and the unborn.

6. Lu Xun is often considered the father of modern Chinese literature because he abandoned Classical Chinese in favor of the vernacular to reach a broader audience and promote social reform.

Answer: A) True

Lu Xun's use of 'Baihua' (vernacular Chinese) was a revolutionary act intended to modernize Chinese society and critique feudal traditions.

7. Which analytical lens would be most appropriate for evaluating the power dynamics and 'othering' present in E.M. Forster's depictions of India?

Answer: C) Post-colonialism

Post-colonial criticism examines the effects of imperial rule on both the colonizer and the colonized, focusing on identity, racism, and power.

8. In the epic poetry of the Persian tradition, specifically Ferdowsi's 'Shahnameh,' the character of Rostam serves as the archetype of the _____, representing national identity and moral struggle.

Answer: A) Tragic hero

Rostam's story, particularly his accidental killing of his son Sohrab, follows the classic trajectory of the tragic hero defined by fate and duty.

9. Arundhati Roy's 'The God of Small Things' uses a non-linear narrative structure primarily to mimic the chaotic nature of the South Asian monsoon season.

Answer: B) False

While the monsoon is a setting, the non-linear structure is used to analyze how 'Big Things' (history, law) impact 'Small Things' (personal lives, love) over time.

10. What does the term 'Negritude,' a literary and ideological philosophy developed by Francophone African writers like Léopold Sédar Senghor, aim to celebrate?

Answer: B) A shared black heritage and resistance against French cultural assimilation.

Negritude was a movement that sought to assert the value of African culture and identity in response to the alienating effects of French imperialism.