

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Dissect Global Satire: A 9th Grade World Literature Pizza Party Quiz

Slice through sociopolitical commentary using the 'humor-as-weapon' technique across French, Russian, and Caribbean literary traditions.

1. In Molière's French neoclassical comedy 'Tartuffe', what specific social institution is primarily targeted through the character of a religious hypocrite?

Answer: B) The influence of false piety in the aristocracy

Molière used Tartuffe to critique how people used the appearance of religious devotion to manipulate wealthy families, a major concern in 17th-century French society.

2. True or False: Nikolai Gogol's Russian masterpiece 'The Overcoat' uses a mundane object to satirize the soul-crushing nature of government bureaucracy.

Answer: A) True

Gogol's story is a foundational piece of Russian realism that critiques the cold, indifferent social hierarchy of St. Petersburg through a lowly clerk's obsession with a coat.

3. The concept of 'Postcolonialism' in Caribbean literature often involves the use of _____ to reclaim identity from European colonial narratives.

Answer: C) Hybridity and Patois dialect

Authors like Kamau Brathwaite or Derek Walcott use linguistic hybridity to challenge the dominance of colonial languages and express a dual cultural identity.

4. How does the Persian epic 'Shahnameh' by Ferdowsi differ in focus from Homer's 'Iliad' regarding the concept of a 'hero'?

Answer: B) It emphasizes the 'farr' or divine glory and moral legitimacy of kings

The Shahnameh explores the ethical and spiritual qualities required for leadership, specifically the 'farr', which distinguishes it from purely martial Greek epics.

5. In German literature, the 'Bildungsroman' genre is best described as a story that focuses on the _____ and moral growth of the protagonist.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer: B) Psychological development

The Bildungsroman, popularized by Goethe, tracks a character's journey from childhood to maturity and their integration into society.

6. True or False: The 'Theatre of the Absurd', exemplified by Irish-French writer Samuel Beckett, argues that human existence has an inherently logical and clear purpose.

Answer: B) False

Absurdist literature suggests that the human search for meaning is inherently at odds with a nonsensical or 'silent' universe.

7. Which literary device is most prevalent in Wislawa Szymborska's Polish poetry when she addresses significant historical events through mundane objects?

Answer: B) Irony and Slant Perspective

Szymborska often uses a detached, ironic perspective to find profound philosophical meaning in the details of everyday life and history.

8. Lu Xun, a towering figure in modern Chinese literature, used his stories like 'A Madman's Diary' to critique _____ and call for social reform.

Answer: A) Traditional Confucian feudalism

Lu Xun used metaphors like 'cannibalism' to describe the destructive nature of old social hierarchies in China during the early 20th century.

9. True or False: Franz Kafka's 'The Metamorphosis' is an example of Czech-German literature that uses surrealism to explore themes of isolation and alienation.

Answer: A) True

Kafka's work is famous for depicting the 'Kafkaesque' experience, where individuals are trapped by incomprehensible and impersonal forces.

10. Mahasweta Devi's Bengali literature often focuses on the 'Subaltern' voice. What does this term refer to in a literary context?

Answer: B) The perspective of marginalized or oppressed groups

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Subaltern studies and literature focus on the history and voices of those excluded from traditional power structures, such as tribal communities in India.