

Name: _____ Date: _____

Dissect Global Dissonance: A 10th Grade World Literature Quiz

Can a narrative voice reshape history? Evaluate complex themes of cultural fragmentation and structural innovation in these challenging literary analyses.

1. In Wole Soyinka's play 'Death and the King's Horseman', the conflict between Elesin Oba and Simon Pilkings serves primarily as a critique of which concept?

- A. The inherent superiority of Western judicial systems over indigenous law.
- B. The ontological gap between colonial 'duty' and indigenous metaphysical responsibility.
- C. The simple failure of communication between two well-meaning individuals.
- D. The modernization of Nigerian urban centers during the mid-20th century.

2. The 'Theater of the Absurd', famously exemplified by Samuel Beckett's 'Waiting for Godot', posits that human existence has no inherent meaning and that logic is an inadequate tool for understanding the universe.

- A. True
- B. False

3. In 'The Unbearable Lightness of Being', Milan Kundera explores the philosophical tension between Nietzsche's 'eternal return' and the fleeting nature of life, using the setting of the 1968 ____.

- A. Hungarian Uprising
- B. Prague Spring
- C. Velvet Revolution
- D. Paris Student Riots

4. Marjane Satrapi's graphic novel 'Persepolis' utilizes a minimalist visual style primarily to achieve which rhetorical effect?

- A. To suggest that the Iranian Revolution was a simple event to understand.
- B. To avoid the costs associated with complex artistic rendering in comics.
- C. To humanize the narrative and make the experience of the protagonist universally relatable despite the specific political context.
- D. To satirize the government-mandated art styles of the Islamic Republic.

5. Lu Xun, a towering figure in modern Chinese literature, utilized the 'Madman' character in his short stories to symbolize a rejection of ____.

- A. Western scientific advancement
- B. Traditional Confucian feudalism
- C. The development of the vernacular language
- D. Global maritime trade routes

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6. The concept of 'Negritude', as developed by Aimé Césaire and Léopold Sédar Senghor, was a literary movement that sought to reject French colonial influence by reclaiming African identity and values through poetry.

- A. True
- B. False

7. How does Isabel Allende's use of 'The Spirit of the People' in her narratives differ from the Magical Realism of her predecessors like García Márquez?

- A. She rejects all supernatural elements in favor of strict historical realism.
- B. She focuses more heavily on the domestic sphere and female ancestral memory as a source of power.
- C. She uses magic mainly as a comedic device rather than a social critique.
- D. Her work lacks the political undertones found in older Latin American works.

8. The Japanese concept of 'Mono no aware', found in classics like 'The Tale of Genji' and modern works, refers to the bitter-sweet awareness of the ____ of all things.

- A. Duality
- B. Insignificance
- C. Impermanence
- D. Perfection

9. In 'The Metamorphosis' by Franz Kafka, the transformation of Gregor Samsa into an insect is explicitly explained by the text as a divine punishment for his greed.

- A. True
- B. False

10. Which analytical lens would be most appropriate for examining the power dynamics between the speaker and the colonizing language in Walcott's 'A Far Cry from Africa'?

- A. Reader-Response Criticism
- B. Post-Colonial Theory
- C. New Criticism
- D. Formalist Analysis