

Name: _____ Date: _____

Beyond the Borders of the Blue: Decoding World Literature's Global Soul for Undergrads

Synthesize the intersection of socio-political upheaval and aesthetic innovation through comparative analysis of Caribbean, North African, and Eastern European masterpieces.

1. In Aimé Césaire's 'Notebook of a Return to the Native Land', how does the concept of 'Négritude' function as a subversion of European surrealist aesthetics?

- A. It rejects internal psychology to focus exclusively on economic Marxism.
- B. It utilizes the irrational to reclaim a suppressed African identity from colonial logic.
- C. It advocates for a return to traditional French neoclassical rhyming structures.
- D. It serves as a literal travelogue devoid of metaphorical or symbolic intent.

2. The 1988 Nobel Laureate Naguib Mahfouz is often credited with adapting the _____ novel form to the nuances of the Egyptian Cairene social landscape.

- A. Picaresque
- B. Naturalistic
- C. Experimental metafiction
- D. Epistolary

3. In Clarice Lispector's 'The Hour of the Star', the narrator Rodrigo S.M. represents an objective, omniscient voice that refuses to intervene in Macabéa's narrative.

- A. True
- B. False

4. How does Wole Soyinka's play 'Death and the King's Horseman' critique the 'clash of cultures' trope frequently found in postcolonial studies?

- A. By portraying the British District Officer as the primary protagonist.
- B. By characterizing the conflict as a failure of the metaphysical transition rather than just colonial intervention.
- C. By employing strictly Aristotelian unities to prove African drama's 'validity'.
- D. By suggesting that traditional Yoruba beliefs are entirely compatible with Western law.

5. Milan Kundera's 'The Unbearable Lightness of Being' utilizes the philosophical concept of _____ to contrast the gravity of political commitment with the fragility of individual existence.

- A. The Categorical Imperative
- B. Eternal Recurrence
- C. The Tabula Rasa
- D. Dialectical Materialism

6. Which literary device is most prevalent in Lu Xun's 'A Madman's Diary' to symbolize the predatory nature of traditional Confucian society?

Name: _____ Date: _____

- A. Synesthesia
- B. Cannibalism
- C. Iambic Pentameter
- D. Pastoralism

7. Alejo Carpentier's 'The Kingdom of This World' is a foundational text for 'lo real maravilloso', which differs from surrealism by grounding magic in the faith and history of the Americas.

- A. True
- B. False

8. In the context of the South Asian Diaspora, the term _____ refers to the hybridity and 'in-betweenness' experienced by characters in the works of authors like Jhumpa Lahiri.

- A. Orientalism
- B. Liminality
- C. Essentialism
- D. Hegemony

9. Mikhail Bakhtin's concept of 'carnavalesque' is best applied to which world literature masterwork to explain its disruption of social hierarchy and linguistic norms?

- A. The Waste Land by T.S. Eliot
- B. Gargantua and Pantagruel by François Rabelais
- C. The Stranger by Albert Camus
- D. Waiting for Godot by Samuel Beckett

10. The 'I-Novel' (Shishōsetsu) in Japanese literature is characterized by its strict adherence to fictional world-building and the avoidance of the author's personal life.

- A. True
- B. False