

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Narrative Mixology: Advanced Prose Craft for College Writers

Synthesize complex narrative theories by analyzing non-linear structures, psychic distance, and experimental syntax to refine your professional creative portfolio.

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**1. When implementing 'Free Indirect Discourse,' as seen in the works of Virginia Woolf or James Joyce, how does the narrative relationship function?**

**Answer:** A) The third-person narrator adopts the tone and thoughts of a character without using 'he thought'.

Free Indirect Discourse bridges the gap between third-person narration and first-person internal monologue, allowing for deep character subjectivity within a third-person framework.

**2. In structural narratology, the concept of \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the actual chronological sequence of events, distinct from the 'sjuzet' (the way the story is told).**

**Answer:** B) Fabula

Fabula represents the raw material of a story in chronological order, which the writer then manipulates into a 'sjuzet' (plot) for artistic effect.

**3. John Gardner's concept of the 'fictional dream' asserts that any stylistic choice that reminds the reader they are reading a book is inherently a failure of craft.**

**Answer:** B) False

While Gardner advocated for a vivid, continuous dream, many advanced literary movements (like Postmodernism) intentionally break the dream to engage the reader intellectually.

**4. How does 'psychic distance' function in a narrative to control the reader's emotional intimacy?**

**Answer:** B) It is a stylistic scale ranging from objective reportage to interior stream of consciousness.

Psychic distance, or narrative distance, dictates how closely the reader experiences the character's internal reality, from 'cold' third-person to 'hot' internal monologue.

**5. Writing that utilizes \_\_\_\_\_, such as George Saunders' 'Lincoln in the Bardo,' relies on a collage of fragmented voices rather than a unified narrative consciousness.**

**Answer:** A) Polyphony

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Polyphony involves multiple independent voices or points of view interacting within a single work, often without a dominant perspective.

**6. Which of the following best describes the 'objective correlative' as defined by T.S. Eliot?**

**Answer:** B) A set of objects or events that act as a formula for a particular emotion.

The objective correlative is an external metaphor (an object, situation, or chain of events) used to evoke a specific emotional response in the reader without naming the emotion explicitly.

**7. A 'unreliable narrator' must be intentionally lying to the reader for the narrative to be classified as such.**

**Answer:** B) False

Unreliability can stem from psychological instability, ignorance, or bias, not just intentional deceit.

**8. The use of \_\_\_\_\_ involves a narrative that turns back on itself to examine its own construction, often seen in Metafiction.**

**Answer:** B) Self-reflexivity

Self-reflexivity occurs when a work of art acknowledges its own status as a constructed artifice, often commenting on the writing process itself.

**9. In 'The Art of Fiction,' Henry James argues that a writer should 'render' rather than 'report.' This is the philosophical precursor to which common writing maxim?**

**Answer:** C) Show, don't tell.

James's emphasis on 'rendering' high-quality sensory experiences and scenes is the foundation of the 'show, don't tell' instructional technique.

**10. 'Microwriting' or 'Flash Fiction' focuses exclusively on brevity, meaning deep thematic complexity is sacrificed for punchy endings.**

**Answer:** B) False

Advanced flash fiction utilizes compression and subtext to achieve thematic depth equal to longer works, relying on what is omitted to create meaning.