

LA 10 Reading Comprehension

European Literature from the Middle Ages to the Enlightenment

Wk 21

Directions: Read pages 619 – 665 Use complete sentences with proper grammar to answer the following items.

1. According to the speaker, what is the “truth” - the sources – of this “*lai*” ?

2. How does Tristan learn that Iseult will be traveling through the forest?

3. How does Tristan let Iseult know that he wants to meet her?

4. What assurance does Iseult give Tristan?

5. Explain the extended metaphor that compares the survival of Tristan and Iseult’s love to that of the honeysuckle and the hazel tree.

6. What do you consider the main conflict to be in “Chevrefoil”?

7. Why is Perceval unable to cross the river?

8. What is special about the sword the castle’s lord gives to Perceval?

9. What objects are carried in the procession through the hall?

10. How does Perceval plan to find out about Grail?

11. When Perceval awakes and finds everyone gone, what does he conclude?

12. What might the narrator’s observations foreshadow about the future consequences of Perceval’s silence?

13. What is the significance of the lance and the Grail?

14. How does Siegfried show his skill as a hunter?

15. How do Hagen and Gunther manage to lure Siegfried alone to the stream?

16. How does Hagen kill Siegfried?

17. How do the hunters plan to conceal the true facts of Siegfried's murder?

18. The bear that Siegfried has captured causes comic disorder before Siegfried dispatches it. What does this humorous scene reveal about Siegfried? Why is this lighthearted mood ironic?

19. What is Dante's state of mind at the beginning of the poem?

20. How does Virgil offer to help Dante?

21. Why does Charon refuse to allow Dante to cross Acheron?

22. What is Minos's role in the second circle of Hell?

23. According to Canto 34, what sinners are punished in the lowest, last circle of Hell? How are they punished?

24. According to Dante, what does Satan look like? What is Satan doing?

25. Dante ranks human sins by his placement of different sinners in Hell. Does their punishment fit their crimes? Explain your reasoning.

26. In what ways could Satan's three faces be explained as symbols?

27. How does Judas's sin differ from that of Brutus and Cassius?

