

Name _____

Class _____

Score: _____

The Divorce

by C.S. Lewis

Part I

Directions: Use complete sentences to respond to the items listed below.

Lewis' Picture of Heaven

(1) Discuss the imagery of Lewis' heaven, and what it might have been intended to signify. Consider Lewis' use of :

(a) Rock-hard and "unbreakable" heavenly matter

(b) "Size- travel" – changing perceptual dimensions by getting larger or smaller

(c) Natural imagery, such as trees, rivers and mountains

(d) Non-human presences such as lions, giants, angels, and unicorns

(e) The 'double vision' with which the narrator sees the heavenly characters

(f) Their 'agelessness'

(2) How does Lewis present questions of time and reality in heaven?

Lewis' Picture of Hell

(3) Is there any relationship between traditional notions of hell and the kind of hell that Lewis depicts?

(4) What sort of society could one expect to get in Lewis' hell?

The Tousel-Headed Poet: "He appeared to be a singularly ill-used man"

(5) How is the Poet deceiving himself?

The "Big Man": "Ask for the Bleeding Charity"

(6) What is the Big Man's concept of "decency"?

(7) What prevents him from staying in heaven?

The Bishop: "It all turns on what are honest opinions."

(8) Why has the clerical ghost become an apostate?

(9) What does the solid spirit recommend as the cure?

The Hard-Bitten Ghost: “they won’t catch *me* that way.”

(10) Do you think the Hard Bitten Ghost is overly cynical?
