

The Hobbit

LITERATURE TEST

NAME: _____

NOTE: When there is no direct question or prompt, choose the best match for what is given.

1) Subtle clues in Chapter 1 suggest that Bilbo might secretly be adventurous.

- A. Rising action
- B. Symbolism
- C. Foil characterization
- D. Indirect characterization

2) Which choice relates LEAST to the quote?

“Then something Tookish woke up inside him, and he wished to go and see the great mountains, and hear the pine-trees and the waterfalls, and explore the caves, and wear a sword instead of a walking-stick.” (24)

- A. Motivation
- B. First-person point of view
- C. Characterization
- D. Internal conflict

3) Which of these details is left unexplained and creates a sense of mystery?

- A. Gandalf involves himself in the adventure
- B. Bilbo leaves the company in Mirkwood
- C. The Master of Lake town helps Thorin
- D. Smaug takes over the Lonely Mountain

4) As the episode with the hungry trolls shows, Tolkien often pairs tension with...

- A. Sorrow.
- B. Humor.
- C. Songs.
- D. Romance.

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“‘What I say,’ said Bilbo gasping. ‘And please don’t cook me, kind sirs! I am a good cook myself, and cook better than I cook, if you see

what I mean. I’ll cook beautifully for you, a perfectly beautiful breakfast for you, if only you won’t have me for supper.’” (41)

- A. Tension
- B. Humor
- C. Dialogue
- D. Metaphor

6) Bilbo is the hero, but he is not physically special or morally (right and wrong) perfect.

- A. Villain
- B. Antihero
- C. Antagonist
- D. Foil character

7) The giant, fantastic, man-eating trolls have ordinary names like Bert, Tom, and William.

- A. Tragedy
- B. Tension
- C. Irony
- D. Imagery

8) Detailed descriptions of the sights, sounds, surfaces, and smells of Rivendell.

- A. Foreshadowing
- B. Imagery
- C. Theme development
- D. Symbolism

9) Bilbo is NOT...

- A. The protagonist.
- B. An example of an antihero.
- C. An example of an archetype.
- D. The narrator.

10) *“Dwarves had not passed that way for many years, but Gandalf had, and he knew how evil and danger had grown and thriven in the Wild, since the dragons had driven men from the lands, and the goblins had spread in secret after the battle of the Mines of Moria. Even the good plans of wise wizards like Gandalf and of good friends like Elrond go astray...”* (57)

- A. Imagery / sensory details
- B. Foreshadowing / suspense
- C. Metaphor / figurative language
- D. Revelation / resolution

11) Clues suggest that Thorin and Company will find trouble in the Misty Mountains.

- A. Foreshadowing
- B. Figurative language
- C. Direct point of view
- D. Inciting incidents

12) Which of the following reflects the literary device of a “cliffhanger?”

- A. Roac lives on the side of the mountain.
- B. At the end of Chapter 4, Bilbo is left unconscious in the goblin tunnels.
- C. In the final Chapter, Bilbo starts feeling a nagging impulse to go on another adventure.
- D. The people celebrate the new king, Bard.

13) *“I imagine you know the answer, of course, or can guess it as easy as winking, since you are sitting comfortably at home and have not the danger of being eaten to disturb your thinking.”*

- A. Indirect characterization
- B. Figurative language (metaphor)
- C. Direct address (point of view)
- D. Symbolism

14) The idea of Bilbo’s luck pops up as an element of the story again and again.

- A. Mystery
- B. Motivation
- C. Motif
- D. Momentum

15) Which motif throughout *The Hobbit* suggests the idea of fate or divine influence?

- A. Songs and correspondence (letters)
- B. Dragons and goblins
- C. Magical doors and streams
- D. Luck and unlikely escapes

16) The ancient and universal (for all people) idea of a character having to play a game with life-or-death consequences is an example of...

- A. An archetype.
- B. A theme.
- C. A played-out device.
- D. Character motivation.

17) Gandalf’s approach to introducing the entire party to Beorn has the LEAST to do with...

- A. Humor as a literary device.
- B. A theme on problem-solving.
- C. Characterization of Beorn.
- D. Foreshadowing the eagles’ arrival.

18) Some details suggest that Gandalf is powerful and all-knowing. Some details suggest that he is just a clever and tricky old man.

- A. Ambiguity
- B. Tension
- C. Climax
- D. Resolution

19) Which of the following is a genre?

- A. Bard the Bowman

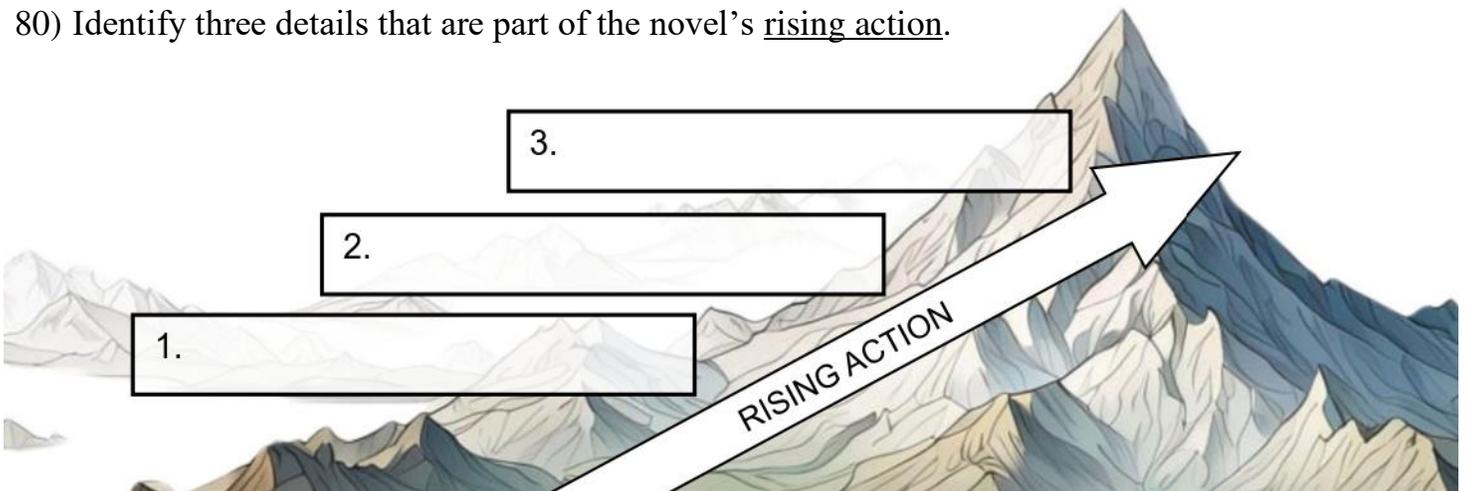
78) Outline the presentation of two foil characters in the novel. What is the author’s purpose in presenting the foil characters in this way?

| CHARACTER 1: | CHARACTER 2: |
|--------------|--------------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| PURPOSE: | |
| _____ | |

79) Choose three elements in *The Hobbit* and create an original epithet for each.

| | |
|----|--|
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |

80) Identify three details that are part of the novel’s rising action.



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would give a good many of these precious goblets,” he thought, “for a drink of something cheering out of one of Beorn’s wooden bowls!” (208)

The quote highlights how Bilbo values simple pleasures and hospitality compared to the dwarves who are seduced by the treasure. Unlike the dwarves, Bilbo quickly tires of wealth, revealing his true values of comfort, simplicity, and fellowship. It is important to note that he thinks of Beorn and not just the cheering beverage. The literary elements here include character motivation and theme. The event clearly illustrates Bilbo's inner thoughts and priorities, making him more sympathetic. The contrast between Bilbo's longing for simple comforts, symbolized by the humble bowls of Beorn, and the dwarves' obsession with treasure emphasizes Tolkien's theme on greed and what is truly valuable.

73) Explain the ambiguity that surrounds the character Gandalf.

Gandalf's character embodies ambiguity, as Tolkien deliberately presents him with contradictory qualities. At times, Gandalf is portrayed as an all-knowing, powerful wizard whose uncanny insight and magical abilities significantly influence the adventure's direction. However, he also appears as a mysterious, suspect figure, whose limitations present at the most inconvenient times. His intentions and the extent of his powers are not always clear. This ambiguity keeps readers intrigued, adding complexity and depth to his character and reinforcing the narrative's themes of uncertainty, destiny, and appearances.

74) Beyond his ability to remain calm and his natural cleverness, what third factor enables Bilbo to defeat Gollum and escape the goblin tunnels? What theme does this third factor help to develop?

Beyond his ability to remain calm and his natural cleverness, Bilbo's uncanny luck significantly aids him in defeating Gollum and escaping the goblin tunnels. This extraordinary luck frequently appears throughout his journey, often rescuing him from perilous situations at precisely the right moment. This recurring element of luck relates directly to the theme of destiny or fate, suggesting that Bilbo's success is guided by a force greater than himself. Tolkien uses Bilbo's luck to illustrate that destiny or fate can play a crucial role in shaping events and reinforces the idea that seemingly ordinary individuals can have extraordinary purpose in the larger scheme of the world.

75) Identify the genre of *The Hobbit* and list six details from the story that reflect this genre.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| GENRE: FANTASY | | |
| 1. Supernatural assistance | 2. Dragons and treasure | 3. Prophecy quest |
| 4. Invented languages | 5. Enchanted places | 6. Elves, trolls, goblins, etc. |